**Melissa Seymour Fahmy**

University of Georgia

Department of Philosophy

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# Academic Appointments

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Associate Professor of Philosophy 2014 - present

Assistant Professor of Philosophy 2007 – 2014

Institute for Women’s Studies Affiliate Faculty 2014-present

# Education

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Ph.D. in Philosophy July 2007

Dissertation: *Duties of Love and Kant’s Doctrine of Obligatory Ends*

Directed by: Marcia Baron

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

B.A., Philosophy, 1998 (*summa cum laude*).

**Area of Specialization:** Ethics, Kantian Ethics, Biomedical Ethics

**Areas of Competence**: Environmental Ethics, History of Ethics, Political Philosophy

**Fellowships and Grants**

University of Georgia CTL Senior Teaching Fellow, 2018-2019

University of Georgia Research Foundation Grant, July 2012

University of Georgia Research Foundation Grant, August 2010

University of Georgia Research Foundation Grant, August 2009

University of Georgia Research Foundation Grant, August 2008

Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship, August 2004 – 2007

American Philosophical Association (APA) Graduate Student Travel Stipend, April 2006

Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences (COAS) Travel Grant, May 2005

American Philosophical Association (APA) Graduate Student Travel Stipend, April 2005

North American Kant Society (NAKS) Travel Stipend, April 2005

# Honors and Awards

Induction into the University of Georgia Teaching Academy (2018)

Academic Excellence Award, Department of Philosophy, Indiana University, May 2004

**Publications**

“Love in Kant and the Enlightenment,” in *Love: A History*, ed. Ryan

Patrick Hanley (Oxford University Press, 2024).

“On Kantian Obligatory Ends and Their Maxims of Actions,” *Studia Kantiana* 21.2

(2023): 31-43.

“How to Have Good Kantian Sex,” in *Kant on Sex, Love, and Friendship* eds. Martin

Brecher and Pärttyli Rinne (Walter de Gruyter, 2023).

“Never Merely as a Means: Rethinking the Role and Relevance of Consent,” *Kantian*

*Review* 28.1 (2023).

“Shadow Students in Georgia: A Kantian Condemnation,” *Special Issue of the Journal of*

*the Philosophy of Education* 55(2021): 1057-1071.

“Some Puzzles About Kantian Beneficence,” *Proceedings from the 13th International Kant*

*Congress* (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter,2021).

“On Virtues of Love and Wide Ethical Duties,” *Kantian Review* 24.3 (2019).

“The Kantian Innate Right to Freedom: Independence from What?” *Proceedings from*

*12th International Kant Congress* (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter,2018).

“Kantian Perspectives on Paternalism,” in *Routledge Handbook on the Philosophy of*

*Paternalism*, eds. Kalle Grill and Jason Hanna (Routledge, 2018).

“Love’s Reasons,” *Journal of Value Inquiry* 50.1 (2016): 153-168.

“Understanding Kant’s Duty of Respect as a Duty of Virtue,” *Journal of Moral Philosophy*

10.6 (2013): 723-740.

“On Procreative Responsibility in Assisted and Collaborative Reproduction,” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 16.1 (2013): 55-70.

“Love, Respect, and Interfering with Others,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 92 (May 2011): 174-192.

“On the Supposed Moral Harm of Selecting for Deafness,” *Bioethics* 25.3 (March 2011): 128-136.

“Kantian Practical Love,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 91.3 (Sept. 2010): 313-331.

“Active Sympathetic Participation: Reconsidering Kant’s Duty of Sympathy,” *Kantian Review* 14.1 (2009): 31-52.

“Beneficence and Other Duties of Love in *The Metaphysics of Morals*,” co-authored with Marcia Baron, in *The Blackwell Guide to Kant’s Ethics*, ed. Thomas E. Hill, Jr. (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2009): 211-228.

“Widening the Field for the Practice of Virtue: Kant’s Wide Imperfect Duties,” *Proceedings from 10th International Kant Congress* vol. III (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2008): 423-433.

