

# DUSTIN WEBSTER

249 S 36th St, Philadelphia, PA 19104

[dustinw1@upenn.edu](mailto:dustinw1@upenn.edu)

Updated 1/24

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## EDUCATION

### **PhD in Education**

University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education 2023  
Center for Teaching and Learning: Certificate in College and University Teaching 2021

### **Master in Law**

University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School 2021

### **M.A. in Philosophy and Education**

Teachers College, Columbia University 2017

### **B.A. in Political Science**

University of San Diego 2012  
*Faculty Award for Excellence in Political Science*

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

### **Postdoctoral Fellow**

2023-present

Co-Director, Penn's Project for Philosophy for the Young  
University of Pennsylvania Philosophy Department  
Teaching, program development, grant writing, and research on topics in philosophy for children.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Reviewed

“**Case-Based Reasoning in Educational Ethics: Phronēsis and Epistemic Blinders**” with Michael Vazquez, forthcoming in *Educational Theory*.

“**The Ethical Costs of Using Higher Education for Economic Mobility**” (2022) *Theory and Research in Education* 20(3), 237-258.

“**Democratic Equality and Higher Education: Moving from Access to Completion**” (2022) with Tamar Harel Ben-Shahar and Sigal Ben-Porath *Journal of Social Philosophy* 54(3), 404–420.

“**Beyond Academics: How Teachers Flourish Through Ethical Education**” (2021) *Educational Theory* 71(3), 409-429.

### Under Review

“**Economic Mobility, Vocational Education, and the Narrowing of Educational Opportunity**”

## Other

“Review of *The Right to Higher Education* by Christopher Martin” Forthcoming in *Journal of Philosophy of Education*

“Review of *Spare the Rod: Punishment and the Moral Community of Schools* by Bryan Warnick and Campbell Scribner” (2023). *The Harvard Educational Review* 93(2), 275–278.

“Free Speech and Education” (2022) with Sigal Ben-Porath in *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Education* (Ed. Randall Curren), Routledge.

“Ethical Costs and Economic Costs” (2021) Review of *Moving Up Without Losing Your Way: The Ethical Costs of Upward Mobility* by Jennifer Morton, *Studies in Philosophy and Education* 40(6), 671-676.

“The Ethics of Faculty Speech Online” (2021) with Sigal Ben-Porath in *Ethics in Higher Education: Promoting Equity and Inclusion Through Case-Based Inquiry* (Eds. Rebecca Taylor and Ashley Kunts), Harvard Education Press.

“Bringing Philosophy into Philadelphia Classrooms” with Stephen Esser and Karen Detlefsen in *Intentional Disruption: Expanding Access to Philosophy* (Ed. Stephen Kekoa Miller), Vernon Press, 2021.

## Public Facing

“Does Content Matter in Philosophy for Children?” (2023) Blog post on Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO) blog, *Wondering Aloud: Philosophy with Young People*. Available at <https://www.plato-philosophy.org/does-content-matter-in-philosophy-for-children/>

## OTHER WRITING

“National High School Ethics Bowl Coaching Manual and Guide for Teachers” (2023)

“Penn’s Project for Philosophy for the Young Standard Curriculum: Kindergarten” (2021) with Karen Detlefsen

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

**National High School Ethics Bowl Bridge Micro-Grant** 2023

Awarded \$1,000 to support providing stipends to K-12 teachers for their work with the Philadelphia Ethics Bowl.

**PLATO (Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization) Philosophy Fund Grant** 2023

“Widening the Circle Conference” Co-Applicant with Dr. Lee Franklin. Awarded \$2,500 to host a conference on engaging undergraduate students with K-12 students in philosophical topics and practices.

**Dean's Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education** 2018-2022  
Research Fellow to Dr. Sigal Ben Porath

**McPherson Fellow in the Center for Ethics and Education, University of Wisconsin Madison and University of Illinois Chicago** 2020-2021

**Institute For Humane Studies - Hayek Fund** 2021  
Awarded \$750 for conference travel to the American Education Research Association conference to present a paper and take part in a panel discussion.

