

JOE GURROLA

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Department of Philosophy
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

EDUCATION

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2020-Present | University of Maryland, College Park
PhD, Philosophy (expected completion May 2026)
Provisional Dissertation Title: <i>The Varieties of Value-Directed Action</i>
Committee: Peter Carruthers (Chair), Rachel Singpurwalla, Dan Moller, Lizzie Schechter |
| 2018-20 | George Washington University
MA, Philosophy |
| 2012-16 | California State University Sacramento
BA, Philosophy, English |

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Science, Moral Psychology, Philosophy of Action

Areas of Competence: Philosophy of Race, Ancient Philosophy, Applied Ethics, Bioethics, Epistemology

RESEARCH

See Research Statement for descriptions of each project.

The Importance of Self-Knowledge for Free Action. *The European Journal of Philosophy*, (2023). 31. 996-1013.

“Beyond Hedonic Adaptation: The Role of Values in Determining Compensation for Suffering” (*under review*)

“Is Self-Knowledge Always Good for You (Morally)?” (*under review*)

“The Virtues (and Vices) of Contrarianism” Co-authored (as primary author) with Dan Moller (*under review*)

“Moral Worth and Moral Motivation: Challenging the Right-Reasons Account” (*penultimate draft*)

“Psychological Freedom in Plato’s Republic” Co-authored (as primary author) with Rachel Singpurwalla (*penultimate draft*)

“Absence does not make the heart grow fonder: On the Bi-Directional Relationships Between Values and Their Objects” (*penultimate draft*)

“Animal Freedom” (*in preparation*)

“The Importance of What We Want to Care About” (*in preparation*)

“Platonic Compatibilism” (*in preparation*)

PRESENTATIONS

Paper Presentations

“Absence does not make the heart grow fonder: the Bi-Directional Relationship Between Values and Their Objects” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2025

“Is Knowing Yourself Always Good for You (Morally)?” APA Central Division 2025, accepted as colloquium

“Plato’s Account of Psychological Freedom in the *Republic*” APA Pacific Division 2024, co-presented with Rachel Singpurwalla (co-author) for the panel The Reach of Ancient Ethics

“Can Reading Narrative Fiction Improve Our Ability to Understand the Perspectives of Outgroup Members?” George Washington University Philosophy Department Brown Bag Colloquium, November 2019.

“Critique of Quassim Cassam’s ‘Knowing What You Believe’” California State University Sacramento Philosophy Public Forum, 2015.

“On the Metaphysics of Nozick’s Experience Machine,” California State University Sacramento Annual Nammour Ethics Symposium, 2015

Commentary and Chairing

Chair, Oscar North-Concar and Kirk Surgener's 'Addressing Metaskepticism'
Moral Metaphysics at Maryland Workshop, May 2025

Commentary, On Lavalley's "Affective Scaffolding and the Loss of Control in Addiction"
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2023

Commentary, "Reflections on the Sentience Criterion of Moral Status for Robots," George
Washington University Philosophy Alumni Conference, October 2019.

Commentary, On Goffin's "Better Scared Than Sorry: A Pragmatic Account of Emotional
Representations," 111th Annual Meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and
Psychology, 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

Primary Instructor

- Contemporary Moral Issues
- Philosophy of Race (three times)
- Theory of Knowledge
- Bioethics (scheduled for winter 2025)

Teaching Assistant

- Are Sports Ethical?, Harjit Bhogal
- Wisdom through Cognitive Science, Peter Carruthers
- Early Modern Philosophy, Charles Manekin
- Arbitrating Our Bodily Rights: What it Means to Consent, Hallie Liberto
- Bioethics, Christopher Masciari

George Washington University, Washington D.C.

Primary Instructor

- Introduction to Philosophy

Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to Philosophy
- Philosophy of Mind

HONORS AND AWARDS

2025	Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, University of Maryland, College Park Award Amount: \$15,000
2020-2024	Flagship Fellowship, University of Maryland, College Park Award Amount: \$60,000
2020	Deans Fellowship, University of Maryland, College Park
2018-2020	Graduate Assistantship and University Fellowship, George Washington University

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

UMD	Metaphysics, Mind, and Language (Paolo Santorio) Capitalism and its Critics (Dan Moller) Value Theory (Dan Moller) Stoic Ethics and Moral Psychology (Rachel Singpurwalla) Representation in Linguistics (Georges Rey) Human Motives (Peter Carruthers) Legal Reasoning (Jeff Horta) The Metaphysics of Laws (Harjit Bhogal) Non-Standard Ethics (Dan Moller) Plato's Republic (Rachel Singpurwalla) Philosophy of Psychiatry (Elizabeth Schechter) Abnormal Psychology (Elizabeth Schechter) Aristotle's Ethics and Moral Psychology (Rachel Singpurwalla) Audit On Human Nature (Peter Carruthers) Audit Varieties of Belief (Elizabeth Schechter) Audit Perception and Action (Peter Carruthers) Audit
GW	Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Animal Consciousness (Saidel) Contemporary Moral Philosophy, Parfit's Ethics (DeGrazia) The Ethics of Belief (Archer) Freedom of the Will (Saidel) Fiction and Philosophy (Saidel)

The Idea of the Individual (Wills)
Biomedical Ethics (DeGrazia)
The Suspension of Belief (Archer)
Neuroethics (Waller)
Metacognitive Skill (Zawidzki)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association, 2016-Present
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2019-Present

GRADUATE SERVICE

2021-2025	Graduate Student Representative, Department of Philosophy, University of Maryland
2023-Present	Graduate Student Representative, Committee for Diversity and Inclusion, University of Maryland

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2023	Referee, <i>Asian Journal of Philosophy</i>
2025	Referee, <i>Synthese</i>
2025	Referee, <i>The Journal of Ethics</i>