

# MICHAEL VAZQUEZ

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Parr Center for Ethics, 207A Caldwell Hall Chapel Hill NC 27514  
michaelmvazquez@gmail.com ◊ 919-444-2267 ◊ michael-vazquez.com

## EMPLOYMENT

---

### University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Teaching Assistant Professor of Philosophy

*July 2020 - Present*

Director of Outreach, Department of Philosophy & Parr Center for Ethics

*July 2020 - Present*

*As Director of Outreach, I design, oversee, and implement a wide range of community engagement programs in K-12 schools, community colleges, libraries, correctional facilities, museums, professional workplaces, retirement communities, and other community venues and campus units.*

### University of Pennsylvania, Graduate School of Education

Lecturer, Mid-Career Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership

*July 2020-Present*

## EDUCATION

---

### University of Pennsylvania

*2015 - 2020*

Ph.D., Philosophy

Dissertation: *Practical Reasoning in Stoic Ethics*

Committee: Susan Sauvé Meyer (supervisor), Sukaina Hirji, Jacob Klein, Errol Lord

### University of Pennsylvania

*2014 - 2015*

Post-Baccalaureate Program in Classical Studies

### Villanova University

*2010 - 2014*

B.A. *summa cum laude* Philosophy, Humanities, Honors

Thesis: Reflections on Metaphysics and the World: A Study of Plotinus' *Enneads*

Robert Russell, O.S.A. Medallion for Academic Excellence in Philosophy

Karol Wojtyła Medallion for Academic Excellence in Humanities

Phi Beta Kappa

### University of Oxford, Blackfriars Hall

*2013*

Visiting Student, Classical Philosophy

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

**AOS:** Ancient Greek & Roman Philosophy, Ethics, Philosophy of Education

**AOC:** Kant, Logic, Political Philosophy

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

[4] **The Black Box in Stoic Axiology**

forthcoming, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*; online as of Jan. 2022

<https://doi.org/10.1111/papq.12399>

[3] **Ciceronian *Officium* and Kantian Duty** (co-author with Andree Hahmann)

*Review of Metaphysics* 75, no. 4 (2022): 667-706

<http://doi.org/10.1353/rvm.2022.0022>

- [2] **How Can a Line Segment with Extension be Composed of Extensionless Points? From Aristotle to Borel, and Beyond** (co-author with Brian Reese and Scott Weinstein)  
*Synthese* 200, no. 85 (2022): 1-28  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03538-9>
- [1] **Hopeless Fools and Impossible Ideals**  
*Res Philosophica* 98, no. 3 (2021): 429-451  
<https://doi.org/10.11612/resphil.2061>

#### PUBLIC-FACING WRITING

- [2] **Deliberating Across the Lifespan**  
 Chapter in *The Ethics Bowl Way: Answering Questions, Questioning Answers, and Creating Ethical Communities* (Rowman and Littlefield 2022; [publisher's page](#))
- [1] **Ethics Bowl and Democratic Deliberation**  
 Blog post in *APA Syllabus Showcase* (Mar. 2022; available [here](#))

#### IN PROGRESS OR UNDER REVIEW

---

- [7] **Kant's Rejection of Stoic Eudaimonism**  
 Chapter in progress for *Kant and Stoic Ethics*, ed. Melissa Merritt (Cambridge University Press)
- [6] **Commitment without Conviction**  
 Manuscript in progress on Cicero's skeptical moral philosophy
- [5] ***Cicero as Philosopher: Interpretation & Legacy***  
 Co-edited volume in progress with Andree Hahmann
- [4] **Epicurean Duties**  
 Co-authored paper under review with Andree Hahmann
- [3] **The Benefits of Stoic Divination**  
 Co-authored paper in progress with Andree Hahmann
- [2] **The Virtues of Philosophy Outreach**  
 Co-authored paper in progress with Michael Prinzing
- [1] **Case-Based Reasoning in Educational Ethics: *Phronēsis* and Epistemic Blinders**  
 Co-authored paper in progress with Dustin Webster

#### SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

---

- [7] **Commitment without Conviction**
- Departmental Philosophy Colloquium, Nanyang Technological University (May 2022)
  - Ancient Philosophy Symposium in Honor of Susan Sauvé Meyer, University of Pennsylvania (Apr. 2022)
- [6] **Zeno Peripateticus? Cicero's Rhetorical Philosophy in *De Officiis***
- Meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting (Jan. 2020)
- [5] **Hopeless Fools and Impossible Ideals**
- Philosophy in 15 Minutes at UNC-CH (Sept. 2021; recording available [here](#))

