

# LAURA FRANCES CALLAHAN

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AOS: Epistemology, Ethics, Philosophy of Religion

AOC: Philosophy of Action, Philosophy of Mind, Feminist Ethics

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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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| <b>UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, SOUTH BEND, IN</b><br>Assistant Professor of Philosophy | JULY 2019—PRESENT |
| ▪ Associate Director, Center for Philosophy of Religion                              | JULY 2021—PRESENT |
| ▪ Affiliated Faculty Member, Notre Dame Gender Studies                               | FEB 2021—PRESENT  |

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## EDUCATION

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| <b>RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ</b><br>PhD: Philosophy  | SEPT 2015—MAY 2019  |
| ▪ Dissertation title: <i>Responsible for What's Rational</i>   |                     |
| ▪ Supervisor: Ernest Sosa; Committee members: Ruth Chang, Andy Egan, Susanna Schellenberg, Roger White                                   |                     |
| <b>OXFORD UNIVERSITY, ST. HILDA'S COLLEGE, OXFORD, UK</b><br>Bachelor in Philosophy (BPhil): Philosophy                                  | SEPT 2013—JUNE 2015 |
| ▪ Clarendon Scholar (full merit scholarship)   |                     |
| ▪ Supervisions: Ethics (Roger Crisp), Epistemology (Elizabeth Fricker)   |                     |
| ▪ Thesis title: <i>The Value Problem: a new evaluation of epistemologists' theories of why knowledge is special</i> (Timothy Williamson) |                     |
| <b>INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON, IN</b><br>Bachelor of Arts (BA): Philosophy, Mathematics (double major)                              | SEPT 2007—MAY 2011  |
| ▪ Herman B Wells Scholar (full merit scholarship)  |                     |

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## PUBLICATIONS

### JOURNAL ARTICLES:

- "Why are Epistemic Reasons Normative?" (forthcoming) *Episteme*.
- "(Joint) Achievements and the Value Problem," (forthcoming) *Synthese*.
- "Humility for Everyone: A No-Distraction Account," (2022) *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 104(3): 623-638.
- "Could God Love Cruelty: A Partial Defense of Unrestricted Theological Voluntarism," (2021) *Faith and Philosophy*. 38(1): 26-44.
- "Epistemic Existentialism," (2021) *Episteme*, 18(4): 539-554.
- "Perception, Discrimination, and Knowledge," (2020) *Philosophical Issues*, 30(1): 39-53.
- "Moral Reasons Not to Breastfeed: A Response to Woollard and Porter," (2019) *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 45:213-214.
- "Moral Testimony: A Re-Conceived Understanding Explanation," (2018) *The Philosophical Quarterly*, 68(272): 437-459.
- "On the Problem of Paradise," (2016) *Faith and Philosophy*, 33(2): 129-141.

### BOOK CHAPTERS:

- "Moral Disagreement, Moral Testimony, and Meta-ethics," (commissioned) *The Oxford Handbook of Ethical Theory*, updated edition, eds. David Copp and Connie Rosati.
- "Trust, Testimony, and Religion," (forthcoming) *The Cambridge Handbook of Religious Epistemology*, eds. John Greco, Tyler McNabb, and Jonatan Fuqua.
- "Disagreement, Testimony, and Religious Understanding," (2022) *Religious Disagreement and Pluralism*, eds. M. Benton and J. Kvanvig, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- “Moral Testimony,” (2021) *Routledge Handbook of Social Epistemology*, eds. Peter Graham, Miranda Fricker, David Henderson, and Nikolaj Pedersen.
- “Skill and Knowledge,” (2020) co-authored with Ernest Sosa, *Routledge Handbook on Skill and Expertise*, eds. Carlotta Pavese and Ellen Fridland.
- “Well-Tuned Trust as an Intellectual Virtue,” (2014) co-authored with Timothy O’Connor, *Religious Faith and Intellectual Virtue*, eds. L. Callahan and T. O’Connor, Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 246-276.
- “Introduction,” (2014) co-authored with Timothy O’Connor, *ibid.*, pp. 1-26.

**EDITED VOLUMES:**

- *Religious Faith and Intellectual Virtue*, (2014) co-edited with Timothy O’Connor, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**BOOK REVIEWS:**

- Review for *Ethics*: Jonathan L. Kvanvig, (2018) *Faith and Humility*, Oxford: Oxford University Press (2019)

**PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY:**

- “Motherhood and the Moral Load,” (April 2021) *Think*, <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/think/article/motherhood-and-the-moral-load/>.
- “When breast isn’t best,” (May 9, 2019) *Aeon*, < <https://aeon.co/essays/why-breastfeeding-is-not-always-best-for-mother-or-baby>>.