**PLATO (Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization) Philosophy Fund Grant** 2020  
"Philosophy in Kindergarten... and Beyond!" Co-Applicant with Dr. Karen Detlefsen. Awarded \$3,000 to develop a Kindergarten Philosophy Curriculum to serve to be used in a future study of the outcomes of philosophy for children.

**University of Pennsylvania Netter Center For Community Partnerships Course Development Grant** 2019  
Awarded \$5,000 to develop an Academically Based Community Service Ethics Bowl Course with Dr. Karen Detlefsen to train undergraduate students as ethics bowl coaches for teams of students from local high schools.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Widening the Circle: Engaging Undergraduates with K-12 Students in Philosophical Practice**  
(Upcoming, 2024)  
Conference Organizer with Dr. Lee Franklin

**How Critical Thinking Education Fails to Prepare Students to Deal with Propaganda Campaign** 2024  
American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub - Discussant - New York, NY

**Philosophy in Middle School: New Directions and Initiatives** 2024  
American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub - Panel Organizer and Presenter - New York, NY

**Economic Mobility, Vocational Education, and the Narrowing of Educational Opportunity** 2023  
North American Association for Philosophy and Education Annual Conference - Paper Session - Mundelein, Illinois

**Advancing Children's Philosophy: Theory and Practice** 2023  
North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society Conference - Panelist - New York, New York

**Content vs. Practice in Public Philosophy** 2023  
Public Philosophy Network Conference - "Lightning Talk" - Santa Cruz, California

**Philosophy in Public High Schools: The PLATO Philosopher in Residence Program** 2023

Public Philosophy Network Conference - Panelist - Santa Cruz, California

**The Impact of Online School and Parental Surveillance on Teacher Ethical Decision-Making** 2023  
Philosophy of Education Society Annual Meeting - Work In Progress Session with Tatiana Geron -  
Chicago, Illinois

**Mentorship in Undemocratic Times: Supporting Professional Advancement and Political Risks in Education** 2023  
Philosophy of Education Society Annual Meeting - Panelist - Chicago, Illinois

**The Ethics of Schooling for Work: Vocational and Professional Education** 2022  
Philosophy, Politics and Economics Society Conference - Panelist - New Orleans, Louisiana

**Plenary Session on the Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Education** 2022  
North American Association for Philosophy and Education Annual Conference - Panelist with David  
Bakhurst, Lauren Bialystok, Harry Brighouse, Randall Curren, Johannes Drerup, Ben Kotzee, Tony  
Laden, and Bryan Warnick - Mundelein, Illinois

**Author Meets Critics - Spare the Rod: Punishment and the Moral Community of Schools, by  
Campbell Scribner and Bryan Warnick** 2022  
North American Association for Philosophy and Education Annual Conference - Critic- Mundelein,  
Illinois

**Author Meets Critics - Cancel Wars: Free Speech, Inclusion, and Democracy on College Campuses,  
by Sigal Ben-Porath** 2022  
North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society Conference - Panel Organizer and Chair - Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania

**Vocational Education, Economic Mobility, and the Narrowing of Educational Opportunity** 2022  
North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society Conference - Paper Session - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**The Ethics of Higher Education for Economic Mobility** 2022  
American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting - Paper Session - San Diego, California

**Vocationalism in U.S. Education: An Interdisciplinary Symposium** 2022  
American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting - Panelist/Co-Organizer - Paper Title: A  
Philosophical Framework for Vocational and Job Training in Education - San Diego, California

**Engaging in Pre-College Philosophy Through Writing** 2022  
American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting Teaching Hub - Panel Organizer and  
Presenter - Chicago, Illinois

**Democratic Equality and Higher Education: Moving from Access to Completion** 2021  
North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society - Paper Session - Burlington, Vermont

**The Problem of Higher Education for Economic Mobility** 2021  
Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Annual International Conference - Paper Session -  
Online

