

Duncan Purves

Department of Philosophy
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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics and Technology, Applied Ethics, Ethical Theory, Environmental Philosophy, Bioethics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaethics, Social and Political Philosophy

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy University of Florida	August, 2021 – Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy University of Florida	2017 – 2021
Faculty Fellow, Center for Bioethics and Department of Environmental Studies New York University	2015 – 2017
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy University of Wyoming	2014 – 2015
Lecturer, Department of Philosophy University of Colorado Boulder	2013 – 2014

EDUCATION

PhD in Philosophy, University of Colorado-Boulder, 2013

BA in Philosophy, BA in French, University of Missouri-Columbia (*magna cum laude*), 2006

FUNDING AND AWARDS

“Artificial Intelligence and Predictive Policing: An Ethical Analysis”

- Role: Co-Principal Investigator with Ryan Jenkins, Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo.
- Sponsor: National Science Foundation, award #1917712.
- Total award amount: \$509,946
- Award Period: Sept. 1, 2019 – Aug. 31, 2023

“Algorithmic Policing and Public Trust of Law Enforcement.” Consortium on Trust in Media and Technology, University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications

- Role: Principal Investigator
- Total award amount: \$125,000 to hire a postdoctoral fellow
- Award Period: Oct. 1, 2020 – Oct. 1, 2022

University of Florida Research Foundation Professor Award

- Total award amount: \$18,000
- Award Period: May, 2023 – May, 2026

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“A de-biasing technique for place-based algorithmic patrol management” <i>Criminal Justice Ethics</i>	Forthcoming
“Preemption and overdetermination” <i>Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Harm</i>	Forthcoming
“Should algorithms that predict recidivism have access to race?” <i>American Philosophical Quarterly</i> (with J. Davis)	2023
“Fairness in algorithmic policing” <i>Journal of the American Philosophical Association</i>	2022
“Five ethical challenges facing data-driven policing” <i>AI and Ethics</i> (with J. Davis, S. Sturm, and J. Gilbert)	2022
“Public trust, institutional legitimacy, and the use of algorithms in criminal justice” <i>Public Affairs Quarterly</i> (with J. Davis)	2022
“Emerging ethical considerations for the use of artificial intelligence in ophthalmology” <i>Ophthalmology Science</i> (with Evans N.G., Wenner D.M., Cohen I.G., Chiang M.F., Ting D.S. & Lee A.Y.)	2022
“A review of predictive policing from the perspective of fairness” <i>Artificial Intelligence and Law</i> (with K. Alikhademi, E. Drobina, D. Prioleau, B. Richardson, J. Gilbert)	2021
“Autonomous weapons systems and the moral equality of combatants” <i>Ethics and Information Technology</i> 22: 197 – 209 (with M. Skerker and R. Jenkins)	2020
“Harming as making worse off” <i>Philosophical Studies</i> 176(10): 2629–2656	2019
“Wild animal suffering is intractable” <i>Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics</i> 31(2): 239 – 260 (with N. Delon)	2018

- “Meaning in the lives of humans and other animals”
Philosophical Studies 175(2): 317 – 338 (with N. Delon) 2018
- “Desire satisfaction, death, and time”
Canadian Journal of Philosophy 47(6): 799 – 819 2017
- “A quiet revolution in organ transplant ethics”
Reprinted in the University of Tokyo Center for Biomedical Ethics and Law Report 1(1) 2018
Journal of Medical Ethics 43(11): 797 – 800 (with A.r Caplan) 2017
- “A new argument for the irrelevance of equality for intrinsic value”
Philosophia 45(1): 277 – 297 (with S. Kershnar) 2017
- “When robots should do the wrong thing”
in *Robot Ethics 2.0*, OUP (with R. Jenkins and B. Talbot) 2017
- “A dilemma for moral deliberation in AI”
International Journal of Applied Philosophy 30(2): 313 – 335 (with R. Jenkins) 2016
- “Robots and respect: a response to Sparrow”
Ethics and International Affairs 30(3): 391 – 400 (with R. Jenkins) 2016
- “Accounting for the harm of death”
Pacific Philosophical Quarterly 97(1): 89 – 112 2016
- “Non-identity for non-humans”
Ethical Theory and Moral Practice 19(5): 1165 – 1185 (with B. Hale) 2016
- “Right intention and the ends of war”
Journal of Military Ethics 15(1): 18 – 35 (with R. Jenkins) 2016
- “The significance of personal identity for death”
Bioethics 29(9): 681 – 682 2015
- “Autonomous machines, moral judgment, and acting for the right reasons”
Ethical Theory and Moral Practice 18(4): 851 – 872 (with R. Jenkins and B. Strawser) 2015
- “The harms of death”
Cholbi, Michael (ed.) *Immortality and the Philosophy of Death*. Rowman & Littlefield 2015
- “Torture and incoherence: a reply to Cyr”
The Journal of Ethics 19(2): 213 – 218 2015
- “Genetically modified organisms, future generations, and the limits of precaution”
Social Philosophy Today 31: 99 – 109 2015
- “Human non-human chimeras: enhancement or creation?”

