P. Quinn White

Curriculum Vitae (Updated Nov., 2026)

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Areas of Specialization

Ethics ·Metaethics

Areas of Competence

Metaphysics ·Political Philosophy ·History of Ethics ·Ethics of Technology ·Aesthetics

Employment

Associate Professor (without tenure), Harvard University	July 1, 2026 –
Assistant Professor, Harvard University	2022–2026
Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska–Lincoln	2020–2022
Postdoctoral Associate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2019–2020
Instructor, Yale Young Global Scholars	2013–2019

Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology — 2014–2019
Dissertation: *Love First*
Committee: Kieran Setiya (Chair), Caspar Hare, Tamar Schapiro

B.A. in Philosophy, Yale College — 2010–2014
Magna Cum Laude, With Distinction in Philosophy

Publications

- "Love, Partiality, and History," forthcoming, *The Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of Personal Relationships*, ed. Betzler & Stroud.
- "Love First," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 110 (3): 854–86 (2025). (`https://doi.org/10.1111/phpr.13135`)
- Selected as one of the ten best articles published in 2025 by the Philosopher's Annual.
- "Beautiful, Troubling Art: In Defense of Non-Summative Judgment," *Philosophical Studies* 182 (3): 775–99 (2025). (`https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-024-02229-0`)

- "Honesty and Discretion," *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 50: 6–49 (2022). (https://doi.org/10.1111/papa.12203).

Reviews

- Goodin, Robert. *Consent Matters*, reviewed in *Criminal Law and Philosophy* (forthcoming).
- Saito, Yuriko. *Aesthetics of Care*, reviewed in *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, (2024). (https://doi.org/10.1093/jaac/kpae017)

Grants & Awards

- Everett I. Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring Award (presented annually to one or more Harvard faculty members for excellence in graduate advising on the basis of nominations from Harvard Griffin GSAS students), 2026
- MBB Faculty Fusion Award, with Prof. Ashley Thomas (Psychology, Harvard), "From Broad Categories to Particular Bonds: Infants' Understanding of Social Intimacy in Everyday Relationships," ($50,000 Research Grant), 2026
- Clarke Award ($10,000 Research Merit Award), Harvard

Presentations and Commentaries

"To Be Is To Be Lovable: Murdoch on Reasons for Love"
- Love Workshop, Oxford, 2027
- Reorganizing Ourselves, Free University Berlin
- "Should the numbers count?" at 49 (workshop), Dartmouth, 2026

"Imperfect Ethics"
- Big Picture Theories of Normative Ethics Workshop, Univ. of Bergen, 2025

"Love and the Value of Humanity"
- Pacific APA, 2026
- Workshop on Love and Sex (hosted by Robin Jeshion & Michael Nelson), 2025

"'I Love You,' 'Don't Worry About It': A Theory of Non-Deontic Powers"
- Between You & Me Workshop, University of Vienna, 2026
- Colloquium, University of Vermont, 2026
- MITing of the Minds Conference, MIT, 2026
- Colloquium, King's College London, 2025
- Colloquium, UT Austin, 2025
- Philosophy Desert Workshop, 2025
- St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR), 2025
- NYU Ethics Workshop, New York University, 2025

"Giving Permission" (now a part of the paper "Because I Said So")
- PPE Society Meeting, 2023

"Beautiful, Troubling Art"

- Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop, UNC Chapel Hill, 2023
- Interpersonal Relationships Workshop, Birmingham, 2023

"Paying it Forward"

- University of Michigan, 2024
- Colloquium, Brandeis, 2024
- Michael Bennett Memorial Workshop, University of Pittsburgh, 2024
- Central APA, 2024
- Oxford Moral Philosophy Seminar, 2024
- King's College London, 2024
- Northwestern University Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics (NUSTEP), 2023
- Mahindra Humanities Center Lunch Talk, Harvard, 2023
- Interpersonal Relations Conference, University of Birmingham, 2022

"Forgiveness: Personal and Political"

- Conceptual Foundations of Conflict Project, USC, 2025
- Colloquium, UC Riverside, 2025
- Colloquium, Cal State Chico, 2024
- PPE Colloquium Talk, UNC Chapel Hill, 2023
- Invited Talk, Harvard, 2022
- Graduate-Faculty Colloquium, UNL, 2021
- Invited Talk, Yale, 2021

