

Faron Ray

CONTACT INFORMATION

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AREAS OF SPECIALITY

Normative Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Moral Responsibility, Metaethics, AI Ethics, Philosophy of Science

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO 2021-

PhD in Philosophy,

Dissertation: 'Essays in the Ethics of Blame and Punishment'

Committee: Dana Nelkin (co-chair), David Brink (co-chair), Saba

Bazargan-Forward, Yuan Yuan, Victor Tadros, David Wiens

OXFORD UNIVERSITY 2026

Recognized student in Philosophy; sponsor: David Enoch

WARWICK UNIVERSITY 2025

Recognized student in Law; sponsor: Victor Tadros

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, BIRKBECK 2018-2020

MA in Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS LONDON, CHELSEA 2012-2015

BA Hons in Fine Art

PUBLICATIONS

(3) 'In Their Name: On the State's Standing to Hold Marginalized Offenders to Account', *Legal Theory* 31(1):74–95 2025

(2) 'Modelling Objectively' (co-authored with Nancy Cartwright), in: Erdbeer, R.M., Hagenmeyer, V., Stierstorfer, K. (eds) *Modelling the Energy Transition*. Palgrave Macmillan 31(1):74–95 2025

(1) 'Objectivity and Intellectual Humility in Scientific Research: They're Harder Than You Think' (co-authored with Nancy Cartwright), *European Review* 31(4):367–381. 2023

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Understanding Standing to Blame (under review)

Anger, Aptness, and Autonomy

Non-Preventable Attacks and Liability to Harm

Proportionate, Necessity, and Still Wrong? A Problem for Deterrent Punishment Under Criminogenic Injustice

PRESENTATIONS	STANDING AND MORALLY PROTECTED BLAME	
	• 8 th Chapel Hill Normativity Conference	Apr 2026
	• UCSD Workshop in Agency, Value, and Ethics	Apr 2026
	• Warwick Graduate Conference in Legal & Political Theory	Jan 2026
	IN THEIR NAME: ON THE STATE'S STANDING TO HOLD MARGINALIZED OFFENDERS TO ACCOUNT	
	• Oxford Jurisprudence Conference (OxJuris)	Oct 2024
	• UCSD Workshop in Agency, Value, and Ethics	Oct 2024
	• UCSD Graduate Colloquium	May 2024
	EXPLAINING ALGORITHMIC DECISIONS	
	• 28 th Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association	Nov 2024
	• UCSD Graduate Colloquium	Nov 2024
SCHOLARSHIPS/ FELLOWSHIPS/ AWARDS	• Dissertation Research Fellowship, UCSD Philosophy Department	2025-2026
	• Best Graduate Student Essay, UCSD Philosophy Department	2025
	• Research Assistant Grant, <i>Two Types of Desert</i> , UCSD Senate	2024
	• Research Assistant Grant, <i>Success and Failures in Science Through the Lens of Intellectual Humility</i> , John Templeton Foundation	2022–2023
	• Travel Grant Award, National Science Foundation	2022
	• Graduate Student Fellowship, UCSD Philosophy Department	2021
	• Dean's Award (awarded to highest scoring undergraduate), Chelsea College of Art	2015
RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE	• Project: <i>Two Kinds of Desert</i> (PI: David Brink)	2024
	Research assistant on 'Two Types of Desert'	
	• Project: <i>Success and Failures in Science Through the Lens of Intellectual Humility</i> (PIs: Nancy Cartwright and Robin Hendry)	2022-2023
	Assisted with two co-authored papers: 'Modelling Objectively' and 'Objectively and Intellectual Humility in Scientific Research'; provided research assistance for presentations including Cartwright's 'Is Economics Queen of the Social Sciences', presented at the 27 th Schumpeter Lectures, Graz, and the Hempel Lectures, Princeton	
TEACHING	INSTRUCTOR	
	• Philosophy 13: Introduction to Ethics	June 2026
	<i>Killing, Saving, and Creating Lives: deontological harm principles, duties of rescue, abortion, parental duties, procreative beneficence, anti-natalism</i>	
	TEACHING ASSISTANT/DISCUSSION INSTRUCTOR	
	• Philosophy 50: Law and Society	Spr 2025
	<i>Philosophical Foundations of Law: property, tort, contract, democracy and rule of law, civil liberties, judicial review</i>	Win 2025
	• Philosophy 28: Ethics and Society II	Fall 2024
	<i>Civic Engagement: free speech, voting, civil disobedience, conscientious objection</i>	
	• Philosophy 27 Ethics and Society I	
	<i>Topics in Ethical Theory: utilitarianism, communitarianism, sources of normativity,</i>	Sum 2024

