

# Alex Rajczi

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Claremont McKenna College  
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## Appointments

2004-present Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies,  
Claremont McKenna College  
2002-2004 Postdoctoral Fellow, National Institutes of Health  
2002 Visiting Professor, Bowdoin College

## Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles, 2000. Dissertation: *Blame and the Scope of Moral Requirement*. Dissertation advisor: Barbara Herman.  
M.A. Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles, 1994.  
B.A. Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles, 1993. *Summa Cum Laude*.

## Research Fields

Ethical Theory  
Political Philosophy  
Applied Ethics  
Aesthetics of Literature

## Publications

“One Danger of Medical Enhancements.” *Bioethics*, forthcoming.  
“A Liberal Approach to the Obesity Epidemic.” *Public Affairs Quarterly*, forthcoming, 2008.  
“Vindicating Ordinary Morality.” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, vol. 44, no. 1, January 2007: 15-27.  
“A Critique of the Innovation Argument Against a National Health Program.” *Bioethics*, vol. 21, no. 6, July 2007: 316-323.  
“Making Risk-Benefit Assessments of Medical Research Protocols.” *The Journal of Law, Medicine, & Ethics*, vol. 32, no. 2, Summer 2004, pp. 327-337.  
“Why Are There No Expert Teachers of Virtue?” *Educational Theory*, vol. 53, no. 4, Fall 2003, pp. 389-400.  
“The Moral Theory Behind Moral Dilemmas.” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, vol 39, no 4, October 2002, pp. 373-383.  
“When Can One Requirement Override Another?” *Philosophical Studies*, vol 108, no 3, April 2002, pp. 309-326

## **Works Unpublished**

- “Consequentialism, Integrity, and Ordinary Morality”
- “On Marquis and Thomson on Abortion”
- “Applying the Principles of Proportionality and Civilian Immunity”
- “A Populist Argument for Same-Sex Marriage”
- “A Liberal Approach to Public Health Ethics”
- “The Value of Planning: An Explanation of the Falsity of Act-Consequentialism and the Existence of Moral Options”

## **Works in Progress**

- “Millian Liberalism and Same-Sex Marriage”
- “The Evil of Literature”
- “An American Argument for National Health Care”

## **Invited Presentations and Papers**

- 2008 “A Rational Policy on Climate Change.” Claremont McKenna Athenaeum.
- 2007 “Teaching Through Discussion.” Claremont Colleges New Faculty Preparation Seminar.
- 2007 “Teaching Leadership and Ethics.” Keck Conference on Leadership Studies.
- 2007 “Global Poverty: Tragedy and Hope.” Oxfam Banquet Lecture, Claremont Colleges Chapter.
- 2007 “Justifying War.” Claremont McKenna Athenaeum.
- 2007 “Human Rights, Civilian Casualties, and the War in Iraq.” Amnesty International, Claremont Colleges Chapter.
- 2007 Chair, “Author-Meets-Critics Session With Stephen Darwall”. American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting.
- 2007 “Introduction to Bioethics.” Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences.
- 2006 “Civilian Casualties and the War in Iraq.” University of Redlands.
- 2006 “How to Think About Moral Dilemmas in Bioethics.” Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences.
- 2006 “The Ideas Behind Medical Enhancements.” Washington College.
- 2006 “Occupation and Democracy.” Pitzer College, Forum on the Iraq War.
- 2006 “The Ethics of Stem Cell Research.” Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 “The Ethics of Cloning and Savior Siblings.” Claremont McKenna College
- 2005 “Some Myths and Facts about National Health Programs.” Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences.
- 2005 “What is Bioethics?” Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences.
- 2005 “The Case Against Medical Enhancements.” National Institutes of Health Bioethics Summit.
- 2005 “The Ethics of National Health Care.” University of California, Irvine.
- 2005 “Magic, Deception, and Psychic Power.” Preceptor Program, funded by the Mellon Foundation. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 “Is There a Plausible Argument Against a National Health Program?” Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences.

- 2004 “How Common is Non-Negligent Moral Ignorance?” Southern California Philosophy Conference.
- 2003 Chair, “The Ethics of End of Life Care,” Annual Meeting, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities.
- 2003 “How to Distribute Public Health Resources Ethically.” George Mason University.
- 2003 “The Politics of Minimal Decency in International Health Policy,” with Leah Belsky (presenter) and James Flory, both of the National Institutes of Health. International Conference on Bioethics, Beijing, China.
- 2000 “Rethinking the Distinction between Excuses and Justifications.” California State University, Long Beach.

### **Honors, Awards, and Research Grants**

- 2007-8 Visiting Faculty Fellowship, Murphy Center for Ethics and Public Affairs. Murphy Institute, Tulane University. (Declined.)
- 2007 Nominee from Claremont McKenna College, Graves Teaching Award in the Humanities
- 2007 Research Grant, Claremont McKenna Dean of Faculty. Projects: “Applying the Principles of Proportionality and Civilian Immunity” and “A Populist Argument for Same-Sex Marriage”.
- 2007 Teaching Resource Center Grant. Project: “Reading Group on Russell’s *The Conquest of Happiness*.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2007 Teaching Resource Center Grant. Project: “Reading Group on Romanticism.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2006 Teaching Resource Center Grant. Project: “Reading Group on the Art of the Essay.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2006 Research Grant, Claremont McKenna Dean of Faculty. Projects: “The Value of Planning” and ““Moral Progress, International Justice, and Human Rights””.
- 2006 Research Grant, Gould Center for Humanistic Studies. Projects: “The Value of Planning” and ““Moral Progress, International Justice, and Human Rights””.
- 2006 Research Grant, Kravis Leadership Institute. Project: ““Moral Progress, International Justice, and Human Rights””.
- 2006 Teaching Resource Center Grant. Project: “Reading Group on the Philosophy of the Enlightenment.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Teaching Resource Center Diversity Grant. Project: “Moral Progress and the Status of Women.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Teaching Resource Center Grant. Project: “Reading Group on the Philosophy of Education.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Ethics Development Grant. Project: “The Ethics of Stem Cells and Cloning.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Course Development Grant. Project: “Global Justice.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Research Grant, Claremont McKenna Dean of Faculty. Projects: “National Health Care as a Moral Experiment” and “A Burkean Argument for Regulation of Medical Enhancements”.

