

# JASON MARSH

• DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY | St. Olaf College  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, Philosophy, St. Olaf College, MN, USA, Fall 2018-present.
- Assistant Professor, Philosophy, St. Olaf College, MN, USA, Fall 2012-2018
- Lecturer, King's University College at the University of Western Ontario, Canada, 2010-12

## AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Ethics (esp. Biomedical Ethics, Procreative Ethics)
- Philosophy of Religion (esp. Science & Religion, Evil, Divine Hiddenness)

## AREAS OF COMPETENCY

- Epistemology, Normative Ethics, Wellbeing, Academic Freedom

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Western Ontario, 2012 (Awarded distinction).
- MA in Philosophy, University of Western Ontario, 2005.
- BEd, 2004, University of New Brunswick
- BA, 2003 (Phil & English, First Class Honours), University of New Brunswick

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- *The Ethics of Procreation and Parenting: An Introduction* | with Daniel Groll under contract with Routledge (in progress)

### Articles, Chapters, Reviews

#### ETHICS

- 2014a** • 'Quality of Life Assessments, Cognitive Reliability, and Procreative Responsibility.' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. 89: 436-466.
- 2014b** • 'Conscientious Refusal and Reason-Giving.' *Bioethics* 28: 313-319, 2014.

- 2015 • 'Procreative Ethics and the Problem of Evil', in *Permissible Progeny? The Morality of Procreation and Parenting*. Edited by Sarah Hannan, Richard Vernon, and Samantha Brennan. Oxford University Press.
- 2017 • Book note for *Debating Procreation: Is it wrong to reproduce?* David Benatar, David Wasserman, Oxford University Press 2015 in *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*. Vol 95, no 2, pg. 413.
- 2019 • Review of *One Child: Do We Have a Right to More?* Sarah Conly, Oxford University Press. *Journal of Moral Philosophy*.
- 2020 • 'What's Wrong With "You Say You're Happy, But..." Reasoning?' *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Disability*. Edited by Adam Cureton and David Wasserman, Oxford University Press.

#### PHIL OF RELIGION

- 2013 • 'Darwin and the Problem of Natural Nonbelief.' *The Monist* 96: 349-376, 2013.
- 2016a • 'Assessing the Third Way.' *Roots of Religion: Exploring the Cognitive Science of Religion*, edited by Justin Barrett and Roger Trigg. Routledge. (Originally published for the Ashgate Science and Religion Series in 2014).
- 2016b 'The Explanatory Challenge of Religious Diversity', in Helen De Cruz & Ryan Nichols (eds.), *Advances in Religion, Cognitive Science, and Experimental Philosophy*. Bloomsbury Academic. 61-83 (with Jon Marsh).
- 2017 'On the Socratic Injunction to Follow the Argument Where it Leads.' Forthcoming in *Renewing Philosophy of Religion*. Edited by Paul Draper and John Schellenberg, Oxford University Press. (For more context, see my 2018 blogpost, *What Norms or Values Define Excellent Philosophy of Religion?*)
- 2021 'Cognitive Science and Natural Theological Arguments' in preparation for *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*. Edited by Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro. (5000 words)
- In progress** "Evolutionary Accounts of Religion," *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), (Invited, in progress)

#### Graduate Student Work

- 2008 'Do the demographics of theistic belief disconfirm theism? A Reply to Maitzen' *Religious Studies* 44:465-47.

#### Edited Volumes

- 2016 Edited special issue on Cognitive Science of Religion for *Open Theology* (De Gruyter)
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## DEBATES

- 2022 • Debate with David Benatar, "Is it Morally Wrong to Have Children?" University of Delaware. Nov 1