	<i>moral realism</i>	
	• Philosophy 27 Ethics and Society I <i>Distributive Justice and Identity: Marx, Hayek, Rawls, Dworkin, Kymlicka.</i>	Spr 2023
	• Philosophy 28: Ethics and Society II <i>Liberalism and Justice: Mill, Nozick, Rawls</i>	Win 2023
	• Philosophy 28: Ethics and Society II <i>Ethics and AI: privacy, hate speech, polarization</i>	Fall 2022
	• Philosophy 28: Ethics and Society II <i>Topics in Applied Ethics: war, compensation, immigration, vaccines</i>	Fall 2023
	• Humanities 1: Foundations of Western Civ': Isreal and Greece Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i> ; <i>The Tanakh</i> ; Plato, <i>Republic, Meno</i> ; Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> ; Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i> ; Aristophanes, <i>Lysistrata</i> ; Euripides, <i>Medea</i> .	Win 2024
	• Humanities 1: Foundations of Western Civ': Isreal and Greece Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i> ; <i>The Tanakh</i> ; Plato, <i>Euthyphro, Apology, Crito</i> ; Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i> ; Aeschylus, <i>Prometheus Bound</i> ; Aristophanes, <i>The Clouds</i> .	Spr 2024
	• Humanities 2: Rome, Christianity, and the Middle Ages Virgil, <i>The Aeneid</i> ; <i>The New Testament</i> ; Ovid, <i>Metamorphoses</i> ; St Augustine, <i>Confessions</i> ; <i>The Quran</i> ; <i>Arabian Nights</i> ; Rumi, <i>Selected Poems</i> ; <i>Beowulf</i> ; Dante, <i>Divine Comedy</i> ; Chaucer, <i>Canterbury Tales</i>	
SERVICE / OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	ORGANIZATION	
	• Co-organizer of the UCSD Workshop in Agency, Value, and Ethics (WAVE)	2026–2027
	COMMENTS	
	• Yishai Cohen & Travis Timmerman, <i>Immutable Obligations</i> , RoME XIX. Boulder, Colorado, US.	Aug 2026
	• Yahui Chen, <i>Hypocrisy, Standing, and a Different Kind of Blame</i> , UCSD Graduate Conference. San Diego, US.	May 2026
	• Edmund Tweedy Flanigan, <i>Why Riot? An Expressive Theory of the Justification of Rioting</i> (Invited commentator, PEA Soup)	Jan 2026
	• Alec Walen, <i>An Account of Blame and Guilt as the Basis for Censure and Punishment</i> , Workshop in Agency, Value, and Ethics, UCSD. San Diego, US.	Mar 2025
	• Gunnar Bjornsson, <i>Rebalancing: From Distributive to Retributive Desert</i> . Workshop in Agency, Value and Ethics, UCSD. San Diego, US.	Feb 2024
	OUTREACH	
	• Volunteer Instructor for Corrupt the Youth, San Diego Designed and taught classes on distributive justice, immigration, gun regulation, drug criminalization	2023-
	OTHER TEACHING	
	• Guest lecturer for Phil 50: Law and Society Designed and presented lectures on Jeremy Waldron's <i>The Core of the Case Against Judicial Review</i>	Mar 2025
	• Guest lecturer for Phil 27: Ethics & Society Designed and presented lectures on Hugh LaFollette's <i>Licensing Parents</i>	Aug 2026

**GRADUATE
COURSEWORK**

VALUE THEORY

- Reactive Attitudes and Responsibility Practices (Dana Nelkin and David Brink), UCSD*
- Authoritative Normativity (Lewis Williams), Oxford*
- Philosophy, Politics, and Law (David Enoch), Oxford*
- Prudence and the Personal Good (David Brink), UCSD*
- Political Authority, (Directed Independent Study, Yuan Yuan), UCSD
- Collective Responsibility and the State, (Directed Independent Study, Saba Bazargan-Forward, UCSD
- Blame and Punishment, (Directed Independent Study, Dana Nelkin and David Brink), UCSD
- Ethics of War (Saba Bazargan-Forward and Yuan Yuan), UCSD*
- Complicity (Saba Bazargan-Forward), UCSD
- Responsibility and Justice (Richard Arneson, Dana Nelkin, and David Brink), UCSD
- Benefitting from Injustice (Richard Arneson and Saba Bazargan-Forward), UCSD
- Ethics and AI (David Danks), UCSD
- Early Modern Political Thought: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau (Sean Ingham), UCSD

METAPHYSICS/ EPISTEMOLOGY/ MIND

- Metaphysics of Causation, (Directed Independent Study, Nancy Cartwright), UCSD
- Human Motivation (Matt Fulkerson), UCSD
- Rationality: Decision Theories for Belief and Action (Jennifer Carr), UCSD
- Foundations in Cognitive Science: Theories & Methods in the Study of Cognitive Phenomena (Seana Coulson), UCSD
- Philosophy of Mind (Alex Grzankowski), Birkbeck
- Masters' Thesis: A Contrastive Counterfactual Account of Cognitive Penetration (Alex Grzankowski), Birkbeck

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

- Kant: Critique of Pure Reason (Eric Watkins), UCSD
- Aristotle: Nicomachean Ethics (Christopher Shields), UCSD
- Early Greek Philosophy, Xenophanes to Democritus (Monte Johnson), UCSD

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE & RELATED

- Philosophy and Climate Change (Karen Kovaka), UCSD
- Special Topics in Philosophy of Science: Objectivity (Nancy Cartwright), UCSD
- Philosophy and Evolution (Robert Northcott), Birkbeck
- Philosophy of Science (Alexander Bird), King's College London
- Game Theory (Sean Ingham), UCSD
- Quantitative Methods in Social Science (Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra), UCSD

OTHER

- Introduction to Logic (Florian Steinberger), Birkbeck
- Advanced Logic (Florian Steinberger), Birkbeck
- Philosophy Proseminar (Craig Callender), UCSD

* - audit only

REFERENCES

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DAVID O. BRINK

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VICTOR TADROS

Professor of Criminal Law and Legal Theory

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