

Will Small

Education

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Ph.D. Philosophy, 2012.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

B.A. (Hons.) Philosophy, Politics, & Economics (First Class), 2003.

Academic Appointments

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHICAGO

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, August 2020–.

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, August 2014–August 2020.

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF MIND IN NATURE, UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

Post-Doctoral Researcher, August 2012–August 2014.

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Action • Ethics • Epistemology

Areas of Competence

History of Ethics (especially Aristotle and Kant) • Kant's Theoretical Philosophy

• Early Modern Philosophy • Philosophy of Mind

Book

Habit, Human Agency, and Ethical Life

Co-edited with Jennifer Rothschild, Oxford University Press (forthcoming, 2025).

Articles

'Habit's Role in Skill'

Jennifer Rothschild & Will Small (eds.), *Habit, Human Agency, and Ethical Life*, Oxford University Press (forthcoming, 2025).

'Is Knowledge a Capacity to Get Things Right?'

James Conant (ed.), *The Understanding of Logic and the Logic of Understanding: From Kant to Ryle. Themes from the Philosophy of Michael Kremer*, Routledge (forthcoming, 2025).

'Agency, Powers, and Skills'

Luca Ferrero (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of the Philosophy of Agency*, Routledge (2022), 130–38.

- ‘The Practicality of Practical Inference’
Adrian Haddock & Rachael Wiseman (eds.), *The Anscombean Mind*, Routledge (2022), 253–90.
- ‘The Intelligence of Virtue and Skill’
The Journal of Value Inquiry, Volume 55, Issue 2, 2021, 229–49.
- ‘Anscombe on Action and Practical Knowledge’
Ellen Fridland & Carlotta Pavese (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Skill and Expertise*, Routledge (2020), 113–121.
- ‘Practical Knowledge and Habits of Mind’
Journal of Philosophy of Education, Volume 54, Issue 2, 2020, 377–97.
- ‘Basic Action and Practical Knowledge’
Philosophers’ Imprint, Volume 19, Issue 19, 2019.
- ‘Agency and Practical Abilities’
Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplements, Volume 80, 2017, 235–64.
- ‘Ryle on the Explanatory Role of Knowledge How’
Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy, Volume 5, Number 5, 2017, 57–76.
- ‘Bodily Movement and its Significance’
Philosophical Topics, Volume 44, Issue 1, 2016, 183–206.
- ‘The Transmission of Skill’
Philosophical Topics, Volume 42, Issue 1, 2014, 85–111.
- ‘Teaching and Telling’
Philosophical Explorations, Volume 17, Issue 3, September 2014, 372–87.
- ‘Practical Knowledge and the Structure of Action’
Günter Abel & James Conant (eds.), *Rethinking Epistemology*, vol. 2, de Gruyter (2012), 133–227.
- ‘Ryle’s Know-How and Practical Knowledge’ (in progress)
Matt Dougherty (ed.), *The Rylean Mind*, Routledge.
- ‘The Content of Expert Practical Knowledge’ (in progress).
- ‘What is it to be Doing Something?’ (in progress).
- ‘On the Idea That Know-How is *Practical* Knowledge’ (in progress).

Reviews

- Review of *Self-Knowledge*, ed. Anthony Hatzimoysis
MIND, Volume 122, Issue 488, 2014, 1091–1095.
- Review of *Knowing How: Essays on Knowledge, Mind, and Action*, eds. John Bengson and Marc A. Moffett
European Journal of Philosophy, Volume 21, Issue Supplement S4, 2013, e18–e23.

Awards and Fellowships

- 2018–19. Center for Ethics and Education Research Grant: *Philosophy and Habit*.
Co-P.I. with Jennifer Rothschild, University of Florida (\$39,800).
2018. Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Forschungskolleg Analytic German Idealism (FAGI),
Universität Leipzig, July 2018.
- 2017–18. Faculty Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Illinois at Chicago.
2017. UIC LAS Junior Faculty Travel Award (\$1000).
2015. UIC LAS Junior Faculty Travel Award (\$1000).

- 2011–12. SIAS Summer Institute, *The Second Person: Comparative Perspectives*, August 2011 (National Humanities Center, North Carolina) and August 2012 (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin).
- 2011. Lee Family Prize in Philosophy (Best Graduate Essay in Philosophy, University of Chicago).
- 2009–10. Affiliated Fellow, Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago.
- 2009–10. Mellon Foundation–University of Chicago Dissertation-Year Fellowship.
- 2004–09. Century Fellowship, University of Chicago.

