

Sukaina Hirji

Curriculum Vitae

Associate Professor
University of Pennsylvania
Phone: (609) 902-9129
Email: sukaina@sas.penn.edu
Homepage: www.sukaina-hirji.com

Department of Philosophy
465 Claudia Cohen Hall

Employment

University of Pennsylvania, Summer 2019-
Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech Fall 2016 - Spring 2019

Areas of Specialization

Ethics, Ancient Greek Philosophy

Education

PhD, Department of Philosophy, Princeton University	09/2016
M.A., Queen's University (Philosophy)	2010
B.A. (Honors), The University of Alberta (Political Science)	2006

Publications: Peer-reviewed

1. "Protests as World-Making Projects" with Lidal Dror (forthcoming) *Nous*
2. "What Makes (Aristotelian) Praise Fitting?" (forthcoming) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
3. "Ancient Greek Philosophy as Ideology" — (forthcoming) in Patricia Marechal & John Proios (eds), *Crafting Race in Plato and Aristotle*
4. "Moral Agency Under Oppression" — in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 1110.2 (2025): 586-603.
5. "How Virtuous Actions are a Means to Contemplation" — in *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* Volume LXIV (2025): 139-176.
6. "Outrage and the Bounds of Empathy" — in *Philosophers' Imprint* 22:16 (2022)
7. "Oppressive Double Binds" — in *Ethics* 131(4): 643-669, 2021.
8. "External Goods and the Complete Exercise of Virtue in Aristotle's NE" — in the *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* (1):29-53, 2021.

9. "Eudaimonism and the Dualism of Practical Reason" — in Tyler Paytas & Tim Henning (eds.), *The Ethics of Sidgwick and Kant: Exploring the Cosmos of Duty Above and the Moral Law Within*, Routledge, 2020. 23pp.
10. "What's Aristotelian about Neo-Aristotelian Virtue Ethics?" (26 p.) — in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 98(3): 671-696, 2019.
11. "Not Always Worth the Effort: Difficulty and the Value of Achievement" — in *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 100(2): 525-548, 2019.
12. "Acting Virtuously as an End in Aristotle's Ethics" — *British Journal of the History of Philosophy* 26(6): 1006-1026, 2018.

Reviews

13. Review of Matthew D. Walker, *Aristotle on the Uses of Contemplation*, in *Philosophical Review* 129(3):465-469, 2020.

Public Facing Work

14. "The Odyssey Belongs to All of Us", *Dissent Magazine* 2026
15. "Stop Scolding Student Protestors" with Serene Khader, *Chronicle of Higher Education* 2023
16. "Romantic Friendship" with Meena Krishnamurthy, *The New Statesman* 2021

Awards & Fellowships

SAS Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by an Assistant Professor	2022
National Humanities Center Fellowship	2021 (declined)
Favorite Faculty Award, Virginia Tech	2018
Diversity Grant, Virginia Tech	2018
Mentoring Grant, Virginia Tech	2017
Bersoff Fellowship, NYU	2016 (declined)
Laurance S. Rockefeller UCHV Graduate Prize Fellowship, Princeton University (Competitive Fellowship awarded to students working on issues concerning human values)	2015-16
McGraw Teagle Teaching Seminar (Selected participant)	2014-15
Stanley J. Seeger Travel Award, Program in Hellenic Studies	2012, 2013, 2014
University Fellowship, Princeton University	2011-2016
Merit Grant, UCHV	2011

Teaching

Graduate Student Advising

Kordell Dixon — Advisor (current)
Will Yu — Committee member (current)
Idil Cakmur — Committee member (current)
Michael Vazquez — Committee member
Matthew Solomon — Committee member
Paul Musso — Committee member
Stephanie Wesson — Committee member
Youngbin Yoon — Committee member
Tyler Re — Committee member
Zachary Agoff — Committee member
Daniel Mackey (Classics) — Committee member
Sara Purinton — Committee member
Asil Martinez — Committee member

Undergraduate Advising

Sakshi Seghal — Honors thesis
Oliver Kaplan — Honors thesis
Kathryn Farrell — Honors thesis
Tengqin Han — Honors thesis
David Ehrenreich — Honors thesis
Olivia Libonati — Rhodes scholarship application
Payton Bean — Honors thesis
Yijian (Davie) Zhou — Honors thesis

