

Megan Hyska

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Research

AOS Philosophy of Language, Social & Political Philosophy
AOC Epistemology

Employment

Fall 2019 **Assistant Professor**, *Philosophy Department, Northwestern University.*
Fall 2018-
Summer
2019 **Weinberg College Fellow**, *Philosophy Department, Northwestern University.*

Education

Summer 2018 **PhD in philosophy**, *University of Texas at Austin, This Machine Kills Fascists: Detecting Propaganda with Formal Models of Mass Discourse Structure: Propaganda issues a "deliberative script" vis-à-vis issues of public importance. I argue that highly divergent deliberative scripts across mass publics should be of interest to the political theorist interested in the health and legitimacy of democracies. I then develop a model of mass discourse which makes use of formal pragmatic work on the information structure of non-mass discourses, in terms of which mass discourse pathologies related to the notion of highly divergent deliberative scripts are precisified.*

J. Dever (Supervisor), D. Beaver, R. Buchanan, H. Kamp, C. Roberts (Ohio State), J. Stanley (Yale)

2012-2015 **MA**, *University of Texas, Austin.*
'Discourse-Level Information Structure and the Challenge of Higher Order Discourse'

2008-2012 **BA**, *University of Victoria, Philosophy and Writing.*
with high distinction

Publications

under review '**On the Metaphysics of Social Organizing**'.

under review '**Luck and the Value of Communication**'.

2021, '**Propaganda, Irrationality, and Group Agency**', *Routledge Handbook of Political Epistemology.*
forthcoming

October 2019 '**In defense of political correctness and against "political correctness"**', *Ethics, Left and Right*, (Ed. Bob Fischer), Oxford University Press.

October 2018 '**Of Martyrs and Robots: Propaganda and Group Identity**', *The Yale Review.*

Selected Presentations

December
2020 '**On the Value of Gricean Communication**', *Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, online.

October 2020 '**Propaganda, Groups, and Individuals**', *Invited Colloquium*, University of Illinois at Chicago, online.

March 2020, cancelled '**Two Critiques of a Liberal Conception of Propaganda**', *Propaganda, Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA.

Feb 2020 '**Propaganda, Groups, and Individuals**', *Invited Colloquium*, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL.

August 2019 '**On the (Relative) Value of Communication**', *Ontario Meaning Workshop*, Ontario, Canada.

- June 2019 **'Luck and the Value of Communication'**, *5th Biennial Mentoring Workshop for Pre-Tenure Women in Philosophy*, Boston, MA.
- April 2019 **'Protest and Propaganda'**, *Bowling Green Workshop in Applied Ethics and Public Policy: 'The Ethics of Public Discourse'*, Bowling Green, OH.
- Nov 2018 **'On the Discourse-Structural Dynamics of Higher Order Utterances'**, *New York Philosophy of Language Workshop*, New York, NY.
- Nov 2018 **'Propaganda for Realists'**, *Northeastern Illinois State University Colloquium*, Chicago, IL.
- June 2018 **'Polarization as Propaganda'**, *The Prindle Institute for Ethics Applied Epistemology Research Retreat*, Greencastle, IN.
- April 2016 **'Information Structure and the Challenge of Higher Order Discourse'**, *American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting*, San Francisco, CA.
- Nov 2015 **'On the Politics of the Function Inference'**, *Society for Women and Philosophy (Ireland) Annual Meeting*, Dublin, Ireland.
- June 2015 **'Discourse-level Information Structure and the Challenge of Metadiscursives'**, *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual General Meeting*, Ottawa, ON.
- April 2015 **'Minimalism, contextualism, and successful communication'**, *American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting*, Vancouver, BC.
- Feb 2014 **'Resisting addictive desire: difficulty and epistemic exculpation'**, *Ryerson University Graduate Conference*, Toronto, ON.
- Jan 2013 **'Phenomenological false negatives and the cognitive phenomenology debate'**, *Department of Philosophy Colloquium, University of Victoria*, Victoria, BC.

Professional Service

- 2020/2021 **Program Committee**, *American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting 2022*.
- 2020/2021 **Cognitive Science Program Committee**, *Northwestern University*.
- 2020/2021 **Ad-hoc climate committee**, *Philosophy Department, Northwestern University*.
- 2019/2020 **Visiting Speakers Committee**, *Philosophy Department, Northwestern University*.
- October 2017, **Facilitator**, *Focus Groups on Climate for Women and Trans Students in Graduate and Professional Programs*, Graduate Student Assembly, UT Austin.
- April 2018 **Facilitator**, *Focus Groups on Climate for Women and Trans Students in Graduate and Professional Programs*, Graduate Student Assembly, UT Austin.
- 2016-2018 **Instructor**, *Corrupt the Youth*, Eastside Memorial Highschool.
A philosophy program run at underresourced schools
- 2016-2017 **Policy Advisor, Faculty Liaison**, *Minorities and Philosophy, UT Austin Chapter*.
- 2015-2016 **President**, *Minorities and Philosophy, UT Austin Chapter*.
- 2013-2014 **Founder, Organizer**, *Feminist Philosophy Reading Group*, UT Austin.
- 2013-2014 **Member**, *Organizing Committee, Philosophy Graduate Conference*, UT Austin.

Awards

- 2015 **Doctoral Fellowship**, *Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada*.

Teaching

At Northwestern University

- Winter 2021 PHIL353: Philosophy of Language: Language in Context
- Winter 2021 Phil109-6: Freshman Seminar on Propaganda
- Fall 2020 PHIL253: Introduction to the Philosophy of Language
- Winter 2020 PHIL253: Introduction to the Philosophy of Language
- Fall 2019 Phil109-6: Freshman Seminar on Propaganda
- Fall 2019 PHIL 328: Classics of Analytic Philosophy

Spring 2019 PHIL253: Introduction to the Philosophy of Language

Spring 2019 PHIL109-6: Freshman Seminar on Propaganda

Course Instructor, UT Austin

Spring 2018 PHL312: Introduction to Logic

Fall 2016 PHL313: Introduction to Symbolic Logic

Spring 2016 PHL304: Contemporary Moral Problems

———— Languages

English (native), French (proficient), Spanish (beginner).