

3rd Annual Duke-UNC Graduate Conference in Philosophy

Saturday, March 29th, 2025 at Duke University

Welcome! Here is our **Schedule-at-a-Glance** (see reverse side for more detail):

9:00-9:30	Breakfast			
9:30-11:30	Period 1	1a. Political Phil. (WD 202)	1b. Ethics & Value Theory (WD 204)	--
11:30-11:45	15 min break			
11:45-1:15	Period 2	2a. Epistemology (WD 202)	2b. Practical Normativity (WD 204)	2c. Phil. of AI & Language (WD 212)
1:15-2:15	Lunch			
2:15-4:15	Period 3	3a. Moral Psych. (WD 202)	3b. Ethics & Metaethics (WD 204)	--
4:15-4:30	15 min break			
4:30-5:30	Keynote	Oscar Horta (University of Santiago de Compostela) in WD 202		

Format

Each period has two or three concurrent sessions. Each session is a panel consisting of three or four speakers. Speakers will be allotted 20 minutes to present their paper and 10 minutes for Q&A. (Speakers are encouraged not to go over their allotted presentation time, but are welcome to cede extra time to allow for more Q&A.) We ask that you please arrive to sessions on time so that they may begin in a timely manner, and that you please limit “room hopping” to minimize disruptions.

Food

All provided meals are plant-based, gluten-free, and dairy-free.

Breakfast: coffee, bagels w/ cream cheese (from Isaac’s Bagels), and almond croissants.

Lunch: catered by Soul Cocina, choose between two options (all nut-, avocado-, and kiwi-free):

- Forbidden rice risotto with roasted sweet potatoes & creamed kale.
- Veggie barbacoa burrito bowl (shredded veggies w/ spices, spinach & green onions rice, black beans w/ green plantain bits).

Venue and Parking

The conference will take place entirely on the second floor of the West Duke (WD) building on the Duke University campus. If you’re travelling by car, you may park in any spot that isn’t designated as reserved on weekends.

Special thanks to our **conference organizers:** Kendall Baker (UNC), Michael Bergdolt (Duke), Dylan Brown (Duke), Thomas Carnes (Duke), Victor Crespo (Duke), Genae Matthews (UNC), Thom Mattessich (UNC), and John Sweeney (Duke)

BREAKFAST, 9-9:30

PERIOD 1, 9:30-11:30

Session 1a – Political Philosophy (WD 202)

Chair: Kendall Baker (UNC)
Speakers: Megha Devraj (USC), *“Protest as Spectacle”*
Nicole Dominiak (UNC), *“Just War Theory’s False Promise for Peace”*
Jonghyeon Kim (ASU), *“Control, Complicity, and Structural Injustice: A Reply to Estlund”*
Logan Mitchell (UNC), *“Institutional Equality and (Just) Discrimination”*

Session 1b – Ethics and Value Theory (WD 204)

Chair: Thom Mattessich (UNC)
Speakers: Eric Choi (UNC), *“How to Preserve a Meaningful Life”*
Jacob Farris (FSU), *“Agency and the Authority of Human Nature”*
Reid Kurashige (UC Berkeley), *“Kant, Skepticism, and the Problem of Relevant Maxims”*
Botian Liu (Duke), *“A New Analysis of the Why Be Virtuous Question”*

PERIOD 2, 11:45-1:15

Session 2a – Epistemology (WD 202)

Chair: Genae Matthews (UNC)
Speakers: Tayfun Gur (Duke), *“Agreeing (Reasonably) to Disagree (Deeply)”*
Devin Lane (UNC), *“Should you Defer to Individual Experts?”*
Casey Scott (Iowa), *“What is an Epistemic Lean?”*

Session 2b – Practical Normativity (WD 204)

Chair: Steph Ingram (UNC)
Speakers: Punej Nejadi-Mehr (LSE), *“Be Confident! Rethinking the Ontology of Confidence in Light of Different Acts”*
Sam Segal (Chicago), *“Trust as Reliance on Persons”*
John Sweeney (Duke), *“Immersion in Ideas: The Motivational Value of Desiring”*

Session 2c – AI and Language (WD 212)

Chair: Nina Van Rooy (Duke)
Speakers: Ben Lang (Oxford), *“Dropping Anchor or Chasing? Theoretical and Practical Challenges for Personalized, Moral Advisement LLMs”*
Jacob Nofal (Missouri), *“The Need for Refinement in Triaging Against Algorithmic Leviathans”*
Mengyuan Qi (Pitt), *“Labeling Events in Political Discourse”*

LUNCH, 1:15-2:15

PERIOD 3, 2:15-4:15

Session 3a – Moral Psychology (WD 202)

Chair: Lindsay Huth (Duke)
Speakers: Ian Cho (UNC), *“What’s Really Wrong About Hypocritical Blame”*
John Fan (NYU), *“Writing Someone Off as a Form of Blame”*
Sarah Gregory (UC Riverside), *“Imposter Syndrome and Self-Respect”*
Ella Marsh (Utah), *“Fictional Empathy is Porn”*

Session 3b – Ethics and Metaethics (WD 204)

Chair: Victor Crespo (Duke)
Speakers: Shannon Chang (Michigan), *“Stubborn Symmetries and Epistemic Egoism - Trouble for Quietist Realism”*
Bailey Ingham (Texas Tech), *“The Requirement to Use Outside Utility”*
Ronan Ó Maonaile (Reading), *“Epistemic Perspectivism about Ought, Fit, and Value”*
Patrick McKee (Brown), *“More Options, More Blame”*

KEYNOTE, 4:30-5:30 (WD 202)

Oscar Horta (University of Santiago de Compostela), *“Preventing future negative outcomes is gravely underrated”*