## PRESENTATIONS *(Selected)*

- 2022 • 'Does God Care About What People Believe About God?' Rutgers University (given for cognitive science of religion workshop in March), invited
- 2020 • 'The Problem of Understated Risks in Medicine' at the 2020 Carfang Nursing & Healthcare Ethics Conference" paper given in Clearwater Beach, Florida.
- 2019 • 'Is No Platforming at Odds with Liberalism?' paper given at "Freedom, Speech, and Society," Florida Gulf Coast University, March 15-16. (Also given for the FIRE faculty conference in Chicago, in 2018).
- 2018 • 'Why Skepticism Defeats Pessimism.' Anti-Natalism Under Fire. Organized by members of the Institute state and Law (Prague) and also the University of Ostrava (Ostrava), May 30. (Invited).
- 2017 • 'What's Wrong With "You Say You're Happy, But..." Reasoning?' *Philosophy of Disability: Perspectives, Challenges and Aspirations*. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Oct 27. (Invited). The paper was also presented at the *Annual Meeting for the Canadian Philosophical Association*, Toronto, Canada, on May 29.
- 2016 • 'Moore vs. Socrates in the Philosophy of Religion.' *Theology and the Philosophy of Science: Analytic, Scholastic, and Historical Perspectives*, Concordia University of Edmonton, Canada, October 14-15. (Invited)
- 2015 • 'Wellbeing and time: Are we happier than we were ten thousand years ago?' *Moral Progress: Concept, Measurement, and Application*. VU University, Amsterdam, June 23-25.
- 2013 • 'Procreative Ethics and the Problem of Evil.' *Permissible Progeny*, University of Western Ontario, Canada, June.
- 2012 • 'Why the Locked-in Patient Case is Hard.' *Persons and their Brains*. St Anne's College, University of Oxford, UK, July.
- 2012 • 'Quality of Life Assessments, Cognitive Reliability, and Procreative Responsibility.' First alumnus lecture in philosophy, University of New Brunswick, Canada, February.
- 2011 • 'Possible Persons and the Value of Life.' *Valuing Lives: A Conference on Ethics in Health & the Environment*. Bioethics Center, New York University, March 5, 2011.
- 2010 • 'When Are Cognitive Science Explanations Debunking Explanations?' Merton College, University of Oxford, UK, June 2010.
- 2009 • 'Darwinism and Divine Hiddenness.' *150 Years after Origin of a Species: Biological, Historical, and Philosophical Perspectives*. University of Toronto, Canada, November.
- 2009 • 'Possible Persons and the Value of Life.' *Darwin in the 21st century*. University of Notre Dame, (with Jon Marsh), November.
- 2009 • 'Posthumans and Present Evidence: Exploring Future Enhancement.' *Canadian Bioethics Society Conference*, Hamilton, Canada, June 2009.
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## RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

- 2009** 'Cognition, Religion, and Theology Workshop' Christ Church College, University of Oxford, UK, August 10- 22. (Gave a talk)  
2012-14
- 2012-2014** 'Analytic Theology Workshop'(invited)with participants from Cambridge, Notre Dame, and SMU; Dallas, Texas, August. (A branch of the Analytic Theology Project at Notre Dame).
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## AWARDS AND GRANTS

### RESEARCH

- 2011-13** Selected Researcher for Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR): Project: "Conscientious Refusals in Reproductive Health Care", \$8,000.
- 2009-10** Junior Scholar's Grant, University of Oxford (competitive) \$15,500 . Project title: 'When Are Cognitive Science Explanations Debunking Explanations?' (For the Cognition, Religion & Theology Project at the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology).
- 2011** Conference Travel Grant, NYU Bioethics Center (competitive) \$750.
- 2009-10** Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 2009-10 (competitive) \$15,000.
- 2009-10** SEED grant, Rotman Institute of Philosophy (competitive) 2009, \$4,500.

### TEACHING

- 2021-23** Co-Principle Investigator for The National Endowment for the Humanities ARP grant 'Reflecting on How to Create a Just World: Ethical Engagement with Community through the Humanities' (Total from NEH: \$200,000.00)
- 2018-19** 'Addressing Race in Bioethics' with Dan Groll (Carleton College), and extension from our prior Broadening the Bridge Grant Award. Supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. \$2270 (competitive).
- 2016-17** 'Teaching Medical Ethics Collaboratively' Broadening the Bridge Grant Award, with Dan Groll (Carleton College). Supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. \$10,100. (competitive) 2015-16. A version of this grant was also awarded in 2015-16 for \$5,000.
- 2016** FaCE 3 grant ACM, 'Using Cognitive Science to Bridge the Gaps Between Disciplines', with Jeremy Loebach, Jessi Petok, Christopher Chapp, David Castro, and Louis Epstein), '(competitive) \$13,020.
- 2010 & 11** Dean's Honours Roll for Teaching Excellence, King's UCollege).
- 2008** Graduate Student Teaching Award, 2008, UWO, \$500 (Awarded to less than 1% of roughly 4000 graduate students each year; nominated prior year).
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## SERVICE TO PROFESSION

I have refereed for the following journals and academic presses.

*American Philosophical Quarterly, Bioethics, Bloomsbury Press, Faith and Philosophy, Journal of Medical Ethics, Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophy Compass, Philosophical Psychology, Religious Studies, Religions, The Journal of Applied Philosophy, The Journal of Moral Education, The New England Journal of Medicine, Oxford University Press.*

*Member of 2023 Central APA Program Committee (Denver)*

## OTHER SERVICE

### COLLEGE

Academic Freedom Committee - June 2023-present  
Director of Public Affairs Conversation - 2021-present  
Co-Director of Fellowships, 2019-2023  
Direct of EIN, 2019-2020.  
Institutional Review Board (IRB), Sept 2014-2018  
Institute for Freedom and Community, Director's council, May 2016-2022  
GE taskforce member 2016-2018.  
CURI, Sept 2015-2018.  
Holland Hall Design Committee, April 2015-August 2017.  
Secretary of the Faculty, Sept 2013-May 2015

### DEPARTMENT

Graduate school advisor for philosophy majors, 2014-present.  
Led 'Pizza Thursday' discussions on different occasions from 2014-present.  
Managed departmental Facebook page, 2015-2016.  
Library representative for Department of Philosophy, 2012-2014.  
Helped Charles Taliaferro with book review editing tasks for the journal *Faith and Philosophy* 2012-13.

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