

**Anthony Simon Laden**

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Department of Philosophy (m/c 267)  
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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

University of Illinois at Chicago, Philosophy Department  
Chair, 2012-2018  
Professor, 2008-present  
Associate Professor, 2002-2008  
Assistant Professor, 1996-2002

University of Chicago, Human Rights Program  
Visiting Associate Professor, Spring 2007

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

Center for Ethics and Education  
Associate Director, 2014-present

*Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*  
Associate Editor 2024-

APA Committee on Teaching  
Member, 2023-

Spencer Foundation, Initiative for Philosophy in Educational Policy and Practice  
Advisory Board, 2012-14  
Consultant, 2013-14

*Philosophy Compass*  
Co-editor for Political and Legal Philosophy, 2008-2012

**EDUCATION**

Harvard University, 1985-89, BA., philosophy, *summa cum laude*, 1989.  
Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1989-90. Graduate studies in philosophy.  
Harvard University, 1990-1996. Ph.D., Philosophy, 1996.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books, and edited collections

- [1] *Reasonably Radical: Deliberative Liberalism and the Politics of Identity* (Cornell University Press, 2001).
- [2] *Multiculturalism and Political Theory*, edited with David Owen (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).
- [3] *Reasoning: A Social Picture* (Oxford University Press, 2012)
- [4] *Networks of Trust: The Social Costs of College and What We Can Do About Them*. (University of Chicago Press, 2024)

### Articles

- [1] "Games, Fairness and Rawls's A Theory of Justice," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 20 (Summer 1991): 189-222.
- [2] "Outline of a Theory of Reasonable Deliberation," *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 30 (December 2000): 551-580.
- [3] "Republican moments in political liberalism," *Croatian Journal of Philosophy* 1: 3 (Fall, 2001): 217-237.
- [3a] "Republican moments in political liberalism," revised version, *Revue Internationale de Philosophie*, 60: 237 (2006): 341-367.
- [4] "Democratic legitimacy and the 2000 election" *Law and Philosophy* 21:2 (March 2002): 197-220.

- [5] "The House that Jack Built: Thirty Years of Reading Rawls," *Ethics* 113: 2 (Jan. 2003): 367-390.
- [6] "Radical Liberals, Reasonable Feminists: Reason, Objectivity and Power in the work of MacKinnon and Rawls," *Journal of Political Philosophy*, 11:2 (June 2003): 133-52.
- [6a] "Radical Liberals, Reasonable Feminists: Reason, Objectivity and Power in the work of MacKinnon and Rawls," substantially revised version, *Feminist Interpretations of Rawls*, ed. Ruth Abbey, (University Park, PA: Penn State University Press, 2013, 24-39.
- [7] "Taking the Distinction Between Persons Seriously," *Journal of Moral Philosophy* (special issue on the work of John Rawls) 1:3 (2004): 277-292. Reprinted in Thom Brooks and Fabian Freyenhagen, eds. *The Legacy of John Rawls* (London: Continuum, 2005).
- [8] "Evaluating Social Reasons: Hobbes vs. Hegel," *Journal of Philosophy*, 102: 7 (July 2005): 327-356.
- [9] "John Rawls's *A Theory of Justice*" *Central Works in Philosophy Volume 5: The Twentieth Century: Quine and After*, ed. by John Shand (London: Acumen, 2006): 64-85.
- [10] "Transcendence without God: On Atheism and Invisibility" in *Philosophers without Gods*, ed. by Louise Antony, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007): 121-132.
- [11] "Reasonable deliberation, constructive power and the struggle for recognition" in *Recognition and Power*, ed. by David Owen and Bert van den Brink, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007): 270-289.
- [12] "Negotiation, Deliberation and the Claims of Politics" in *Multiculturalism and Political Theory*, ed. by David Owen and Anthony Simon Laden (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007): 198-217.
- [13] "Introduction" with David Owen, to *Multiculturalism and Political Theory* ed. by Owen and Laden (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007): 1-22.

