

# Eric J. Scarffe

## *Curriculum Vitae*

Florida International University  
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**AOS:** Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law

**AOC:** Ethics, Medical Ethics, Philosophy of Biology

### SELECT EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Florida International University	2020-Present
Instructor, Boston University	2019-2020
Instructor, Yukon College	2016, 2018
Trade Policy Researcher, UNIFOR	2018
Online Course Developer, Yukon College	2016

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### EDUCATION

PhD, Philosophy, Boston University, Dissertation: "Moving Toward a Dignity-Based Approach to International Law." Committee: Rachell Powell (advisor); Hugh Baxter; Allen Buchanan; David Lyons.	2020
Visiting Scholar, University of Arizona	2020
MA, Philosophy, York University	2015
BA Honors with Subsidiary, St. Francis Xavier University	2014

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### PUBLICATIONS

1. Forthcoming. "Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law," *Jus Cogens*.
2. Forthcoming. "Dignitary Harms and Abortion Law," *the American Journal of Bioethics*.
3. 2021. "Legal Positivism and Transnational Law," *Oxford Handbook of Transnational Law*, with Michael Giudice.
4. 2019. "Response to commentaries on Powell/Scarffe feature article," *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 45(9), p. 597-598, with R. Powell. doi: 10.1136/medethics-2019-105745.
5. 2019. "Rehabilitating 'Disease': Function, Value, and Objectivity in Medicine," *Philosophy of Science*, 86(5), p. 1-11, with R. Powell.
6. 2019. "Rethinking 'Disease': A Fresh Diagnosis and a New Philosophical Treatment," *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 45(9), p. 579-588, with R. Powell. (Featured Article with 4 Replies) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/medethics-2019-105465>.
7. 2016. "'A New Philosophy for International Law' and Dworkin's Political Realism," *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence*, 29(1). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/cjlj.2016.7>.

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### SELECT PRESENTATIONS

1. 2022. "On Dignity and Abortion." Wofford College.\*

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\* Invited

2. 2022. "Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law." South Carolina Society for Philosophy.
3. 2022. "Epistemic Uncertainty and Data-Driven Policy." Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.
4. 2022. "The Concept of Dignity." Florida Philosophical Association.
5. 2021. "The Paradox of State Sovereignty: A Call for Revision." Canadian Philosophical Association.
6. 2021. "Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law." American Philosophical Association (Central Division).\*
7. 2021. "Impartiality isn't Impartial: Gender, Race, Law and Science." Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (with Katherine Valde).
8. 2020. "The Paradox of State Sovereignty: A Call for Revision." Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.
9. 2020. "A Dignity-Based Account of State Sovereignty: New Tools to Resolve the Paradox." Poster. American Philosophical Association (Central Division).
10. 2020. "The Paradox of State Sovereignty: A Call for Revision." Colloquium Paper. American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division).
11. 2019. "New Tools to Resolve the Paradox: A Dignity-Based Account of State Sovereignty," Northeastern Political Science Association.
12. 2019. "Rethinking the Paradox of State Sovereignty with a Dignity-Based Account of International Law." Colloquium Paper. Canadian Philosophical Association.
13. 2019. "Moving Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law." New York State Political Science Association.
14. 2019. Three Minute Thesis Competition, Boston University.
15. 2019. "Moving Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law." Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.
16. 2019. "Moving Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law." Symposium paper. American Philosophical Association (Central Division).
17. 2018. "Reflecting on a Legacy: Justice Kennedy's Jurisprudence of Dignity." Ethics and Political, Social and Legal Annual Conference.
18. 2018. "Rehabilitating 'Disease': Function, Value, and Objectivity in Medicine." Philosophy of Science Association.

