

# Alex Kaiserman

Balliol College  
Broad Street  
Oxford  
OX1 3BJ  
United Kingdom

Phone: +44 7865 971093

Email: [alexander.kaiserman@balliol.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alexander.kaiserman@balliol.ox.ac.uk)

Webpage: <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~ball2732/>

## Employment

- 2016- **Associate Professor of Philosophy**  
University of Oxford
- 2016- **Fairfax Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy**  
Balliol College

## Education

- 2013-16 **DPhil in Philosophy**  
Jesus College, University of Oxford  
*Thesis Title:* Cause and Context  
*Supervisors:* Prof. John Hawthorne, Prof. Ofra Magidor
- 2014-15 **Visiting Student Research Collaborator**  
Princeton University
- 2011-13 **BPhil in Philosophy (Distinction)**  
Jesus College, University of Oxford
- 2007-11 **MPhysPhil in Physics and Philosophy (1st Class)**  
Balliol College, University of Oxford

## Grants & Awards

- 2020 Best article published in the *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, for 'Causal Contribution in War' (with Helen Beebee)
- 2014-15 Procter Fellowship to Princeton University
- 2013-16 Arts and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Award
- 2010 and 2011 Gibbs Prize in Philosophy (awarded for best marks in philosophy finals exams)
- 2010 Gibbs Prize in Physics (awarded for best marks in physics finals exams)

## Research

### ARTICLES

“The Logic of Past-Alteration”, in K. Bennett and D. W. Zimmerman (eds.), *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics: Volume 13*, Oxford: OUP, forthcoming.

“Reasons-Sensitivity and Degrees of Free Will”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, forthcoming.

“Against Accomplice Liability”, in J. Gardner, L. Green and B. Leiter (eds.), *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Law: Volume 4*, Oxford: OUP, 2021.

“Responsibility and the ‘Pie Fallacy’”, *Philosophical Studies* 178(11), 3597-3616, 2021.

“Causal Contribution in War” (with Helen Beebe), *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 37(3), 364-377, 2020.

“Interventionism and Mental Surgery”, *Erkenntnis* 85(4), 919-935, 2020.

“Stage Theory and the Personite Problem”, *Analysis* 79(2), 215-222, 2019.

“‘More of a Cause’: Recent Work on Degrees of Causation and Responsibility”, *Philosophy Compass* 137, e12498, 2018.

“Partial Liability”, *Legal Theory* 23(1), 1-26, 2017.

“Causes and Counterparts”, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 95(1), 17-28, 2017.

“Necessary Connections in Context”, *Erkenntnis* 82(1), 45-64, 2017.

“Causal Contribution”, *The Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 116(3), 387-394, 2016.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Why Free Will is Real, by Christian List (with Daniel Kotsi), *Mind* 130(519), 987-996, 2021.

Causation and Free Will, by Carolina Sartorio (with Daniel Kotsi), *Criminal Law and Philosophy* 13, 551-559, 2019.

Proof of Causation in Tort Law, by Sandy Steel, *The Cambridge Law Journal* 75(3), 641-644, 2016.

### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

‘You Knew the Risks!’: Responsibility, Reasonable Foreseeability and Probabilistic Knowledge  
- Surrey Centre for Law and Philosophy, 2022.

*Causal Contextualism and the Proportionality Puzzle*  
- Metaphysics Work-in-Progress Group, Oxford, 2021.

*Degrees of Responsibility*  
- Universität Bern (online), 2021.

*What’s Wrong with Prepunishment?*  
- Université de Neuchâtel (online), 2021.

*The Logic of Past-Alteration*

- Oxford Faculty Workshop, 2019.

*Distributing Collective Punishment* (with Helen Beebee)

- Conversations on War II, Perast, 2019.

*Causation, Reasons-Sensitivity, and Degrees of Free Will*

- Fifty Years of Responsibility Without Alternative Possibilities, Berlin, 2019.

- Free Will and Causality, Dusseldorf, 2019.

- Moral Sciences Club, University of Cambridge, 2018.

*Stage Theory and the Personite Problem*

- Eastern APA Meeting, New York, 2019.

- The Joint Session, University of Oxford, 2018.

*Breaking the Chain of Causation*

- The Philosophical Society, University of Oxford, 2017.

*Against Accomplice Liability*

- The Joint Session, University of Edinburgh, 2017.

- Warwick Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Theory, 2016.

*Alternative Possibilities in Context*

- The Agency Dimension of Moral Responsibility, Humboldt University Berlin, 2017.

- Metaphysics Through Time, University College London, 2016.