"Honesty and Discretion"

- Invited Talk, Carnegie Mellon Tepper School of Business, 2022
- Philosophy Club, UNL, 2022
- Invited Talk, Oberlin College, 2020
- Trust and Truth: AHRC International Interdisciplinary Conference, Cambridge, 2019
- Work In Progress Seminar, MIT, 2018

"Love First" (formerly called "Ethics in the Shadow of Love")

- Love or Care as the Basis for Morality, Harvard, 2024
- 3PR: Philosophy, Religion, and Love, Princeton, 2024
- Northeastern Normativity Workshop, 2020
- Invited Talk, New York University, 2020
- Invited Talk, UNC Wilmington, 2020
- Invited Talk, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2020
- Central APA, 2020
- Work In Progress Seminar, MIT, 2019
- Northern New England Philosophical Association, University of Vermont, 2018

Commentaries

- Mark Schroeder, *When Things Get Personal: A Philosophical Guide to Conflict*, Author Meets Critics, Eastern APA, 2027

- Anil Gomes, "Iris Murdoch on God, Good, and the Limits of Science," Iris Murdoch Workshop, LMU Munich, 2026
- Kyla Ebels-Duggan, *Think on What is Good*, manuscript workshop, Notre Dame, 2026
- Andrea Westlund, "Friends as Fellow Travelers," Northwestern University Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics (NUSTEP), 2025
- Stephen Darwall, *The Heart and its Attitudes*, Author Meets Critics, Pacific APA, 2025
- Laura Valentini, *Morality and Socially Constructed Norms*, Author Meets Critics, Eastern APA 2025
- Stephen Darwall, *The Heart and its Attitudes*, MS Workshop, LMU
- Daniel Muñoz, *What We Owe To Ourselves*, MS Workshop, St. Andrews
- Claire Kirwin, "The Guise of the Good and the Normative Structure of Intentional Action," Saint Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR)
- Rahul Kumar, "Contractualism and the Moral Relationship," Northwestern University Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics (NUSTEP), 2022
- Peter Zuk, "Reconciling Experiential Theories of Pleasure," Central States Philosophical Association, 2022
- Tom Dougherty, "Communicating Consent," MITing of the Minds, 2015

Teaching

Courses

- Love (grad/undergrad seminar), Harvard Fall 2024
- Graduate Fellows Workshop, Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics, AY 24–25, 25–26
- The Many and the Few, Harvard Spring 2024, '26
- Consent (graduate seminar), Harvard Spring 2023
- The Good, The Bad, and the Beautiful: The Ethics of Art, Harvard Fall 2022, Fall '23
- Why Be Moral? (graduate/undergraduate seminar), UNL Spring 2022
- Embedded EthiCS Teaching Lab: Spring 2022, '23, '26
- Ethics of the Emerging Media Arts, UNL Spring 2022
- Personal Identity, Persistence, and Time, UNL Fall 2021
- Philosophy and Current Issues, UNL Fall 2021, S '21, F '20, F '21
- Love (graduate seminar), UNL Fall 2020, Harvard Fall 2023
- Ethics of Technology, MIT Fall 2019
- Bioethics, MIT Fall 2019
- Thinking, Being, Doing, Ethics in Your Life, MIT Spring 2020

Other Teaching

- Bioethics: Enhancement, Treatment and the Self, Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS), Summer 2019, '17

- The Ethics of Consent: Medicine, Research, and Sexuality, YYGS, Summer 2019
- Legitimacy and Authority: The Political Philosophy of Thomas Hobbes, YYGS, Summer 2022, 2018, ’17, ’16 and ’15
- Is There a Place for Ethics in War?, YYGS, Summer 2018, ’16
- Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism: Kant and Schmitt on the International Order, YYGS, Summer 2018,
- Killing, Saving, and Letting Die: The Ethics of Self Driving Cars, YYGS, Summer 2018
- Racism, Sexism, Race and Gender, YYGS, Summer 2017
- Climate Ethics, YYGS, Summer 2017
- Moral and Cultural Relativism, YYGS, Summer 2018, ’17, ’16
- Affluence, Aid, and Our Obligations to Others, YYGS, Summer 2017, ’16 & ’15
- Big Data, Surveillance, and the Philosophical and Legal Dimensions of Privacy (’17)
- Philosophy of Race, YYGS Summer 2016 & 2015
- Liberalism, Libertarianism: Rawls and Nozick on Justice, YYGS, Summer 2016 & ’15
- Population Ethics, YYGS, Summer 2015
- Philosophical Foundations of Conservatism, YYGS, Summer 2015
- Philosophy of Race, YYGS, Summer 2015
- Population Ethics, YYGS, Summer 2015
- Jus ad Bellum, YYGS, Summer 2014
- Jus in Bello, YYGS, Summer 2014
- Debates about Harm, YYGS, Summer 2014, ’13
- Honesty and Discretion, YYGS, Summer 2022
- Three Views on Forgiveness, Drisha Institute, Fall 2021
- What is racism?, YYGS, Summer 2020, ’21

Teaching Assistant

- Classics of Western Philosophy (Haslanger), MIT, Fall 2017
- Bioethics (Prescott-Couch), MIT, Spring 2017
- Moral Problems and the Good Life (Setiya), MIT, Fall 2016
- Problems of Philosophy (Hare), MIT, Fall 2015

Pedagogical Training

- Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program, MIT, Spring 2018
- Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning Seminar Design Workshop, Yale, Spring 2019, ’18, ’17, ’16 & ’15

Service

- Co-Organizing "Love Ethical Theory Workshop," a weeklong workshop, Notre Dame, Summer '26
- Co-Organized "Love or Care as the Basis of Morality" Conference, Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Ethics, Fall 2024
- Co-Director of Graduate Fellowship Program, Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Ethics, 2024–
- Faculty, Embedded EthiCS, 2022–
- Philosophy Department Committee Service: Admissions (2023, '26), Publication Workshop (2023, '24), Embedded EthiCS Post-doc Search (2023, '24, '26), Prize Committee ('26)
- University of Nebraska–Lincoln Service: Graduate Advisor (Spring 2021), Admissions (2021, '22)
- Faculty Lead, Embedded Ethics Program, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2020–22
- Refereed (often multiple times) for: The Australasian Journal of Philosophy; The Canadian Journal of Philosophy; Contemporary Aesthetics; The European Journal of Philosophy; Ergo; Erkenntnis; Ethics; Ethics, Policy, and Environment; Inquiry; The Journal of the American Philosophical Association; The Journal of Moral Education; Journal of Moral Philosophy; The Journal of Value Inquiry; Minds and Machines; Noûs; The Philosophers' Imprint; Philosophical Quarterly; The Philosophical Review; Philosophy and Phenomenological Research; The Southern Journal of Philosophy; Utilitas; the Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop
- Editorial work for *Routledge Handbook of Social & Political Philosophy of Language* (edited by Khoo and Sterken, under contract with Routledge)
- Co-organizer of the MIT Ethics Reading Group, Fall 2015 – Spring 2017
- Co-organizer of the MITing of the Minds Conference, Spring 2015.

Graduate Advising

- Clary Doyle, second year paper advisor
- Jing Hwan Khoo, committee chair, pre-prospectus advisor ('24–'25), second year paper advisor ('23–'24)
- Aisling O'Leary, second year paper advisor
- Isaijah Shadrach, committee member
- Shelby Hanna, committee chair, pre-prospectus advisor ('25-'26)
- Florence Bacus, dissertation committee member
- Bethany Cates, dissertation committee member, pre-prospectus advisor ('23–'24)
- Yuan Tian, dissertation committee member

- Denish Jaswal, dissertation committee member
- Abraham Mathew, dissertation committee member (MIT) completed 2025.
- Caitlin Fitchett, dissertation committee member, completed 2024.
- Lucy Johnson, second year paper advisor ('22–'23).
- Trevor Adams, dissertation committee member (UNL), completed 2023.

Undergraduate Thesis and Research Supervision

- Diana Ochoa-Chavez, Summer 2025 and AY 2025–26
- Xavier Sanchez, AY 2022–23

Undergraduate and Graduate Awards

- MIT Presidential Fellowship, 2014 – 2015
- Phi Beta Kappa, 2014
- George. A. Schrader, Jr. Prize, 2014 (for highest achievement in the humanities, Branford College, Yale)
- E. Francis Riggs Prize, 2011 (for highest achievement in the Directed Studies Program, Yale)