

Laurenz S. Ramsauer
Curriculum Vitae (updated January 2026)
Department of Philosophy
University of Chicago
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EMPLOYMENT

2024- Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, University of Chicago

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Chicago, 2024

Dissertation: *Form and Therapy: Kant on the Purpose and Limits of Moral Philosophy*; Committee: Candace Vogler, Matthias Haase, Matthew Boyle, Stephen Engstrom (Pittsburgh); Selected for the Dean's Distinguished Dissertation Award for best dissertation submitted in the Humanities in 2024-25.

LL.M., University of Cambridge, 2018

LL.B., King's College London, 2017

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics, Philosophy of Law, Kant

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Social and Political Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Post-Kantian German Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Forthcoming, "Kant's Dialectic of Enlightenment," *European Journal of Philosophy*

2026 "Kant's Casuistical Questions," *Journal of Modern Philosophy* 8, 1-27

2024 "The Efficacy Problem," *Legal Theory* 30(4), 255-272

2024 "Kant's Derivation of Imperatives of Duty," *Kantian Review* 29(1), 39-59

2023 "Kant's Racism as a Philosophical Problem," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 104(4), 791-815

2023 "Is the rule of recognition really a duty-imposing rule?" *Journal of Legal Philosophy* 48(2), 83-102

2023 "Fichte's Deduction of the Concept of Right," *Manuscrito* 46(2), 1-42

WORK IN PROGRESS

- A book on the purpose and limits of Kant's moral philosophy
- A paper on Kant's conception of historical progress
- A paper on Adorno's criticism of Kant's "fact of reason"
- A paper on arguments about the extension of Full Moral Status
- A paper on dehumanization and metaphor

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2025 Dean's Distinguished Dissertation Award, University of Chicago
- 2023 Graduate Council Research Award, University of Chicago
- 2022 Graduate Council Research Award, University of Chicago
- 2018 St Edmunds College Prize, University of Cambridge

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Participant, NEH Institute for Higher Education Faculty, Georgetown University
- 2023-24 Affiliated Doctoral Fellow, Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago
- 2023-24 Mellon Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellow, University of Chicago
- 2019-20 Ernst Freund Fellow in Law and Philosophy, University of Chicago Law School
- 2019 Visiting Doctoral Fellow, Forschungskolleg Analytic German Idealism, University of Leipzig
- 2018 Visiting Doctoral Fellow, Forschungskolleg Analytic German Idealism, University of Leipzig

TALKS

Invited Talks

- 2026 "Coherence as a theme in teaching texts on slavery," APA Central Teaching Hub (upcoming)
- 2025 "Kant's racism: personal prejudice or philosophical problem?" King's College London
- 2025 "Enlightenment without progress," NAKS Kant and Race Reading Group

Peer-Reviewed Talks

- 2026 "Early Modern Anti-Slavery Arguments and Full Moral Status," APA Eastern
- 2025 "Kant's Dialectic of Enlightenment," 6th Congress of Philosophy, University of Lisbon

2024 “Kant’s Dialectic of Enlightenment,” Conference of the Israeli Philosophical Association, Haifa

2023 “Dehumanization and the Metaphorical Structuring of Social Experience,” X. TfPP

2023 “Kant’s Derivation of Imperatives of Duty,” Leuven Kant Conference

2022 “Kant’s Racism as a Philosophical Problem,” IX. TfPP

2022 “Kant’s Racism as a Philosophical Problem,” Munich Graduate Conference in Ethics

2022 “Kant’s Racism as a Philosophical Problem,” UCSD Modern Philosophy Graduate Workshop

2021 “Is the Rule of Recognition really a duty-imposing rule?” APA Central Symposium

2020 “Kant’s Reciprocity Thesis,” APA Central Symposium

2020 “Kant’s Reciprocity Thesis” Conference of the Israeli Philosophical Association, Tel Aviv

2019 “Reframing the inner morality of law,” Annual Conference of the ASLP

2019 “Reframing the inner morality of law,” Graduate Workshop of the ASLP

2019 “Kant’s Reciprocity Thesis,” Göttingen/Leipzig/Chicago Graduate Philosophy Conference

2019 “Kant’s Reciprocity Thesis” University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Society Conference

Campus and Departmental Talks

2025 “Impossible Arguments,” UChicago Practical Philosophy Workshop

2024 “Kant’s Dialectic of Enlightenment,” UChicago Graduate Conference

2023 “Kant’s Derivation of Imperatives of Duty,” UChicago Graduate Conference

2023 “Dehumanization as Conceptual Metaphor,” UChicago Franke Affiliated Fellows’ Meeting