<i>American Journal of Bioethics</i> 14(2): 26 – 27	2014
“Anthropocentric indirect arguments and anthropocentric moral attitudes” <i>Ethics, Policy, and Environment</i> 17(3): 267 – 270	2014
“A counterexample to two accounts of harm” <i>Southwest Philosophy Review</i> 30(1): 243 – 250	2014
“Still in hot water: doing, allowing, and Rachels’ bathtub cases” <i>Southwest Philosophy Review</i> 27(1): 129 – 137	2011

INVITED PUBLICATIONS

“Main Issues in Data Ethics and Policing” in <i>Leading With Data: A Police Commander's Guide to GIS and Crime Analysis</i> , Esri Press	Forthcoming
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EDITED BOOK

<i>Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics</i> —Routledge Earthscan (with Sade Hormio and Adrian Walsh)	2016
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UNDER REVIEW

“Against the causal account of algorithmic fairness”	
“An institutional account of trustworthy artificial intelligence”	

MEDIA

“ What’s Wrong with Predictive Policing? ” <i>Public Ethics Blog</i> (published by the Stockholm Centre for War and Peace)	June 2023
“ Criminal Justice Algorithms: Being Race-neutral Doesn’t Mean Race-blind ” <i>The Conversation</i>	March 2022
“Killer Robots: New Reasons to Worry About Ethics”, Interview with Forbes	January, 2016
“The Badness of Death”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog	May, 2014
“The Non-identity Problem”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog	February, 2014
Review of <i>Climate Matters</i> by John Broome, <i>The Philosopher’s Magazine</i>	2013

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
The American Philosophical Association (APA)
The Society for Exact Philosophy (SEP)

SERVICE

To the profession

Area Editor, *Ergo: An Open Access Journal of Philosophy* October 2024 – Present

University of Florida

Lead Organizer, Working Group in AI Ethics and Policy Fall 2021 – Present

Undergraduate Coordinator Fall 2023 – Fall 2024

Chair, Undergraduate Committee Fall 2023 – Fall 2024

Chair, Colloquium Committee Fall 2021 – Spring 2023

Chair, Search Committee for Senior Professor in Philosophy of AI Fall 2023, Spring 2024

Member, Colloquium Committee Fall 2019 – Fall 2021

Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor in AI Ethics Spring 2018

Member, Graduate Committee Fall 2017 – Fall 2019

PRESENTATIONS

“On the Use of Sensitive Characteristics in Medical Risk Assessment”

Summer Seminar in Philosophy

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO June 2025

The Southern Workshop on the Ethics of Emerging Technology

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL April 2025

The Center for Values and Social Policy

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO April 2025

TechEthics Colloquium Series

Harvard University, Boston, MA April 2025

“What to Trust When We Trust AI”

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO August 2024

AI Ethics and Society

San Jose, California October 2024

“An Institutional Account of Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence”

Society for Exact Philosophy

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida November 2024

“Using AI to Reduce Crime and Mitigate Bias”

International Association of Chiefs of Police, Charlotte, NC

May 2024

<p>“Against the Causal Account of Algorithmic Fairness”</p> <p>Southern Workshop for the Ethics of Emerging Technologies</p> <p>University of Georgia, Athens, GA</p>	April 2024
<p>Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress</p> <p>University of Colorado, Boulder, CO</p>	August 2024
<p>“Fair Policing in the Age of Artificial Intelligence”</p> <p>Colloquium presentation for the School of Computing, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY</p>	September 2023
<p>American Association for the Advancement of Science</p> <p>Washington, D.C.</p>	September 2023
<p>“What is Algorithmic Fairness?”</p> <p>Colloquium presentation for the Department of Philosophy, University of Wyoming, Laramie WY</p>	September 2023
<p>“Philosophical perspectives on the ethics of military artificial intelligence”</p> <p>Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership’s Annual McCain Conference</p> <p>US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD</p>	April 2022
<p>“Should algorithms that predict recidivism have access to race?”</p> <p>York University, Toronto, CA</p>	December 2021
<p>“Public trust, legitimacy, and the use of AI in criminal justice”</p> <p>Embedding AI in Society symposium, NC State, Raleigh, NC</p> <p>Center for Values and Social Policy, U. of Colorado, Boulder, CO</p>	February, 2021 April, 2021
<p>“Criminal justice algorithms and public trust”</p> <p>University of Iowa, Department of Philosophy, Iowa City, IA (Invited)</p>	(Postponed)
<p>“Moral differences between autonomous weapons and autonomous vehicles”</p> <p>Autonomous Vehicles Symposium, Orlando, Florida (Invited)</p>	July 2019
<p>“Predictive policing: unbiased and unfair?”</p> <p>Information Ethics Roundtable: Conference on Justice and Fairness in Machine Learning and Big Data, Northeastern University, Boston, MA</p>	April 2019
<p>University of Massachusetts, Boston, Applied Ethics Center (Invited)</p>	September 2019
<p>University of Iowa, Department of Philosophy, Iowa City, IA (Invited)</p>	(Postponed)
<p>“Unjust Enrichment and the Consumption of Animal Products”</p> <p>Florida Philosophical Association, Pensacola, FL</p>	November, 2018

