

# JOSHUA MAY

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy  
5631 South Hall  
University of California  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

jdmay(at u)mail.ucsb.edu  
www.joshdmay.com  
Office: Room # 5720

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## AREAS

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### Areas of Specialization

Moral Psychology, Action Theory, Epistemology

### Areas of Competence

Ethics (esp. Meta-ethics), Philosophy of Mind, Late Modern Philosophy

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## EDUCATION

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### University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Ph.D. (in progress), Philosophy 2011 (expected)  
Dissertation: *The Possibility of Acting from Duty* (tentative title)  
Committee: Aaron Zimmerman (chair), Matthew Hanser, Michael Rescorla

Visiting Student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) 2009 (Fall)  
Department of Linguistics and Philosophy

M.A. (& C. Phil.), Philosophy 2008 (Spring)  
Thesis: "Empirical Evidence against Psychological Egoism"

### California State University, Sacramento (CSUS)

B.A., Philosophy 2005 (Spring)  
Advisor: Matthew McCormick

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## RESEARCH

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### Articles

"Relational Desires and Empirical Evidence against Psychological Egoism," forthcoming in print  
([already published online](#)), *European Journal of Philosophy*. [[draft](#)]

"Practical Interests, Relevant Alternatives, and Knowledge Attributions: An Empirical Study"  
(with Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Jay G. Hull, and Aaron Zimmerman), forthcoming,  
*Review of Philosophy & Psychology* (formerly *European Review of Philosophy*),  
*Psychology and Experimental Philosophy*, vol. 1, no. 3 (2010),  
Edouard Machery, Tania Lombrozo, & Joshua Knobe (guest eds.). [[open access](#)]

**Book Reviews**

- Review of *Experimental Philosophy* (2008, OUP) ed. by Joshua Knobe & Shaun Nichols, forthcoming in *Philosophical Psychology*. [[draft](#)]
- Review of *A Very Bad Wizard: Morality behind the Curtain* (2009, McSweeney's) by Tamler Sommers, in *Metapsychology*, Vol. 13, No. 53 (2009). [[open access](#)]
- Review of *Willing, Wanting, Waiting* (2009, OUP) by Richard Holton, in *Metapsychology*, Vol. 13, No. 23 (2009). [[open access](#)]

**Work in Progress**

- “What in the World Is Weakness of Will?” (with Richard Holton)
- “Philosophy 101 and Experimental Philosophy”

**Discussions of (or Citations to) My Work**

- Jonathan Schaffer & Joshua Knobe, “Contrastive Knowledge Surveyed” (forthcoming, *Noûs*)
- Jeremy Fantl & Matthew McGrath, *Knowledge in an Uncertain World* (forthcoming, OUP)
- Liane Young, Shaun Nichols, & Rebecca Saxe, “Investigating the Neural and Cognitive Basis of Moral Luck: It’s Not What You Do but What You Know” (in press, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*)
- Adam Feltz & Chris Zarpentine, “Do You Know More When it Matters Less?” (forthcoming, *Philosophical Psychology*)
- Wesley Buckwalter, “Knowledge Isn’t Closed on Saturday” (forthcoming, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*)

**AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS**


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Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Prize	APA Pacific Division	March 2010
Graduate Student Travel Grant	UCSB, Graduate Division	Fall 2008
Ralph W. Church Fellowship	UCSB, Phil. Dept.	2005–2006
Stephen Humphrey Fellowship	UCSB, Phil. Dept.	2005–2006

**PRESENTATIONS**

[R] = refereed [I] = invited, not refereed [U] = refereed, accepted, but unable to attend

**“What in the World is Weakness of Will?”**

- APA Pacific Division (84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting) San Francisco, CA Mar. 2010 [R]
- Graduate Philosophy Conference University at Buffalo, SUNY Oct. 2009 [R]
- Fredonia Philosophical Society SUNY Fredonia Oct. 2009 [I]
- Northwest Philosophy Conference Pacific University Oct. 2009 [R][U]

**“Philosophy 101 and Experimental Philosophy”**

- APA Pacific Division (84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting) San Francisco, CA Mar. 2010 [R]  
(special session, APA Committee on Teaching Philosophy)

**“Practical Interests, Relevant Alternatives, and Knowledge Attributions”**

- Philosophy Seminar Calif. Institute of Tech. Apr. 2009 [I]

**“Empirical Evidence against Psychological Egoism”**

- Society for Philosophy & Psychology (poster) Bloomington, IN (annual meeting) Jun. 2009 [R][U]
- Philosophy Conference Univ. of South Alabama Sept. 2008 [R]
- Graduate Philosophy Conference Virginia Tech Nov. 2006 [R]

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**


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**Instructor** (responsible for syllabus and lectures—plus grading for PHIL 130 & 134)