- [14] "Relational Liberalism and demands for equality, recognition and group rights" *Debates in Political Philosophy*, ed. by John Christman and Tom Christiano (London: Blackwells, 2009).
- [15] "The Trouble with Prudence" *Philosophical Explorations* 12:1 (March 2009): 19-40.
- [16] "The Justice of Justification" *Debating the Political: Rawls and Habermas in Dialogue*, ed. Fabian Frayenhagen and James Gordon Finlayson (New York: Routledge, 2010), 135-152.
- [17] "The key of/to public philosophy: An introduction" *Political Theory* 39 (2011), pp. 112-117 .
- [18] "Taking the engagement in civic engagement seriously" published by the UIC Institute on Politics and Civic Engagement, on their website: <http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/ipce/interior/TakingCivicEngagementSeriouslyFinalFY12.pdf> May, 2012 (approx. 15,000 words)
- [19] "Learning to be Equal: Just Schools as Schools of Justice" in *Education, Democracy and Justice*, Danielle S. Allen and Rob Reich, eds. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013).
- [20] "Public Reason" *International Encyclopedia of Ethics*, ed. Hugh LaFollette (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013).
- [21] "Ideals: Goals vs. Constraints" *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* 16:2 (2013): 205-219 (Special issue on Amartya Sen's *The Idea of Justice*).
- [22] "Constructivism as Rhetoric" *A Companion to Rawls* ed. David Reidy and Jon Mandle (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2014), 59-72
- [23] "Proposals, Engagements and the Key of Reasoning" *Freedom and Democracy in an Imperial Context: Dialogues with James Tully*, ed. by Robert Nichols and Jakeet Singh, (New York: Routledge, 2014)
- [24] "The Authority of Civic Citizens," *On Global Citizenship: James Tully in Dialogue*, (London: Bloomsbury, 2014), 103-130.

- [25] "The Practice of Equality," *Justice, Democracy and the Right to Justification: Rainer Forst in Dialogue* (London: Bloomsbury, 2014), 103-126.
- [26] "On Democratic Justification: Comment on Alessandro Ferrara's *Democratic Horizon*" *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, Vol 42: 7 : 673-680 (2016).
- [27] "Rawls and the Practice of Equality" in *After Rawls*, ed. by Dariusz Dankowski and Anna Krzynówvek-Arndt, (Kracow: Akademia Ignatium W Krakowie, 2017)
- [28] "Two Concepts of Civility" in *A Crisis of Civility? Political Discourse and Its Discontents*, ed. By Robert Boatright et al., (New York: Routledge, 2019), 9-30.
- [29] "On the value of sustainability and the sustainability of value" in *Nature and Value*, ed. By Akeel Bilgrami, Columbia University Press, 2020, 205-223.
- [30] "How Democracy Doesn't End," in *Democratic Multiplicity*, ed. by James Tully et al., (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022), 25-39.
- [31] "The Social Costs of a College Education" in *Academic Ethics Today*, ed. by Steven Cahn, (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2022), 231-240.
- [32] "College teaching, Indoctrination and Trust" in *Handbook of Philosophy of Education*, ed. by Randall Curren (New York: Routledge, 2023), 344-352.
- [34] "Education, Trust and the Conversation of Democracy" in *Cambridge Handbook of Democratic Education*, ed. by Julian Culp, Johannes Derup and Douglas Yacek (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023), 361-376.
- [35] "Arguments Philosophical and Political" *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 107:1 (July 2023), 277-282.
- [36] "Addressing Racial Injustice: Comments on Charles Mills's Tanner Lectures" to be included in a volume edited by Elizabeth Anderson, features Mills's Tanner Lectures and commentaries and possibly a reply, (forthcoming with Oxford University Press) (10,700 words)
- [37] "Taking Teaching Seriously," a comment on Phillip Kitcher's *The Main Enterprise of the World*, forthcoming in *Analysis Reviews* (5000 words)

