

# Rebecca Chan

Department of Philosophy | San José State University  
One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192  
rebecca.s.chan@sjsu.edu  
rebeccachan.org

## **Academic Employment**

---

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, San José State University, 2017-present  
University Director of Pre-Law Advising, 2019-present

## **Education**

---

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 2017  
Dissertation: *Making Metaphysics Matter: Essays on Reasons and Persons*  
Committee: Michael Rea (director), Christopher Shields, Meghan Sullivan, Peter van Inwagen,  
L.A. Paul

M.A., Philosophy, University of Colorado—Boulder, Department of Philosophy, 2011

J.D., University of Colorado Law School, 2010

B.A., Philosophy and Religion, *Magna Cum Laude* and with Distinction, Boston University, 2007

## **Areas of Specialization**

---

Metaphysics, Metaethics, Philosophy of Law

## **Areas of Concentration**

---

Decision Theory, Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion

## **Publications**

---

### *Articles*

“Transformed by Faith”, *Faith and Philosophy*, forthcoming.

“Moral Indulgences: When Offsetting is Wrong” (with Dustin Crummett), *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*, forthcoming.

“Religious Experience, Voluntarist Reasons, and the Transformative Experience Puzzle”, *Res Philosophica*, 93.1: 269-287 (2016).

### *Reviews*

Review of *The Errors of Atheism* by J. Angelo Corlett (with Bradley Monton), *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, 3/3/2011.

## **In Progress**

---

### *Under Review*

- “Ethics-first Metaphysics”
- “The Problem of Self-Transformation”
- “Reviving a Modal Account of Essence”
- “What’s Wrong with Telling Someone Else’s Story?”

### *In Progress*

- Normativity-Driven Metaphysics* (book manuscript, tentative title, select chapters drafted)
- “Choosing Our Selves: A Neo-Sartrean Account of Freedom”
- “Plenitudinous Persons”
- “Legal Answers to Metaphysical Questions”

## **Selected Presentations and Talks (\*Invited)**

---

TBA

*Erasmus Lecture*, Westmont College, February 2019\*

TBA

Workshop on Agency in the Mountains, Summit County, February 2019\*

“Choosing Our Selves: A Neo-Sartrean Account of Freedom”

Invited talk, Umass Amherst, October 2018\*

“Moral Indulgences” (coauthored with Dustin Crummett)

Society of Christian Philosophers 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, Grand Rapids, September 2018

Theistic Ethics Workshop, Williamsburg, October 2017

“What’s Wrong with Telling Someone Else’s Story?”

Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, February 2018

“The Problem of Self-Transformation”

Themes in Transformative Experience Pre-conference of the 2017 Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Seattle, April 2017

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, August 2016

Pacific Regional Conference of the Society of Christian Philosophers, San Diego, March 2016

“Transformed by Faith”

Eastern Regional Conference of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Rutgers, October 2016

“Revising the Modal Account of Essence”

Graduate Women in Metaphysics Workshop, May 2016

“Transformation, Faith, and Rational Commitment”

The Value and Evaluation of Faith Conference, San Antonio, January 2016\*

“Sport’s Problem of Evil” (coauthored with Jason Hanschmann)

Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture, Waco, November 2015

“Epistemic Reasons, Truth Conditions, and Truth Makers”

Poster Presentation, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, August 2015

“Reasons! Weighing in on the Belief Independence Debate”

Formal Epistemology Workshop, St. Louis, May 2015

Arizona State University Graduate Philosophy Conference, Tempe, February 2015

Canadian Society for Epistemology, Sherbrooke, November 2014

“Religious Experience and Voluntarist Reasons: Shedding Light on the Transformative Experience Puzzle”

Logos 2015 Workshop: “Religious Experience”, Notre Dame, May 2015

Midwest Regional Conference of the Society for Christian Philosophers, Mobile, April 2015

“An Argument from Vagueness for Grounding Skepticism”

Women in Metaphysics Workshop, Rochester, May 2013\*

### **Commentaries**

---

On “Material Problems for Immaterialism”

American Philosophical Association Central Division, February 2019

On Felix Koch’s “Skepticism about Special Obligations”

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, August 2017

On Brian Ballard’s “The Rationality of Faith and the Benefits of Religion”

The Virtue of Faith Conference, Bellingham, September 2016

On Kathleen Howe’s “Thinking Parts and Human Animals”

American Philosophical Association Central Division, March 2016

On Brian Talbot’s “Collective Action and Conflicting Obligation”

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder, August 2015

On Joshua Anderson’s “Communitarians, Liberals, and What Do We Want in a Community?”