Talks

- 07/2024. 'Skill & the Scope of Practical Reason'. *Practical & Theoretical Reason*, Universität Leipzig.
- 12/2023. 'What is it to be Doing Something?' Central European University, Vienna.
- 11/2023. 'On the Idea That Know-How is *Practical Knowledge*'. *Extending Know-How*, University of Vienna.
- 03/2023. 'What is it to be Doing Something?' *Practical Philosophy Workshop*, Northwestern University.
- 04/2022. 'Skill as a Two-Way Power'. *American Philosophical Association*, Pacific Division, Vancouver.
- 11/2020. 'The Practicality of Practical Inference'. *Practical Philosophy Workshop*, University of Chicago.
- 11/2019. 'Skill as a Two-Way Power'. *Practical Philosophy Workshop*, Northwestern University.
- 07/2019. 'Skill as a Two-Way Power'. *Two-Way Powers*, Action Network, Universität Leipzig.
- 07/2019. 'Skill as a Two-Way Power'. *Knowledge-How & Skill*, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg.
- 06/2019. 'The Interdependence of Skill and Habit'. *Philosophy and Habit*, University of Florida.
- 02/2018. 'Basic Action and Practical Knowledge'. Institute for the Humanities, UIC.
- 02/2018. 'Kern on Rational Capacities'. *Sources of Knowledge (Andrea Kern)*, University of Chicago.
- 11/2017. 'Anscombe on Action & Practical Knowledge'. *Action, Practical Knowledge, & Agentive Knowledge*, CSMN, Oslo.
- 11/2017. 'Practical Abilities in Human Agency'. Institute for the Humanities, UIC.
- 08/2017. 'The Intelligence of Virtue and Skill'. *Virtue, Skill, and Practical Reason*, University of Cape Town.
- 05/2017. 'Agency, Activity, and Abilities'. *CSMN Closing Conference*, CSMN, Oslo.
- 03/2017. 'The Structure of Practical Knowledge: Capacity, Act, and Habit'. *Teaching and Learning: Metaphysical and Epistemological Issues*, Queen's University, Ontario.
- 07/2016. 'Agency and Abilities'. *Action and Ability*, Action Network, Universität Leipzig.
- 02/2016. 'Agency and Abilities', Royal Institute of Philosophy, London.
- 01/2016. 'Agency and Abilities', CSMN, Oslo.
- 11/2015. 'The Explanatory Role of Knowledge How', Canadian Society of Epistemology, Univ. de Montréal.
- 06/2015. 'The Role of Reason in Skill', *Ryle: Intelligence, Practice, Skill*, Åbo Akademi.
- 06/2015. 'The Role of Reason in Skill', *Virtue and Skill*, CSMN, Oslo.
- 02/2015. 'Can Intellectualism Account For Mastery?', UIC.
- 12/2014. 'Bodily Movement and its Significance', University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign).
- 06/2014. 'Agency and Activity', *Action and Self-Consciousness*, University of Stirling.
- 05/2014. 'Can Intellectualism Account For Mastery?', CSMN, Oslo.
- 05/2014. 'Teaching and Telling', University of Warwick.
- 01/2014. 'Basic Action and Bodily Movement', CSMN, Oslo.
- 10/2013. 'Can Intellectualism Account For Mastery?', Universität Leipzig.
- 10/2013. 'Teaching and Telling', *The Second Person*, Universität Leipzig.
- 10/2013. 'The Intelligence of Virtue and Skill', Universität Leipzig.
- 06/2013. 'Productive Thought and Reasoning', *Practical Reasoning*, CSMN, Oslo.

05/2013. 'Can Intellectualism Account For Mastery?', *Aspect, Process, and Know-How*, Birkbeck.
05/2013. 'The Transmission of Skill', Åbo Akademi.
04/2013. 'Basic Action and Practical Knowledge', Action Network, Universität Leipzig.
02/2013. 'On the Intelligence of Virtue and Skill', UIC.
01/2013. 'On the Intelligence of Virtue and Skill', PPPE Club, CSMN, Oslo.
11/2012. 'On the Transmission of Skill', *Knowledge and Action*, CSMN, Oslo.
11/2012. 'The Structure of Basic Action', *Action & Reason: Symposium in Honour of Fred Stoutland*, Uppsala.
07/2012. 'Basic Action and Practical Knowledge', Universität Potsdam.

Teaching

At UIC:

GRADUATE

Philosophy of Action, Spring 2015.
Practical Reasoning, Fall 2016.
Skill, Virtue, Habit, Fall 2018.
Aristotle on Human Being & Human Good, Spring 2020.
Know How, Spring 2021.
Actions, Events, and Processes, Fall 2022.
Practicality, Fall 2024.

