Adam Kadlac
Curriculum Vitae

B314 Tribble Hall
Philosophy Department
Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, NC 27109

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Academic Appointments

Teaching Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, 2021-Present
Associate Teaching Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, 2016-2021
Assistant Teaching Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, 2012-2016
Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of Tennessee, 2009-2012
Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of Virginia, 2008-2009
Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, 2007-2009

Education

Ph.D., University of Virginia, August 2007
Dissertation: *The Value of Persons*
Dissertation Advisor: Talbot Brewer

M.A., University of Virginia, January 2006

B.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 1998
Major in Philosophy and History; awarded with distinction.

Areas of Specialization and Competence

AOS: Ethics, Political Philosophy

AOC: Applied Ethics

Books

The Magic Kingdom and the Meaning of Life (Polity Press, 2025).

The Ethics of Sports Fandom (Routledge, 2022).
Reviewed in *Journal of Moral Philosophy*.

Book Chapters

"The Professor as Fan," *College Sports Ethics*, edited by Chad Carlson and Shawn Klein (Bloomsbury, 2025): 145-166.

"Appreciating the Not-Obviously-Beautiful Game," *The Aesthetics, Poetics, and Rhetoric of Soccer*, edited by Ridvan Askin, Aline Bieri, and Catherine Diederich (Routledge, 2018): 44-61.

"Contemplating the Start of Someone," *The Oxford Handbook of Reproductive Ethics,* edited by Leslie Pickering Francis (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017): 551-570.

Journal Articles

"Fostering Hope in the Face of Death," *Clinical Ethics* 15 (2020): 167-174.

"The Challenge of Authenticity: Enhancement and Accurate Self-Presentation," *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 35 (2018): 790-808.

"Hope(s) and Hopefulness," *American Philosophical Quarterly* 54 (2017): 209-222.

"Does it Matter Whether We Do Wrong?" *Philosophical Studies* 172 (2015): 2279-2298.

"The Virtue of Hope," *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 18 (2015): 337-354.

"Flouting the Demands of Justice?: Physician Participation in Executions," *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 52 (2014): 139-162.

"Sincerity, Solidarity, and Deliberative Commitment," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 52 (2014): 139-62.

"Empiricism and Moral Status," *Social Theory and Practice* 39 (2013): 397-421.

"Irreplaceability and Identity," *Social Theory and Practice* 38 (2012): 33-54.

"The Importance of Arguing as We Believe," *Public Affairs Quarterly* 25 (2011): 63-80.

"Humanizing Personhood," *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 13 (2010): 421-437.

"What's So Bad About Politicizing?" *Public Affairs Quarterly* 23 (2009): 227-44.

"Acceptance, Belief, and Descartes's Provisional Morality," *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 10 (2007): 35-52.

Essays, Commentaries, and Reviews

"The ethics of having a good time at Walt Disney World, Florida," *Psyche*, November 9, 2026.

"As an American, should you feel guilty about rooting against the US in the World Cup?" *The Conversation*, June 5, 2026.

"Why do some people treat the Magic Kingdom and Disney adults like cultural abominations?" *The Conversation*, March 27, 2026. (Published as "We shouldn't treat Disney adults like cultural abominations" in the *Los Angeles Times*, March 26, 2026. Published in French as "Pourquoi les adultes qui adorent les parcs d'attractions Disney sont-ils si souvent victimes de préjugés?" for the French edition of *The Conversation*, April 7, 2026.)

"Turning to Disney in a World of Trouble," *Polity Blog*, September 2025.

"Romantic Love in *Why It's OK to be a Sports Fan*," Book Symposium on Alfred Archer and Jake Wojtowicz's *Why it's OK to be a Sports Fan* in *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy* (2024): 1–35.

"In Defense of Princess Culture," *The Raven,* Spring 2022.

"Hope at a Crossroads," *How We Know What We Know: Humanities Responds to the Pandemic* (Wake Forest Humanities Institute, 2020): 68-71.

Review of Stephen Mumford, *Football: The Philosophy Behind the Game*, *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport* 47 (2020): 146-150.

"Appreciating Uncertainty and Personal Preference in Genetic Testing," *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics* 5 (2015): 245-249.

Review of Gary Varner, *Personhood, Ethics, and Animal Cognition* in *The Journal of Moral Philosophy* 12 (2015): 247-250.

Review of Christian Smith, *What is a Person?* in *The Journal of Moral Philosophy* 10 (2013): 555-557.

Review of Christine Korsgaard, *The Constitution of Agency* in *The Philosophical Quarterly* 60 (2010): 427-29.

