

Ellis (“Ellie”) Riggsbee
CURRICULUM VITAE

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Academic Interests

Philosophy

Epistemology, social epistemology; philosophy of language, context-sensitivity, logic; testimony, trust, and evidence; applied ethics (including data and AI ethics); philosophy of action, decision theory

Economics

Microeconomics, market failures, decision and game theory; behavioral economics, labor markets; international economics

EDUCATION

2025– The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

Ph.D. student in Philosophy

First Semester Coursework (Fall 2025):

- PHIL 417: Logic, Computation and Learning
- PHIL 578: Philosophy of Law and Social Theory Colloquium
- PHIL 597: First Year Proseminar
- PHIL 601: Grounding, Reasons, and Explanation

Second Semester Coursework (Winter 2026):

- PHIL 413: Formal Methods
- PHIL 485: Philosophy of Action
- PHIL 535: Contemporary Metaphysics (Plenitude)
- PHIL 611: Philosophy of Trust

2020–2024 The University of North Carolina

Chapel Hill, NC

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Minor in Spanish for the Legal Professions

Degrees Conferred (*with Distinction*): May, 2024

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Relevant Coursework:

- PHIL 155H (*Honors*): Intro to Mathematical Logic
- PHIL 335: Theory of Knowledge
- PHIL 392 (*Ethics Scholar Capstone*): Ethics Research Seminar for Undergraduates
- PHIL 745 (*Graduate-Level*): Philosophy of Language: Context Sensitivity
- PHIL 765 (*Graduate-Level*): Value Theory: Morality and Partiality

AWARDS AND HONORS

2024

The Worth Award

Department of Philosophy, *The University of North Carolina*

- Awarded to the most outstanding graduating senior in philosophy, based on sustained excellence in coursework, faculty recommendation, and contributions to the undergraduate philosophy community.
- “*Ellie has demonstrated remarkable passion and talent for philosophy, excelling in class discussions and producing outstanding papers. Her leadership within the Parr Center for Ethics further underscores her valuable contributions.*”

2024

Ethics Scholar

The Parr Center for Ethics, *The University of North Carolina*

- Received Ethics Scholar designation upon graduation, recognizing sustained engagement with ethical reflection, leadership, and team-based project work
- Completed designation requirements of intensive ethical coursework, leadership in student-led ethical initiatives, and significant co-curricular involvement, culminating in one of the few official transcript designations available at UNC.

2023

The Leshner Fund

Department of Philosophy, *The University of North Carolina*

- Awarded full funding (\$2,615) for attendance at the 2023 Boulder Summer Seminar in Philosophy, in support of admission, through the generosity of James and Eleanor Leshner.

2021-2024

Honors Carolina

The University of North Carolina

- Selected for admission to the university’s Honors College in recognition of academic excellence and intellectual promise.

PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2026 Northeastern AI and Data Ethics (AIDE) Summer Research Program

Northeastern University

Dr. Katie Creel and Dr. John Basl

- Participated in weekly seminars on the ethics of AI and data science, engaging closely with interdisciplinary readings and cohort discussion
- Attended interdisciplinary talks by visiting researchers working across philosophy, computer science, and technology policy
- Completed Stanford's Code in Place (an introductory Python course) before the program, culminating in a final project (mine was an interactive Newcomb's problem simulator)
- Developing a final research paper on trust in large language models (LLMs)

Spring 2024 Research Assistant, Ethics & Education Research Project

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Michael Vazquez

- Qualitatively analyzed middle school student responses to ethical dilemmas to consistently track ethical reasoning and intellectual humility when introduced to various moral dilemmas, in coordination with research team
- Gained hands-on experience in data coding, pattern recognition, and the real-world implications of philosophy and education

2023 Colorado Summer Seminar in Philosophy

The University of Colorado, Boulder

- Selected for admission to a competitive three-week seminar for advanced undergraduates considering graduate school in philosophy
- Engaged in graduate-level seminars and discussions, exploring complex philosophical topics alongside faculty and nineteen peers
- Gained exposure to graduate study dynamics through daily workshops on graduate school applications and diversity in philosophy

Fall 2023 Independent Research in Ethics

PHIL 392, *The University of North Carolina*

- Critically analyzed consequentialist moral theories, applying them to contemporary moral questions about true crime entertainment
- Demonstrated advanced argumentative skills through literature review, source analysis, peer workshops, and final course paper presentation

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2026 Graduate Student Assistant

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, part-time

Dr. Sarah Buss

- Supported Professor Sarah Buss in PHIL 485 (Philosophy of Action), grading and evaluating undergraduate exams and written work
- Held supplementary office hours to help students work through course material and prepare for exams
- Sat in on and participated in student presentations connecting philosophy of action to current events and arts/media

2025–2026 Tutor for ESL Students, Ringle Inc.

Remote, part-time

- Lead one-on-one lessons with international professionals and students of varying ages, creating an encouraging environment that fosters confidence and fluency in English-speaking
- Teach natural and context-appropriate expressions while adapting instruction on the fly to match each learner's goals, proficiency, and communication style
- Provide individualized written feedback after each session, focusing on grammar, vocabulary, tone, and clarity to support measurable progress over time
- Completed over 100 lessons and consistently received 5-star evaluations from the vast majority of students, reflecting strong pedagogical impact and cross-cultural communication skills

2023–2024 Economics Tutor

Independent, part-time

- Hired by fellow students, typically freshmen and new economics majors, when needed to clarify complex economic models and concepts

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

2023-2024 **Co-Executive Member**, Ethics Education Pod
The Parr Center for Ethics, *The University of North Carolina*

- Developed and facilitated intergenerational discussions of ethics between UNC students and residents of local senior centers throughout academic year
- Created reading groups and proposed on- and off-campus ethics events alongside co-executive (a fellow student) and faculty advisor Dr. Michael Vazquez.

Spring 2023 **Executive Member**, Speaker Series Pod
The Parr Center for Ethics, *The University of North Carolina*

- Led a small group of Ethics Fellows in the inaugural Speaker Series pod alongside faculty advisor Sarah Stroud
- Organized and facilitated weekly discussions of academic readings corresponding with events on contemporary philosophical issues directed by local and visiting philosophers
- Served as a liaison between student members and Parr Center faculty

2023-2024 **Undergraduate Intern**, Orange County Office of the District Attorney
Hillsborough, North Carolina

- Drafted and dispatched individualized letters to victims of crimes, requesting their victim impact statements to be utilized as evidence in court hearings
- Supported legal assistants by communicating with law enforcement, creating and organizing digital and physical case files, and filing closed case files
- Improved accessibility by collecting and organizing crucial discovery documents into digitized files for efficient trial preparation
- Entrusted with confidential and sensitive documents

2020-2021 **Senior Writer**, The Daily Tar Heel
The University of North Carolina

- Wrote and published several original articles through student newspaper about the diverse artistic and cultural events/phenomena on and around UNC's campus (see <https://www.dailytarheel.com/staff/ellis-riggsbee>)
- Quickly promoted from staff writer to senior writer for the Arts and Culture desk (eventually, the Arts and Culture beat of the City & State desk)
- Scheduled and conducted several source interviews weekly, in-person and virtually

SKILLS

Languages English (Native)
Spanish (Proficient)

Technical R Studio
Basic python

Statistics
Calculus
Economic Modeling

Microsoft Excel
Microsoft PowerPoint
Microsoft Word

Pro Tools
Musical Composition