

# Rowan Mellor

Northwestern University, 633 Clark St, Evanston, IL 60208  
[rowan.mellor@northwestern.edu](mailto:rowan.mellor@northwestern.edu) | +1 847 491 8849 | [www.rowanmellor.com](http://www.rowanmellor.com)

---

**Areas of specialisation:** Normative ethics, political philosophy.

**Areas of competence:** Social ontology, meta-ethics, epistemology, philosophy of action, environmental ethics, philosophy of law.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Northwestern University**, Brady Faculty Fellow, 2023-25.

**University of Toronto**, Leverhulme Postdoctoral Fellow, 2021-23.

**University College London**, Associate Lecturer in Political Philosophy, 2020-2021.

## EDUCATION

**PhD in Philosophy**, University College London, 2016-21.

Supervisor: Véronique Munoz-Dardé.

Dissertation title: What Does Justice Require of Me? The Individual Demands of Social Justice and the Paradox of Collective Harm.

Visiting research student, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, 2018.

**MPhil in Philosophy**, University College London, 2014-16.

**BA (Hons) in Philosophy**, with First Class Honours, University College London, 2011-14.

## PUBLICATIONS

[‘What Are We to Do? Making Sense of ‘Joint Ought’ Talk’](#) (with Margaret Shea) *Philosophical Studies* (forthcoming).

[‘Joint Ought’](#) *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 52 (2024).

Selected for a [PEA Soup discussion](#), with a critical précis by David Estlund.

[‘Faces of Vicarious Responsibility’](#) *The Monist* 104 (2021).

## Book reviews

*Groups as Epistemic and Moral Agents*, Jessica Brown, *Mind* (forthcoming).

## WORK IN PROGRESS

## Under review

‘Doing Your Part: Joint Obligation and Individual-Level Transmission’ (R&R at *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*).

‘Joint Reasoning and the Taking Condition’.

## In preparation

A paper addressing a puzzle about ‘self-depriving’ solidarity, whereby a person acts in solidarity by forgoing a good which others lack.

A paper which describes and motivates a distinctive form of forgiveness, which I call ‘forgiveness as humility’.

## AWARDS

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 2021-23 | Leverhulme Study Abroad Studentship to undertake 2 years of fully funded postdoctoral research.  |
| 2019-20 | Aristotelian Society Student Bursary, valued at £3,000.  |
| 2016-19 | London Arts and Humanities Partnership (branch of the Arts and Humanities Research Council) Doctoral Scholarship to undertake 3 years of fully funded doctoral research. |
| 2015-16 | Society for Applied Philosophy Doctoral Scholarship, valued at £10,000.  |
| 2015-16 | UCL Departmental Scholarship, valued at £6,014.  |
| 2014-15 | UCL Jacobsen Scholarship in Philosophy, contribution to tuition fees.  |
| 2013-14 | Richard Murphy Memorial Prize, awarded for best performance in the final year examinations of the UCL BA Philosophy program, valued at £100.                             |

## TALKS

\* = peer reviewed, † = invited

‘Solidarity and Self-Deprivation’.

\* Social Ontology 2025, Trinity College Dublin.

‘Thinking Together: Shared Reasoning, Shared Reasons, and the Taking Condition’.

\* Philadelphia Normative Philosophy Conference 2024, University of Pennsylvania.

\* Social Ontology 2024, Duke University.

‘Why Cooperate? Team Reasons, Participation, and Unwillingness’

\* Laval Everything Agency Conference 2024, Université Laval.

\* Social Ontology 2022, University of Vienna.

‘What Are We to Do? The Semantics and Ethics of the Joint Ought’ (with Margaret Shea)

- \* Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress 2023, University of Colorado at Boulder.
- \* Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop 2023, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

‘Joint Ought’

- † Berkeley Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory 2022, University of California at Berkeley.
- \* Humboldt Normativity Conference 2022, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- \* Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress 2022, University of Colorado at Boulder.
- † University of Toronto Ethics Group 2022, University of Toronto.

‘Sovereignty and Non-Alienation’

- \* UCL Graduate Conference 2021, UCL.