- II Blasco Disputatio, Valencia, 2016.

*Proximate Causation in War* (with Helen Beebee)

- Conversations on War, Palermo, 2016.

*A Real Definition of Token Physicalism*

- Mind, Metaphysics and Psychology Research Seminar, Kings College London, 2017.

- Mind Work in Progress Group, University of Oxford, 2017.

- Issues on the (Im)Possible, Slovak Academy of Sciences, 2016.

*Interventionism and Mental Surgery*

- Causality in the Sciences of the Mind and Brain, Aarhus, 2016.

*Partial Liability*

- International Postgraduate Legal Conference, University of Liverpool, 2016.

- Jurisprudence Discussion Group, University of Oxford, 2016.

- The Joint Session, University of Warwick, 2015.

- Legal Philosophy Workshop, University of Edinburgh, 2015.

*Causal Disagreement as Normative Disagreement*

- NYC Philosophy of Language Workshop, 2015.

- Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Workshop, 2015.

*On 'Levels'*

- Philosophy of Physics Research Group, Princeton University, 2015.

*Causes and Counterparts*

- Pacific APA Meeting, Vancouver, 2015.

- The Joint Session, University of Cambridge, 2014.

### *Normative Causation*

- NYU-Columbia Graduate Conference in Philosophy, 2014.
- Centre for Logic, Language and Mind, Stockholm University, 2014.
- Austin Graduate Ethics and Normativity Talks, University of Texas at Austin, 2014.

### *Impossible Worlds and Macrophysical Zombies*

- Issues on the (Im)Possible, Slovak Academy of Sciences, 2013

### *Against Level-Connections for Justified Belief*

- Pitt/CMU Graduate Conference in Philosophy, Pittsburgh University, 2013.

## Teaching

### TUTORIALS

- General Philosophy (1st year introductory course)
- Introduction to Logic
- Knowledge and Reality (epistemology and metaphysics)
- Philosophy of Mind
- Philosophy of Logic and Language
- Early Modern Philosophy
- Philosophy of Science

### SUPERVISION

Undergraduate thesis supervision: Ana Radomirescu (2022), Imogen Rivers (2021), Ilya Shemmer (2019), Laurence Jeffcoate (2018), Daniel Kodsi (2018), Steven Robinson (2017).

BPhil supervision in Metaphysics, Philosophy of Law and Philosophy of Science.

BPhil thesis supervision: Avital Fried (2022), Zepo Yang (2019), Thierry Schutz (2018), Jon Andersson (2017).

### UNDERGRADUATE LECTURES

- General Philosophy (2018, 2019)
- Knowledge and Reality (2017, 2022)
- Contextualism in Philosophy (2016)

### GRADUATE CLASSES

- The Philosophy of David Lewis (with Nicholas Jones, 2021)
- Philosophy of Law (2021)
- Pro-seminar in Metaphysics and Epistemology (2019-20)
- Causation in the Law (with Sandy Steel, 2018-20)
- Metaphysics (with Timothy Williamson, 2018)
- Causation and Modality (with Simona Aimar, 2018)
- Philosophy of Science (with Christopher Timpson, 2017)

## OUTREACH

Several talks and workshops delivered in low-participation schools and outreach events on topics including the problem of evil, fairness, machine consciousness, and the ethics of self-driving cars.

## Administration

### FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY

Associate BPhil Co-Ordinator (2021 - present)

Deputy Placement Officer (2019 - 2021)

Faculty of Philosophy Harassment Advisor (2017-18)

Member of the Board of Examiners for Philosophy, Politics and Economics (2021 - present)

Member of the Board of Examiners for Physics and Philosophy, Mathematics and Philosophy, and Computer Science and Philosophy (2017-19)

Internal examiner for DPhil: Mark Fiddaman (2019), Annina Loets (2020), Andrew Currie (2020)

Appointment Committee member: Associate Professorship in Metaphysics (2020)

Committee Member of the Jowett Society (2014-15)

### BALLIOL COLLEGE

Teaching Co-ordinator for Philosophy, Politics and Economics (2017 - 2020)

Member of Academic Progress Committee (2019 - present)

Appointment Committee member: Associate Professorship in Ancient Philosophy (2019)

### EXTERNAL

Associate editor of *Analysis* (2019 - present)

Consultant on *Philosophy for Beginners* for Usborne Books

Referee for *Mind*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Ethics*, *Analysis*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Law and Philosophy*, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, *Synthese*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*, *The MIT Press*, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, *Ergo*, *Disputatio*, *Inquiry*, *International Journal of Moral Philosophy*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Organon F*, *Res Philosophica*.