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## MAJOR GRANTS

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*INTELLECTUAL HUMILITY AND OPPRESSION*, \$585K

SEPT 2022-AUG 2024

The John Templeton Foundation

Executive summary:

The philosophers and psychologists advancing our theoretical understanding of intellectual humility (IH) often occupy positions of relative privilege. But this can be distorting. Our theoretical understanding of IH will be dangerously impoverished if we fail to consider the nature and value of IH for people occupying a wide array of social positions, including victims of marginalization and oppression - people bombarded with messages that they are ignorant or untrustworthy. Consider the victim of gaslighting, who has been systematically groomed to distrust her own memory of a troubling situation. Or the student from a historically marginalized group who receives subtle messages that their ideas not worth taking seriously. Or the Black patient who is not believed when she tries to report troublesome symptoms to her obstetrician. It is far from clear that IH would be good for such individuals. And if IH is indeed good even for them, perhaps we need a quite revisionary understanding of what IH really amounts to. The proposed project will address these underexplored Big Questions of whether IH is an inclusive virtue - i.e., an important virtue for all people, including victims of oppression – and how the experiences of victims of oppression should shape our theoretical understanding of IH and its appropriate cultivation. The project will directly generate significant scholarly work on these questions primarily in philosophy but also psychology, and it will also build and advance a community of scholars working on these questions bridging intradisciplinary divides (feminist philosophers vs. virtue epistemologists) as well as disciplinary ones (philosophy vs. psychology). Principal activities: (i) dedicated PI research, (ii) an interdisciplinary, philosophy/psychology working group and conference, (iii) a cohort of year-long fellows at the Center for Philosophy of Religion at Notre Dame, and (iv) a capstone conference engaging additional prominent philosophers.

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## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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**AS SELECTED/INVITED PRESENTER:**

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| “Epistemic Self Shaping Norms” | <i>Epistemic Norms as Social Norms</i> workshop,<br>Washington University | ST. LOUIS, JUNE 2022 |
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| “What to Expect from the God of History” | <i>Divine Hiddenness</i> , capstone conference for Divine Hiddenness grant project | WACO, NOV 2021 |
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| “What to Expect from the God of History”                             | <i>Theology, Science, and Knowledge</i> , capstone conference for The Christian East and the Islamic West grant project, invited speaker                   | ST. LOUIS, JULY 2021      |
| “Understanding, Testimony, and the Drive to Inquire”                 | <i>University of Neuchâtel</i> philosophy research seminar   | ONLINE, MAY 2021          |
| “Divine-Human Hybrid Voluntarism”                                    | <i>Rutgers Center for Philosophy of Religion</i> reading group invited visitor   | ONLINE, MARCH 2020        |
| “Divine-Human Hybrid Voluntarism”                                    | <i>Fifth Theistic Ethics Workshop</i> , one of five submitted papers accepted for presentation   | GEORGETOWN, OCT 2019      |
| “No Best Attitude”   | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2019 Central Division Symposium Paper  | DENVER, FEB 2019          |
| “Disagreement, Testimony, and Religious Understanding”               | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2019 Eastern Division Group Presentation for Society of Christian Philosophers                                 | NEW YORK, JAN 2019        |
| “Grounding the Normativity of Epistemic Rationality: A New Proposal” | <i>Johns Hopkins</i> Graduate Philosophy Conference  | BALTIMORE, NOV 2018       |
| “Religious Testimony and Religious Understanding”                    | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2018 Eastern Division Group Presentation for Society of Christian Philosophers (cancelled due to snow)         | SAVANNAH, JAN 2018        |
| “Explaining Moral Testimony: A Different Appeal to Understanding”    | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2017 Central Division Symposium Paper  | KANSAS CITY, MARCH 2017   |
| “Explaining Moral Testimony: A Different Appeal to Understanding”    | <i>Aristotelian Society and Mind Association</i> , 2016 Joint Session, Postgraduate Session  | CARDIFF, JULY 2016        |
| “Explaining Moral Testimony: A Different Appeal to Understanding”    | <i>Northwestern University and Notre Dame University</i> , 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Northwestern/Notre Dame Graduate Epistemology Conference                 | EVANSTON, APRIL 2016      |
| “Explaining Moral Testimony: A Different Appeal to Understanding”    | <i>University of Pennsylvania, Rutgers University, Princeton University</i> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Conference | NEW BRUNSWICK, MARCH 2016 |
| “Explaining Moral Testimony: A Different Appeal to Understanding”    | <i>NYU and Columbia University</i> , 16 <sup>th</sup> Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference in Philosophy   | NEW YORK, FEB 2016        |
| “Evil: Only Sometimes Evidence against God”                          | <i>Society of Christian Philosophers</i> , Eastern Regional Conference on “The Existence of God”   | MECHANICSBURG, SEPT 2015  |
| “Evil: Only Sometimes Evidence against God”                          | <i>The UK Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP UK)</i> ; Women in Philosophy: A Mentoring and Networking Workshop   | YORK, JUNE 2015           |