University of Pennsylvania, Department of Philosophy — Instructor

PHIL 510, Plato's Republic and Laws (Fall 2019)
PHIL 002, Intro to Ethics (Spring 2020)
PHIL 281, Love and Sex (Spring 2020)
Dissertation Seminar (Fall 2020)
PHIL 281, Love and Sex (Fall 2020)
PHIL 002, Intro to Ethics (Spring 2021)
PHIL 512, Aristotle's Teleology (Spring 2021)
PHIL 281, Love and Sex (Fall 2021)

PHIL 003, Intro to Ancient (Fall 2021)
 PHIL 573, Virtue Ethics (Spring 2022)
 PHIL 334, Ethics of Social Media (Spring 2022)
 PHIL 2540 Love and Sex (Fall 2023)
 PHIL 1110 Intro to Ancient (Fall 2023)
 PHIL 5110 Graduate seminar on Plato on the Erotic (Spring 2024)
 PHIL 3330 Moral Luck (Spring 2024)
 PHIL 1110 Intro to Ancient (Fall 2024)
 PHIL 6480/4480 Oppression: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives (Fall 2024) co-taught with Daniele Lorenzini

Virginia Tech, Department of Philosophy — Instructor

PHIL 2115 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (Fall 2018)
 PHIL 1304 Morality and Justice (Fall 2018)
 PHIL 4212 Graduate Seminar: Aristotelian Metaphysics — co-taught with Kelly Trogon (Spring 2017)
 PHIL 4016 Special Topics in Philosophy: Plato's Republic (Spring 2017)
 PHIL 2115 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (Fall 2017)
 PHIL 1304 Morality and Justice (Fall 2017)
 PHIL 1304 Morality and Justice (Spring 2017)
 PHIL 3314 Ethical Theory: Philosophy of Well-Being (Spring 2017)

Rutgers University, Department of Philosophy — Instructor

PHI 01:730:401 Plato: The Republic (Spring 2015)

Albert C. Wagner Correctional Facility — Instructor

PHI205 Philosophy of Inequality (Spring 2015, with Ella Haselswerdt, Orlando Reade, & Daniel Wodak)
 PHI102 Philosophy & the Good Life (Spring 2013, with Ella Haselswerdt, Josh O'Rourke, & Daniel Wodak)

Garden State Correctional Facility — Instructor

ENG203 Reason and Passion in the Ancient World (Fall 2013, with Ella Haselswerdt, Tom Miller, & Simon Shogry)

Princeton University — Assistant in Instruction

PHI305 Plato's *Republic* ("Plato in Berlin" Seminar, Summer 2014, for Benjamin Morison)
 PHI 205 Introduction to Ancient Philosophy (Spring 2014, for Hendrik Lorenz)

PHI202 Introduction to Moral Philosophy (Fall 2012, for Michael Smith)

Queen's University — Assistant in Instruction

PHIL153 State and Citizen (Fall 2009, for Christine Sypnowich)

PHIL256 Existentialism (Spring 2009, for Adele Mercier)

Talks and Presentations (Invited talks marked with *)

- “What Makes (Aristotelian) Praise Fitting?”
 ● *WGAP Yale 10/2025
- “Protests as World-Making Projects”
 ● *Colloquium talk, MIT 10/2025
 ● *Colloquium talk, Princeton UCHV 10/2025
 ● *Colloquium talk, Binghamton 9/2025
 ● *Colloquium talk, Rochester 9/2025
 ● *Colloquium talk, UNC 8/2025
- “What Good is a Life? Aristotle on Happiness as Activity”
 ● *Keynote, St Mary's College, GSWS Colloquium 3/2025
- “An Aristotelian Theory of Agency”
 ● *University of Notre Dame Australia 7/2024
- “Moral Worth Under Oppression”
 ● *Colloquium talk, Vassar College Philosopher's Vacation series 3/2024
 ● *Rutgers Annual Climate Lecture 4/2024
- NAAPE Keynote Speaker 10/2023
- “Ancient Greek Philosophy as Ideology”
 ● UCSB Classics Colloquium 2/2025
 ● *WIP NYU, 09/2023
 ● *Johns Hopkins History of Philosophy WIP, 11/2023
 ● *UNC Workshop on Race, Sex, and Marginalization in Ancient Greece 11/2023
- “Towards a Relational Stance”
 ● *Colloquium talk, University of Sydney 7/2024
 ● *Colloquium talk, Stanford 2/2024
 ● *Union College Speaker Series 1/2024
 ● *Johns Hopkins Moral and Political Thought Seminar 11/2023
 ● *Colloquium talk, Northwestern 10/2023
 ● *Colloquium talk, CUNY Graduate Center, 09/2023
 ● *Colloquium talk, WashU, 04/2023
 ● *Colloquium talk, University of Delaware, 02/2023
 ● *Wayne State Workshop on Agency and Responsibility 04/2023
- “Moral Worth and Ambivalence”
 ● *Colloquium talk, UBC, Canada, 09/2022
 ● *Colloquium talk, McMaster, Canada, 01/2022
 ● *Colloquium talk, Boston University, 02/2022