Review of David Schmidtz, *Elements of Justice* in *The Hedgehog Review*, "Human Dignity and Justice" (vol. 9, no. 3, Fall 2007).

Volumes Edited

The Hedgehog Review, "Human Dignity and Justice" (vol. 9, no. 3, Fall 2007) (Guest Co-Editor with Joshua Yates).

Presentations

"Fandom and Escape," Ethics of Fandom Workshop; Bern, Switzerland, June 2026.

"The Pleasures and Politics of Standing in Line," Wake Forest Department of Philosophy Colloquium; Winston Salem, NC, February 2025.

"Comments on *Why It's OK to be a Sports Fan*," International Association for the Philosophy of Sport Conference; Split, Croatia, September 2023.

"A Good Life Wasted?: My journey to (and through) *The Ethics of Sports Fandom*," Braswell Philosophy Society Conference; Winston Salem, NC, March 2023.

"Sporting Stress and the Relativity of Refuge," The Refuge of Football Conference; Kiel, Germany, September 2022.

"Cosmopolitan Fandom," The Art of Football International Conference; Dublin, Ireland, July 2019.

"It's Just a Game (and That's More Than Enough)," Writing Football Conference; Dortmund, Germany, July 2018.

"The Objectification of Athletes," Rethinking Community Conference; Winston Salem, NC, October 2017; Davidson College, February 2018

"Watching Football in the Age of Concussions," The Beautiful Game Workshop; Winston Salem, NC, July 2017.

"Appreciating the Not-Obviously-Beautiful Game," The Beautiful Game Conference; Basil, Switzerland, July 2016.

"Destroying Hope," Hope and Optimism Workshop; University of Notre Dame, April 2016.

"Against Phoniness: Enhancement, Authenticity, and Self-Creation," Enhancing Responsibility Conference; Delft, The Netherlands, August 2014.

"Flouting the Demands of Justice?: Physician Participation in Executions," University of Wisconsin-Parkside, March 2012.

"Flouting the Demands of Justice?: Physician Participation in Executions," American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting (Main Program); Minneapolis, MN, March 2011.

"The Importance of Arguing as We Believe," University of Tennessee, November 2009.

"Inquiry, Evaluative Commitment, and Attributions of Personhood," Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, April 2007.

Comments on Gregory Schaefer, "A Strong, Yet Strongly Intuitive, Form of Internalism," University of Virginia Philosophy Retreat, October 2006

"Moral Vision and Moral Disagreement: A Critique of Projectivism," Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology; Charleston, SC, April 2006.

"Elenchus as Soulcraft: The Case of Callicles," Midsouth Philosophy Conference; Memphis, TN, February 2006.

Comments on Kelvin Booth, "The Creativity of *Phusis*," Midsouth Philosophy Conference; Memphis TN, February 2006.

"Callicles and the Challenge of Alternative Moralism," Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology; Durham, NC, March 2005.

Teaching

Courses taught:

At Wake Forest University:

Disability, Justice, and the Good Life (PHI 361)
The Idea of America (FYS 100)
Sports and Society (FYS 100)
Basic Problems in Philosophy (PHI 111)
Introduction to Bioethics (PHI 161)
Contemporary Moral Problems (PHI 164)
Democracy (PHI 280)

Hobbes's Leviathan (PHI 342)
Ethics (PHI 360)
Social and Political Philosophy (PHI 362)
Freedom, Action, and Responsibility (PHI 364)

At the University of Tennessee:

Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL 101)
Business Ethics (PHIL 243)
Bioethics (PHIL 246)
Social and Political Philosophy (PHIL 290)
The Virtues (PHIL 300)
Ethical Theory (PHIL 340)
Philosophical Foundations of Democracy (PHIL 390)

At the University of Virginia:

Truth (PHIL 162)
Church and State (PHIL 163)
Facts and Values (PHIL 164)
Happiness and the Good Life (PHIL 254)
Free Will (PHIL 265)
Contemporary Ethics (PHIL 352)
Objectivity and Ethics (PHIL 454)