- Penn Normative Philosophy Group (Dec. 2019)
- [4] **Cicero and the Origins of Moral Duty**
- Panel, “Cicero as *Translator*, Cicero as *Interpreter*,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy Annual Meeting at Christopher Newport University (Nov. 2019)
- [3] **The Black Box in Stoic Axiology**
- Hellenistic Philosophy Society Panel on Stoic Ethics, American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting (Apr. 2019; version title: “*Cum officio selectio*: A Proposal for Stoic Practical Reasoning”)
  - Princeton University Classical Philosophy Works-in-Progress Workshop Series (Dec. 2018)
- [2] **The Normative Hippocratic Doctor: Moral Motivation in Ancient Medical Ethics**
- 35th annual meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University (Oct. 2017)
- [1] **Quo Warranto? Real Definition and the Euthyphro Argument**
- 34th annual meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University (Oct. 2016)

## PRESENTATIONS ON PEDAGOGY & PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

---

- [10] **Intergenerational Ethics**  
Invited discussant for plenary session on multi-generational philosophy, 2022 PLATO Conference: Ethics in Schools, Communities, and the Public Sphere, University of Washington (Jun. 2022)
- [9] **Fostering Collaborative Ethics Discussions in the Secondary-Grades Classroom**  
Co-organized workshop, 2022 PLATO Conference: Ethics in Schools, Communities, and the Public Sphere, University of Washington (Jun. 2022)
- [8] **Philosophy in the Ancient Language Classroom**  
Co-organized workshop, “Primary Sources for Youth,” 2022 PLATO Conference: Ethics in Schools, Communities, and the Public Sphere, University of Washington (Jun. 2022)
- [7] **Philosophy as a Vehicle for Intergenerational Dialogue**  
AAPT-APA Teaching Hub session on Intergenerational Philosophy, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Jan. 2022; virtual)
- [6] **Deliberative Practice for the Public Sector**  
Co-organized panel, 6th Public Philosophy Network Conference: “Engagement, Policy, and Practice” (Oct. 2021; virtual)
- [5] **Community-Engaged Pedagogy & Intergenerational Encounter**  
Paper, Engagement Scholarship Consortium Annual Meeting: Creating Connections and Expanding Possibilities (Sept. 2021; virtual)
- [4] **Discursive Practices in the Classroom**  
Invited panelist, “Facilitating and Evaluating Public Discourse,” Inaugural UNC Faculty Symposium on Deliberative Pedagogy (May 2021; recording available [here](#))
- [3] **Putting Ethics Bowl to Work: Dialogical Pedagogy for Professional Ethics Education**  
Co-organized panel, 30th Annual Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Conference (Feb. 2021; recording available [here](#))

- [2] **Ethics Bowl in the Classroom: Perspectives on Dialogical Pedagogy for Ethics and Civics Education**  
AAPT-APA Teaching Hub session organized by the National High School Ethics Bowl, 2021 Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Jan. 2021; virtual)
- [1] **Service-Learning, Moral Philosophy, and Civic Engagement**  
Co-organized panel on “Models of Philosophical Engagement with K-12 Students,” Philosophy of Education Society Annual Meeting (Mar. 2020)

**PUBLIC TALKS AND LECTURES**

---

- [10] **Stoicism and Its Legacies**  
Seminar for Carolina Public Humanities, in three parts: (1) Stoic Philosophers and their Place in the Ancient Greco-Roman World, (2) The Uses of Stoicism from Cicero to Kant to Silicon Valley, (3) Why has Stoicism Attracted Adherents throughout Western Cultural History? (Jun. 2022)
- [9] **The Power of the Humanities in Prison and Juvenile Justice Education**  
With the Assistant Superintendent of NC Prison Education Services, UNC’s Director of Correctional Education, and an alumnus of UNC prison ed (Mar. 2022; recording available [here](#))
- [8] **Ethics in the Workplace**  
Two-hour professional development seminar, sponsored by UNC Human Resources, on how to analyze, discuss, and navigate ethical dilemmas that arise in the workplace (Jan. 2022)
- [7] **Dialogical Strategies for Ethics and Civics Pedagogy**  
National Council for Social Studies Podcast (Recorded Dec. 2021)
- [6] **Middle School Ethics Bowl and Deliberative Pedagogy**  
Presentation to pre-service teachers enrolled in Prof. Suzanne Gulledege’s EDUC 617 (“Teaching in Middle School”) at UNC-CH (Oct. 2021)
- [5] **Why You Should Be an Epicurean; The Aims of Education; What Must I Believe?**  
Three talks delivered as part of the inaugural Galloway Ridge-UNC Agora Lecture Series (Fall 2021)
- [4] **The Importance of Ethics**  
Presentation at the International High School Philosophy Conference @ NYU (Sept. 2021)
- [3] **Engaged Scholarship and Professional Philosophy**  
Talk on engaged scholarship delivered to the Fontaine Fellows at Penn (Oct. 2020)
- [2] **What do Ancient Philosophers Know about Morality?**  
Presentation to the Penn Undergraduate Philosophy Society (Mar. 2019)
- [1] **Is there a Moral Duty to Adopt?**  
Talk delivered as part of the University of Pennsylvania Graduate Colloquium Series (Apr. 2018)

