Kristin Culbertson

Ph.D. Candidate, University of Connecticut | Department of Philosophy

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*Areas of Specialization*

Buddhist Philosophy, ethics, wellbeing

*Areas of Competence*

Environmental philosophy, Chinese philosophy, social and political philosophy, history of Western philosophy

*Education*

UConn, Storrs, CT

*Ph.D. in Philosophy* (expected June 2021)

*Dissertation*: “Embracing the Non-Ideal: Buddhist Ethics for the Modern World”

*Committee:* Jay Garfield, Lewis Gordon, Alexus McLeod, Emily McRae

*M.A. in Philosophy* (Spring 2017)

University of North Carolina at Asheville, NC

*B.A. in Philosophy* (Spring 2012)

*Teaching Experience*

**Average SET SCORES**

Overall Teaching: 4.4 out of 5

Instructor Accessibility: 4.8 out of 5

Teaching Methods: 4.7 out of 5

UConn (Storrs, Avery Point, and Waterbury Campuses)

***Classical Chinese Philosophy (300-level)***

Spring 2021

* Discussion-based, synchronous online course via Microsoft Teams
* Provided instruction for advanced philosophical writing through two assigned formal papers
* Covered major schools of thought of ancient China including Confucianism, Daoism, Mohism, and others

***Philosophy and Social Ethics (100-level)***

Fall 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Summer 2016

* Introduced students to theoretical and applied ethics through topics such as utilitarianism, climate change, social media ethics, and cultural relativism.
* Worked with first-generation college students to prepare for first year of college (Summer 2016)
* Delivered online course via Blackboard Collaborate using synchronous and asynchronous learning methods

***Comparative and Non-Western Philosophy (100-level)***

Fall 2018, Fall 2019

* Introduced students to major concepts in Chinese, Indian, and Buddhist philosophy
* Worked with commuter students in small campus setting
* Used active assignments including meditation reflections and student presentations

***Ethics and Technology (100-level)***

Summer 2018, Summer 2019

* Introduced students to ethical theories through the use of technology-related topics including artificial intelligence, mass surveillance, data, and others
* Worked with incoming first-year students to prepare them for college success
* Used improvement-based grading metrics by providing feedback on midterm essay and requiring revised resubmission

***Feminist Theory (300-level), Co-Taught with Daniel Silvermint***

Spring 2018

* Taught interdisciplinary course covering intersectionality, racial and gendered identities, and moral anger
* Led seminar-style discussions and used small-group assignments for reading analysis

Eastern Connecticut State University:

***Perspectives in Philosophy (100-level)***

Fall 2020

* Hybrid online/in-person course utilizing both synchronous and asynchronous learning methods
* Two sections of 40 students each
* Covered general topics including acquiring knowledge, mind-body duality, personal identity, and free will

Wesleyan University

***Buddhism and Social Justice (200-level)***

Spring 2020

* Introduced students to major concepts in Buddhism including the Four Noble Truths, non-self, emptiness, and causal interdependence
* Writing-intensive course required four informal reflections and two formal papers and emphasized writing improvement through peer workshops, instructor feedback, and one-on-one writing meetings
* Discussed Buddhist approaches to social justice topics including mass incarceration, gender and racial oppression, and non-violent resistance
* Delivered online instruction via Zoom including large group discussions, small group assignments in breakout rooms, and live lectures

Selected courses developed (Syllabi available upon request):

**Ethics:**

*Environmental Ethics (100-level)*

*Business Ethics (100-level)*

*You Are What You Eat: Ethics of Food, Nourishment, and Consumption (200-level)*

*Happiness, Well-being, and The Good Life (200-level)*

*Well-being and Injustice (200-level)*

**History of Philosophy:**

*Ancient Philosophy (200-level)*

*Modern Philosophy (200-level*

*Commendations*

Fall 2020, Commendation for Teaching Excellence

Office of the Provost, UConn Waterbury

Fall 2019, Commendation for Teaching Excellence

Office of the Provost, UConn Avery Point

Spring 2018, Commendation for Teaching Excellence

Office of the Provost, UConn Storrs

*Publications and Presentations*

**Peer-reviewed Journal Articles:**

“Teaching Philosophy to Non-Majors as a Form of Public Philosophy,” *Public Philosophy Journal*, DOI: [https://doi.org/10.48413/ppj.3.2-02](https://doi.org/10.48413/ppj.3.2-02" \t "_blank)

“Anger in a Non-Ideal World: A Buddhist Approach” (R&R)

**Peer-reviewed Blog Article:**

“[Teaching Philosophy to Non-Majors](https://blog.apaonline.org/2018/10/10/teaching-philosophy-to-non-majors/),” *Blog of the American Philosophical Association*, October 10, 2018.

**Talks:**

“Buddhism and the Is/Ought Distinction: A Case for Skillfulness”

Princeton Project in Philosophy and Religion

Princeton University, September 2021

“Building Walls of Anger”

12th Annual East West Conference

University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu HI, May 2022

“Buddhism and the Is/Ought Distinction: A Case for Skillfulness”

APA Eastern Division Meeting

Virtual, January 2021

Commenter: *The Emancipatory Continuity of Emotions in Buddhist Practice*

APA Eastern Division

Philadelphia PA, January 2020

“Anger in a Non-Ideal World: A Buddhist Approach”

Five-College Consortium Buddhist Studies Faculty Seminar

Smith College, Northampton MA, December 2019

“Realism, Anti-Realism, or Neither? Buddhist Perspectives on Personal Identity”

International and Interdisciplinary Conference: Self, Omniscience, and Morality

Jain University, Bangaluru, India, January 2019

“Realism, Anti-Realism, or Neither? Buddhist Perspectives on Personal Identity”

Central States Philosophical Association Meeting*.*

Buffalo, NY, October 2018.

*Research Experience*

Research Assistant, *Journal of Philosophy and Global Affairs*

Supervised by Dr. Lewis Gordon

UConn, Spring 2021

* Proofread and reformat accepted papers
* Understand and promote journal’s mission of supporting interdisciplinary scholarship in the humanities from around the world, with emphasis on the global south
* Collaborate with team of research assistants to delegate and accomplish tasks via Microsoft Teams

Research Assistant, Environmental Philosophy

Supervised by Dr. Mitchell Green and Dr. Thomas Bontly

UConn, Summer 2020

* Assisted in design of courses in environmental philosophy and climate change
* Organized and led weekly reading group via Zoom
* Researched contemporary topics in environmental philosophy including climate change, food production, indigenous land management, and environmental justice

*Professional Service*

Commenter, Central States Philosophical Association

October 2018

Teaching Mentor, Philosophy Graduate Student Association

AY 2018-2019

Ethics Bowl Coach, Trumbull High School

AY 2017-2018

Graduate Coordinator, Undergraduate Philosophy Club

AY 2017-2018

Research Assistant, Dr. Alexus McLeod *Philosophy of the Ancient Maya: Lords of Time*, Lexington Books

Summer 2017

*References*

Alexus McLeod, Ph.D.

[Alexus.mcleod@uconn.edu](mailto:Alexus.mcleod@uconn.edu)

Lewis Gordon, Ph.D.

[Lewis.gordon@uconn.edu](mailto:Lewis.gordon@uconn.edu)

Emily McRae, Ph.D.

[Emcrae@unm.edu](mailto:Emcrae@unm.edu)

Thomas Bontly, Ph.D.

[Thomas.bontly@uconn.edu](mailto:Thomas.bontly@uconn.edu)

Mitchell Green, Ph.D.

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