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| “Limits on Religious Testimony: Lessons from Morality”  | <i>New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology</i> , Workshop (4): Religious Epistemology and Testimony           | OXFORD, JUNE 2014       |
| “Testimony and the Value of Understanding, by Domain”   | <i>British Postgraduate Philosophy Association (BPPA)</i> , Masterclass: Epistemic Values and Intellectual Virtues           | EDINBURGH, JUNE 2014    |
| “Virtue in Trust: Implications for Theistic Religious Faith”                                  | <i>Society of Christian Philosophers</i> , Mountain-Pacific Conference on “Faith and Reason”                                 | BOULDER, MAR 2013       |
| <b>AS INVITED COMMENTATOR:</b>  |  |                         |
| Author Meets Critics: <i>Guided by Voices</i> , by Eric Wiland                                | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2023 Eastern session   | MONTREAL, JAN 2023      |
| “Divine Hiddenness: An Evidential Argument” by Charity Anderson                               | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2021 Pacific Society of Christian Philosophers groups session                    | ONLINE, APRIL 2021      |
| “The Agnostic Consequences of Skeptical Theism” by Nevin Climenhaga                           | <i>Society of Christian Philosophers</i> , 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference   | GRAND RAPIDS, SEPT 2018 |
| “Improbabilism and Apt Belief” by Blake Roeber  | <i>Episteme</i> annual conference  | TENERIFE, JULY 2018     |
| “Deference, Ideals, and Moral Risk” by Jonathan Knutzen                                       | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2018 Central Division Symposium Paper  | CHICAGO, FEB 2018       |
| “Intellectual Virtues and Biased Understanding” by Andrei Marasoiu                            | <i>American Philosophical Association</i> , 2018 Eastern Division Colloquium Paper   | SAVANNAH, JAN 2018      |
| “How Aristotelians Can Make Faith a Virtue” by Anne Jeffrey                                   | <i>Value of Faith</i> Conference 2016  | SAN ANTONIO, JAN 2016   |
| “Skeptical Theism and the Future” by Cameron Domenico Kirk-Giannini                           | <i>New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology</i> , Workshop (5): Formal Epistemology and Religious Epistemology | OXFORD, DEC 2014        |
| “(Undercutting) Epistemic Defeat and the Conciliatory Route to Agnosticism” by J. Adam Carter | <i>New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology</i> , Workshop (3): Defeat and Religious Epistemology              | OXFORD, MARCH 2014      |
| “Is Knowledge of God a Cognitive Achievement?” by Anthony Bolos                               | <i>Society of Christian Philosophers</i> , Mountain-Pacific Conference on “Faith and Reason”                                 | BOULDER, MAR 2013       |

## TEACHING

### COURSES TAUGHT:

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| <b>Epistemic Rationality</b><br>PhD seminar<br>University of Notre Dame                               | FALL 2021              |
| <b>Epistemology in Practice</b><br>Second philosophy course, ~30 students<br>University of Notre Dame | FALL 2020; SPRING 2021 |

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| <b>Ethics of Food</b><br>Second philosophy course, ~30 students<br>University of Notre Dame    | SPRING 2021            |
| <b>Publication Seminar</b><br>PhD program seminar<br>University of Notre Dame                  | FALL 2020              |
| <b>Virtues: Moral and Intellectual</b><br>PhD seminar<br>University of Notre Dame              | SPRING 2020            |
| <b>God and the Good Life</b><br>Introductory course, ~150 students<br>University of Notre Dame | FALL 2019, SPRING 2020 |
| <b>Intro to Ethics</b><br>Philosophy 107<br>Rutgers University                                 | SUMMER 2018            |
| <b>Epistemology</b><br>Philosophy 412<br>Rutgers University                                    | SPRING 2018            |
| <b>Intro to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making</b><br>Philosophy 109<br>Rutgers University   | SUMMER 2017            |

**ADDITIONAL TEACHING-RELATED EXPERIENCE:**

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| <b>APA-AAPT Teaching Hub</b><br>Eastern APA  | “Epistemology in Practice” Poster accepted for presentation, to discuss practical and immersive approaches to epistemology classes  | JAN 2019  |
| <b>Philosophy as a Way of Life Summer Institute</b><br>National Endowment for the Humanities | Selected to participate in NEH-funded Summer Institute as one of 26 philosophers and the only graduate student; Completed two weeks of intensive discussion of way-of-life philosophical traditions in conjunction with discussion of immersive teaching approaches; Crafted an original “Epistemology in Practice” syllabus over the course of the Institute | JULY 2018 |
| <b>Seminar in Philosophy Teaching</b><br>Rutgers University                                  | Received mentorship and instruction on philosophy pedagogy and classroom management in bi-weekly group meetings with Justin Kalef, Associate Undergraduate Director   | FALL 2017 |