19. 2018. “And Now the Why: Bringing Human Rights Under a General Theory of International Law.” Colloquium paper. Canadian Jacques Maritain Association (Canadian Philosophical Association meeting).
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**SELECT AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Doctoral Fellowship, <i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</i> (C\$60,000)	2018-2020
Dissertation Fellowship, <i>Boston University</i> (US\$11,500)	2020
Best Formal Paper by a Graduate Student, “Moving Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law,” <i>Association for Practical and Professional Ethics</i> (US\$500)	2019
3 Minute Thesis Competition Winner, <i>Boston University</i> (US\$581)	2019
Deans’ Fellowship, <i>Boston University</i> (US\$21,500)	2016-2017
Graduate Entrance Scholarship in Philosophy, <i>York University</i> (C\$6,000)	2014-2015
Graduate Scholarship, <i>York University</i> (C\$3,000)	2014-2015
Travel Grants	
<i>Hayek Fund, Institute for Humane Studies</i> (US\$500)	2020
<i>American Philosophical Association</i> (Eastern Division) (US\$300)	2020
<i>American Philosophical Association</i> (Central Division) (US\$300)	2019
<i>Boston University Graduate Student Organization</i> (US\$500)	2019
<i>Boston University Philosophy Department</i> (US\$794)	2019
<i>Boston University Philosophy Department</i> (US\$594)	2018
<i>National Science Foundation</i> (US\$242)	2018

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**COURSES TAUGHT AS AN INSTRUCTOR**

Florida International University

    Philosophy of Law

    Biomedical Ethics

    Introduction to Ethics

Boston University

    Philosophy, Law, and Society

    Medical Ethics

Yukon College

    Introduction to Political Theory

**ONLINE COURSES DEVELOPED**

Florida International University

Philosophy of Law  
Biomedical Ethics  
Introduction to Ethics

Submitted for HQ Certification  
HQ Certified  
Submitted for HQ Certification

Yukon College  
Introduction to Political Theory

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### WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Toward a Dignity-Based Account of International Law (R&R).
  2. Reflecting on a Legacy: Justice Kennedy's Jurisprudence of Dignity (under review).
  3. A Dignity-Based Account of State Sovereignty: New Tools to Resolve the Paradox (drafted).
  4. 'Impartiality' isn't Impartial: Gender, Race, Law and Science (in prep).
  5. A New Concept of Dignity (in prep).
  6. Toward a Genuine Pluralism: Judging in Law and Science (in prep).
  7. Thinking About 'it' in the Right Way: Knowledge in Mathematics, Ethics and Law (in prep).
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### SERVICE

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|---|--------------|
| 1. Vice-President   | 2021-Present |
| 2. Bargaining Team Member UFF-FIU   | 2021-Present |
| 3. Union Senator UFF-FIU  | 2020-Present |
| 4. Judge, Ethics Bowl   | 2022         |
| 5. Referee, Journal of Medical Ethics                                     | 2020         |
| 6. Referee, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics             | 2019-Present |
| 7. Organizing Committee, Boston University Graduate Workers Union         | 2019-2020    |
| 8. Referee, Boston University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grants | 2019-2020    |
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### DISSERTATION SUMMARY

Since the end of World War II there has been a rapid proliferation of international law and international legal institutions. Once limited to issues in maritime and trade law, today the most recognizable examples of international law govern issues such as human rights, intellectual property, crimes against humanity and armed conflicts. In many ways, this proliferation has been a welcomed development. However, when coupled with international law's decentralized structure, this rapid proliferation has also posed problems for how we (and in particular judges) identify if, when, and where international law exists. This dissertation puts forward a novel, dignity-based account for how we answer these questions. The upshot of my account is two-fold. First, it explains many features of international law that other theories leave unaccounted for or under-explained. And second, my dignity-based account provides for a mechanism through which the system can continue to be developed and improved.

**LANGUAGES:** French (intermediate reading; beginner speaking)

### REFERENCES

Rachell Powell (advisor)  
Professor of Philosophy  
Boston University  
powell@bu.edu

Michael Giudice  
Associate Professor of Philosophy  
York University  
giudice@yorku.ca

Hugh Baxter (committee)  
Professor of Law  
Professor of Philosophy  
Boston University  
hbaxter@bu.edu

Allen Buchanan (committee)  
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David Lyons (committee)  
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Juliet Floyd (teaching)  
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