Megan Hyska

Updated 12.18.23

Research

- AOS Social Philosophy of Language, Social Ontology
- AOC Epistemology, Philosophy of Technology

Employment

- 2019-Present Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, Northwestern University
 - 2018-2019 Weinberg College Fellow, Philosophy Department, Northwestern University

Education

- 2018 **PhD, Philosophy**, *University of Texas at Austin*, Committee: Josh Dever (Supervisor), David Beaver, L. Ray Buchanan, Hans Kamp, Craige Roberts (Ohio State), Jason Stanley (Yale) 'This Machine Kills Fascists: Detecting Propaganda with Formal Models of Mass Discourse Structure'
- 2015 **MA, Philosophy**, *University of Texas at Austin* 'Discourse-Level Information Structure and the Challenge of Higher Order Discourse'
- 2012 **BA**, *University of Victoria*, Philosophy and Writing with high distinction

Publications

- [A9] 'On Group Lies and Lying to Oneself: Comment on Jennifer Lackey's 'The Epistemology of Groups", Asian Journal of Philosophy, 2, 73, 2023.
- [A8] 'Social Movements as Units of Explanation', Under review.
- [A7] 'What is Social Organizing?', Under review, R&R.
- [A6] 'Deepfakes, Public Announcements, and Political Mobilization', Oxford Studies in Epistemology, Volume 8, forthcoming.
- [A5] 'The Politics of Past and Future: Synthetic Media, Showing, and Telling', Philosophical Studies, 2023.
- [A4] 'Luck and the Value of Communication', Synthese, 201(96), 2023, 1-19.
- [A3] 'Against Irrationalism in the Theory of Propaganda', Journal of the American Philosophical Association, 9(2), 2023, 303-317.
- [A2] **'Propaganda, Irrationality, and Group Agency'**, *Routledge Handbook of Political Epistemology*, (Eds. Michael Hannon, Jeroen de Ridder), Routledge, 2021, 226-235.
- [A1] 'In defense of political correctness and against "political correctness"', Ethics, Left and Right: The Moral Issues that Divide Us, (Ed. Bob Fischer), Oxford University Press, 2019, 380-388; 392-394.

In Preparation

Interrogating Authenticity as a Norm of Online Speech, with Michael Barnes Holism about Communication
Showing and Telling in Democratic Politics

Public Philosophy

Writing

- [B2] 'Not all Propaganda aims to Persuade', LA Times, Op-ed, 2022.
- [B1] 'Of Martyrs and Robots: Propaganda and Group Identity', The Yale Review, Article, 2018, 1-11.

Podcast Appearances

- 'How Does Propaganda Work?', What's Left of Philosophy, 2023.
- 'On Propaganda, Irrationality, and Group Agency', Parc Media, 2021.

Selected Presentations

- Dec 2023 **'Interrogating Authenticity as a Norm for Online Speech'**, Oxford-Berlin Early Career Colloquium for Normative Philosophy of Computing, Berlin, Germany, refereed
- Nov 2023 'The Politics of Past and Future: Synthetic Media, Showing, and Telling', Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Meeting, New Orleans, LA, refereed
- Oct 2023 'Social Movements as Units of Explanation', Colloquium, Loyola University, Chicago, invited
- June 2023 'Theories of Propaganda and New Technology: Applications and Interventions (translational tutorial, taught with Michael Barnes), Association for Computing Machinery Conference on Fairness Accountability and Transparency (ACM FAccT), Chicago, IL, refereed
- May 2023 'Deepfakes, Public Announcements, and Political Mobilization', International Conference on Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry (CEPE), Chicago, IL, refereed
- April 2023 Comments on Mie Inouye's 'The American Organizing Tradition and the Problem of Democratic Transitions', Social Philosophy: Identity, Alienation, Emancipation, Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, invited
- April 2023 'Recent work on propaganda' (panel member), American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, CA, invited
- March 2023 **'Social Movements as Units of Explanation'**, Language and Value Workshop, Auburn University, Auburn, AL, invited
 - Jan 2023 **'Video Deepfakes and the Future of Evidence in Politics'**, *Philosophy, AI and Society Workshop*, Stanford, CA, *refereed*
 - Jan 2023 **'Toward a Theory of Social Organizing' Symposium**, American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Montreal, Canada, refereed
 - Dec 2022 **'Social Movements as Units of Explanation'**, 3rd Annual Political Epistemology Network Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, refereed
 - Nov 2022 'What Kind of Object is a Social Movement?', Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society meeting, New Orleans, LA, refereed
 - Aug 2022 **'What Kind of Object is a Social Movement'**, *International Social Ontology Society*, Vienna, Austria, *refereed*
 - July 2022 'What Kind of Object is a Social Movement?', Social Movements and Social Ontology Workshop, online, refereed
 - June 2022 'What is Social Organizing', Social Metaphysics Workshop, Duke University, Durham, NC, refereed
 - June 2022 **'What is Social Organizing'**, *Global Theory Workshop*, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, invited
 - April 2022 'Macrocommunication', National University of Singapore, online, invited
- March 2022 **'Toward a Theory of Social Organizing'**, *University of Leeds 'Group Thinking: New Foundations'*Seminar, online, invited
- March 2022 'Toward a Theory of Social Organizing', Critical Social Ontology Society Workshop, online, refereed