Philosophy Colloquium Series, University of South Carolina (Invited)	October 2019
“Predictive policing and the demands of justice” Cal Poly Philosophy Department and Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering (Invited)	May 2018
“The ethics and ecology of genetic interventions to prevent wild animal suffering,” CU Boulder’s Environmental Studies Departmental Colloquium Series (Invited)	March, 2018
Rutgers-Camden’s Philosophy Department Workshop on Enhancements (Invited)	April, 2018
Convergence and Divergence between Animal and Environmental Ethics, Centre de Recherche en Éthique, Montreal, Quebec	May 2017
Second Annual Bovay Workshop on Engineering and Applied Ethics Texas A&M	March 2017
“Autonomous weapon systems: research, risk, and responsibility” (Invited) Dialogues in Research Ethics, University of Miami Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy	November, 2017
“Desire satisfaction, death, and time” The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2017
“Meaning in the lives of humans and other animals” Human and Non-human Animals: Minds and Morals University of Connecticut, Storrs CT	May 2017
“Should we design artificial intelligence to have false moral beliefs?” The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2016
“Harming, failing to benefit, and the causing/allowing distinction” Bled Philosophical Conference, Bled, Slovenia	June 2016
“Life-improving organ transplantation: some ethical questions (Invited) Invited Speaker, Society of Bioethics and Medicine, Brooklyn College	Spring 2016
“Death and timeless values” The International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Syracuse, NY	May 2016
“A new problem for moral reasoning in autonomous weapons” The Future of Just War, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA	October 2015
“Must robots be consequentialists?” The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2015
“The harms of death”	

Young Scholars Workshop for the Immortality Project, UC Riverside	May 2015
“Intergenerational justice and discounting the future” Central American Philosophical Association (colloquium), St. Louis	February 2015
“Criteria for a successful account of the harm of death” International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Pomona	October 2014
“The case for discounting the future” Workshop on the Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics, Helsinki	November 2014
“Right intention and the ends of war” Meeting of the International Society for Military Ethics, Notre Dame	October 2014
“How to raise the levelling down objection without appealing to the slogan” The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2014
“A counterexample to two accounts of harm” Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society	November 2013
“You are what I eat: moral implications of GMOs for future generations” International Social Philosophy Conference, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT	July 2013
“Death and disability: two problems for the event-based account of harm” Pacific American Philosophical Association (colloquium), San Francisco, CA	March 2013
“The non-identity problem and the levelling-down objection” Illinois Philosophical Association, UI Urbana-Champaign, IL	November 2012
“The distinctive feeling of desire theory of pleasure” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN	February 2012
“Still in hot water: doing, allowing, and Rachels’ bathtub cases” Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society	November 2010
COMMENTARIES	
Comments on John Basl, Jeff Behrends, and Mark Lee, “Of trolleys and Tesla: Could trolley cases help us understand how to program autonomous vehicles?” Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder, Boulder, CO	August 2018
Comments on Matthew Hanser’s “The moral significance of harm” and Molly Gardner’s “Harming, doing harm, and causation” Symposium on the nature and moral significance of harm at the Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Diego, CA	March 2018
Comments on Sharisse Kanet’s “Minding the gap”	

International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO	June 2014
Comments on Molly Gardner's "On the strength of the reason against harming" Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder, Boulder, CO	August 2013
Comments on Christopher Pynes' "The potentiality problem redux" Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN	February 2012
SMALLER AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS	
SEC Visiting Faculty Travel Grant (\$1147.83)	Spring 2024
Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund Award (\$12,000)	Summer 2024
Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund Award, (\$10,668)	Summer 2019
Workshop Fellow—NEH Summer Institute, "Extending the Land Ethic"	Summer 2016
Invited participant—Younger Scholars Workshop, Templeton Immortality Project	Spring 2015
Research Travel Grant International Society for Environmental Ethics (\$500)	Fall 2014
Research Travel Grant—International Programs at the University of Wyoming	Fall 2014
TEACHING	
Ethics, Data, and Technology	UF, Fall and Spring 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
Graduate Seminar in Ethics and Technology	UF, Spring 2020, Spring 2023
Philosophy of Death	UF, Fall 2018, Spring 2021, Fall 2024
Moral Philosophy	UF, Spring 2018, Fall 2018
Ethics of Technology	UF, Spring 2018
Ethical Theory-Graduate Seminar	UF, Fall 2017
Contemporary Moral Issues	UF, Fall 2017, Spring 2021
Ethics and Animals	NYU, Fall 2016
Advanced Environmental Ethics-Graduate Seminar	NYU, Spring 2016, Spring 2017
Ethics and the Environment	NYU, Fall 2015, Fall 2016
Justice in Health and Healthcare-Graduate Seminar	NYU, Fall 2015