- *Colloquium talk, University of Southern California, 02/2022
- *Colloquium talk, UCLA, 02/2022
- *Colloquium talk, Royal Holloway, UK, 03/2022
- “White Blindness and Self-Knowledge in Plato’s Alcibiades”
 - *SAAP, Oxford, UK 10/2021
 - *McMaster 11/2021
 - *UPenn Classics 11/2021
- “Outrage and the Bounds of Empathy”
 - *Colloquium talk, Queen’s University, Canada 2/2021
 - *Colloquium talk, Georgetown, 2/2021
 - *Colloquium talk, University of York, UK, 3/2021
 - *Colloquium talk, Lafayette, 4/2021
 - *Colloquium talk, Villanova 4/2021
- “Double Binds, Oppression, and The Undermining of the Self”
 - *Keynote, Philosophy at the Border UTEP 4/2019
 - *Colloquium talk, UIC 9/2019
 - *Colloquium talk Wellesley 3/2020
- “How Virtue is a Means to Contemplation”
 - *NYU Cape Cod Workshop in Ancient Philosophy 7/2019
 - *Columbia Workshop in Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy 10/2019
 - *Indiana Workshop in Ancient Philosophy 11/2019
 - *CPAMP University of Toronto 1/2020
 - NYU Workshop in Ancient Philosophy 12/2020
- “Double Binds and the Limits of Autonomy”
 - Society for Analytic Feminism Group Session, Central APA 2/2019
 - *Action Network Meeting “Agency and Time”, Leipzig 7/2018
- “Double Binds and Diversifying the Discipline”
 - *Colloquium Talk for Diversity, Inclusion, and Climate Initiative, Boston University 4/2018
- “Mixed Actions and External Goods in Aristotle’s Ethics”
 - *Boston University 4/2018
 - *Colloquium Talk, Transylvania University, Kentucky 12/2017
 - *Colloquium Talk, University of Austin, Texas 9/2017
 - *NYU Workshop in Ancient Philosophy 5/2017
- “Virtue, Actions and Ends in Aristotle’s Ethics”
 - *Colloquium Talk, University of Arizona 2/2017
 - *Graduate Seminar, UNC 2/2017
- “Aristotle on the Connection between Virtue and Happiness”
 - *Symposium on the Philosophy of Well-Being, Positive Psychology Center; University of Pennsylvania 12/2016
 - *The Center for Comparative Philosophy & Global Asia Initiative; Duke University 11/2016
- “Aristotelian Perfectionism”
 - *Costa Rica Interdisciplinary Workshop on Well-being 6/2016
- “Eudaimonia as the Most Teleion of Ends in NE 1.7”

