

# Merritt Rehn-DeBraal

Texas A&M University-San Antonio  
Department of History, Philosophy, and Geography  
[mdebraal@tamusa.edu](mailto:mdebraal@tamusa.edu)

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

---

2023–pres. Instructional Associate Professor of Philosophy, Texas A&M University-San Antonio  
2022–2023 Instructional Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Texas A&M University-San Antonio  
2018–2022 Lecturer of Philosophy, Texas A&M University-San Antonio  
2016–2018 Lecturer of Philosophy, Texas A&M University, College Station

## EDUCATION

---

2015 Ph.D. in Philosophy, with distinction, Loyola University Chicago  
2010 M.A. in Applied Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago  
2004 B.A. in Philosophy and English, Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCY

**AOS** Social and Political Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy  
**AOC** Ethics, Medical Ethics

## TEACHING

---

### Courses Taught

#### Texas A&M University-San Antonio, 2018–present

PHIL 1301: Intro to Philosophy  
PHIL 2306: Intro to Ethics  
PHIL 2307: Intro to Social and Political Philosophy  
PHIL 3319: Feminist Philosophy (upper level)  
WGST 2301: Intro to Women's and Gender Studies

#### Texas A&M University, College Station, 2016–2018

PHIL 111: Contemporary Moral Issues  
PHIL/WGST 409: Gender and Philosophy (upper level)  
PHIL 480: Medical Ethics (upper level)

#### Loyola University Chicago, 2010–2017

PHIL 130: Philosophy and Persons  
PHIL 181: Ethics  
PHIL 182: Social and Political Philosophy  
PHIL 184: Health Care Ethics

## Modalities Taught

In-person, online asynchronous, hybrid, writing-intentional, learning community, and interdisciplinary co-teaching

## Professional Ethics Courses Assisted

University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry, Professional Dental Ethics 2012  
Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Professional Medical Ethics 2011

## Writing Center Experience

Loyola University Chicago Writing Center, Writing Tutor 2010–2011  
Southwestern University, Debby Ellis Writing Center, Writing Tutor 2002–2004

## Teaching Publications

- 2023 “Teaching Critical Engagement with Rapoport’s Rules.” *American Association of Philosophy Teachers Studies in Pedagogy* vol. 8, 136-138  
DOI: [10.5840/aaptstudies202381868](https://doi.org/10.5840/aaptstudies202381868)
- 2020 “Philosophy Begins in Apathy: Teaching Curiosity in Intro Courses.” *Blog of the American Philosophical Association*, [April 1, 2020](#)

## Teaching Presentations and Workshops

- Forth-coming Panel on First-Generation and Low Socioeconomic Pedagogy (invited)  
APA Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub, New York, January 2024
- 2023 “Navigating the Ethical Costs of Education in Philosophy Classrooms”  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) Talking/Teaching Virtual Series
- 2022 “Communal Learning Assignments: Mitigating Ethical Costs for First-Gen Students”  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) International Workshop-  
Conference, Westerville, OH
- 2021 “Teaching Intellectual Charity through Rapoport’s Rules”  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) Virtual Summer Series
- 2020 “Teaching Philosophy Online: Advice and Tips from Experienced Instructors” (invited)  
American Philosophical Association (APA) Webinar Panel
- 2020 “Philosophy Begins in Apathy: Building Student Curiosity in Intro Courses” (invited)  
APA Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub, Philadelphia
- 2019 “Philosophy Begins in Apathy: Building Student Curiosity in Intro Courses” (invited)  
APA Pacific Division Meeting Teaching Hub, Vancouver

- 2019 “Writing for Intellectual Charity”  
APA Central Division Meeting Teaching Hub, Denver
- 2019 One-on-One Teaching Consultation Session, Consultant (invited)  
APA Central Division Meeting Teaching Hub, Denver
- 2018 “Philosophy Begins in Apathy: Building Student Curiosity in Intro Courses”  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) International Workshop-  
Conference, Greensboro
- 2016 “Clarity, Charity, & Compassion: Training Students to Foster Inclusive Classrooms”  
American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) International Workshop-  
Conference, Saginaw, MI, with co-presenter Kristina Grob

### Teaching Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

- College of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Grant for research in Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), TAMU-SA 2020
- Graduate Student Teaching Award, Loyola University Philosophy Department 2014
- Pre-Doctoral Teaching Scholar Fellowship, Loyola University Chicago 2013–2014

### Professional Development in Teaching and Pedagogy (selected)

#### *American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT)*

- Talking Teaching Virtual Workshops: Encouraging Students to Read: Power of Perusal;  
How to Prevent Learning Loss Due to AI; Experiential Learning in the Classroom;  
What to Do About ChatGPT? 2023
- AAPT International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Westerville, OH 2022
- AAPT Virtual Summer Series, Who, What, How, and Why We Teach 2021
- AAPT Virtual Conference on Anti-Racist and Pandemic Pedagogies 2020
- AAPT International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Greensboro 2018
- AAPT International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Saginaw, MI 2016
- AAPT International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Collegeville, MN 2014

#### *TAMU-SA*

- Teaching With AI, Auburn University Online Course 2023–present
- ACUE Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning 8-week Microcredential Course 2022
- LGBTQ+ Safe Space Training, Rainbow PAWS 2022
- Using Blackboard Ally to Create and Maintain Accessible Resources 2021
- UndocuAlly Training 2021
- Linguistic Justice and Your Classroom, Writing Across the Curriculum 2021
- Quality Matters and Blackboard Development Training 2020
- Writing-Intentional Course Design Workshop 2018
- New Faculty Mentoring Workshop on Teaching Latinx Students 2018
- Teaching at an HSI: Understanding Our Student Demographic 2018