**HONORS & FUNDING**

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| <b>ISLA SMALL CONFERENCE GRANT: VIRTUES</b>   | SPRING 2020 (CANCELLED) |
| <b>PREP: EPISTEMOLOGY AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP</b><br>One of 12 invited participants in the pilot, two-week “PREP” (Philosophy and Religion Engaged with the Public) workshop at Notre Dame, focusing on epistemology and public writing under the guidance of senior faculty as well as Jamie Ryerson of the NYTimes | SUMMER 2019             |

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| <b>MARC SANDERS PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY AWARD, HONORABLE MENTION</b>   | FALL 2018   |
| <b>NEH SUMMER INSTITUTE STIPEND AWARD: PHILOSOPHY AS A WAY OF LIFE</b>   | SUMMER 2018 |
| <b>ST. THOMAS SUMMER SEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHICAL THEOLOGY</b><br>One of 20 applicants (out of 116) selected to participate in a two-week workshop covering topics such as the epistemology of disagreement and the problem of evil, involving fourteen distinguished visiting speakers | SUMMER 2016 |
| <b>ATHENA IN ACTION: A NETWORKING AND MENTORING WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN IN PHILOSOPHY</b><br>One of 36 applicants (out of 180) selected to participate in a four-day workshop held in Princeton, NJ   | SUMMER 2016 |
| <b>CLARENDON FUND SCHOLARSHIP</b><br>Full academic merit scholarship to Oxford University, awarded for two years of graduate study   | SPRING 2013 |
| <b>HERMAN B WELLS SCHOLARSHIP</b><br>Full merit scholarship to Indiana University, awarded to approximately 20 entering freshmen each year   | SPRING 2007 |

## SERVICE

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**JOURNAL REFEREEING (INCOMPLETE):** ANALYSIS, BIOETHICS, CANADIAN JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY; EPISTEME, ERKENNTNIS, ETHICS, EUROPEAN JOURNAL FOR PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION, JOURNAL OF ETHICS AND SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY; FAITH AND PHILOSOPHY, INQUIRY, JOURNAL OF ETHICS AND SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY, JOURNAL OF THE APA, METAPHILOSOPHY, MIND, NOÛS, PHILOSOPHICAL QUARTERLY, RELIGIOUS STUDIES, SYNTHÈSE

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| <b>SOCIETY FOR CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHERS:</b> Executive committee member | 2020—2022           |
| <b>UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME:</b> Graduate studies committee member    | AUGUST 2020—PRESENT |

**DISSERTATION COMMITTEE SERVICE:** Sara Chan, Haley Dutmer, Grace Hibshman, Ross Jensen (2021), Kevin Schieman (2022)

## WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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| <b>EDITORIAL ASSISTANT, NOÛS, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ</b>  | SEPT 2017—JUNE 2019 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Composed proposals for journal issues from accepted submissions, discuss with editor Ernest Sosa</li> <li>Coordinated content and order of material for inclusion in each issue with publisher (Wiley)</li> </ul>   |                     |
| <b>GRANT-WRITING ASSISTANT, RUTGERS CENTER FOR PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION</b>  | JUNE 2018—MAY 2019  |
| <b>RESEARCH ASSISTANT (RUTH CHANG), NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ</b>  | SEPT 2015—JAN 2019  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Researched topics in philosophy of law and jurisprudence</li> <li>Researched philosophical, psychological, and neuroscience literature on choice, commitment, adjudication, and love</li> <li>Summarized and discussed themes with Ruth Chang, for upcoming lectures and presentations</li> <li>Helped design and prepare presentation materials (PPT) for multiple audiences, including “lay” audiences</li> </ul> |                     |
| <b>MANUSCRIPT EDITING ASSISTANT (SUSANNA SCHELLENBERG), NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ</b>  | SEPT 2017           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Unity of Perception: Content, Consciousness, Evidence</i>, Oxford: Oxford.</li> </ul>  |                     |
| <b>GRANT REPORTING ASSISTANT (DEAN ZIMMERMAN), NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ</b>   | JULY 2016—AUG 2016  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-drafted final reporting for three-year Templeton Foundation Grant</li> <li>Solicited and organized evidence of grant’s impact on dozens of individuals</li> </ul>  |                     |
| <b>RESEARCH ASSISTANT (TIMOTHY O’CONNOR), BLOOMINGTON, IN</b>  | MAY 2013—JULY 2015  |

**BUSINESS ANALYST (MCKINSEY AND COMPANY), CHICAGO, IL**

JUNE 2011—APR 2013

- Helped craft a sustainable revenue-generation strategy for an environmental organization with non-profit, academic, and corporate stakeholders
- Helped develop broad strategy for a non-profit seeking to impact US education via perceptions of teachers
- Helped an innovative provider of education Master's degrees strategize for expansion