- Eastern APA, Savannah, GA 1/2018
- *Tahoe Ancient Philosophy Workshop 5/2016
- “Aristotle on Complete and Incomplete Actions”
- *Workshop on Aristotle’s Metaphysics, NYU 12/2015
- Ancient Philosophy Workshop; Humboldt University Berlin 12/2014
- “Virtue and Happiness: A Genuinely Aristotelian Alternative”
- Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado Boulder 8/2015
- Philosophy Dissertation Seminar, Princeton University 4/2015
- “Inequality in Education” (with Daniel Wodak)
- *UCHV Human Values Forum, Princeton University 4/2015
- “Was Aristotle a Virtue Ethicist?”
- Value and Virtue in Ethics and Epistemology; New York University 5/2014
- Philosophy Dissertation Seminar, Princeton University 10/2014
- “Knowledge and Understanding in Republic V”
- Guest lecture, PHIL98hf (taught by Marc Gasser), Harvard University 11/2013
- “The Critique of Medicine in ‘On Ancient Medicine’”
- 3rd APSN Graduate Conference, Humboldt-University Berlin 6/2013
- Ancient Medicine: A Mini-Symposium, University of Pennsylvania 4/2013
- “Is an Aristotelian Virtue Ethics Still Credible?”
- 13th Annual University of Toronto Graduate Conference 6/2013
- “Demonstration and Causation in *Posterior Analytics* A 4”
- University of Cambridge; First Principles, Cause and Explanation in Ancient Philosophy 4/2013
- “Internalism and Universal Reasons”
- 2nd Annual Princeton-Humboldt Graduate Conference 8/2012

Comments

- On Samuel Reis-Dennis, “Anger: Scary Good”
- Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference, UBC 09/2017
- On Alastair Norcross’ “On Wanton Self-Assurance: I Promised Myself that I would Write this Paper”
- Problem Promises Workshop; UCHV, Princeton University 3/2015
- On Corinne Gartner’s “Friendship of Character or Virtue? Aristotle on Character Requirements of Primary Philia in the Eudemian Ethics”
- The 37th Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop; Temple and Penn University 4/2014
- On Ana Laura Edelhoff’s “Essence before Modality: Aristotle’s Criticism of Ontological Priority in Plato”
- 3rd APSN Graduate Conference, Humboldt-University Berlin 6/2013
- On Andreas Leonhard Menges’ “Hot and Cold Blame”
- Princeton-Humboldt Graduate Philosophy Conference, Humboldt University Berlin 8/2012

Professional Service

Departmental & University Service

Faculty Senate	2024-ongoing
Placement Committee Penn	2019-2022
Fulbright Faculty Committee	2020-2023
GSWS Executive Board	2020-2023
Department Representative, CLAHS Diversity Committee Virginia Tech	2017-2018
MAP faculty advisor, Virginia Tech	2017-2018
Graduate Committee, Philosophy Department, Virginia Tech	2017
Co-organizer, Graduate Student Pro-seminar, Virginia Tech	2017

0.1 Service to the Profession

Organizer, Working Group on Race and Ancient Philosophy	2021-current
Ethics forum Editor on the PEA Soup blog	2021-2022
NDPR Review Forum Editor on the PEA Soup blog	2018-2019
Steering Committee, Job Candidate Mentoring Program for Women in Philosophy	2017-2019
Faculty Mentor & Panelist, Compass, Princeton University	2018
Reviewer at large, Eastern APA	2017
Reviewer at large, VSPC	2017
Faculty Mentor & Panelist, Compass, UNC	2017
Creator and Organizer, Compass: An Undergraduate Philosophy Workshop, Princeton University	2015-16
MAP (Minorities and Philosophy) Representative (with Daniel Wodak & Yena Lee), Princeton University	2014-16
Organizer, Philosophy Reading Group for Female Undergraduates, Princeton University	2014-16
Resident Graduate Student, Mathey College, Princeton University	2014-16
Co-organizer (with Michaela McSweeney), Princeton Paper Tigers (Interdepartmental talk series), Princeton University	2013-14
Graduate Representative (with Josh O'Rourke), Princeton University	2012-13

Workshops & Conferences

Organizer, Workshop on "For the Sake of" Relations in Aristotle, Blacksburg, VA	04/2018
Commentator, VSPC (Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference), Vancouver, BC	8/2017
Chair, BSPC (Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference), Bellingham, WA	7/2015

Panelist, Princeton Workshop on Feminist Theory and Practice in Academia, Princeton University 3/2015
Organizer MCI Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Philadelphia, PA 12/2014
Co-organizer (with Noelle Lopez) CRNAP Teaching Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Delhi, NY 9/2014
Co-organizer (with Marc Gasser) Workshop on Aristotle's *Poetics*, Delhi, NY 6/2014
Co-organizer, Princeton-Rutgers Graduate Conference, Princeton University 4/2012
Co-organizer, Princeton Classical Philosophy Graduate Conference, Princeton University 3/2012

Languages

Ancient Greek, Latin, French (fluent), German (reading)

August 15, 2026