### **Reviews, replies and other short pieces**

- [1] "Games Philosophers Play: A reply to Gauthier," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, vol. 22, no. 1 (Winter 1993), pp. 48-52.
- [2] "Reply to Trapp: 'Minimal Morals: A Hobbesian Choice'," in *Preferences*, eds. Christoph Fehige and Ulla Wessells, (DeGruyter, 1998).
- [3] "Review of *Real Rights*, by Carl Wellman" *Philosophical Review* (1997).
- [4] "Review of *What's Left of Liberalism*, by Jon Mandle" *Philosophy in Review*, vol 21, no. 2 (April 2001): 142-43.
- [5] "Review of *Legitimate Differences*, by Georgia Warnke" *Philosophical Review* (2001).
- [6] "Review of *Rights, Democracy and Fulfillment in the Area of Identity Politics*, by David Ingram, *Ethics*, 116:1 (Oct. 2005): 235-238.
- [7] "Review of *Democratic Autonomy* by Henry Richardson" *Social Theory and Practice*, 32: 2 (April 2006), 333-338.
- [8] "Review of *John Rawls: His Life and Theory of Justice* by Thomas Pogge", *Ethics*(2009).
- [9] "Reasoning: It's not all in the head" *Human Development*, Letters to the Editor, Aug. 5, 2010 (on-line), pp. 3-6.
- [10] Review of *Why Political Liberalism?* by Paul Weithman, *Mind* 121 (483): 859-862 (Nov. 2012)
- [11] "Review of *Sharing Democracy* by Michael Ferguson," *Contemporary Political Theory*, 13 (2014), e8-e10.
- [12] Entries on "Original Position," "Difference Principle," "Games," and "Nash point" for *Rawls Lexicon*, ed. by Jon Mandle and David Reidy, (London" Wiley-Blackwell), 2015.
- [13] Review of *Reasonableness and Fairness: An Historical Theory* by Christopher McMahon, *Ethics* 128 (4): 823-27, 2018

[14] "Three Pictures of Reasoning" (a comment on Rachel Wahl) *Philosophy of Education*, 77:2 (2021): 179-84.

### RECENT PODCASTS AND OTHER MEDIA

"Teaching, Indoctrination and Trust" an episode of *Ethics and Education*, released Mar. 24, 2021. <https://ethicsandeducation.wceruw.org/podcast/teaching-indoctrination-and-trust/>

"The Ethics of Teacher Strikes" an episode of *Ethics and Education*, released Jan. 11, 2022.

"Deliberation and Disagreement across Difference," an episode of *Thinking in the Midst*, a podcast produced by the Philosophy of Education Society, May, 2023.

"Building Trust in Higher Education" an episode of *Ethics and Education*, released Jan., 2025, centered around *Networks of Trust*.  
<https://ethicsandeducation.wceruw.org/podcast/building-trust-in-higher-education-tony-laden-higher-ed/>

A variety of short videos on tiktok on philosophy, teaching, and trust, via the Center for Ethics and Education

### PAPERS DELIVERED

"Rational Action and Rational Agents,"  
at "Philosophical Perspectives on Irrationality," a conference at the Université de Montréal, October, 1997.

"Radical Liberals, Reasonable Feminists,"  
at the Humanities Institute, UIC, 1999; DePaul University, 1999; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Oct. 2000; Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, April 2005.

"Reasoning Together à la Hobbes and à la Hegel,"  
at "Reason and Deliberation," a conference at Bowling Green State University, May 2001, and Chicago Political Theory conference, Nov., 2002.

"Reasonable deliberation, constructive power and the struggle for recognition"

at "Recognition and Power" a conference on the work of Axel Honneth, at the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands, March 2003.

"Prudence Reconceived"

at conference on Personal Identity and Practical Reason at UIC, June 2003, UW-Milwaukee, October 2003, Northwestern University, October 2005, University of Wisconsin-Madison, November 2005, Summer Institute for the Preservation of the Study of Economic Thought, George Mason University, July 2006, Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Jan. 2007.

"Taking the Distinction Between Persons Seriously," invited paper for panel on "Rawls, Utilitarianism and Social Policy," Central Division meetings of the APA, Chicago April, 2004.

"Negotiation, Deliberation and the Claims of Politics," at "Cultural Diversity and Political Theory: New Directions" at UIC, Oct. 2004, and McGill University, February 2005.

"On the Nature of the Authority of Reasons" presented to Axel Honneth's research colloquium in social philosophy, J.W. Goethe Universität, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, Dec. 2007.

"Reasons; inviting Speech" presented to Monica Betzler's colloquium, University of Berne, April 2008.