**Teaching Core Texts: Mary Wollstonecraft** 2021  
American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub - Panel Organizer - Online

**To Gain Time, or To Lose It? Time and Ethics in Education** 2020  
North American Association for Philosophy and Education Online Paper Sessions - Online

**Models of Philosophical Engagement with K-12 Students** 2020  
Philosophy of Education Society Annual Meeting - Panel Organizer/Member - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Penn's Project for Philosophy for the Young** 2020  
American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting Teaching Hub - Panel Member - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Beyond Academics: How Teachers Flourish Through Ethical Education** 2019  
North American Association for Philosophy and Education Conference - Paper Session - Mundelein, Illinois

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University Level**

#### **Research Supervision**

**Directed Honors Research** 2023/2024  
Supervised philosophy honors thesis of an undergraduate student in the field of philosophy of education.

**Master's Seminar in Education, Culture, and Society** 2020/2021, 2021/2022  
Supported small groups of students over the course of a year from conceptualization to completion of their MA thesis papers.

#### **University of Pennsylvania School of Arts and Sciences**

**Ethics and Education** 2024  
Undergraduate on educational ethics and ethical development of students; developed and taught course and syllabus.

**National High School Ethics Bowl (*Academically Based Community Service Course*)** 2023  
Undergraduate; re-developed syllabus and taught course; mentored and supervised students community service of coaching ethics bowl teams in local high schools.

**What is Education For?** 2023  
Undergraduate survey course of the philosophy of education; developed and taught course and syllabus.

**National High School Ethics Bowl (*Academically Based Community Service Course*)** 2019  
Undergraduate course; developed syllabus; co-taught class meetings; mentored and supervised students community service of coaching ethics bowl teams in local high schools.

#### **University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education**

**Ethics and Schools** 2022  
Master's level course; assisted in syllabus revision; co-taught class meetings; met with and supported students with course content, graded term papers.

**Education Law and Policy** 2020, 2021

Master's level course; co-developed syllabus; co-taught class meetings; met with and supported students with course content, graded term papers.

**Social Foundations of Education** (*Mid-Career Doctoral Program*) 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022  
Mid-Career Ed.D. course; assisted in syllabus revision; TA'd or co-taught class meetings; met with and supported students with course content, graded term papers.

### **K-12 Teaching**

**Mary McDowell Friends School** Brooklyn, New York  
5th Grade Special Education Assistant Teacher August 2015 - June 2018

**CAMBA Inc. School's Out New York City, Intermediate School 240** Brooklyn, New York  
Program Coordinator, Book Club Tutoring November 2014 - August 2015

**Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education** Seoul, South Korea  
English Teacher August 2012 - August 2014

**Del Mar Union School District After School Program** San Diego, California  
Site Supervisor October 2007 - September 2009  
After School/Summer Camp Staff Aug 2006 - Oct 2007, Sept 2011 - Aug 2012

### **Training**

**Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children - Montclair State University** 2016  
Nine Day residential seminar of training in the Lipman-Sharp Philosophy for Children method.

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Research Assistant to Dr. Sigal Ben-Porath** 2018-2023  
University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### **INVITED TALKS/PRESENTATIONS**

**"Facilitating Philosophical Dialogues with Pre-College Students"**  
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ  
Led a 2-day Training On the Community of inquiry Methodology (Upcoming, 2024)

**"Doing Philosophy with Children"**  
University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, P.A..  
Organizer and Panelist for Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium Public Issues Form 2023

**"Response to *Reconsidering Mobility* by Jennifer Morton"**  
Brookings Institute - Washington, D.C.  
Invited Discussant for "Opportunity after Neoliberalism Conference" 2023

**"Ethics, Ethical Case Studies, and Education"**  
University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education - Philadelphia, PA