Book Reviews:

Helga Varden, *Sex, Love, and Gender: A Kantian Theory* (Oxford UP, 2020). *Mind*

<https://academic.oup.com/mind/advance-article/doi/10.1093/mind/fzab066/6387551>

*Reading Onora O’Neill*, eds. David Archard, Monique Deveaux, Neil Manson, and

Daniel Weinstock (Routledge, 2013). *Kantian Review* (2015) 20.1, pp. 140-145.

Robert N. Johnson, *Self-Improvement: An Essay in Kantian Ethics* (Oxford University

Press, 2011). *The Philosophical Quarterly* (2013), pp. 382-4.

Jean Bethke Elshtain, *Just War Against Terror: The Burden of American Power in a Violent World* (Basic Books, 2003). *Ethics* Vol. 115 no. 4 (July 2005), pp. 855-856.

**Presentations**

Greifsvald Workshop

Georgia Philosophical Society

“On Lying, Deception, and Using Others Merely as Means”

American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting

January 2025, New York City, New York

"On Pain and Other Degraded States: When Is Suicide Permissible?"

XIV International Kant Congress

10, September 2024, Bonn University, Germany

“What’s Wrong with Lying?” (invited)

Kant on Means, Ends, and Trolleys Workshop

6, September 2024, Bonn University, Germany

“A Kantian Account of Wrongful Exploitation” (*invited keynote*)

Southern Study Group Meeting of the North American Kant Society (SNAKS)

29, April 2023, Florida State University

“A Kantian Account of Wrongful Exploitation”

Scott and Heather Kleiner Lecture Series

20, April 2023, University of Georgia

“The Logic of Obligatory Ends” (*refereed*)

IV Biennial Meeting of the North American Kant Society (NAKS)

23, March 2023, Mexico City, Mexico

“Comment on Michael Morgan’s “Rereading Kant on Virtue and Holiness””

American Philosophical Association Central Meeting

25, February 2022

“Happiness, Moral Perfection, and the Kobayashi Maru”

North American Kant Society – Virtual Series (VNAKS)

30, March 2022

“Comment on Mark Pickering’s “Kant’s Justification of Criminal Punishment”

American Philosophical Association Pacific Meeting

16, April 2022

“Deriving Duties from Obligatory Ends” (*invited*)

American Philosophical Association Central Meeting

25, February 2021

“Acceptable Risk in the Pursuit of Athletic Excellence” (*refereed*)

Annual Meeting of the Association of Practical & Professional Ethics (APPE)

22, February 2020, Atlanta, GA

“Some Puzzles about Kantian Beneficence” (*refereed*)

13th International Kant Congress, University of Oslo

8 August 2019, Oslo, Norway

“How to Have Good Kantian Sex” (*refereed*)

Annual Meeting of the Association of Practical & Professional Ethics (APPE)

1 March 2019, Baltimore, MD

“How to Have Good Kantian Sex” (*invited*)

University of South Carolina Colloquium Series

16 November 2018, Columbia, SC

“Kant on Sex as Morally Precarious Activity” (*invited*)

Kant on Sex, Love, and Friendship Workshop

21-23 July 2017, St. Andrews, UK

“Espirito-Santo’s Rethinking of the Circle in Kant’s *Groundwork* III” (*invited*)

Biennial Meeting of the North American Kant Society

28 May 2016, Atlanta, GA

“Love’s Reasons” (*invited*)

Institute for Women’s Studies Friday Speaker Series, University of Georgia

23 October 2015, Athens, GA

“The Kantian Innate Right to Freedom: Independence from What?” (*refereed*)

12th International Kant Congress, University of Vienna

22 September 2015, Vienna, Austria

“Disability, Vulnerability, and Quality of Life Assessments” (*invited*)

Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association

Group Session: Society for Philosophy and Disability

29 December 2014, Philadelphia, PA

“Reading Kant on the Highest Good and Obligatory Ends” (*invited*)

Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Emory University

4 April 2014, Atlanta, GA

“Kantian Virtues: Thick or Thin?” (*invited*)

Department of Philosophy, University of North Carolina

22 March 2014, Chapel Hill, NC

“Humiliation, Respect for Persons, and Kant’s Formula of Humanity” (*invited*)

Department of Philosophy, St. Andrews University

7 June 2013, St. Andrews Scotland, UK

“Interpreting Kant’s Formula of Humanity” (*refereed*)

Eastern Study Group of the North American Kant Society

21 April 2013, Waltham, MA

“Exploitation in Collegiate Football: A Kantian Assessment” (*refereed*)

Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE) Annual Meeting

1 March 2013, San Antonio, TX

“Kant’s Three Models of Moral Perfection” (*refereed*)

American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting

21 February 2013, New Orleans, LA

“Promoting the Happiness of Others: Kantian Beneficence and Positive…” (*refereed*)

American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting

29 December 2012, Atlanta, GA

“Human Trafficking and Public Shame” (*invited*)

Society for Analytic Feminism Group Session

American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting

28 December 2012, Atlanta, GA

“Reflecting on the Use of Animals in Research” (*invited*)

University of Georgia School of Veterinary Medicine

26 April 2012, Athens, GA

“Is There a Kantian Argument for Duties to One’s Ancestors?” (*invited*)

Biannual Meeting of the North American Kant Society (NAKS)

3 June 2011, Urbana-Champaign, IL

“Kant’s Duty of Respect for Other Human Beings” (*refereed*)

American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting

19 February 2010, Chicago, IL

“A Kantian Picture of Moral Development” (*invited*)

Society for Empirical Ethics Group Session

American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting

28 December 2009, New York, NY

“Kantian Respect and the Ethics of Care” (*refereed*)

Kant: Morality & Society - UK Kant Society Annual Conference

29 August 2009, Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK

“Kantian Practical Love” (*invited*)

Bowling Green State University, Department of Philosophy

16 February 2007, Bowling Green, OH

“Kantian Practical Love” (*invited*)

University of Georgia, Department of Philosophy

7 February 2007, Athens, GA

“Kantian Practical Love” (*invited*)

University of Guelph, Department of Philosophy

19 January 2007, Guelph, Canada

“Loving One’s Neighbor as Oneself: Kantian Practical Love” (*invited*)

University of New Mexico, Department of Philosophy

27 October 2006, Albuquerque, NM

“Kant’s Later Argument for Beneficence” (*refereed*)

American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting

26-29 April 2006, Chicago, IL

“Widening the Field for the Practice of Virtue” (*refereed*)

10th International Kant Congress

4-9 September 2005, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

“Benevolence and Beneficence: Two Distinct Duties of Love” (*refereed*)

American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting

29 April 2005, Chicago, IL

“The Happiness of Others: Kantian Foundations for Obligatory Beneficence” (*refereed*)

Eastern Study Group Meeting of the North American Kant Society (NAKS)

22-23 April 2005, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

# Research Position

Research Assistant, The Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions, Indiana University, 2004-2007

# Teaching Experience

**University of Georgia**

Undergraduate Courses Taught:

* + PHIL 2030 Introduction to Ethics (Spring 13, Fall 14, Fall 15, Fall 18)
  + PHIL 2030H Introduction to Ethics Honors (Spring 09, Spring 11, Fall 13, Fall 16)
  + PHIL 3200 Ethical Theory (Fall 09, Fall 21, Fall 23)
  + PHIL 3220 Biomedical Ethics (every Spring 08-24 except 2023)
  + PHIL 3220H Biomedical Ethics Honors (Spring 22)
  + PHIL 3230 Ethics of Food (Fall 16, 17, 18, 20, 22)

PHIL 3300 Philosophy of Sport & Games (Spring 21,22)

* + PHIL 4220/6220 Environmental Ethics (Fall 07, Fall 13)

