

Vida Yao
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
Rice University
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EMPLOYMENT

Rice University

Assistant Professor of Philosophy

2016-present

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ph.D., Philosophy

2016

Thesis: *Loving the Bad & Not Giving a Damn: A Defense of Psychic Disharmony*

Committee: Susan Wolf (chair), Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, Ryan Preston-

Roedder, Thomas E. Hill Jr.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

M.A., Philosophy

Committee: Susan Wolf (chair), Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, Robert Adams

2012

University of British Columbia, Vancouver

B.A., Philosophy

2009

University of California, Berkeley

Visiting Student (Killam-Fulbright Fellow)

2009

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Practical and normative ethics, moral psychology, moral theory, philosophy of action

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Feminist philosophy, history of ethics, meta-ethics

PUBLICATIONS

“Grace and Alienation,” *Philosophers’ Imprint*, 20:16, 1-18 (2020).

“The Undesirable and the Adesirable,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 99 (1):115-130 (2019)

“Two Problems Posed by the Suffering of Animals,” *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*, 33 (2):324 (2019)

“Strong-Willed Akrasia,” *Oxford Studies in Agency and Responsibility IV* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017)

“Boredom & the Divided Mind,” *Res Philosophica*, 92, 4 (2015) 937-957. Special Issue on Virtues and the Emotions.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- “Transformations and Discoveries of the Self”
- “Love’s Resentments”
- “On Hating Oneself”
- “Grace and Misanthropy”
- “‘I Love Women’: A Non-Implicit Explanation of Implicit Bias Test Results” (co-author)
- “The Epistemic Appetites”

SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

The Sophia Meyer Farb Prize for Teaching	2020
RoME Minorities and Philosophy Essay Prize (awarded to the best essay presented on the philosophy of race, gender, or other “minority”)	2017
UNC Dean’s Dissertation Award (awarded to the best dissertation written in the UNC School of Humanities)	2017
Rice University Humanities Research Center Symposium Award (awarded for a symposium on representation on women and racial minorities in philosophy)	2017
Rice University Mosle Research Award	2016
Doerr Center for Leadership Symposium Funding (awarded for the Rice Workshop in Humanistic Ethics)	2016
Florence Bullock Ragan Summer Research Fellowship	2015
UNC Graduate School Travel Grant	2015
Bertha Colton Williams Fellowship	2014
Mary Williams Fellowship	2009
Fulbright Canada Killam Fellowship	2008

PRESENTATIONS (*invited*)

“Grace and Misanthropy”	Pacific APA 2020 (invited session)	04/20
“The Epistemic Appetites”	Central APA 2020 (invited session)	02/20
“Grace and Misanthropy”	University of Reading, U.K.	10/19
“Grace and Alienation”	Oxford Moral Philosophy Seminar, Oxford U	10/19
Discussion on Grace	The American Academy in Berlin, Germany	10/19
“Grace and Alienation”	Occidental College	10/19
“Grace and Misanthropy”	Occidental College	10/19
“I Love Women...”	Loyola University New Orleans	04/19
“Grace and Alienation”	Loyola University New Orleans	04/19
“Grace and Alienation”	University of California at Santa Cruz	02/19
“Grace and Misanthropy”	Nickel City Ethics Conference, SUNY Buffalo	11/18
“Two Problems Posed...”	Food Ethics Conference, University of Vermont	05/18
“Two Problems Posed...”	American Philosophies Forum Conference, NOLA	04/18
“The Weight of Caring”	Women in the Chicagoland Area, Northwestern U	12/16
“Grace and Graciousness”	University of Chicago	02/16
“Grace and Graciousness”	New York University	02/16

“The Undesirable and the Adesirable”	Rice University	02/16
“The Undesirable and the Adesirable”	College of William and Mary	02/16
“The Undesirable and the Adesirable”	Miami University of Ohio	02/16
“Grace and Graciousness”	University of Toronto	01/16