2023 “The Emotional Labor of Enlightenment,” UChicago German Philosophy Workshop

2023 “The Efficacy Puzzle,” UChicago Practical Philosophy Workshop

2023 “Dehumanization, Metaphor and Irony,” UChicago Practical Philosophy Workshop

2022 “The Post-Colonial Critique of Kant,” UChicago German Philosophy Workshop

2022 “Kant on Reflection in Moral Knowledge,” UChicago Practical Philosophy Workshop

2021 “Kant’s Racism as a Philosophical Problem,” UChicago Practical Philosophy Workshop

2021 “Kant on the Purpose of Moral Philosophy,” UChicago German Philosophy Workshop

2021 “Hegel’s Empty-Formalism Charge,” UChicago German Philosophy Workshop

2020 “Fichte’s Deduction of the Concept of Right,” UChicago German Philosophy Workshop

2020 “The ‘inner morality’ of law,” UChicago Practical Philosophy Workshop

TEACHING

Undergraduate Level Courses

Philosophy of Human Rights and Human Rights Law (University of Chicago, 2026) (upcoming)

Slavery and Race in Early Modern Philosophy (University of Chicago, 2026)

Humanities Core: Human Being and Citizen (University of Chicago, 2024, 2025, 2026)

Origins of Critical Theory (University of Chicago, 2025)

BA Thesis Seminar (University of Chicago, 2024-25)

Philosophy of Law (University of Chicago, 2022)

As Teaching Assistant

Philosophy of Economics (University of Chicago, 2022)

Introduction to Marx (University of Chicago, 2021)

History of Philosophy III: Kant and the 19th Century (University of Chicago, 2021)

ADVISING

BA Theses

Sarah-Eden Amara (University of Chicago, in progress)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Journal Article Reviewing

Reviewer for *Inquiry*; *Kantian Review* (x3)

Conference Submission Reviewing

Reviewer for Chicagoland Graduate Philosophy Conference (2020)

Session Moderating

Session moderator for IX. TfPP (University of Salzburg, 2022); X. TfPP (University of Salzburg, 2023)

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, Committee on Pedagogy and Professionalization (University of Chicago, 2022)

Workshop coordinator, Practical Philosophy Workshop (University of Chicago, 2020-21)

Conference coordinator, “Kant’s Doctrine of Right” (University of Chicago, 2020)

Graduate student representative, Department of Philosophy (University of Chicago, 2019-20)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

English: reading, speaking, writing

German: reading, speaking, writing

French: reading

Latin: reading

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

2024 Dialectics: Kant and Hegel, Wolfram Gobsch (audit)

2024 Varieties of Constitutivism, Matthias Haase (audit)

2024 Kant on Moral Meaning, Robert Pippin (audit)

2022 Enslavement and Recognition, Matthias Haase (audit)

2021 Opera as Idea and as Performance, Martha Nussbaum (audit)

2021 Social and Political Philosophy of Hegel and Marx, Brian Leiter and Michael Forster (audit)

2020-21 Recent Work in General Jurisprudence, Brian Leiter (audit)

2020 Hegel's Philosophy of Right, Matthias Haase (audit)

2020 Thomas Aquinas's Philosophy of Law, Stephen Brock (audit)

2020 Explanation, Thomas Pashby

2020 How do we do critical political philosophy? Daniel Brudney (audit)

2020 Fichte on You and I, Matthias Haase

2020 Kant's Critique of Judgment, Matthew Boyle

2019 Aristotle and Marx, Anton Ford (audit)

2019 Topics in General Jurisprudence, Brian Leiter

2019 Kant's Ethics, Candace Vogler

2019 Jurisprudence, Brian Leiter (audit)

2019 Thomas Aquinas's Metaphysics of Morals, Stephen Brock

2019 Aristotle on Friendship, Gabriel Lear

2019 Nietzsche on Morality, Brian Leiter and Michael Forster

2018 Sources of Critical Theory, Candace Vogler

2018 Hellenistic Ethics, Martha Nussbaum

2018 Agency and Action, Matthias Haase

REFERENCES

Candace Vogler (Dissertation Committee Chair)

David B. and Clara E. Stern Professor of Philosophy, University of Chicago

vogue@uchicago.edu

Stephen Engstrom (Dissertation Committee Member)

Professor of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh

engstrom@pitt.edu

Matthew Boyle (Dissertation Committee Member)

Emerson and Grace Wineland Pugh Professor of Humanities, University of Chicago

mbboyle@uchicago.edu

Matthias Haase (Dissertation Committee Member)

Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Chicago

haase@uchicago.edu

Brian Leiter

Karl N. Llewellyn Professor of Jurisprudence, University of Chicago Law School

bleiter@uchicago.edu

Anton Ford (teaching reference)

Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Chicago

antonford@uchicago.edu