Metaphysics for Ethics-Graduate Seminar	UW, Spring 2015
Philosophy of Language	UW, Spring 2015
Introduction to Philosophy	UW, Fall 2014
Natural Resource Ethics	UW, Spring 2015, Fall 2014
Bioethics	CU, Spring 2014
Environmental Justice	CU, Fall 2013
Environmental Ethics	CU, Summer 2013, Fall 2013
Philosophy and Society	CU, Spring 2013, Spring 2014
Philosophy and Race	CU, Spring 2012, Fall 2012
PhD THESIS SUPERVISION	
Marcelino Hudgson Steele	UF, Fall 2026 (Expected)
John Madock	UF, Fall 2026 (Expected)
Schuyler Sturm, “Just Predictive Machine Learning: Accounts of Sufficiently Good Data, Dual Threshold Satisficing, and Algorithmic Transparency”	UF, Spring 2024
MA THESIS SUPERVISION	
Kristina Sokourenko, “Public schools, hospitals, and prisons: the institutional power to nudge”	NYU Summer 2017
Sean Jensen, “GP-Write and the moral permissibility of human enhancement”—Philosophy PhD candidate, U. of Twente	NYU Summer 2017
Rasmus Mikkelsen, “Sentience and interests”	NYU Summer 2017
Katherine Mintz, “Retractions: the disappointing everyman”	NYU Spring 2017
Michael Corbett, “Easy rescue and the state: on the justifiable use of force to save distant people”	NYU Spring 2017
Emily Slome, “Addressing the ethics of removing the financial disincentive of living kidney donation”—Philosophy PhD candidate, CU Boulder	NYU Spring 2017
Stephanie Peterson, “What we owe: justice for climate refugees”	NYU Spring 2016

Samatha Nemana, “Implementing justice through water access: the PRWSSIP project and gendered access to water resource management”	NYU Fall 2015
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Shaked Landor, “Growing up green: a garden-based learning (GBL) proposal to addressing anthropogenic climate change”	NYU Fall 2015
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MEDIA

“Killer Robots: New Reasons to Worry About Ethics”, Interview with Forbes	January, 2016
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“The Badness of Death”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog	May, 2014
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“The Non-identity Problem”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog	February, 2014
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Review of <i>Climate Matters</i> by John Broome, <i>The Philosopher’s Magazine</i>	2013
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SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION AND THE PUBLIC

Program Committee Member FAccT ACM	2022 – Present
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Member, Police Advisory Council for the City of Gainesville	2021 – 2023
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Mentor, University of Florida Minority Mentor Program	2018 – 2021
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“Who Should You Trust?: Thinking for Yourself and Trusting Experts,” Public presentation for UF undergraduates	Fall 2017
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Program Committee Member International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying	Fall 2017 – Spring 2018
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Judge, NYC High School Ethics Bowl	Winter 2017
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Lead coordinator, NYC Early Career Ethicists Workshop	Fall 2016—Fall 2017
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Faculty consultant—NYU Philosophy Outreach Program	Spring 2016
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Graduate admissions committee, NYU Center for Bioethics	Fall 2016—Summer 2017
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Assistant organizer, Stoic Camp hosted by U. of Wyoming Philosophy	Spring 2015
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Committee member, Biodiversity Institute Grant Competition, U. of Wyoming	Spring 2015
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“The Ethics of Drone Warfare,” for the U. of Wyoming Philosophy Club	Spring 2015
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Graduate coordinator, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, U. of Colorado	2008—2013
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Co-organizer, Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, U. of Colorado	2011
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Department representative, Graduate Student Government, U. of Colorado

2008—2009

Research affiliate, *The Committee on Environmental Thought*: <http://environmentalthought.com/>.

Contributor, *1000-Word Philosophy Blog*.

Reviewer for *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophy Compass*, *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, *Proceedings of FAccT ACM*, *Ethics*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *National Science Foundation*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Public Affairs Quarterly*, *Environmental Philosophy*, *Dialectica*, *Philosophy and Technology*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Journal of Medical Ethics*, *Utilitas*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, *Journal of Military Ethics*, *Journal of Science and Engineering Ethics*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophia*, *Southwest Philosophy Review*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Analysis*, *Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress*