

# JOSH MAY

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## APPOINTMENTS

University of Alabama at Birmingham, Philosophy Department  
Assistant Professor, August 2013 – present

Monash University, Melbourne Australia, Philosophy Department  
Lecturer, July 2011 – July 2013 (U.S. equivalent: Visiting Assistant Professor)

## EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara    Ph.D., Philosophy, June 2011

Massachusetts Institute of Technology    Visiting Student, Fall 2009

California State University, Sacramento    B.A., Philosophy, June 2005

## AREAS OF RESEARCH

*Specialization:* Ethics (theoretical and applied), Epistemology

*Competence:* Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, History of Modern Philosophy

## BOOK

*Regard for Reason in the Moral Mind* (forthcoming, Oxford University Press)

Argues for an empirically-informed rationalism about moral psychology and defends ordinary moral knowledge and virtue against various scientific challenges.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES (14)

King, M. & May, J. (forthcoming). "Moral Responsibility & Mental Illness: A Call for Nuance." *Neuroethics*.

Feltz, A. & May, J. (2017). "The Means/Side-Effect Distinction in Moral Cognition: A Meta-Analysis" *Cognition* 166: 314-327.

May, J. (2016). "Emotional Reactions to Human Reproductive Cloning." *Journal of Medical Ethics* 42(1):26-30. [Made "Editor's Choice."]

May, J. (2014). "Does Disgust Influence Moral Judgment?" *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 92(1):125-141.

May, J. (2014). "On the Very Concept of Free Will." *Synthese* 191(12):2849-2866.

May, J. (2014). "Moral Judgment and Deontology: Empirical Developments." *Philosophy Compass* 9(110):745-755.

- Shepard, J. & May, J. (2014). "Does Belief in Dualism Protect against Maladaptive Psycho-social Responses to Deep Brain Stimulation?" *American Journal of Bioethics: Neuroscience* 5(4):40-42.
- Allen, T. & May, J. (2014). "Does Opacity Undermine Privileged Access?" *International Journal of Philosophical Studies* 22(4):617-629. [Critical Notice]
- May, J. (2013). "Skeptical Hypotheses and Moral Skepticism." *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 43(3):341-359.
- May, J. (2013). "Because I Believe It's the Right Thing to Do." *Ethical Theory & Moral Practice* 16(4):791-808.
- May, J. & Holton, R. (2012). "What in the World Is Weakness of Will?" *Philosophical Studies* 157(3): 341-360.
- May, J. (2011). "Egoism, Empathy, and Self-Other Merging." *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 49(s1): 25-39, Spindel Supplement: Empathy & Ethics, Remy Debes (ed.), Emerging Scholar Prize Essay. (Other contributors include: Stephen Darwall, John Deigh, Peter Goldie, Jesse Prinz, Michael Slote.)
- May, J. (2011). "Relational Desires and Empirical Evidence against Psychological Egoism." *European Journal of Philosophy* 19(1): 39-58.
- May, J., Sinnott-Armstrong, W., Hull, J. G. & Zimmerman, A. (2010). "Practical Interests, Relevant Alternatives, and Knowledge Attributions: an Empirical Study." *Review of Philosophy & Psychology* 1(2): 265-273, Special Issue, guest editors: E. Machery, T. Lombrozo, & J. Knobe.

### BOOK CHAPTERS (3)

- May, J. (forthcoming). "The Limits of Emotion in Moral Judgment." *The Many Moral Rationalisms*, eds. K. Jones & F. Schroeter, Oxford University Press.
- May, J. (2017). "Getting Less Cynical about Virtue" [commentary on C. D. Batson], *Moral Psychology, Vol. 5: Virtue & Character*, W. Sinnott-Armstrong & C. Miller (eds.), MIT Press, pp. 45-52.
- May, J. (2016). "Repugnance as Performance Error: The Role of Disgust in Bioethical Intuitions." *The Ethics of Human Enhancement: Understanding the Debate*, Stephen Clarke et al (eds.), OUP.

### REFERENCES WORKS (4)

- May, J. & Kumar, V. (forthcoming). "Moral Reasoning and Emotion." *The Routledge Handbook of Moral Epistemology*, eds. K. Jones, M. Timmons, & A. Zimmerman. Routledge.
- May, J. (2017). "Empathy and Intersubjectivity." *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Empathy*, Heidi Maibom (ed.), Routledge.
- May, J. (2017) "Empirical Work in Moral Psychology." *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. (5,000 words) [Originally published in 2012; updated and expanded in 2017.]
- May, J. (2011). "Psychological Egoism." *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. (10,000 words).

### BOOK REVIEWS & COMMENTARIES (6)

- "A Limited Skeptical Threat," commentary on John Doris's *Talking to Our Selves*, forthcoming in *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

Review of *Bound: Essays on Free Will & Responsibility* (by Shaun Nichols, 2015, OUP), the *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (2016): 416-17.

Review of *Just Babies: The Origins of Good and Evil* (by Paul Bloom, 2013, Crown), *Metapsychology* Vol. 18, No. 33 (2014).

Review of *Experimental Philosophy* (ed. by Joshua Knobe & Shaun Nichols, 2008, OUP), *Philosophical Psychology* Vol. 23, No. 5 (2010), pp. 711-715.

Review of *Willing, Wanting, Waiting* (by Richard Holton, 2009, OUP), *Metapsychology* Vol. 13, No. 23 (2009).

Review of *A Very Bad Wizard: Morality behind the Curtain* (by Tamler Sommers, 2009, McSweeney's), *Metapsychology* Vol. 13, No. 53 (2009). [Featured on *Arts & Letters Daily*.]

### WORK IN PROGRESS (5)

“How to Debunk Moral Beliefs” (w/Victor Kumar, under review)

“The Limits of Appealing to Disgust” (for *The Moral Psychology of Disgust*, eds. Strohminger & Kumar)

An experimental paper on intuitions about decision-theory puzzles (in progress)

An experimental paper on how moral exemplars motivation emulation (early stages)

A paper on the challenges of correcting for implicit bias (very early stages)

### AWARDS, PRIZES, FELLOWSHIPS

Outstanding Professor Award, UAB's Early Medical School Acceptance Program, class of 2017

Emerging Scholar Prize, Spindel Conference on Empathy & Ethics, U. of Memphis, Oct. 2010

(*External referees*: Martha Nussbaum, Russ Shafer-Landau, and Lori Gruen)

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Prize, American Philosophical Association, March 2010

Grad Student Fellowships, Church & Humphrey Funds, UC Santa Barbara, 2005-06

### GRANTS & STIPENDS [competitive]

Grant, Emulating Moral Exemplars, John Templeton Foundation via Duke University, 2017-2018

Stipend, Summer Seminar in Neuroscience & Philosophy, Duke University, Jun. 2017

UAB Faculty Development Grant, “Moral Responsibility and Mental Illness” w/Matt King, May 2017

Travel Bursary, Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal, Apr. 2015

Dean's Humanities Grant for “Contours of Moral Judgment,” UAB, Apr. 2015

Stipend, CEU Summer Seminar on Moral Epistemology, Budapest, Hungary, Jul. 2014

Travel Grants, Monash University Faculty of Arts, Dec. 2011 & Jul. 2012

Stipend, Big Questions in Free Will Summer Seminar, Florida State University, Jun. 2012

School Research Funding for “Conceptions of Free Will,” Monash University, Jun. 2012

Stipend, Summer Seminar on Skepticism, Purdue University, Jun. 2011

**PRESENTATIONS (47)** [\* = refereed]

- \* American Philosophical Association - Pacific, Colloquium, San Diego CA, Mar. 2018
- University of Alabama in Huntsville, Philosophy Dept., Feb. 2018
- \* Society for Philosophy & Psychology, Baltimore MD, June 2017
- American Philosophical Association - Pacific, Invited Symposium, Seattle WA, Apr. 2017
- Cal State Fullerton Symposium on Moral Sentimentalism, Fullerton, CA Mar. 2017
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, author-meets-critics session, Nashville, Nov. 2016
- \* Tennessee Value and Agency Conference, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual, Knoxville, Oct. 2016
- Amer. Phil. Assoc., Session organized by Committee on Asian Philosophy, San Francisco, Apr. 2016
- \* New Methods of Ethics, Univ. of Birmingham (UK), Sept. 2016
- \* Society for Philosophy & Psychology, Austin TX, June 2016 (poster)
- \* Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology, Louisville KY, Mar. 2016
- \* Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis TN, Feb. 2016
- \* Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola FL, Oct. 2015
- Prindle Institute for Ethics, DePauw University, Jul. 2015
- \* Neuroethics Conference for Young Researchers, IRCM Montréal Québec, Apr. 2015 (poster)
- \* Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, Aug. 2015
- \* Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology, New Orleans, Apr. 2015
- \* Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis TN, Mar. 2015
- \* University at Buffalo, Experimental Philosophy Conference, Sept. 2014
- Southern Soc. for Philosophy & Psychology, Invited Symposium, Charleston SC, Feb. 2014
- University of Melbourne in Australia, Human Enhancement Workshop, Mar. 2014
- Monash University in Australia, Philosophy Department, Mar. 2014
- \* Georgetown University, Conference on Emotions, Apr. 2014
- University of Mississippi, Dept. of Philosophy & Religion, Apr. 2014
- \* American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Colloquium Session, Dec. 2011
- University of Melbourne, Ethics Workshop, Jan. 2012
- University of Sydney, Philosophy Dept., Oct. 2011
- \* Naturalisms in Ethics Conference, University of Auckland, New Zealand, Jul. 2011
- \* Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology, New Orleans, Mar. 2011
- \* University at Buffalo, Experimental Philosophy Conference, Oct. 2013
- University of Melbourne, Philosophy Department, Aug. 2012
- Charles Stuart Univ. at Wagga Wagga, Philosophy Department, Apr. 2013
- Deakin University, Melbourne, Philosophy Department, Mar. 2013
- \* Australasian Association of Philosophy, Annual Conference, Jul. 2012

Australian National University, Philosophy Department, Apr. 2012  
 Macquarie University, Philosophy Department, May 2012  
 \* Purdue University, Summer Seminar on Scepticisms, June. 2011  
 La Trobe University, Philosophy Department, Mar. 2012  
 \* University of Miami, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Workshop on Mind & Ethics, Nov. 2010  
 \* Spindel Conference on Empathy & Ethics, University of Memphis, Oct. 2010  
 \* American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Colloquium Session, Apr. 2010  
 \* University at Buffalo, Experimental Philosophy Conference, Oct. 2009  
 American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Group Program, Dec. 2010  
 State University of New York, Fredonia Philosophical Society, Oct. 2009  
 \* University of South Alabama, Philosophy Conference, Sept. 2008  
 \* Virginia Tech, Graduate Philosophy Conference on Ethics, Nov. 2006

### COMMENTING (5)

Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Feb. 2016 (Justin Bell)  
 Southern Soc. for Philosophy & Psychology, New Orleans, Apr. 2015 (Mike Roche)  
 Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Mar. 2015 (Matt Waldschlagel)  
 American Philosophical Association, San Diego, Apr. 2014 (Kelly McCormick)  
 American Philosophical Association, San Diego, Apr. 2011 (Mark Wheeler & Dwight Furrow)

### TEACHING & SUPERVISION

#### Independent Instructor (36 courses)

*Lower Division:* Bioethics [x11]; Intro to Philosophy [x6]; Contemporary Moral Issues [x2];  
 Intro to Ethics: Life, Death, & Morality [x1]; Critical Thinking [x1].

*Upper Division:* Neuroethics [x2]; Ethical Theory [x6]; Moral Psychology [x3]; Philosophy of  
 Mind [x2]; Freedom & Determinism [x1]; Metaphysics [x1].

Experience teaching courses online using: Blackboard, Moodle, & Canvas.

#### Course Development

Courses: *Neuroethics* – PHL 402 (2016); *Philosophy Internship* – PHL 498 (2017).

*Ethics Track* for the Philosophy major (2017).

#### Supervision

*Research Assistants:* E. Beckman (2017); S. Sandefur (2017), C. Wan (2017).

*Honors theses:* T. Allen (2012); F. Li (2012); B. Murphy (2014).

*MA/PhD theses* (at Monash): R. Baker (2011); C. Majoinen (2011); P. Vidifar (2012).

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

### To the Profession

Referee for journals (56): *AJOB Neuroscience* (2017), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2013x2, 2015x2, 2017), *Cognition* (2016), *Dialectica* (2013, 2014), *Economics & Philosophy* (2012), *Ergo* (2014, 2017), *Erkenntnis* (2013, 2014), *Ethical Theory & Moral Practice* (2014x2, 2016), *European Journal of Philosophy* (2010), *Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy* (2015), *Journal of Philosophical Research* (2013, 2015, 2017), *Journal of Value Inquiry* (2015), *Mind* (2014, 2017), *The Monist* (2011), *Neuroethics* (2014x2), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (2011), *Philosophical Explorations* (2014), *Philosophical Papers* (2014), *Philosophical Psychology* (2011x2, 2012x2, 2013x2, 2014, 2017), *Philosophical Studies* (2010, 2012x2, 2013, 2015), *Philosophy Compass* (2013, 2014), *Philosophy of Science* (2017), *Philosophy & Phenomenological Research* (2010), *Public Affairs Quarterly* (2016), *Review of Philosophy & Psychology* (2013x2, 2015x2), *Synthese* (2014x2, 2015, 2016).

Referee for book manuscripts (1): Oxford University Press (2014).

Referee for book proposals or chapters (9): Continuum Press (2012), Routledge Press (2011, 2016x2), Oxford University Press (2009, 2010x2, 2011, 2016).

Referee for conference papers (8): British Soc. for Ethical Theory (2015); Canadian Philosophical Association (2016; 2017); Central States Phil. Assoc. (2017), Soc. for Phil. & Psych. (2012, 2016, 2017), Southern Soc. for Phil. & Psych. (2013).

Editor of 9 categories for *PhilPapers.org*, D. Chalmers & D. Bourget (eds.), 2009–present

Associate Faculty Member for *F1000Prime*, writing short recommendations of science articles

External examiner for Honours thesis, Australian National University, 2012

Contributor to blogs, *Philosophy CFPs* (2008–2011) and *Experimental Philosophy* (2008–present)

### To the University & Department

Member, Ethics Track Development Committee, 2016-2017

Member, Philosophy Internship Development Committee, 2016

Organizer, Departmental Colloquium Series at UAB, 2013-present

Department Liaison, Online Teaching Network at UAB, 2015-present

Head Coach, UAB Ethics Bowl debate team, 2016

Assistant Coach, UAB Ethics Bowl debate team, 2014 & 2015

Member, Search Committee for NTE Assistant Professor (2015-16)

Speaker, “Morality & Rationality,” UAB Haddin Forum, Sept. 2017

Organizer, Colloquium (“Seminar”) Series, Monash University, 2012

Organizer, Mind & Morality Workshop, Monash University, July 2012

Talks: Galen Strawson, Michael Smith, Michelle Montague, Tristram McPherson, Monima Chadha.

Flexible Learning Coordinator, Philosophy Department, Monash University, 2012

Oversaw all 11 online philosophy courses, run primarily through Blackboard or Moodle.

**To Public/Outreach**

Assistant to General Editors, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2009–present

Op-ed, “Why Do Politicians Appeal to Our Disgust?” *The Birmingham News*, May 2016

Op-ed, “What’s the Real Threat to Family Values?” *The Birmingham News*, Sept. 2015

Interview on neuroethics, UAB’s *The Mix*, 2015

Quoted in story about crowd-sourced research, UAB’s *The Mix*, 2015

Public Presentations/Discussions at UAB, Feb. 2014 (free will), Feb. 2016 (disgust)

Copyeditor & Formatter, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2006–2009

Web designer, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2009–present (redesigned in 2009 & 2014)

**REFERENCES**

Richard Holton (Cambridge University) Professor

Jeanette Kennett (Macquarie University), Professor

Walter Sinnott-Armstrong (Duke Univ.), Chauncey Stillman Prof. of Ethics, Kenan Institute for Ethics

Michael Slote (Univ. of Miami), UST Professor of Ethics

Aaron Zimmerman (UC Santa Barbara), Associate Professor