## SERVICE

---

### **Institutional Service, Texas A&M University-San Antonio**

#### *Departmental Service*

Program Coordinator, Philosophy	2021–present
Chair, Faculty Evaluation Committee for Professional Track Faculty	2024–present
Search Committee Chair, Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy	2023
Chair, Professional Track Faculty Promotion Committee, Departmental Level	2023
Program Co-Coordinator, Women’s and Gender Studies Minor	2019–2023
Search Committee Member, Lecturer in Philosophy	2022–2023
E-Courseware Development Project for Philosophy	2020–2021
Search Committee Member, Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy (3x)	2021, 2020, 2019

#### *College and University Service*

Faculty Advisor, The Flipside Student Organization	2023–present
Professional Track Faculty Promotion Committee, College of Arts & Sciences	2023
University Resources Commission Sub-Committee on Optimal Class Sizes	2023
Facilitator, ACUE Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning 8-week Course	2023
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, College of Arts & Sciences	2021–2022
Mentor, Faculty Advising Program for First-Time College Students	2019–2020
Institutional Review Board (IRB), Voting Member	2019–2020
Institutional Review Board (IRB), Alternate Member	2018–2019

### **Conference Service**

Conference Planning Committee, AAPT 2024 Workshop-Conference	2023–present
Session Moderator, Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy	2022
Conference Planning Committee, AAPT 2022 Workshop-Conference	2021–2022
Session Moderator, New Mexico Texas Philosophical Society Conference	2022
Teaching Hub Session Planning Committee, AAPT	2021
Proposal Reviewer, APA Central 2022 Teaching Hub	2021
Paper Reviewer, New Mexico Texas Philosophical Society Conference	2021
Session Organizer, APA Central 2020 Teaching Hub	2019
Proposal Reviewer, APA Central 2020 Teaching Hub	2019
Session Moderator, Diverse Lineages of Existentialism II	2019
Session Moderator, Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy	2018
Session Moderator, North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics	2016

### **Journal Referee**

<i>American Association of Philosophy Teachers Studies in Pedagogy</i>	2021, 2023
<i>Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal</i>	2017
<i>Australian Feminist Studies</i>	2017

## Ethics Bowls

Judge, Texas Regional Ethics Bowl, Texas A&M University-San Antonio	2022
Judge, Texas Regional Ethics Bowl, St. Mary's University, San Antonio (virtual)	2020
Judge, Two-Year College Ethics Bowl, St. Philip's College, San Antonio	2019
Judge, Texas Regional Ethics Bowl, St. Mary's University, San Antonio	2018
Judge, National Undergraduate Bioethics Bowl, Loyola Chicago	2014
Judge, Upper Midwest Regional Ethics Bowl, Illinois Institute of Technology	2013
Judge, Northside Catholic Academy Ethics Bowl, Loyola Chicago	2012
Moderator, Upper Midwest Regional Ethics Bowl, Loyola Chicago	2012

## Community Service

Volunteer, Care for Real Food Pantry Jobs Club, Chicago	2012–2015
---	-----------

## RESEARCH

---

### Publications

2013 "Translating Foucault: A Critique of Sexuality for Trauma Survivors." *philoSOPHIA*, 3 (1)

### Presentations

- 2023 Roundtable on Foucault and Reproductive Justice  
Foucault Circle Annual Meeting, Kansas City
- 2022 "Victim-Blaming and the Challenges of Speaking About Sexual Violence"  
Silence Spreads Violence: Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence in American Culture  
Panel, Texas A&M University-San Antonio
- 2019 "The Meaning of Nonsense: Survivor Discourse and Foucauldian Madness"  
Diverse Lineages of Existentialism II Conference, Foucault Circle Panel, Washington, DC
- 2019 Commentator, Book Session on *Sexual Violence and Humiliation* by Dianna Taylor  
John Carroll University, Cleveland
- 2019 Commentator, Book Session on *Foucault's Critical Ethics* by Richard A. Lynch  
Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Conference, Pittsburgh
- 2018 Panel on Foucault, Feminism, and Sexual Violence  
Foucault Circle Workshop: Feminist, Queer, and Trans Perspectives on Foucault  
John Carroll University, Cleveland, with Erinn Gilson and Dianna Taylor
- 2016 "Foucauldian Madness and Sexual Violence: On the Medicalization of Survival"  
The Phenomenology Research Group, Loyola University Chicago

- 2012 “Translating Foucault: A Critique of Sexual Identity for Trauma Survivors”  
*philoSOPHIA* Conference, Miami University, Oxford, OH
- 2010 “Foucault’s Interstice: Queering Identity for Sexual Trauma Survivors”  
 New Approaches to Trauma Conference, Arizona State University, Phoenix
- 2010 “Tragic Knowledge and Sexual Violence: An Epistemology of Survival”  
 Foucault Circle Annual Meeting, Baltimore

### **Fellowships and Awards**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Funded Participant, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer<br>Institute: Diverse Philosophical Approaches to Sexual Violence, Elon University | 2017      |
| Humanities Dissertation of the Year, Loyola University Chicago  | 2016      |
| Arthur J. Schmitt Dissertation Fellowship, Loyola University Chicago  | 2014–2015 |
| Graduate Teaching and Research Assistantship, Loyola University Chicago   | 2006–2010 |

### **Research Development**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Grant Research Assistant, Philosophy in an Inclusive Key Summer Institute (PIKSI) | 2016      |
| Observer, Institutional Ethics Committee, NorthShore HealthSystem                 | 2012–2013 |

### **Professional Memberships**

- American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT)
- American Philosophical Association (APA)
- National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)
- New Mexico Texas Philosophical Society (NMTX)
- Society for Phenomenology and Existentialism (SPEP)