**TEACHING**

---

<b>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Teaching Assistant Professor</b>	
Moral and Philosophical Issues in Education	<i>Fall 2022</i>
Philosophy Across the Lifespan	<i>Spring 2022</i>
Ethics Bowl & Democratic Deliberation	<i>Fall 2021</i>
Directed Readings: Cicero’s Moral and Political Philosophy	<i>Fall 2021</i>
Intergenerational Philosophy	<i>Spring 2021</i>
Ethics Bowl & Democratic Deliberation	<i>Fall 2020</i>

## Undergraduate Advising

- Honors Thesis Supervisor, Katie Leonard (hope, desire, and the good) (Fall 2021 - Spring 2022)
- Honors Thesis Committee Member, Tara Murray (Aristotle, contemporary feminism, and motherhood) (Spring 2022)
- Honors Thesis Supervisor, Anna Fiore (radicalization and the ethics of belief) (Fall 2021 - Spring 2022)
- Honors Thesis Committee Member, Liam Bendezu (political liberalism, national identity, and religious education) (Spring 2021)

### **University of Pennsylvania, Lecturer**

Social Foundations of Education (Graduate School of Education)	<i>Summer 2022</i>
Social Foundations of Education (Graduate School of Education)	<i>Summer 2021</i>
Social Foundations of Education (Graduate School of Education)	<i>Summer 2020</i>
History of Ancient Philosophy (Co-taught with Matthew Solomon)	<i>Summer 2020</i>
Public Philosophy & Civic Engagement	<i>Spring 2020</i>

### **University of Pennsylvania, Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Philosophy of Education: Teaching Philosophy in Middle Schools	<i>Fall 2018</i>
Introduction to Philosophy (Online)	<i>Summer 2018</i>
History of Modern Philosophy	<i>Spring 2018</i>
The Social Contract	<i>Fall 2017</i>
Logic and Formal Reasoning	<i>Spring 2017</i>
History of Ancient Philosophy (funded by S.A.I.L. grant)	<i>Fall 2016</i>
Plato and his Predecessors (Online)	<i>Summer 2016</i>
Aristotle and his Successors (Online)	<i>Summer 2016</i>

### **Additional Experience:**

- Penn Center for Teaching & Learning, Teaching Certificate (Spring 2020)  
*5 Pedagogy Workshops, Observation & Review, and Teaching Philosophy*
- Penn Center for Teaching & Learning, Structured Active In-Class Learning Training (Fall 2016)
- 150+ hours tutoring in Ancient Greek, Latin, and Philosophy (Wyzant, Varsity Tutors, Chegg)

## **GRANTS**

---

NHSEBBridge: Promoting Student Access and Equity in the National High School Ethics Bowl *2022*

*American Philosophical Association Diversity and Inclusiveness grant awarded to support NHSEB-Bridge, a program that specifically targets underserved communities and under-resourced schools who may not otherwise have access to the National High School Ethics Bowl's academic, social, and civic benefits*

Co-directed with Alex Richardson

Award Amount = \$10,000

Dialogue and Transformation: Bringing Philosophy to Juvenile Justice Educators *2022*

*American Philosophical Association Small Grant awarded to expand our existing Juvenile Justice Outreach Program's capacity by launching a new pilot program to "teach the teachers" and equip Juvenile Justice educators with the skills, knowledge, and strategies needed to incorporate philosophy into their curricula and classrooms*

Co-directed with Geoffrey Sayre-McCord & Z Quanbeck

Award Amount = \$2,000

Dialogue & Transformation: Bringing Philosophy to Juvenile Justice Centers *2021*

*Humanities for the Public Good Critical Issues Project Award to fund student and teacher-facing efforts to integrate philosophy and university resources in Juvenile Justice education programs across North Carolina*

