

## THERESA L. LOPEZ

Department of Philosophy  
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**AOS** Ethics (esp. Metaethics), Moral Psychology

**AOC** Epistemology, Applied Ethics, Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Biology

### EDUCATION

University of Arizona 2006 – 2012 (expected)  
Ph.D. Philosophy, minor in Cognitive Science

University of Maryland, Baltimore County 2001 – 2005  
B.A. Biological Sciences  
B.A. Philosophy - Honors Thesis: “On Our Duties to Animals” Advisor: Susan Dwyer  
• *Cum Laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, Honors in Philosophy, Certificate of General Honors

### PUBLICATIONS

Nichols, S., Timmons, M., & Lopez, T. (forthcoming). Ethical Conservatism and the Psychology of Moral Luck. In M. Christen et al. (Eds.), *Empirically Informed Ethics: Morality Between Facts and Norms*. Springer.

Lopez, T., Zamzow, J., Gill, M., & Nichols, S. (2009). Side Constraints and the Structure of Commonsense Ethics. *Philosophical Perspectives*, 23, 1, 305-319.

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- University of Arizona Excellence in Social Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, 2011-2012
- Purdue University Summer Seminar on Perceptual, Moral, and Religious Skepticism, Selected Participant (One of fifteen junior scholars selected nationally for 2-week workshop and grant.), June 2011
- 2010-2011 Riesen Graduate Prize for Best Paper (“The Bayesian Mind: A Challenge for Moral Nativists”), University of Arizona, Department of Philosophy
- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Award for Best Graduate Student Paper (“Against the Evolutionary Argument for Moral Skepticism”), March 2011
- American Philosophical Association, Graduate Student Travel Award, April 2010
- Honorable Mention, Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, 2009

**DISSERTATION:** Against the Scientific Case for Moral Skepticism

**Committee:** Mark Timmons (director), Terry Horgan, Shaun Nichols

**Abstract:** Many philosophers who draw on the burgeoning scientific discoveries concerning the nature of moral evaluation – such as Richard Joyce and Jesse Prinz – appeal to these findings to fund broadly skeptical challenges. My dissertation looks to accommodate such scientific findings while ultimately vindicating core suppositions of our moral thought and discourse. In the course of defusing several prominent challenges, I pave the way for a defense of a realist form of ethical naturalism, according to which moral facts and requirements are thoroughly and systematically related to the more basic natural facts that science investigates and discovers.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **As Instructor**

The Moral Mind (Phil/Psy 348): Spring 2011

Medical Ethics (Phil 321): Summer 2010, Summer 2009

Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking (Phil 110): Fall 2008 (2 sections)

### **As Teaching Assistant**

Personal Morality – Issues in Applied Ethics (with Mark Timmons): Fall 2010 (Head TA), Spring 2010 (Head TA), Spring 2007

Philosophical Perspectives on the Individual: Spring 2008 (with Terry Horgan), Fall 2007 (with Shaun Nichols)

Contemporary Moral Issues: Fall 2005 (with Susan Dwyer)

## **PRESENTATIONS**

“Against the Evolutionary Argument for Moral Skepticism”

- Purdue University Summer Seminar on Perceptual, Moral, and Religious Skepticism, June 2011
- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, March 2011
- Society for Philosophy and Psychology (poster), Annual Meeting, June 2010

“Statistical Learning in Language Acquisition: Implications for Moral Psychology and the ‘Linguistic Analogy’”

- Colloquium on Moral Motives and Moral Nativism, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, April 2010
- Cognitive Science Colloquium, University of Arizona, January 2010

“Empirical Moral Psychology and Sentimentalism”

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Graduate Workshop in Ethics, Mind, and Brain, University of Miami, September 2009
- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, April 2009

“Psychological Models of Moral Judgment: What Causes Moral Intuitions?”

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Graduate Philosophy Conference, Western Michigan University, December 2008
- Society for Philosophy and Psychology (poster), Annual Meeting, June 2007

## **GRADUATE COURSEWORK**

### **Ethics and Value Theory**

Metaethics (Sentimentalism), Mark Timmons (audit) (Fall 2010)

Ancient Philosophy (Plato’s Moral and Political Philosophy), Rachana Kamtekar (Spring 2009)

Moral and Social Evolution, Gerald Gaus (Spring 2008)

Independent Study (Ethical Theory), Michael Gill (Spring 2008)

Metaethics (Moral Epistemology), Mark Timmons (Fall 2007)

Normative Ethics (Kant), Mark Timmons (Spring 2007)

Seminar on Moral Phenomenology, Mark Timmons (Fall 2006)

Seminar on Aesthetics, Keith Lehrer (Fall 2006)

## **Cognitive Science and Philosophy of Mind**

Natural Selection: Theory, Data, Models & Critiques, M. Piattelli-Palmarini (audit) (Fall 2010)  
Seminar on Moral Psychology, Shaun Nichols and Mark Timmons (Spring 2009)  
Introduction to Cognitive Science, Shaun Nichols (Spring 2009)  
Theories of Language Development, LouAnn Gerken (Fall 2008)  
Seminar on Philosophy of Mind (Free Will), Shaun Nichols (Spring 2007)  
Philosophy and Psychology, Shaun Nichols (Fall 2006)

## **Metaphysics and Epistemology**

Seminar on Epistemology, Stewart Cohen (Fall 2008)  
Theory of Knowledge, Terry Horgan (Fall 2007)  
Seminar on Causation, Laurie Paul (Fall 2007)  
Seminar on Philosophy of Mathematics (Abstract Objects), Shaughan Lavine (Fall 2006)

## **Other**

Decision Theory, Terry Horgan (Fall 2009)  
Research and Professionalization Seminar, Tom Christiano and Joseph Tolliver (Fall 2009)  
Seminar on Hume's *Treatise*, David Owen (Spring 2008)  
Philosophy of Biology, Richard Healy and Elizabeth Willott (Spring 2007)

## **SERVICE**

### **To the University of Arizona:**

Undergraduate Mentor, Assurance Scholarship Program, 2009-2010  
Graduate Representative to the Faculty, Department of Philosophy, 2009-2010  
Graduate Student Orientation Leader, Department of Philosophy: 2009, 2010, 2011  
Graduate Program Review Committee, Department of Philosophy, 2008-2009

### **To the Profession:**

Conference Assistant (to Mark Timmons), Arizona Workshop in Normative Ethics, 2010

## **MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Philosophical Association  
Society for Philosophy and Psychology  
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology

## **REFERENCES**

Mark Timmons  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
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520-621-7105

Terry Horgan  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
thorgan@u.arizona.edu  
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Shaun Nichols  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
sbn@u.arizona.edu

Marga Reimer (teaching reference)  
Associate Professor of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
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