- Feb 2022 **'Against Irrationalism in the Theory of Propaganda'**, *University of Sheffield Colloquium*, online, invited
- Feb 2022 **'Toward a Theory of Social Organizing'**, *Social Ontologies of Oppression, Solidarity, and Care*, Chicago, *invited*
- Feb 2022 **'Against Irrationalism in the Theory of Propaganda'**, *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics Society Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, *refereed*
- Jan 2022 **'Toward a Theory of Social Organizing'**, *University of Chicago Theoretical Philosophy Workshop*, online, *invited*
- Nov 2021 Comments on Cory Wimberly's 'How Propaganda Became Public Relations: Foucault and the Corporate Government of the Public', Radical Philosophy Association Meeting, online, invited
- Aug 2021 **'Towards a Theory of Social Organizing'**, *International Social Ontology Society Meeting*, online, refereed
- May 2021 'Against Irrationalism in the Theory of Propaganda', Propaganda and Legitimate Political Persuasion Workshop, L'Ecole Normale Supérieure/ online, invited
- Dec 2020 **'On the Value of Gricean Communication'**, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, online, refereed
- Oct 2020 **'Propaganda, Groups, and Individuals'**, *Invited Colloquium*, University of Illinois at Chicago/online, *invited*
- March 2020, 'Two Critiques of a Liberal Conception of Propaganda', Politics, Philosophy, and Economics cancelled Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, refereed
 - Feb 2020 'Propaganda, Groups, and Individuals', Invited Colloquium, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL invited
 - Aug 2019 'On the (Relative) Value of Communication', Ontario Meaning Workshop, Ontario, Canada, invited
 - June 2019 **'Luck and the Value of Communication'**, 5th Biennial Mentoring Workshop for Pre-Tenure Women in Philosophy, Boston, MA, refereed
 - April 2019 **'Protest and Propaganda'**, Bowling Green Workshop in Applied Ethics and Public Policy: 'The Ethics of Public Discourse', Bowling Green, OH, refereed
 - Nov 2018 'On the Discourse-Structural Dynamics of Higher Order Utterances', New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, New York, NY, invited
 - Nov 2018 'Propaganda for Realists', Northeastern Illinois State University Colloquium, Chicago, IL, invited
 - June 2018 **'Polarization as Propaganda'**, The Prindle Institute for Ethics Applied Epistemology Research Retreat, Greencastle, IN, refereed
 - April 2016 'Information Structure and the Challenge of Higher Order Discourse', American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, CA, refereed
 - Nov 2015 'On the Politics of the Function Inference', Society for Women and Philosophy (Ireland) Annual Meeting, Dublin, Ireland, refereed
 - June 2015 'Discourse-level Information Structure and the Challenge of Metadiscursives', Canadian Philosophical Association Annual General Meeting, Ottawa, ON, refereed
 - April 2015 'Minimalism, contextualism, and successful communication', American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, BC, refereed

Awards

- 2023 Faculty Fellowship, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities
- 2015 **Doctoral Fellowship**, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Teaching

Courses at Northwestern University

Phil 109-6:	First-year Seminar on Propaganda	yearly since AY 2018/2019
Phil 253:	Introduction to the Philosophy of Language	yearly since AY 2018/2019
Phil 328:	Classics of Analytic Philosophy	yearly since AY 2019/2020
Phil 353:	Philosophy of Language - Language in Context	Winter 2021
Phil 423:	Language and Politics in Analytic Philosophy (graduate seminar)	Spring 2022
Phil 488:	Professional Skills (graduate seminar)	Spring 2023
	Courses at UT Austin (as instructor of record)	
PHL312:	Introduction to Logic	Spring 2018
PHL313:	Introduction to Symbolic Logic	Fall 2016
PHL304:	Contemporary Moral Problems	Spring 2016

Full CV, including supervision and service history, available upon request.