

# YISHAI COHEN

University of Southern Maine  
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## EMPLOYMENT

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Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Liberal Studies, University of Southern Maine (2017 – present)

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.** Philosophy, Syracuse University (May 2016)

- **Dissertation** *Incompatibilist Alternative Possibilities*
- **Committee** Mark Heller (chair), Janice Dowell, André Gallois, John Martin Fischer (external member), Derk Pereboom (external member)

**B.A.** Philosophy, Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University (May 2010)

## INTERESTS

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**AOS** Philosophy of Agency, Philosophy of Religion, Ethics

**AOC** Metaphysics

## RESEARCH

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1. Forthcoming. “Deliberating in the Presence of Manipulation” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*
2. 2017. “Fischer’s Deterministic Frankfurt-Style Argument” *Erkenntnis* 82 (1): 121–140.
3. 2016. “Actualism Has Control Issues” (with Travis Timmerman) *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* 10 (3): 1–18.
4. 2016. “Moral Obligations: Actualist, Possibilist, or Hybridist?” (with Travis Timmerman) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 94 (4): 672–686.
5. 2016. “Leeway Compatibilism and Frankfurt-Style Cases” *Thought* 5 (2): 89–98.
6. 2016. “Counterfactuals of Divine Freedom” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 79 (3): 185–205.
7. 2015. “Endless Future: A Persistent Thorn in the *Kalām* Cosmological Argument” *Philosophical Papers* 44 (2): 165–187.
8. 2015. “The Manipulation, at the Very Least, Undermines Classical Compatibilism” *Philosophia* 43 (2): 291–307.
9. 2015. “Molinists (Still) Cannot Endorse the Consequence Argument” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 70 (3): 231–246.
10. 2015. “Reasons-Responsiveness and Time Travel” *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* (2015): 1–7. [Discussion Note]
11. 2015. “Agential-Settling Requires a Conscious Intention” *Journal of Cognition and Neuroethics* 3 (1): 140–155.

12. 2014. "Don't Count on Taurek: Vindicating the Case for the Numbers Counting" *Res Publica* 20 (3): 245–261.
13. 2013. "Skeptical Theism and the Threshold Problem", *Forum Philosophicum* 18 (1): 73–92.

## REVIEWS

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1. 2014. Review of Robert C. Roberts, *Emotions in the Moral Life*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013, *Faith and Philosophy* 31 (3): 337–40.

## POPULAR PHILOSOPHY

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1. "Actualism and Possibilism" (With Travis Timmerman) *The Philosopher's Magazine* 72: 107–108.

## IN PROGRESS

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1. "Atonement's Axiological Boundaries" (r&r, *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*)
2. "Can We Replace 'Ought' Implies 'Can'?" (under review)
3. "Virtue Ethics and Fundamentality" (under review) With Travis Timmerman
4. "Idolatry and the Curious Case of Space Baal" With Sean Clancy
5. "Self-Manipulation"

## PRESENTATIONS

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1. February 2017. "Can a Determinist Rationally Deliberate?" University of Southern Maine.
2. February 2016. "Theistic Modal Realism and Gratuitous Evil?" Ryerson University Philosophy of Religion Work-In-Progress Group.
3. September 2015. "Counterfactuals of Divine Freedom." Ryerson University Philosophy of Religion Work-In-Progress Group.
4. April 2015. "Virtue Ethics as a Substantive Normative Ethical Theory." (co-authored with Travis Timmerman) 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Felician Ethics Conference, Felician College.
5. February 2015. "A Grounding Solution to the Davidsonian Challenge." Colloquium Presentation, Pacific APA, Vancouver, British Columbia. Comments by Alfred Mele.
6. December 2014. "Manipulating Deliberators: a Challenge for Compatibilists, a Dilemma for Hard Incompatibilists." Colloquium Presentation, Eastern APA, Philadelphia, PA. Comments by Seth Shabo.
7. November 2014. "A Grounding Solution to the Davidsonian Challenge." Syracuse University Working Papers, Syracuse, NY.
8. November 2014. "Free Will Primitivism." Society of Christian Philosophers, Eastern Meeting, Lewiston, NY.
9. October 2014. "Agential Settling Requires Intentionality." Free Will conference at the Center for Cognition and Neuroethics, University of Michigan-Flint.
10. August 2014. "Normativity without Metaphysical Vagueness." (co-authored with Travis Timmerman) Poster session at the Seventh Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference, University of Colorado Boulder.

11. August 2014. "The Manipulation Argument, At the Very Least, Undermines Leeway Compatibilism." Free Will Summer School, Center for Consciousness Studies, Moscow.
12. April 2014. "Actualism's Ad Hoc Problem." (co-authored with Travis Timmerman) Colloquium Presentation, Pacific APA, San Diego, CA.
13. October 2013. "Dual Obligations Hybridism." (co-authored with Travis Timmerman) 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference, Pacific University/ June 2013. British Postgraduate Association Conference, University of Glasgow.
14. November 2012. "Street's Evolutionary Debunking Argument and Epistemic Possibility." Illinois Philosophical Association, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
15. November 2012. "Molinism's Divine Problems." Syracuse University Working Papers, Syracuse, NY.
16. March 2012. "Minimalism, Moral Realism, and Persons." Kent State Graduate Conference, Kent State University.
17. June 2012. "Skeptical Theism and the Threshold Problem." Annual Conference of the Australasian Philosophy of Religion Association, Australian Catholic University/ February 2012. 36th annual Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College.

## COMMENTS

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1. August 2014. Comments on David Killoren's "Robust Moral Realism: An Excellent Religion." Seventh Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference, University of Colorado Boulder.
2. April 2013. Comments on Andrew Jones' "Brutal Persistence." Syracuse Graduate Conference, Syracuse University.
3. April 2012. Comments on Melissa Frankel's "Berkeley on Divine Archetypes." Syracuse University.
4. February 2012. Comments on Tully Borland's & T. Allan Hillman's "God's Hiddenness, Coerced Persons, and the Threat of Moral Nihilism." 36th annual Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College.

## TEACHING

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### University of Southern Maine

- **PHI 290** Problems in Philosophy—Comparative Religion (Fall 2017)
- **PHI 291** Death and Dying (Fall 2017)

### Syracuse University

- **PHI 107** Theories of Knowledge and Reality (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)
- **PHI 383** (Online): Free Will (Summer 2015, Summer 2016, Summer 2017)
- **PHI 192** Intro to Moral Theory (Fall 2016)
- **PHI 197** Human Nature (Spring 2017)

### Monroe Community College

- **PHL 102** Introduction to Logic (Spring 2017)

## TEACHING ASSISTANT

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**PHI 107** Theories of Knowledge and Reality (Spring 2013)

**PHI 191** Ethics and Contemporary Issues (Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

**PHI 197** Human Nature (Spring 2012)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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Managing Editor, Philosophy TV (philostv.com) (2015 – present)

### *Conference Referee*

2012: Ohio Philosophical Association

### *Journal Referee*

2015: *Res Philosophica*, *Neuroethics*, *Philosophia*, *Philosophical Papers*

2016: *Thought*, *Synthese*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Dialogue*, *Analysis*

2017: *Utilitas*, *Philosophia*, *Religious Studies*

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

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Graduate Student President, Syracuse University Philosophy Department (2014–2015)

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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2016. All-University Doctoral Prize (Syracuse University)

2015. Syracuse University Graduate Fellowship

2015. Departmental Summer Research Fellowship (Syracuse)

2013. Departmental Summer Research Fellowship (Syracuse)

2012. Syracuse University Graduate Fellowship

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

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2015. Free Will Summer School, Center for Consciousness Studies of Moscow State University

2012, 2013. Analytic Theology Summer Workshop, Southern Methodist University

## AFFILIATIONS

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The American Philosophical Association

Society for Philosophy of Agency

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

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(\* indicates courses audited)

### ***Syracuse University***

Free Will

M. Heller (Fall 2013)

Metaethical Naturalism	H. Paakkunainen (Spring 2013)
Leibniz	K. McDaniel (Spring 2013)
Metaphysics	A. Gallois (Fall 2012)
Moral and Political Philosophy	H. Paakkunainen (Fall 2012)
Independent Study: Expressivism	H. Paakkunainen (Spring 2012)
Independent Study: Causation	M. Heller (Spring 2012)
History of Philosophy	K. Richardson (Spring 2012)
Husserl's Logical Investigations	K. McDaniel (Spring 2012)
Ontology	M. Heller (Fall 2011)
Lang/Epist/Mind/Metaphysics	A. Gallois (Fall 2011)
Logic and Language	T. McKay (Fall 2011)
<b>Cornell University</b>	
*Free Will	D. Pereboom (Fall 2013)
Metaphysics (On Grounding)	T. Sider (Spring 2013)
Metaphysics (On Properties)	T. Sider (Fall 2011)
<b>Rochester University</b>	
Causation	B. Weslake (Fall 2012)

## REFERENCES

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Mark Heller, *heller@syr.edu*  
 Professor of Philosophy, Syracuse University

André Gallois, *agallois@syr.edu*  
 Professor of Philosophy, Syracuse University

John Martin Fischer, *john.fischer@ucr.edu*  
 Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, UC Riverside

Derk Pereboom, *dp346@cornell.edu*  
 Stanford H. Taylor '50 Chair of the Sage School of Philosophy, Cornell University

Robert Van Gulick, *rvangul@syr.edu* (Teaching Reference)  
 Professor of Philosophy, Syracuse University