‘It Makes No Difference: Collective Harm and the Law’

- † UCL Departmental Symposium 2021, UCL.

‘Injustice, Excuse and Laundry’

- \* POLEMO Symposium 2019, Central European University.
- \* Braga Meetings on Ethics and Political Philosophy 2019, University of Minho.

‘Social Holism without Social Ontology’

- \* Social Ontology 2019, University of Tampere.
- London Intersubjectivity Workshop 2019, UCL.

‘Does Joint Agency Exist?’

- \* London Graduate Philosophy Workshop 2018, University of London.
- \* London-Warwick Mind Forum 2018, UCL.

‘Are the Proletariat Forced to Sell their Labour?’

- \* Braga Meetings on Ethics and Political Philosophy 2018, University of Minho.
- \* UCL Philosophy Graduate Conference 2017, UCL.

‘What is Collective Responsibility?’

- \* Brave New World 2016, University of Manchester.

## **Invited comments**

Sophia Dandelet, ‘Epistemic Coercion’, University of California at Berkeley, 2019.

TM Scanlon, *Why Does Inequality Matter?* (with Véronique Munoz-Dardé), EHESS, 2017.

Ethan Jerzak, ‘Two Ways to Want’, University of London, 2016.

## **TEACHING**

**As primary instructor**

‘Shared Agency, Complicity, and Solidarity’, upper-level undergraduate, Northwestern University.

‘The Good Society’, beginner undergraduate, Northwestern University.

‘Freedom and Autonomy’, upper-level undergraduate, Northwestern University.

‘Philosophy of Law’, upper-level undergraduate, University of Toronto at Scarborough.

‘Environmental Ethics’, upper-level undergraduate, University of Toronto at Scarborough.

‘Law, Freedom and Morality’, upper-level undergraduate, UCL.

‘Philosophy and Public Policy’ (with Sarah Richmond), upper-level undergraduate, UCL.

‘Why Democracy?’, upper-level undergraduate, UCL.

‘Intro to European History, Law, Politics and Philosophy (Philosophy Modules)’, beginner undergraduate UCL.

‘Advanced Tutorials: The Philosophy of Social Science’, upper-level undergraduate, UCL.

### **As postgraduate teaching assistant at UCL**

‘Philosophy and Public Policy’, (with Sarah Richmond).

‘Iris Murdoch’s *The Sovereignty of Good*’, (with Mark Kalderon).

‘Responsibility, Luck and Excuses’, (with Ulrike Heuer).

‘Why Democracy?’, (with Amanda Greene).

‘Topics in Political Philosophy’, (with Joe Horton).

‘Regulation of Intimacy: The Politics of Sex’, (with Véronique Munoz-Dardé)

‘Ancient Philosophy’, Autumn Term, 2016, (with Simona Aimar).

### **SERVICE**

Degree Coordinator, BA in European Social and Political Studies (ESPS), UCL, 2020-2021.

Personal tutor, ESPS, UCL, 2020-2021.

Co-convener for Departmental Symposium, UCL, 2019-2020.

Co-convener for Philosophy PhD Work in Progress seminars, UCL, 2017-2018.

## JOURNAL REFEREEING

*Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Grazer Philosophische Studien, Mind, Moral Philosophy and Politics, Noûs, Philosophical Studies, Political Theory, Res Philosophica, and Utilitas*

## LANGUAGES

English: native speaker

French: intermediate (B2); courses taken at King's College London

## REFERENCES

Véronique Munoz-Dardé

UCL and UC Berkeley

Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

v.munoz@ucl.ac.uk

Joe Horton

UCL

Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

joe.horton@ucl.ac.uk

Julia Nefsky

University of Toronto

170 St. George St, Toronto, M5R 2M8

julia.nefsky@utoronto.ca

Sergio Tenenbaum

University of Toronto

170 St. George St, Toronto, M5R 2M8

sergio.tenenbaum@utoronto.ca

Kyla Ebels-Duggan

Northwestern University

633 Clark St, Evanston, IL 60208

kebelsduggan@u.northwestern.edu