

ALIOSHA BARRANCO LOPEZ
CURRICULUM VITAE

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Edward Pols House (204), Brunswick, ME

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Epistemology

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Technology, Ancient Philosophy, Metaphysics.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bowdoin College

Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Jul 2022 – present

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow

Jul 2021 – Jun 2022

MIT

Visiting Assistant Professor

Sept 2025-present

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ph.D. in Philosophy

May 2021

Dissertation: Hinge-Commitments as Arational Beliefs

Committee: Ram Neta (co-director), Alex Worsnip, (co-director), Matt Kotzen

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

M.A. in Philosophy

May 2017

Thesis: A Testable Model of Visual Awareness

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

M.A. in Philosophy (with Honors) GPA 10/10

Apr 2015

Thesis: De Re Modality after Quine

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

B.A. in Philosophy (with Honors)

GPA 9.56/10

Apr 2011

Thesis: Consciousness as a Necessary and Sufficient Condition
for Personal Identity

PUBLICATIONS

“Redefining Rigor: From Adversarial Methods to Intentional Partnerships in
Education”

Peace and Nonviolence in Pop Culture, Brill.

Forthcoming

“Taming In-Class Participation: How to Use Participation to Foster Inclusion and
Deep Philosophical Engagement in the Classroom.”

Innovations in Teaching Philosophy, Bloomsbury.

2026

“Comments on Miriam Schleifer McCormick’s Belief as Emotion”

Asian Journal of Philosophy, 4, 99.

Sept 2025

“Structural Encroachment”

Philosophical Issues, 34

Sept 2024

“Hinge Commitments as Arational Beliefs”

Synthese, 109

March 2023

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

“Hinge commitments as arational beliefs”

(published 10/04/2023 in [Imperfect Cognitions](#))

“‘Privacy is Power,’ and we all deserve to have it back”

(published 03/10/2023 in [Portland Press Herald](#))

“Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine Shows Us the Real Danger of Echo Chambers”

(published 04/05/2022 in [Bangor Daily News \(BDN\)](#))

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Bowdoin College

Polarization, Disagreement, and Intellectual Humility	Spring 2024
Pragmatic and Moral Encroachment	Spring 2023, 2025
Ancient Philosophy	F&S 2023, F 2024
Ethics for a Digital World	Fall 2022 & Spring 2025
Philosophical Issues of Gender and Race	Spring 2022 & 2024
Responsibility and Rational Belief	Spring 2022, Fall 2024
Philosophy and the Internet	Fall 2021 & 2023

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Knowledge and Society	Spring 2021
Introduction to Mathematical Logic	Summer 2019
Critical Thinking (Carolina Courses Online)	Summer 2018
Moral and Philosophical Issues of Gender in Society	Spring 2018
Critical Thinking	Fall 2017
Introduction to Philosophy (Carolina Courses Online)	Summer 2017

Universidad Católica Lumen Gentium, Mexico City, Mexico

Propositional Logic	2013 - 2014
Strategies of Argumentation	2014 - 2015

Teaching Assistant

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Knowledge and Society (supervised by Alex Worsnip)	Spring 2019
Introduction to Mathematical Logic (supervised by Gillian Russell)	Fall 2018
Critical Thinking (supervised by Ram Neta)	Spring 2017
Introduction to Philosophy (supervised by Mariska Leunissen)	Fall 2016

SELECTED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

[AAC&U Institute on AI, Pedagogy, and the Curriculum](#)

This new, fully online institute is designed to help departments, programs, colleges and universities respond effectively to the challenges and opportunities artificial intelligence presents for courses and curricula.

Awarded to the representative committee of Bowdoin College. 2024 - 2025

[Sze Family Faculty Fellow Award](#)

Awarded to a selected cohort of faculty interested in learning strategies to enhance inclusivity and equity in the classroom.

2021 - 2022

Summer Research Fellowship, UNC	2020
Horace Williams Fellowship (non-service fellowship), UNC	2019 - 2020
Chancellor’s Doctoral Candidacy Award, UNC	2019
Maynard E. Adams Fellowship in the Public Humanities, UNC	2018 - 2019
Craig Newman Graduate Fellowship, UNC	2016
<i>Awarded to a second-year student who shows promise as an excellent teacher and humanitarian</i>	
Horace Williams Fellowship (non-service fellowship), UNC	2015 - 2016
Grant (PAPIIT) for “Modal Anti-Realism”, UNAM, Mexico	2013 - 2014
National Fellowship, CONACYT, Mexico	2011 - 2013

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Polarization and the Force of Habit” Work in Progress (WIP) Massachusetts Institute of Technology	March 2026
“Why Beliefs Demand Coherence” Colloquium Brandeis University	Jan 2026
“Living Up to Your Beliefs: Beliefs & Commitments” Latinx Philosophy Conference (Keynote Speaker) The Pennsylvania State University	May 2025
“Commitment normativism: How a Normativist about Belief Can Embrace Output-Side Requirements Without Giving up the Connection to Truth” Philadelphia Normative Philosophy Conference, University of Pennsylvania	Oct 2024
“Structural Encroachment: Encroachment without Morality” Ethics and Epistemology Workshop, University of Helsinki,	Aug 2023
“Commitment Normativism: A Novel Normativist Approach to the Nature of belief”, The 2023 Mentoring Workshop (Marc Sanders Foundation), University of Missouri	Jun 2023
“Hinge Commitments and the Arational Beliefs View” Society for Skeptical Studies, Central APA, Denver	Feb 2023

- “¿Qué es una creencia? El Normativismo Redefinido”
Seminario de Investigadores, UNAM, Mexico May 2022
- “Commitment normativism: A Novel Normativist Approach to the
Nature of belief”, 6th Latinx Philosophy Conference,
Temple University March 2022
- “An Epistemic Puzzle About Justification”
Philosophy in 15 Minutes, UNC-Chapel Hill 2019
- “The Nature of Our Substantive Evaluative Beliefs: A Novel Theory of
Evaluative Beliefs” (accepted but unable to attend), Siena Heights University 2018
- “A Testable Model of Visual Awareness”, 9th Annual Conference, American
Association of Mexican Philosophers University of Colorado 2017
- “A Testable Model of Visual Awareness”, 15th annual Philosophy of Mind,
Language and Cognition Graduate Conference, Western University 2017
- “Essentialism and De Re modality”
3rd Philosophy in Spanish Workshop, Harvard University 2016

COMMENTS

- Miriam Schleifer McCormick’s *Belief as Emotion*
Book symposium
Pacific APA. San Francisco, California April 2025
- Paskalina Bourbon’s “Reasons Required: What is a Kind of Reasoning?”
St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality May 2024
- Laura Soter’s “Rethinking Doxastic (In)Voluntarism”
The 2023 Mentoring Workshop (Marc Sanders Foundation),
University of Missouri Jun 2023
- Melanie Rosen’s “Personal Identity and the Dream Body”
The 2023 Mentoring Workshop (Marc Sanders Foundation),
University of Missouri Jun 2023
- David Alexander’s “Optional Knowledge and the Obligation to Believe”

Pacific APA. Portland, Oregon Mar 2023

Laura Soter’s “Acceptance: A Psychological Profile of Doxastic Response Modulation”
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, UAB Mar 2022

Commentator at Large
5th Penn Reasons and Foundations of Epistemology Conference
University of Pennsylvania 2019

Philip Kitcher’s “Why is Climate Change So Difficult to Address or Stop?”
UNC-Chapel Hill 2019

Alessandro Torza’s “Ground and Modality”
11th Annual Conference, American Association of Mexican Philosophers
Florida State University 2019

Michael Hannon’s “Why Purists Should be Infallibilists”
Eastern APA, New York 2019

Arturo Javier Castellano’s “Diachronic Composition, Spontaneous Change, and the Grounding Problem”
9th Annual Conference, American Association of Mexican Philosophers
Syracuse University 2016

Frances Fairbairn’s “Advanced Modalizing”
Athena in Action 2016: A Networking and Mentoring Workshop for Graduate Student Women in Philosophy
Princeton University 2016

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisory committee member of
[The Hastings Initiative for AI and Humanity](#) Spring 2025

Referee for Synthese Spring 2025

Speaker and mentor at [Piksi-Boston 2024](#) Summer 2024
Harvard, MIT, U-Mass Boston

Referee for Philosophical Quarterly Summer 2024

Referee for Erkenntnis Fall 2023

Referee for the Canadian Philosophical Association	Spring 2023
Referee for Synthese	Spring 2022
Panelist at Bowdoin’s Faculty Seminar/Conversation: “Inclusive and Equitable Course Design”	Spring 2022
Panelist at the UNC Faculty Showcase on Teaching	Spring 2021
Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl (NHEB)	Spring 2021 & 2019
Organizer and moderator, Discussion Session on the Values of the Ethics Bowl	Spring 2019
Judge, North Carolina High School Ethics Bowl	Spring 2020
Philosophy Outreach at Atria Senior Living NC	Spring 2017
Member, UNC Diversity Committee	2017-2018
Philosophy Outreach at Atria Senior Living NC	Fall 2017
Judge, Summer Undergraduate Pipeline (SUP)	Summer 2017
Mentor, SWIP-Analytic México	Summer 2017
Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl	Spring 2017
Judge, North Carolina High School Ethics School Bowl	Spring 2017
Member, UNC Diversity Committee	2016-2017
Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl	Spring 2016
Organizer, “1st IIFs-UNAM Philosophy Graduate Conference” Mexico	Fall 2014

REFERENCES

Ram Neta
UNC-Chapel Hill
Professor
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Email: neta@email.unc.edu

Alex Worsnip
UNC-Chapel Hill
Professor
Phone: (919) 962-3320
Email: aworsnip@unc.edu

Matthew Stuart (teaching reference)
Bowdoin College
Professor

Phone: (207) 725- 3753

Email: ssehon@bowdoin.edu