UNDERGRADUATE

Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015.
What is Freedom?, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019.
Who Am I?, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2024.
Actions, Outcomes, and Morality, Fall 2019.
Aristotle & His Successors, Spring 2020, Spring 2022, Spring 2024.
The Philosophy of Karl Marx, Fall 2022.
Philosophy of Action, Fall 2014.
Virtue Ethics, Fall 2015.
G. E. M. Anscombe on Ethics & Action, Spring 2017.
Self-Knowledge, Spring 2019.
Consequentialism & its Critics, Fall 2021, Fall 2024.
Know How, Spring 2023.
Agency, Autonomy, Accountability, Fall 2023.

GRADUATE ADVISING

Beth Barker, Northwestern University, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Spring 2024–.
Ryan Kim, *PhD Topical Supervisor*, Spring 2024–.
Ziyan Yang, *Visiting MA Student (Tsinghua University) Supervisor*, Spring 2023–Fall 2023.
Michael Guidot, *PhD Dissertation Supervisor*, Spring 2023–.
Alex Sarappo, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Spring 2022–.
Zach Welman, *PhD Dissertation Supervisor*, Spring 2021–.

Bertín Ortega-Polito, *PhD Topical Supervisor*, Fall 2019–Spring 2021.
Kyoungmin Cho, *PhD Dissertation Supervisor*, Fall 2018–defended Summer 2024.
Chen Liang, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Spring 2019–defended Summer 2020.
David Schaffer, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Fall 2017–defended Spring 2018.
Francesco Pesci, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Spring 2017–defended Fall 2022..
Nader Shoaibi, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Spring 2017–defended Summer 2019.
Kei Hotoda, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Fall 2016–defended Fall 2018.
Nicolás García Mills, *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*, Spring 2015–defended Summer 2019.

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

Reijhay Vargas, *BA Senior Thesis*, Fall 2023.
Hassan Saleemi, *BA Senior Thesis*, Fall 2021.
Della Baker, *BA Senior Thesis & Honors College Capstone Project*, Fall 2015.
James Shine, *Honors College Capstone Project*, Spring 2015.

At the University of Chicago:

Ethical Knowledge, Seminar for MA students and upper-level undergraduates, Spring 2012.
Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities II: Early Modern Philosophy, Winter 2011 [two sections].
Self-Knowledge: Source, Status, & Scope, Tutorial for Philosophy majors, Winter 2009.

Service and Organization

REFEREEING

Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge, *The Philosophical Review*, *MIND*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Ethics*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Analysis*, *Ergo*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Synthese*, *Philosophical Explorations*, *Erkenntnis*, *Dialectica*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Phenomenology & the Cognitive Sciences*, *Inquiry*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, SLACRR 2023.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS, COMMITTEES, ETC. AT UIC

Educational Policy Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UIC, 2022–25 (Chair 2024–25).
UIC Senate, Senator (LAS–Humanities), 2021–24.
UIC United Faculty (Faculty Union), Representative Assembly Member (LAS–Humanities), 2019–20.

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2021–25.

Promotion & Tenure Advisory Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2020–21, 2023.
Bridge to the Faculty Post-Doc Committee, 2021.
Search Committee (Philosophy of Computing / A.I.), Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2024–25.
Search Committee (Administrative Staff), Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2022.
Search Committee (Ancient Philosophy), Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2019–20.
Search Committee (Philosophy of Mind), Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2018–19.

Executive Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2014–16, 2018–20, 2021–23.
Graduate Advisory Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2020–21.
Major Advisory Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2015–17, 2019–.
Chair Election Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2023.
Teaching Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2021–23, 24–25.
Curriculum Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2015–17.
Colloquium Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2014–15, 2016–17, 2018–19, 2023–24.
LAS Quorum Committee, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2014–15, 2016–17, 2018–20, 2024–25.
Faculty Webmaster, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2015–17, 2018–24.
Website Transition Team Leader, Department of Philosophy, UIC, 2018–19.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION

Program Committee, Central APA, 2023.
Program Committee, ISUS 2020 (16th Conference of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies),
UIC, 7/29–31/2020 (postponed due to COVID-19).
Organizer, Conference on Habit, UIC, 9/27–28/2019 (with Jennifer Rothschild).
Organizer, Workshop on Philosophy and Habit, U. Florida, 6/7–8/2019 (with Jennifer Rothschild).
Organizer, Workshop on Virtue and Skill, CSMN, Oslo, 6/1–2/2015 (with Christel Fricke & Julia Annas).
Organizer, Workshop on Virtue Ethics, CSMN, Oslo, 9/6/2013 (with Christel Fricke & Øyvind Rabbås).
Organizer, Workshop on Practical Reasoning, CSMN, Oslo, 6/13–14/2013 (with Christel Fricke).
Organizer, Workshop on Knowledge and Action, CSMN, Oslo, 11/19/2012 (with Juhani Yli-Vakkuri).