Co-directed with Geoffrey Sayre-McCord

Award Amount = \$7,925

Ancient Wisdom

2020-2021

*Society for Classical Studies Classics Everywhere Award to fund, a text-centered philosophy discussion group offered in partnership with Orange County's Department on Aging*

Award Amount = \$400

## HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

---

Provost's Graduate Academic Engagement Fellowship at the Netter Center

2019 - 2021

*Inaugural recipient of two-year teaching and research fellowship and research fund, awarded to two doctoral students across the university for publicly engaged scholarship*

School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Dean's Scholar

2019

*Awarded to nine graduate students per year who "exhibit exceptional academic performance and intellectual promise"*

George W. M. Bacon Fellow

2016 - 2017

*Penn School of Arts and Sciences year-long research fellowship*

Collegium Institute for Catholic Thought & Culture Graduate Fellow

2015 - 2020

*Access to monthly colloquia, specialized reading groups, and research/travel funds*

Benjamin Franklin Doctoral Fellowship

2015-2020

*Five-year fellowship for doctoral research*

Political Studies Summer Fellowship, Hudson Institute

2014

*In-residence program in Washington, D.C. centering around the theory and practice of politics*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

Research Committee Chair, Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (Fall 2022 - Present)

Book Proposal Review (1 x in Ancient Philosophy), *Bloomsbury Publishing* (May 2022)

Academic Advisory Board, Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (Spring 2022 - Present)

National Planning Committee, Middle School Ethics Bowl (Kent Place School) (Fall 2021 - Present)

Committee on Public Philosophy, American Philosophical Association (Jul. 2021 - Jun. 2024)

Advocacy Committee (lobbying state boards of education for philosophy in K-12 curricula), Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (Fall 2020 - Spring 2022)

Executive Committee, National High School Ethics Bowl (Jul. 2020 - Present)

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

---

“Public Leadership” Strand Leader, Mid-Career Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania) (Fall 2022 - Present)

Selection Committee, Maynard Adams Fellowship for the Public Humanities (Carolina Public Humanities) (Fall 2022)

Fundraising Committee, Parr Center for Ethics (Apr. 2021-Present)

Undergraduate Committee, UNC-CH Department of Philosophy (2021-2022)

Search Committee, Parr Center for Ethics Administrative Support Associate (Fall 2021)

Graduate Representative to the Faculty, University of Pennsylvania Department of Philosophy (2018 - 2019)

---

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Co-Organizer, Duke-UNC Ancient Philosophy WIP Series (with Wenjin Liu & Mariska Leunissen) (Fall 2022 - Present)

Co-Investigator, National High School Ethics Bowl Impact Study: Effects on Intellectual and Civic Virtue, Parr Center for Ethics (July 2022 - Present)

Co-Organizer, Workshop Series on Cicero’s Philosophy [[series website](#)] (Feb. 2022 - Apr. 2022)

Faculty Affiliate, Program for Public Discourse at UNC-Chapel Hill (July 2021 - Present)

Organizer & Chair, Penn Project for Philosophy for the Young Inaugural Group Session at the Eastern APA, “Models of Dialogue between the Academy and the Community” (Jan. 2020)

Assistant Organizer, Anscombe Archive Conference on Mind and Action (Penn, Apr. 2019)

Editing for *Virtue, Happiness, and Knowledge: Themes from the Work of Gail Fine and Terence Irwin*, ed. D. Brink, S. Meyer, and C. Shields (Clarendon Press, 2018)

Editing for *Plato: Laws 1 and 2 Translated with Commentary by Susan Sawé Meyer*, Clarendon Plato Series (Oxford University Press, 2015)

Assistant Organizer, Penn Reasons and Foundations of Epistemology Conference (PeRFECt4) on the Epistemology of the Normative (Nov. 2018)

Research Fellow, Penn Positive Psychology, “Philosophy and Well-Being: A Meeting of the Humanities and Human Flourishing Project” (Summer 2018)

Organizer & Facilitator, Penn Alexander Elementary School Philosophy Club (2018)

Organizer & Facilitator, Comegys Elementary School Philosophy for the Young Series (2017 - 2020)

Co-organizer, Fourth Annual Penn Ancient Workshop: Lucretius’ *De rerum natura* (April 2016)

Organizer & Facilitator, Philadelphia Futures After-School Philosophy Club (2016 - 2017)

Co-organizer, Penn Philosophy Ancient Greek Reading Group (2015-2020)

Co-organizer, Collegium Institute Koine Greek Weekly Workshop (2015 - 2017)

---

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association

Hellenistic Philosophy Society

Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization

Philosophy of Education Society  
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy  
Society for Classical Studies

*References available upon request.*