

Merritt Rehn-DeBraal

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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

Ph.D. in Philosophy, with distinction, Loyola University Chicago, 2015
M.A. in Applied Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago, 2010
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 3309: Medical Ethics (upper level)
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-taught

Teaching Publications

- 2023 "Teaching Critical Engagement with Rapoport's Rules." *American Association of Philosophy Teachers Studies in Pedagogy* vol. 8, 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

- 2026 "Politics in and Outside the Classroom: Navigating Teaching in Our Current Time"
American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) International Workshop-Conference, Ypsilanti, MI, with co-presenters Karl Aho, Mo Janzen, and Rebecca Scott
- 2024 Panel on First-Generation and Low Socioeconomic Pedagogy (invited)
American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub, New York
- 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)
American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub, Philadelphia
- 2019 "Philosophy Begins in Apathy: Building Student Curiosity in Intro Courses" (invited)
American Philosophical Association (APA) Pacific Division Meeting Teaching Hub, Vancouver

- 2019 "Writing for Intellectual Charity"
American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting Teaching Hub,
Denver
- 2019 One-on-One Teaching Consultation Session, Consultant (invited)
American Philosophical Association (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

Professional Development in Teaching and Pedagogy (selected)

American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT)

AAPT International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Ypsilanti, MI	2026
Talking Teaching Virtual Workshop, Grading, Motivation, and Trust	2025
Talking Teaching Virtual Workshop, Encouraging Students to Read: Power of Perusall	2023
Talking Teaching Virtual Workshop, How to Prevent Learning Loss Due to AI	2023
AAPT International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Westerville, OH	2022
AAPT Virtual Summer Series, Who, What, How, and Why We Teach	2021
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

ADA Compliance Training	2025
Teaching With AI, Auburn University Online Course	2023–2024
Using Blackboard Ally to Create and Maintain Accessible Resources	2021
Quality Matters and Blackboard Development Training	2020
Writing-Intentional Course Design Workshop	2018

Teaching Awards and Fellowships

Graduate Student Teaching Award, Loyola University Philosophy Department	2014
Pre-Doctoral Teaching Scholar Fellowship, Loyola University Chicago	2013–2014

SERVICE

Institutional Service, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Departmental and Program Service

Member, Women's and Gender Studies Committee	2025–present
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Program Coordinator, Philosophy	2021–present
Chair, Department Faculty Evaluation Committee, Professional Track Faculty (3)	2024–2026
Chair, Departmental Professional Track Faculty Evaluation Criteria Committee	2026
Member, Departmental Bylaws Committee	2026
Program Coordinator, Women’s and Gender Studies Minor	2024–2025
Chair, Professional Track Faculty Promotion Committee, Departmental Level (2)	2023, 2024
Program Co-Coordinator, Women’s and Gender Studies Minor	2019–2023
E-Courseware Development Project for Philosophy	2020–2021

Search Committees

Chair, Search Committee for Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy	2025
Chair, Search Committee for Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy	2023
Member, Search Committee for Lecturer in Philosophy	2023
Member, Search Committee for Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy	2021
Member, Search Committee for Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy	2020
Member, Search Committee for Adjunct Faculty in Philosophy	2019

College and University Service

Faculty Advisory Council	2026–present
Professional Track Faculty Promotion Committee, College of Arts & Sciences (3)	2023–2025
Student Rating of Instruction (SRI) Revision Committee	2025
Faculty Senate	2024–2025
University Library Committee	2024–2025
Workload Taskforce Committee	2024–2025
Faculty Advisor, The Flipside Student Organization	2023–2024
University Resources Commission Sub-Committee on Optimal Class Sizes	2023
Facilitator, Association for College and University Educators (ACUE) Course	2023
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

Ethics Bowls

Judge, Texas Regional Ethics Bowl, St. Mary’s University, San Antonio	2025
Judge, Texas Regional Ethics Bowl, Texas A&M University-San Antonio	2024
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

Conference Service

Conference Planning Committee, AAPT 2026 Workshop-Conference	2025–2026
Conference Planning Committee, AAPT 2024 Workshop-Conference	2023–2024
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> (5)	2021–2025
<i>Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal</i>	2017
<i>Australian Feminist Studies</i>	2017

RESEARCH

Publications

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

Presentations

- 2025 “Navigating Feminist Theory in the Present”
Current Perspectives on Feminism and Philosophy Workshop, John Carroll University
- 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

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| College of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Grant, TAMU-SA | 2020 |
| Funded Participant, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer
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

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| 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 Association of University Professors (AAUP)
American Philosophical Association (APA)