Graduate Courses Taught:

* PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar – Wrongful Instrumentalization (Fall 23)
* PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar – Consent (Fall 21)
* PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar – Kant’s Formula of Humanity (Fall 17, Fall 19)
* PHIL 8900 Environmental Philosophy (Fall 15)
  + PHIL 8210 Political Philosophy Seminar – Kant’s *Rechtslehre* (Spring 14)
  + PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar - Virtue (Fall 12)
  + PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar - Ethics and Non-Existent Persons (Spring 12)
  + PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar - Kant’s Practical Philosophy (Spring 10)
  + PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar - Normative Ethical Theory (Fall 08, Fall 10, Fall 14)
  + PHIL 8200 Ethics Seminar - Kant’s Moral Anthropology (Spring 08)

**Horace B. Russell Prize**

* Ralph Lui, Spring 2022 PHIL 3300 (2023)
* Matthew Li, Spring 2021 PHIL 3300 (2022)
* Benjamin Barrett, Fall 2020 PHIL 2030H (2021)
* Stephanie Ganzeveld, Spring 2019 PHIL 3220 (2020)
* Riley Findley, Fall 2018 PHIL 3230 (2019)
* Erin Gorman, Fall 2017 PHIL 3230, (2018)
* Samuel Driggers, Fall 2016 2030H, (2017)

**Dissertations Directed at the University of Georgia**

* Nucharee Wongsamut, *Some Ethical Questions Regarding Genome Editing*, (2023)
  + Current Position: Thammasat University, Thailand, Lecturer (tenure track)
* Ava Wright, *The Duty of Veracity*, (2019)
  + Current Position: Assistant Professor, California Polytechnic State University (tenure-track)
* John Njoroge, *Objection Sustained: Anscombe’s Challenge to Modern Moral Philosophy’s Use of the Concept of Obligation* (2018)
  + Current Position: Non-Academic Position
* Jackson Schwartz, *Natural Goodness and Normative Evaluation* (2017)
  + Current Position: Lecturer, Clayton State University

**Masters Theses Directed at the University of Georgia**

* Matthew Jackson (2023)
* David Bowles (2020)
* Eric Brown (2013)
* Rory Weeks (2012)

# Professional Service

**North American Kant Society**

Organizer & Host for the 2016 Southern Study Group Meeting, Athens, GA

Program Committee Member for 2016 Biennial NAKS Meeting

Program Committee Member for 2012 Southern Study Group Meeting

**University of Georgia**

Undergraduate Coordinator for Department of Philosophy 2023-2026

Faculty Affairs Committee 2020-2024

Placement Officer, Department of Philosophy, UGA 2019-2023

Associate Head of the Philosophy Department, UGA 2016-2024

Graduate Council (member-at-large), UGA 2019-2022

Curriculum Committee, Dept. of Philosophy, UGA, 2012-2014; 2018-2019

Hiring Committee (AI Ethics), UGA 2021-2022

Hiring Committee (Senior/Department Head), UGA 2018

Student Affairs (Admissions) Committee, Dept. of Philosophy, UGA, 2009-2010,

2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018

Interim Graduate Coordinator, Dept. of Philosophy, UGA Spring 2015

Chair, Student Affairs Committee, Dept. of Philosophy, UGA, 2014-2015

Faculty Affairs Committee, Dept. of Philosophy, UGA, 2013-2016

Hiring Committee (Junior/Metaphysics), Department of Philosophy, UGA, 2012-2013

Planning Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of Georgia, 2010-2013

Awards Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of Georgia, 2010-2012

Guest Lecturer, GHSU/UGA Medical Partnership, August 23, 2011

Hiring Committee (Junior/Environmental Ethics), Dept. of Philosophy, UGA, 2007-2008

Secretary for the Faculty, Department of Philosophy, University of Georgia, 2007-2008

**Professional Membership**

American Philosophical Association

Association for Practical and Professional Ethics

North American Kant Society