Course Title	Course #	Year	Term	University	# of Students
Freedom & Determinism	PHIL 130	2010	Spring	UCSB	TBD
Critical Thinking	PHIL 3	2010	Winter	UCSB	145
Metaphysics	PHIL 100E	2009	Summer	UCSB	45
Intro to Philosophy	PHIL 1	2009	Spring	UCSB	130
Moral Psychology	PHIL 134	2009	Winter	UCSB	40

**Teaching Assistant** (responsible for leading discussion sections and grading)

Course Title	Course #	Year	Term	University	# of Students
Ethics	PHIL 100A	2008	Fall	UCSB	60
Metaphysics	PHIL 100E	2008	Summer	UCSB	40
Late Modern Philosophy	PHIL 20C	2008	Spring	UCSB	60
Intro to Philosophy	PHIL 1	2008	Winter	UCSB	65
Ancient Philosophy	PHIL 20A	2007	Fall	UCSB	75
Philosophy of Mind	PHIL 100D	2007	Spring	UCSB	55
Critical Thinking	PHIL 3	2007	Winter	UCSB	65
Intro to Ethics	PHIL 4	2006	Fall	UCSB	60

(Note: Course #s 100 and above are upper-division.)

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**ACADEMIC SERVICES**


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**To the Profession**

Referee (for book proposal)	Oxford University Press	2009
Assistant to General Editors	<i>Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i>	2009–present
Leaf Editor	<i>PhilPapers</i> , D. Chalmers & D. Bourget (eds.)	2009–present
Contributor	<i>Experimental Philosophy</i> (weblog)	2008–present
Contributor	<i>Philosophy CFPs</i> (weblog)	2008–present
Copyeditor & Formatter	<i>Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i>	2006–2009
Web designer	<i>Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i>	2009
Web designer	<i>Populus</i> (an undergraduate journal of philosophy)	2006

**To the University & Department**

Graduate Representative	Philosophy Department, UCSB	2006–2009
Assembly Member	Graduate Student Association, UCSB	2005–2006
Webmaster Assistant	Philosophy Department, UCSB	2009–present

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**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**


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American Philosophical Association	Student Member	2005–present
Society for Philosophy & Psychology	Student Member	2008–present
Experimental Philosophy Society	Student Member	2009–present

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**REFERENCES**


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**Aaron Zimmerman** (UC Santa Barbara)  
Associate Professor  
Department of Philosophy  
azimmerman@philosophy.ucsb.edu

**Matthew Hanser** (UC Santa Barbara)  
Professor  
Department of Philosophy  
hanser@philosophy.ucsb.edu

**Michael Rescorla** (UC Santa Barbara)  
Associate Professor  
Department of Philosophy  
rescorla@philosophy.ucsb.edu

**Richard Holton** (MIT)  
Professor  
Department of Linguistics and Philosophy  
holton@mit.edu

**Walter Sinnott-Armstrong** (Duke University)  
Chauncey Stillman Professor of Ethics and  
Kenan Institute for Ethics  
Co-Director, MacArthur Law and Neuroscience Project  
Department of Philosophy  
wsa@dartmouth.edu

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**GRADUATE COURSES TAKEN** (\* indicates audit)
 

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**Metaphysics & Epistemology**

Freedom & Determinism	(Anthony Brueckner)	Perception & Singular Thought	(Kevin Falvey)*
Contextualism & Invariantism	(Aaron Zimmerman)	Self-Knowledge	(Anthony Brueckner)*
Consciousness & Dualism	(Kevin Falvey)	Epistemology of Agency	(Kevin Falvey)*
Computational Theory of Mind	(Michael Rescorla)	Epistemology & Skepticism	(Anthony Brueckner)*
First-Person Thought	(Kevin Falvey)*	Conceptual Role Semantics	(Michael Rescorla)*
Logical Positivism	(Michael Rescorla)*	A Priori Knowledge	(Aaron Zimmerman)*

**Ethics & Value Theory**

Moral Psychology	(Aaron Zimmerman)	Meta-Ethics	(Chris McMahan)*
Practical Reason	(Matthew Hanser)	Moral Psychology	(Richard Holton)*
British Moralists	(Aaron Zimmerman)	Personal Identity & Ethics	(Caspar Hare & Julia Markovits)*
Moral Epistemology	(Aaron Zimmerman)	Promises, Etc.	(Matthew Hanser)*
Moral Sense Theory	(Aaron Zimmerman)		

**History of Philosophy**

Leibniz	(Thomas Holden)	Kant	(Aaron Zimmerman)*
Berkeley	(Thomas Holden)	Hume	(Thomas Holden)*
Hume on Religion	(Thomas Holden)		

**Logic, Math, & Language**

Modern Logic I	(Nathan Salmon)	Theories of Truth	(Michael Rescorla)*
Modern Logic II	(Nathan Salmon)	Philosophy of Math	(Michael Rescorla)*
Saul Kripke	(Nathan Salmon)*	Frege	(Michael Rescorla)*