Independent Study and Thesis Supervision

Sally Lu, 2024, Wake Forest (URECA Summer Grant: Physician-Assisted Suicide)
Nate McGrath, 2022-23, Wake Forest (Honors Thesis: Markets and Morality)
Rabab Meghani, 2022-23, Wake Forest (Honors Thesis: Free Will)
Liat Klopuh, 2021-22, Wake Forest (Honors Thesis: Research Ethics)
Elliott Powers, Spring 2022, Wake Forest (Solidarity)
Abigail Bowman, 2018-19, Wake Forest University (Honors Thesis: Kantian Ethics)
Shannon Moryl, 2018-19, Wake Forest University (Honors Thesis: Education)
Kevin Chapman, 2016-17, Wake Forest (Honors Thesis: Military Ethics)
Jonna Rausola, 2015-16, Wake Forest (Honors Thesis: Ethics of Enhancement)
Abby McCall, 2015-16, Wake Forest (Honors Thesis: Ethics of Enhancement)
Brandon Woodmancy, Spring 2012, University of Tennessee (Moral Luck)
Robert Davies, Spring 2012, University of Tennessee (Honors Thesis: Sports Ethics)
Michael Herald, Fall 2011, University of Tennessee (Foundations of U.S. Politics)
Matthew Reese, Spring 2011, University of Tennessee (Character)
Houston Sanders, Spring 2011, University of Tennessee (Medical Ethics)
Gabriel Villareal, Summer 2010, University of Tennessee (Friendship)

Awards and Fellowships

Dunn-Riley Faculty Fellowship from Wake Forest University, Summer 2022-Summer 2025

New Course Development Grant from the Humanities Institute at Wake Forest University, Summer 2023 ($2000)

Summer Short-Term Writing Grant from the Humanities Institute at Wake Forest University, Summer 2020 ($500)

Research Grant from the Center for Bioethics, Health, and Society and the Eudaimonia Institute at Wake Forest University, Summer 2017 ($5000)

Research Grant from the Center for Bioethics, Health, and Society at Wake Forest University, Summer 2015 ($5000)

Research Grant from the Center for Bioethics, Health, and Society at Wake Forest University, Summer 2014 ($3500)

Wake Forest University Writing Associate, Spring/Summer 2014

Course Development Grant from the Center for Bioethics, Health and Society at Wake Forest University, Summer 2013 ($3500).

Associate Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, 2004-2007.

Robert J. Huskey Travel Fellowship, University of Virginia, February 2006 ($250).

Acton Institute Essay Competition: Third Place for "Societal Flourishing and the Inner Lives of Others," January 2005 ($500).

Activities and Service

To the profession

Referee for *American Journal of Bioethics*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Asian Bioethics Review*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Constellations*, *Ergo*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *The Journal of Applied Philosophy*, *The Journal of Clinical Ethics*, *The Journal of Ethics*, *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport*, *Journal of Social Philosophy, The Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Social Theory and Practice*, *TheoLogica*, *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*, Oxford University Press, Routledge

Session chair: Pacific APA (March 2016); Character Project Conference (June 2013)

At Wake Forest University

Committee of the Faculty, 2026-Present

Promotion Committee for Teaching Faculty, 2022-2023, 2026-2027

Co-Director of the Wake Forest Disability Studies Initiative, 2021-Present

Lower Division Student Adviser, 2013-2025

Online Education Committee, 2022-2025

Faculty Advisor for Wake Forest Special Needs Organization, 2022-2024

Committee on Academic Planning, 2023-2024

Social Media Coordinator, Department of Philosophy, 2013-2020

Faculty Advisor for Philomathesian Society, 2021-2022

Peer Learning Community Facilitator (in preparation for online and hybrid teaching in the Fall 2020 semester), Summer 2020

Senior Orations Committee, 2019-2021

Dean of the College's Teaching Professional Task Force, 2019-21

Outside Reader on M.A. Theses:
Michael Hanimirian (Bioethics-2018)
Stephanie McKee (Psychology-2015)

Second Reader on Philosophy Department Honors Theses:
Kneshia Barlow (2023)
Ben Remis; Bowen Zheng (2022)
Dylan Brown; Kaleb Gorman; Taylor Schumpert; Mary Glen West (2020)
Ben Campbell; Leeden Rukstalis; Martin Tan; Sarah Kate Thomas (2019)
Brandon Hawkins (2018)
Rachel Bradley (2016)
Robyn Lessans (2015)
Alex Stanley (2015)

Outside Reader on Independent Major Thesis:
Gabrielle Shea (Ethics and Public Policy-2016)

Visiting Speakers Committee, Department of Philosophy, 2013-2015; 2017-2019; 2023-2025

Campus Day Presentation for Admitted Students, 2014; 2017; 2018

At The University of Virginia

Jefferson Scholars Seminar Leader, March 2009

Publications Assistant, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, 2008-2009
Spring Colloquium Coordinator, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, 2006-2007

Philosophy Club Co-President, 2004-05

References

Available upon request