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Comments on Lorraine Besser, “The Interesting and the Pleasant”	Pacific APA, Vancouver Canada	04/19
Talk on Epistemic Virtues and Vices	Rice Undergraduate Scholars Program	03/19
“‘I Love Women...’	Central APA (<i>colloquium</i>), Denver CO	02/19
“Grace and Alienation”	NUSTEP XII, Northwestern U	03/18
“Grace and Alienation”	Eastern APA (<i>symposium</i>), Savannah GA	01/18
“‘I Love Women...’”	Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress X, Boulder CO	08/17
“The Refutation of Meaning”	Pacific APA (<i>colloquium</i>), Seattle WA	04/17
“The Refutation of Meaning”	<i>Williams and the Ancients</i> , Cambridge U	10/16
“Unpromotable Goods”	Pacific APA (<i>colloquium</i>), San Francisco CA	04/16
“Strong-Willed Akrasia”	NOWAR: Workshop on Agency and Responsibility	11/15
“Grace: Goodness in Loving the Bad”	<i>In Honor of Rosalind Hursthouse</i> , U Auckland	08/15
“Goodness in Loving the Bad”	SWPCA Conference, Albuquerque NM	02/15
“Boredom and the Divided Mind”	KCL-UNC Philosophy Conference, KC-London	05/14

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record at Rice University

- PHIL 326: History of Ethics
- PHIL 339: Death and Dying
- PHIL/CSWGS 111: Introduction to Feminist Philosophy

Graduate Level Seminars

- PHIL 535: Advanced Topics in Value Theory (Evil & The Meaning of Life) F16
- PHIL 535: Advanced Topics in Value Theory (Love & Friendship) SP18
- PHIL 535: Advanced Topics in Value Theory (The Emotions) SP19

Dissertation Committees

- Joshua Reagan 2017-2018
- Xuetai Qi 2018-present

Instructor of Record at UNC Chapel Hill

- PHIL 160: Intro to Ethics SS16
- PHIL 275: Philosophical Issues of Gender F13, SS14
- PHIL 210: Ancient Ethics SS13
- PHIL 112: Making Sense of Ourselves SS12
- PHIL 224: Existentialism SP14
- PHIL 165: Bioethics SP13

Teaching Assistant at UNC Chapel Hill

- PHIL 160: Intro to Ethics (for Geoffrey Sayre-McCord) F11
- PHIL 135: Philosophy of Western Religion (for Ryan Preston-Roedder) SP16

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University and Departmental Service (Rice University)

Faculty Director, Houston High School Ethics Bowl	2018-19
Member, Houston High School Ethics Bowl Committee	2016-18
Co-director, Graduate Placement Committee	2017-19
Member, Hiring Committee (Philosophy Department)	2016, 17, 18
Member, Hiring Committee (School of Humanities)	2018-19
Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (University)	2018-19
Moral Philosopher, Doerr Institute for New Leaders	2019
Member, Graduate Admissions Committee	2017, 2018
Member, Why So Few? Committee on Diversity in Philosophy	2016-2018
Member, Tsanoff Prize committee	2017, 2018
Member, Graduate Honor Council	2017, 2018
Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee	2018
Faculty Sponsor, COLL 172	2018
Faculty Associate, Wiess College	2018
Reader, Qualifying Exam Committee	2017

University and Departmental Service (UNC Chapel Hill)

Panelist, Teaching Workshop on Lecturing vs. Active Learning	2016
Graduate Student Representative, Maynard Adams Symposium Committee	2016
Panelist, Teaching Workshop on Sensitive Topics	2015
Panelist, Teaching Workshop on Fostering Discussion	2014
Graduate Student Representative, Hiring Committee	2014-15
Graduate Student Grievance Chair, Philosophy Department	2014-15
Senator, UNC Graduate and Professional Student Federation	2012-13
Organizer, UNC Prospective Student Weekend	2011

Conference Organization

Organizer, Rice Workshop in Humanistic Ethics	2017, 2019
Co-organizer, Why So Few? Diversity in Philosophy Workshop	2018
Co-organizer, UNC/KCL Philosophy Conference	2013
Committee member, UNC Chapel Hill Philosophy Colloquium	2013

Refereeing

Books

Oxford University Press

Journals

Ethics, Nous, Synthese, Philosophical Studies, Journal of Value Inquiry, Topoi, Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice

Other

2018-present

PhilPapers Editor: Philosophy of Love

PHILOSOPHY OUTREACH

Positions

Faculty Director, Houston High School Ethics Bowl	2018-present
Judge, North Carolina School of Science and Math Ethics Bowl	2014, 2015
Philosophy discussion at Carol Woods Retirement Community	2013
Philosophy discussion at Durham Academy (w/ second-graders)	2012-2015
Co-coach, Durham Friends School High School Ethics Bowl Team	2011

Interviews

The American Philosophical Association	06/19
The Daily Ant	08/19
The Jung Institute of Houston	09/19

Other Presentations

Discussion with the Houston Institute	02/19
“Aristotle on Virtue and Happiness” for Rice Ethics and Society Program	06/18
“What is ‘Implicit Bias’?” for Houston Women in Architecture (AIA)	03/18