"Democratic Authority: Command or Connection" Philosophy Department, University of Southampton, May 2008.

"The Rational Significance of Gossip and Idle Chatter" delivered under various titles as a keynote talk at the Philosophy and the Social Sciences Conference, Prague, May 2008; J.W. Goethe-Universität, May 2008, and University of Utrecht, Zeno lecture, June 2008.

"What are we to make of the historicity of norms" Conference on the relation between the historicity and validity of norms, J.W. Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main, July 2009.

"Looking Forward: A democratic picture of legitimacy, authority and reason" 3 lectures delivered at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland, June. 2009



"Remarks on James Tully's *Public Philosophy in a New Key*" APSA, Toronto, Sept. 2009.

"The Justice of Justification" Keynote address at Brennan Graduate Student Conference on the Foundations of Justice, Loyola University, Chicago, March, 2010.

"Proposals, Engagements and the Key of Reasoning" conference on the work of James Tully, Victoria BC, May 2010.

"The Norms of Conversation" at a conference on Reason and Power, Frankfurt, June 2011.

"The Practice of Equality," at a conference at York University on the work of Rainer Forst, June 2011, Philosophy Colloquium, New School for Social Research, Dec. 2011, Central APA panel on recognition, Feb. 2012, Yale University workshop on political philosophy, April 2012, U-Mass Amherst, Philosophy Department, April 2012, Simon Fraser University Philosophy Department, 2013, "After Rawls" conference, Krakow, Poland, May 2014

"The Gift of Trust" conference on Muslims, Multiculturalism and Trust, SOAS University of London, June 2013, Dem-Con Lecture, University of Victoria, Oct. 2013.

"Proposals for Rational Creatures: How to bring people to reason by reasoning with them" Philosophy Department, University of Utrecht, June 2013, Keynote Address at UIC Philosophy Graduate Conference, March, 2017.

"Remarks on reasoning and sustainability" workshop on values and nature, London, UK, June 2014

"Rawls and the Practice of Equality" in Krakow, May 2014, "Legacy of Rawls" conference, Dec. 2015, UW-Milwaukee Philosophy Department

"Response to Schapiro, Richardson and Bauer" Author Meets Critics session on Reasoning: A Social Picture at Pacific APA, April 2015

"The value of sustainability and the sustainability of value" NOMIS workshop on nature and value, London, UK, Mar. 2016, UIC works-in-progress series and

Northwestern University Practical Philosophy Workshop, Nov. 2016,  
Dartmouth Moral and Political Philosophy Workshop, April 2018.

Discussion of "Taking the Engagement in Civic Engagement Seriously" with  
graduate students at Columbia University Philosophy Department, Oct. 2017.

"Future Imperfect: Two ways of thinking about tomorrow" at Political Futures  
Conference, UIC Humanities Institute, Oct. 2018.

"Two concepts of civility," Keynote address at the Philosophy of Education  
Society, North America conference, Mundelein IL, Oct. 2018.

Remarks on doing engaged philosophy, Panel on Grounded Normative Theory  
and Policy, Canadian Political Science Association Meeting, UBC, Vancouver,  
June 2019

"Animating the Democratic Spirit," Practical philosophy colloquium, Freie-  
Universität, Berlin, Jan. 2020

"How Democracy Doesn't End," UIC Institute for the Humanities, Fellows Lecture  
series, Mar. 12, 2020

"Three Pictures of Reasoning" invited comment on Plenary Session talk by Rachel  
Wahl, Philosophy of Education Society, Feb. 2021

"Ideal Theory for a Non-Ideal World: How to make justice as fairness anti-racist"  
at a conference on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *A Theory of Justice*, University of  
Virginia Law School, Dec. 2021; at a Midwestern Political Philosophy Workshop,  
Chicago, April 2024.

"The Social Costs of a College Education" delivered at the North American  
Association of the Philosophy of Education, Oct. 2022, at a graduate student  
conference on the philosophy of education at CUNY Graduate Center, Oct. 2023,  
at Western Technical College, December 2023, Univ. of Pennsylvania Philosophy  
Department, Feb. 2025.

