

MICHAEL FUERSTEIN

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LAST UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2025

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Saint Olaf College, Philosophy Department

- Professor and Chair, 2023-present
- Associate Professor, 2016-2023
- Assistant Professor, 2010-2016

INSEAD, Visiting Professor, Strategy Department, 2016-17, 2022-23

Rutgers University, Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Cultural Analysis, 2009-2010

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Ph.D., Philosophy, 2003-2009

Tufts University, B.A., Philosophy, 1995-2000

- Highest Thesis Honors, Magna Cum Laude

New England Conservatory of Music, B.M., Jazz Studies (Saxophone Performance), 1995-2000

- Academic Honors

(Tufts and New England Conservatory degrees jointly awarded in a dual-degree program)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AOS: Social/Political Philosophy, Social Epistemology, Business Ethics

AOC: Ethics, Pragmatism

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Experiments in Living Together: How Democracy Drives Social Progress*, Oxford University Press (2024)

Articles

- “Moral Progress as a Weakly Hegemonic Ideal,” *Analyse & Kritik* (forthcoming)
- “Humanitarian Monopolists,” in *Core Assumptions in Business Theory: A Wedge Between Performance and Progress*, ed. Subramanian Rangan, Oxford University Press (2025)
- “I ‘Need’ a Rolex,” in *Core Assumptions in Business Theory: A Wedge Between Performance and Progress*, ed. Subramanian Rangan, Oxford University Press (2025)
- “Epistemic Democracy Without Truth: The Deweyan Approach,” *Raisons Politiques* 81 (2021): 81-96
- “An Epistemic Model of Democratic Representation,” *NOMOS* 63 (2020)
- “New Prospects for Corporate Democracy?: How the Joint Pursuit of Social and Financial Goals is Changing Workplace Organization” (with Julie Battilana and Mike Lee), in *Capitalism Beyond Mutuality*, ed. Subramanian Rangan, Oxford University Press (2018)

- “Democratic Experiments: An Affect-Based Interpretation and Defense,” *Social Theory and Practice* 42 (2016): 793-816
- “Contesting the Market: An Assessment of Capitalism’s Threat to Democracy,” in *Performance and Progress: Essays on Capitalism, Business, and Society*, ed. Subramanian Rangan, Oxford University Press (2015)
- “Democratic Consensus as an Essential Byproduct,” *Journal of Political Philosophy* 22 (2014): 282-301
- “Epistemic Trust and Liberal Justification,” *Journal of Political Philosophy* 21 (2013): 179-199
- “Epistemic Democracy and the Social Character of Knowledge,” *Episteme* 5 (2008): 74-93

Reviews and Reference Entries

- “Epistemic Proceduralism,” in *The Routledge Guide to Social Epistemology*, edited by Miranda Fricker, David Henderson, and Nikolaj Jang Lee Linding Pederson (2019)
- “Philip Kitcher,” *Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, 3rd ed., edited by Robert Audi, Cambridge University Press (2015)
- “Book Review of Robert Audi, *Moral Perception*,” *Faith and Philosophy* 30 (2013): 476-479
- “Justice,” *Springer Encyclopedia of Sciences and Religions*, Anne Runehov and Lluís Oviedo eds. (2013)

Public Engagement

- “Sometimes Democracy Works,” *Aeon.com* (2025): September 23
- Appearance on “The Political Theory Review Podcast” (2025): April 25
- Appearance on “New Books in Philosophy Podcast” (2025): January 1
- “What is the Appropriate Moral Reaction to Trump Voters?” *DailyNous.com* (2020): November 10
- “A Failure of Democracy?” *DailyNous.com* (2016): November 10
- “A Hollowed Out Civic Experience,” *DailyNous.com* (2016): March 14
- “Thinking Civically” (with Jack Schneider), *Social Education* 77 (2013): 213-214
- “Healthcare Debate: Two Views of Liberty,” *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* (2012): July 3

PRESENTATIONS

Author Meets Critics session on *Experiments in Living Together*

- PPE Society Meeting, New Orleans, 2025
 - with Daniel Viehoff and Eduardo J. Martinez
- Association for Social and Political Philosophy Conference, Glasgow, 2025
 - with Lisa Herzog and Liam Kofi Bright
- Public Philosophy Network, online, 2025
 - with Susan Dieleman and Alex Madva

“Community, not Competence: On the Origins of Recent Democratic Failure”

- Political Theory Colloquium, Sciences Po, Paris, 2023

“Why There are no Moral Experts, and What it Means for Democracy”

- European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions, Toulouse, France, 2023

“The Kallipolis of Science”

- Kitcherfest, Columbia University, 2022

“The Open Society and Social Irrationality”

- Conference on the Value of the Open Society, Ohio State University, 2022

“Diagnosing Moral Failure on Climate Change: Lessons from the History of Gay Rights”

- Keynote Lecture, Minnesota Philosophical Society Conference, Anoka-Ramsey Community College, 2019

“Humanitarian Monopolists”

- Third Assembly of the Society for Progress, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, 2019
(*Organization involving economists, business executives, and academics in business scholarship and philosophy*)

“What is the Lesson of Donald Trump for Democratic Theory?”

- Henry West Speaker, Macalester College, 2019

“Moral Revolutions”

- Philosophy Dept. Colloquium, Minnesota State University Mankato, 2018

“Being Ignorant, and Being Ignored”

- NOMOS conference on Democratic Failure, Boston University School of Law, 2018

“Science and Democratic Social Progress”

- Workshop on Contemporary Democracy and Contemporary Science, Department of Philosophy, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, 2018

“Deliberative Rationality in Moral Revolutions”

- Conference on the Epistemic Value of Deliberation: Theory and Practice, Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, University of Canberra, 2016

“New Prospects for Corporate Democracy?: How the Joint Pursuit of Social and Financial Goals is Changing Workplace Organization” (with Julie Battilana, Harvard Business School)

- Second Assembly of the Society for Progress, The Royal Society, London, 2015

“Democratic Experiments”

- Moral, Political, Legal, and Social Theory Workshop, The University of Minnesota, 2014

“Contesting the Market: An Assessment of Capitalism’s Threat to Democracy”

- Inaugural Assembly of the Society for Progress, The Royal Society, London, 2014

“Democracy in a Divided Society”

- Minnesota Humanists Society, Minneapolis, 2013

“The Quest for Consensus”

- Conference: Face au Conflit des Valeurs, Quelle Démocratie: Le Pluralisme Libérale et Ses Critiques, Sciences Po, Paris, 2012
- Association for Political Theory Conference, University of Notre Dame, 2011

“Experimentalist Democracy: A Deweyan Alternative to Deliberation”

- Philosophy Department Colloquium, Carleton College, Northfield, MN, 2011

“The Risk of Persuasive Nonsense”

- Conference on the Epistemology of Liberal Democracy, University of Copenhagen, 2010

Comment on Elizabeth Anderson, “Democracy, Public Policy, and Lay Assessments of Scientific Testimony”

- Conference on Collective Knowledge and Epistemic Trust, Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg, Greifswald, Germany, 2010

“Epistemic Transparency and Liberal Justification”

- Workshop on the Epistemic Benefits of Free Speech and Openness, University of Copenhagen, 2009

“Deweyan Experience in Political Deliberation: The Case of Desegregation”

- John Dewey’s 150th Birthday Celebration, Center For Inquiry, Amherst, NY, 2009
- Conference in Honor of John Dewey’s 150th Birthday, Columbia University, 2009

“The Idea of a Political Research Agenda”

- Northeastern Political Science Association Meeting, Boston, MA, 2008

TEACHING

St. Olaf College

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| • Ethics in the Age of AI | • Intro to PPE |
| • Seminar in Distributive Justice | • Seminar in Social Epistemology |
| • Race and Social Justice | • Law, Politics, and Morality |
| • The Public Affairs Conversation | • Environmental Ethics |
| • Ethics, Economics, and the Marketplace | • Democracy: Rule of the Ignorant? |
| • Moral Theory | • Moral Psychology |
| • Ethics and the Good Life | • The Science Conversation |

INSEAD

- Integrating Performance and Progress

Rutgers University

- The Politics of Science

Columbia University

- Contemporary Moral Problems

Independent Studies Supervised

- “The Evolution and Collapse of Neo-Liberalism”
- “Freedom of Speech”
- “Theories of Justice”
- “Criminal Punishment”
- “Foundations of Human Rights”
- “The Ethics of International Development”
- “Virtue Epistemology”

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Editorial Board, *Political Philosophy*, 2023-present

Editorial Board, *Academy of Management Review*, 2017-present

Editorial Board, *Journal of Political Philosophy*, 2016-23

Fellow, Society for Progress (working group of philosophers, business scholars, and executives devoted to moral questions of business and society), 2012-present

APA Central Program Committee, 2016-17

Referee for: Oxford University Press, MIT Press, Routledge, Icelandic Research Fund, *Philosophy of Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, *Philosophy*, *Politics*, and *Economics*, *Episteme*, *Synthese*, *Res Publica*, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, *Social Theory and Practice*, *Social Epistemology*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, *Social Philosophy Today*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Palgrave Macmillan*

AWARDS/GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

National Endowment for the Humanities “Enduring Questions” Grant, 2016-17

Mellon “Broadening the Bridge” Grant, 2015-16

DeKármán Fellowship, 2008-2009

Whiting Fellowship, Columbia University, 2008-2009 (declined in order to accept DeKármán)

Mellon Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University, 2008-2009

Charles Frankel Memorial Fellowship, Columbia University, 2007-2008
(*awarded to “a distinguished graduate student” in philosophy at Columbia*)

Humane Studies Fellowship, 2007-2008

Philosophy Department Summer Stipend, Columbia University, 2006, 2008

Tufts University Philosophy Prize, 2000

LANGUAGES AND NATIONALITY

Dual American/French citizen

English (native speaker)

French (fluent)