American Philosophical Association Pacific Division, Vancouver, April 2015

On Ryan Doody’s “A Guide to Gambling (For the Indecisive)”

Arizona State University Graduate Philosophy Conference, Tempe, February 2015

On Eyal Tal’s “A Problem for Peer Averaging”

Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, Boulder, April 2014

On Travis Dumsday’s “Monasticism and the Problem of Divine Hiddenness”

Western Conference of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Boulder, March 2013

On Matthew Lee’s “Are Credences Reducible to Probabilistic Beliefs?”

Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, Boulder, April 2012

On Daniel Murphy’s “Individuation, Relations, and the Identity of Indiscernibles”

Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, Boulder, April 2011

On Jeff Steele's "Duns Scotus on Eudaimonism, Moral Motivation, and the Two Affections of the Will"

Western Conference of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Durango, October 2009

On Alain Ducharme's "Mean Sensibles and Hearing Loss: Change and Perception in Aristotle"

Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, Boulder, March 2009.

### **Summer Seminars (\*Competitively Selected)**

---

NEH Summer Institute, Philosophy as a Way of Life, 2018\*

CEU Summer University Program on Ontology and Metaontology, 2017\*

4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Mentoring Workshop for Pre-Tenure Women in Philosophy, 2017

Summer Seminar on the Virtue of Faith, 2016\*

Summer Seminar on the Value and Evaluation of Faith, 2015\*

Animals and the Kingdom of God Workshop, 2015

St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology, 2014\*

Metaphysical Mayhem, 2014\*

### **Teaching Experience**

---

*at San José State University*

Intro to Philosophy (Spring 2019)

Philosophy of the Person (Fall 2018)

Philosophy of Law (Fall 2018, Fall 2017)

Critical Reasoning (Spring 2018)

Advanced Seminar in Metaphysics and Epistemology (Fall 2017)

*at University of Notre Dame*

Groups: What they are and what they can do (co-taught with Peter Finocchiaro), Fall 2016

Rationality and Action, Spring 2016

*at University of Colorado, Boulder*

Philosophy of Law (Summer 2014, Fall 2013)

Major Social Theories (Spring 2013)

Intro to Modern Philosophy (Spring 2013)

*Non-Philosophy Teaching Experience*

Western Culture II, at Pepperdine University (Summer 2017)

Criminal Law, as Teaching Fellow at Colorado Law School for Mirianne Wesson (Spring 2010)

### **Advising**

---

Patricio Munoz-Hernandez (M.A. 2019)

Kevin McKeivitt (M.A. 2019)

### **Professional Activities**

---

Member, American Philosophical Association's Committee on Philosophy and Law, 2018-2020

Co-Organizer, Junior Workshop in Philosophy of Religion, 2018

Referee: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Ethical Perspectives*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *Res Philosophica*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*

## **Service**

---

University Director of Pre-Law Advising, San José State University, 2019  
Pre-Law Advisor, San José State University, 2017-present  
Climate Committee Member, University of Notre Dame, 2016-2017  
Graduate Representative, Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 2016-2017  
Co-President, Graduate Philosophy Society, University of Colorado, 2013-2014  
Instructor, Philosophy Outreach Program of Colorado, 2013  
Co-Organizer, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, 2013  
Graduate Representative, Graduate Studies Committee, 2012-2013  
Co-Organizer, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Faculty Symposium, 2010  
President, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, University of Colorado Law School, 2009-2010

## **Awards and Fellowships**

---

Dean's Professional Development Grant, 2018  
Professional Development Grant, 2017  
Best Graduate Student Paper Prize, Eastern Regional Conference of the Society for Christian Philosophers, 2016  
Best Graduate Student Paper Prize, Midwest Regional Conference of the Society for Christian Philosophers, 2015  
Visiting Graduate Fellowship, Center for Philosophy of Religion, Notre Dame, 2014  
Rothgerber Teaching Fellow, University of Colorado Law School, 2010  
Faegre & Benson Scholarship, University of Colorado Law School, 2009  
Class of 1994 Seumsap Ly Memorial Scholarship, University of Colorado Law School, 2009  
School of Law Full Tuition Scholarship, University of Colorado Law School, 2007  
Phi Beta Kappa, Boston University, 2007  
University Scholar, Boston University, 2004-07  
Dean's List, Boston University, 2004-06

## **References**

---

Available upon request.