Invited Lecturer for School Leadership Program	2023
<b>“Convening on Campus Conflict”</b> Hosted by the Aspen Institute and the Constructive Dialogue Institute Aspen Institute - Washington, D.C. Invited Participant	2022
<b>“Conference on Institutional Inequality in Higher Education”</b> University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Invited Participant	2022
<b>“The Ethics of Higher Education for Economic Mobility”</b> University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Invited Poster Presentation for Prospective Doctoral Students’ Weekend	2022
<b>“Kern Family Foundation Scholars in Character Convening”</b> Wake Forest University - Winston-Salem, North Carolina Invited Participant	2022
Summer 2023 Convening - Denver, Colorado Invited Participant	2023
<b>“Facilitating a Philosophical Community of Inquiry with High School Students”</b> Franklin and Marshall College - Lancaster, Pennsylvania Invited guest lecture by Dr. Lee Franklin to his Undergraduate Philosophy Course	2021
<b>“Character Education and Economic Mobility”</b> Invited Presentation for Kern Family Foundation Scholars in Character Research Exhibit	2021
<b>“Overview of the Lipman-Sharp Philosophy for Children Methodology”</b> University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Invited guest speaker by Michael Vazquez to speak to his <i>Public Philosophy</i> seminar	2020
Invited guest speaker by Dr. Karen Detlefsen to speak to her <i>Philosophy for the Young</i> course	2018

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

### **Peer Reviewing**

Journal of Social Philosophy	2024
Teaching and Teacher Education	2023
Teachers College Record	2022

### **Honors Program Examiner**

Swarthmore College Education Studies Department	2023
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### **Philosophy of Education Society Annual Meeting**

Moderator	2023
Student Volunteer	2019, 2020

<b>North American Association for Philosophy and Education</b>	
Member Proposal Review Committee	2021, 2022
Moderator	2022, 2023

<b>Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO)</b>	2022
Member Funding Application Review Committee	

<b>Philosophy of Education Society-Graduate Student Committee</b>	
Member of the Development and Committee Formation Group	2020-2021

<b>North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society Annual Conference</b>	
Proposal Reviewer, Session Chair	2019-2021

<b>North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society</b>	
Member-Constitutional Committee	2019

<b>Ethnography in Education Research Forum</b>	
Proposal Reviewer	2018, 2019

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

North American Association for Philosophy and Education	
Executive Committee Member	2023-Present
Program Committee Member	2023-Present

Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO)	
Academic Advisory Board Member	2021-Present
Research Committee Member	2021-Present

North Eastern Philosophy of Education Society	
Treasurer	2021-Present
Board Member At Large	2019-2021

American Philosophical Association	
Committee on Pre-College Instruction in Philosophy Member	2021-Present

**PRE-COLLEGE PHILOSOPHY**

<b>Penn’s Project for Philosophy for the Young</b>	2019-present
Developed and implemented a variety of workshops and activities with K-12 students in local schools.	

<b>Penn Provost’s Summer Mentorship Program, Penn Law</b>	2020, 2021
Developed and conducted programming for high school students based on National High School Ethics Bowl	

<b>‘Mighty Writers’ Philosophy of the Future</b>	2021
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Teacher- 6th grade Philosophy through Writing Workshop

**National High School Ethics Bowl**

**Philadelphia Regional High School Ethics Bowl - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania** 2020-present  
Founder and Organizer

**National High School Ethics Bowl Spring Workshop - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania** 2019  
Organizer

**Contributing National High School Ethics Bowl Case Writer** 2020-present

**Ethics Bowl Judging and Moderating**

**NHSEB National Finals**

Judge 2021

**NHSEB Bridge Bowl** - Online

Judge 2020

**Delaware Valley Regional Bowl** - Villanova, Pennsylvania

Judge 2018, 2019, 2021

**New York City Regional Bowl** - New York, New York

Co-Organizer 2018

Judge and Moderator 2016-2020

**National Middle School Ethics Bowl**

Member of Executive Committee 2020-present

Judge 2021

Case Writing Committee Member 2022-present

**Philadelphia Middle School Ethics Bowl - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania** 2022-present

Founder and Organizer

**Young Philosophers of NYC - New York, New York** 2016-2018

Philosophy for Children Program and Curriculum Development