Comments on "Agents of Change" by Ben Laurence, Central APA, March 2023

Presentation on a panel of star teachers, APA Teaching Hub, Central APA, March  
2023

Comments on a panel "The Trouble with Facts" at the Northeastern Philosophy of Education Society, Teacher's College, Oct. 2023., APSA Annual meeting, Philadelphia, Sept. 2024.

"What We Do in the Shadows: Building Trust in Higher Education" Panel on Philosophy and Higher Education, Central APA, Mar. 2024

Authors meets Critics sessions on *Networks of Trust*: NAAPE, Oct. 2024, Pacific APA, April 2025.

Reply to keynote address by Nancy Snow, "Promoting Civility and Respect in Higher Education and Beyond" NAAPE, Oct. 2025

### RECENT HONORS AND AWARDS

Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, UIC, 2019-20

Research Award from Institute for Politics and Civic Engagement, UIC, 2012.

Grant from the Spencer Foundation to study civic education: "Beyond the Civics Classroom: Reframing civic education." 2009-2011

Humboldt Research Fellowship, hosted by Axel Honneth (Goethe Universität, Frankfurt) and Christoph Menke (Universität Potsdam), 2007-2008.

Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, UIC, 2004-5.

*Reasonably Radical*, named Outstanding Academic Title by *Choice*, 2002.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend, 2001

Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1998

### COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Ethics: units on sexism and racism

What is Happiness?

Introduction to Political Philosophy: units on citizenship, property rights, immigration and integration, and civil disobedience.

What is Democracy?

Educational Ethics

Morality and the Law: units on Hart/Fuller debate, liberty and sodomy, punishment and the death penalty, civil disobedience

Topics in Ethics and Political Philosophy: Social Contract Tradition, readings from Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Rousseau, Rawls, Tully, Pateman, Mills

Topics in Ethics and Political Philosophy: Ethics and Human Nature, readings from Aristotle, Hume, Rousseau, Mill, Nietzsche

Topics in Ethics and Political Philosophy: Justice in a Democracy: units on rights, equality, education, taxation and civil disobedience

Topics in Ethics (advanced level): Kant and Aristotle's ethics, Contemporary Ethics Sample

Topics in Political Philosophy (advanced level): John Rawls's *A Theory of Justice*, Inequality

Fundamentals of Philosophical Discourse (A writing class for philosophy majors)

Graduate seminars on:

Public Reason (readings from Rawls, Habermas, Tully)

Kant's Ethics

Recent Ethical Theory (readings from Nagel, Korsgaard, Williams)

Practical Reason (readings from contemporary authors)

The Reasonable and the Rational (readings from contemporary authors)

Rawls's *A Theory of Justice*

Human Rights

Reasoning: A Social Picture

Morally Serious Moral Philosophers

Rousseau's Political Philosophy

Responsiveness as a Democratic Virtue

Trust

Democratic Institutions

Fundamentals of Teaching Philosophy (a 1-credit course for new TAs on teaching philosophy)

## SELECTED SERVICE

### To the department

Chair, 2012-18

Recent major committee work:

Chair of teaching committee, 2021-present

Department Advocate (Ombudsperson), 2022-present

Chair, department ARE strategic plan committee, 2021-2

Chair, AI Ethics search committee, 2023, 2024

Organized memorial conference for Charles Mills

More distant past (major committee work):

Search committees for hiring in ethics

Graduate admissions

Chaired graduate admissions once

**To the college:**

LAS Executive Committee, 2021-3

Institute for the Humanities Executive Committee, 2 yrs.

**To UIC:**

Faculty Advisory Committee, 2024-present

Chair, Provost's task force to think about Gen Ed reform, 2019

Search committee, CATE Executive Director, 2018, 2022

Student Success Task Force, First-year curriculum committee, 2011

Member, Social Justice and Human Rights cluster

**To the profession:**

Member, APA Committee on Teaching, 2022-

Member, APA Taskforce on the Major, 2024-

Associate Editor, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, 2024-

Associate Editor, *Educational Theory*, 2025-

P+T reviews for: Stanford, University of Chicago, Penn, Alabama-Birmingham,  
Tennessee, Florida State, Georgia State.

Journal reviewing for lots of journals

Reviewing of book manuscripts and proposals for Oxford, Chicago, Cambridge  
University Presses.