- 2005 Research Grant, Gould Center for Humanistic Studies. Projects: “National Health Care as a Moral Experiment” and “A Burkean Argument for Regulation of Medical Enhancements”.
- 2005 Dunbar Fellowship, Gould Center for Humanistic Studies. Research Assistant: Chip Dickerson. Project: *The Excuses of Capitalism*.
- 2004 Teaching Resource Center Grant. Project: “Ethics Development at the College.” Teaching Resource Center, Claremont McKenna College
- 2002-4 Research Fellowship, National Institutes of Health, Department of Clinical Bioethics and Research.
- 1999 Chancellor’s Dissertation Fellowship, UCLA.
- 1999 University Fellowship for Candidates in Philosophy, UCLA.
- 1997 Yost Prize for Teaching Excellence, UCLA Philosophy Department.
- 1996 University Research Mentorship, UCLA.
- 1993 Department of Philosophy Fellowship, UCLA
- 1993 Phi Beta Kappa, UCLA.
- 1993 Summa Cum Laude, UCLA.

### **Service to the Department, College, and Community**

- Standing Student advising, colloquium organizing, works-in-progress participant, etc.
- Standing Program Organizer, Major in Philosophy and Public Affairs.
- Standing Faculty Advisory Committee. Center for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights; Claremont McKenna College.
- Standing Working Group, Five-College Program in Philosophy
- Standing Affiliated Faculty Member, Kravis Leadership Institute
- Standing Faculty Advisor, CMC Liberal Arts Society and Reading Group
- 2007-8 Member, *Ad Hoc* Committee on Revision of Philosophy Curriculum at Claremont McKenna.
- 2007 Faculty Participant, Trustee Retreat on Science at Claremont McKenna.
- 2007 Faculty Search Committee, Social and Political Philosophy. Claremont McKenna College, Department of Philosophy.
- 2007 “The Art of Teaching Through Discussion.” Claremont Colleges Preparatory Session for New Faculty.
- 2007 Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Visiting Professor of Ethics. Claremont McKenna College, Department of Philosophy.
- 2006-7 Organizer, Humanities Forum (5-College Humanities Faculty Group)
- 2006-7 Academic Standards Committee. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2006 Faculty Search Committee, Modern Philosophy. Claremont McKenna College, Department of Philosophy.
- 2006 Organizer, Student Reading Group on the Art of the Essay. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2006 Organizer, Student Reading Group of the Philosophy of the Enlightenment. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2006 Guest Lecturer and Co-Teacher, Course on “Leadership in Science.” Kravis Leadership Institute, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005-6 Guest Lecturer on Bioethics. Joint Science Department, Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005-6 Academic Standards Committee. Claremont McKenna College.

- 2005 Organizer, Student Reading Group on the Philosophy of Education. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Freshman advising. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2005 Recruiting Speeches to Parents and Students. Parents' Days, Claremont McKenna College
- 2005 Faculty Search Committees, Ancient Philosophy and Political Philosophy. Claremont McKenna College, Department of Philosophy.
- 2005 Speech to Students: "Magic, Deception, and Psychic Power." Preceptor Program, funded by the Mellon Foundation. Claremont McKenna College.
- 2003-4 Senior Fellow On Call. Ethics Consultation Service, National Institutes of Health.
- 2003-4 Non-Voting Member, Institutional Review Board. National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute.
- 2003-4 Fellow On Call. Ethics Consultation Service, National Institutes of Health.
- 2002-3 Non-Voting Member, Institutional Review Board. National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health.

## **Memberships**

American Philosophical Association  
 Phi Beta Kappa  
 Academy of Magical Arts (the "Magic Castle")

## **Courses Taught**

### *At Claremont McKenna College*

Aesthetics of Literature  
 Contemporary Moral Issues (topics have included affirmative action, abortion, terrorism, animal welfare, same-sex marriage)  
 Ethical Theory  
 Introduction to Philosophy  
 Introduction to Philosophy and Public Affairs (topics included Millian liberalism, warfare ethics, and human rights)  
 Leadership in Science (co-taught)  
 Metaethics (independent study, 2 students)  
 Seminar in Political Philosophy: Global Justice, World Poverty, and Human Rights  
 Seminar in Political Philosophy: Women's Rights, Contemporary and Historical

### *At Bowdoin College*

Seminar on Ethical Reasoning and Personal Ethical Decisions  
 Philosophy in Literature

### *At the University of California, Los Angeles*

Theories of the Good Life  
 Philosophy in Literature  
 Critical Reasoning, Reading, and Writing  
 Contemporary Moral Issues  
 Ethical Theory  
 Philosophy of Religion

### *At California State University, Long Beach*

Graduate Seminar on Freedom of the Will

## Informal Logic