

curriculum vitae of

# Petra Kosonen

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## AREAS OF INTEREST

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**AOS:** Normative and Applied Ethics, Decision Theory

**AOC:** Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Metaethics

## EMPLOYMENT

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2022 – present

**Postdoctoral Fellow**

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

- I'm a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Population Wellbeing Initiative at the University of Texas at Austin

## EDUCATION

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2017 – 2022

**DPhil** in Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

- Thesis: Tiny Probabilities of Vast Value
- Supervisors: Andreas Mogensen and Teruji Thomas

2016 – 2017

**MSc** in Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

- Dissertation grade: 88
- Received a prize for the best master's dissertation in the School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences

2011 – 2016

**MA** in Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

- Graduated with a First Class Honours degree
- Received James Thomson Bursary in General Philosophy and Frances Melville Medal and Prize

## PUBLICATIONS

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1. Kosonen, Petra. (2021). Discounting Small Probabilities Solves the Intrapersonal Addition Paradox. *Ethics*, 132(1), pp. 204–217.
2. Do Lefty and Righty Matter More than Lefty Alone? Equal co-authorship with Johan E. Gustafsson. Forthcoming in *Erkenntnis*.

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 UNPUBLISHED WORK
 

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1. **Bounded Utilities and Ex Ante Pareto.**
2. **How to Discount Small Probabilities.**
3. **Tiny Probabilities and the Value of the Far Future.**
4. **Expected Utility Theory and Possible States of Zero Probability.**
5. **Probability Discounting and Money Pumps.**
6. **Overview of Fanaticism (thesis introduction).**
7. **Prudential Longtermism.** Equal co-authorship with Johan E. Gustafsson.
8. **Ignore Outlandish Possibilities.** Equal co-authorship with Tomi Francis.

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 AWARDS
 

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2017	<b><i>School Dissertation Prize</i></b> Awarded to the student who received the highest master's dissertation result in the school of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences.	UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
2017	<b><i>Highly Commended Dissertation Prize</i></b> Awarded to any student who received a master's dissertation result of 80 or above.	UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
2015	<b><i>Frances Melville Medal and Prize</i></b> Granted for the most distinguished candidate in the honours group of mental philosophy.	UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
2013 and 2014	<b><i>James Thomson Bursary in General Philosophy</i></b> Granted for distinction in the ordinary classes of general and moral philosophy.	UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

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 PRESENTATIONS
 

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November 2022	<b>Unbounded Utility in Ethics and Decision Theory</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Bounded Utilities and Ex Ante Pareto</li> </ul>	AUSTIN, TEXAS
December 2021	<b>8th Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research (by invitation)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Tiny Probabilities and the Value of the Far Future</li> </ul>	OXFORD (ONLINE)
December 2020	<b>5th Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research (by invitation)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Prudential Longtermism</li> <li>• With Johan E. Gustafsson</li> </ul>	OXFORD (ONLINE)
March 2020	<b>Slippery Slope Normativity Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: A Lexical Solution to the Intrapersonal Addition Paradox</li> </ul>	LILLEHAMMER, NORWAY

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 TEACHING EXPERIENCE
 

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For the following courses, I chose the topics covered in tutorials, assigned the readings for them from a faculty reading list, and decided the weekly essay questions.

2021	<i>Ethics</i>	ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE, OXFORD
	I taught one-on-three tutorials on ethics.	
2021	<i>Practical Ethics</i>	ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE, OXFORD
	I taught practical ethics tutorials for one student.	
2021	<i>Theory of Politics</i>	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD
	I taught one-on-one and one-on-two tutorials on political philosophy for three students.	
2021	<i>Philosophy of Science</i>	UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
	I taught one-on-three tutorials on philosophy of science.	
2020	<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i>	SARAH LAWRENCE PROGRAMME, OXFORD
	I taught tutorials on Mill's utilitarianism, free will and ancient philosophy for one student.	

## MARKING EXPERIENCE

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2021	<i>Ethics</i>	UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
	I marked and gave feedback for four students on their ethics mock exams.	
2021	<i>Philosophy of Science</i>	UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
	I marked and gave feedback for one student on a philosophy of science mock exam.	

## GRANTS

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2021	<i>Open Philanthropy Project Scholarship Program</i>	PALO ALTO, CA
	The purpose of this scholarship program is to support individuals who are pursuing study or research in a focus area that is important to Open Philanthropy's mission.	
2019 and 2020	<i>The Forethought Foundation for Global Priorities Research</i>	OXFORD
	The Forethought Foundation promotes academic work that addresses the question of how to use our scarce resources to improve the world by as much as possible.	
2017, 2019 & 2020	<i>The Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation</i>	HELSINKI
	The Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation is a non-profit cultural foundation that supports science, art, and other societal activity. They support my doctoral studies.	

## OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

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Summer	<i>Early Career Conference Programme</i>	GLOBAL PRIORITIES INSTITUTE, OXFORD
	The Early Career Conference Programme is a summer research programme in economics and philosophy in which participants develop and present fundamental research on how to do the most good.	
Autumn 2019	<i>Effective Altruism Advanced Fellowship</i>	EFFECTIVE ALTRUISM OXFORD
	The Effective Altruism Advanced Fellowship consisted of weekly meetings in which we discussed articles and blog posts related to effective altruism.	
Summer 2019	<i>Bayes by the Sea Summer School</i>	MARCHE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, ITALY
	A summer school on formal epistemology, statistics and game theory.	
Summer 2015	<i>Erasmus Work Placement at the Department of Psychology</i>	UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA, ITALY
	I was part of a research project on the neural correlates of decision-making under the supervision of Professor Giuseppe di Pellegrino, who was part of the team that discovered mirror neurons.	

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 COMMITTEES AND SERVICE
 

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- Spring 2020 **Global Priorities Research Reading Group** EFFECTIVE ALTRUISM OXFORD  
Organiser of a Global Priorities Research reading group for Effective Altruism Oxford.
- Spring 2020 **Committee member** EFFECTIVE ALTRUISM OXFORD  
Member of the Effective Altruism Oxford committee.
- 2012–2013 **Campaigner** FINNISH AND NORWEGIAN GREEN PARTIES  
A volunteer campaigner for the Finnish and Norwegian Green Parties during national and municipal elections. I participated in the political campaign of a Green Party candidate, who was elected an associate member of the Helsinki city council.

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 COMMUNICATION SKILLS
 

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- 2014–2015 **Student Journalist** GLASGOW INSIGHT INTO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
I wrote articles for a student-run science and technology magazine.
- 2013 **Blogger** LOGIHKAPOLIISI-BLOG (IN FINNISH)  
Aimed at detecting fallacies in public discussion. Some of my posts received thousands of readers.
- 2012–2013 **Author and Committee Member** RÖNSY (FINNISH YOUNG GREENS' MAGAZINE)  
Member of the editorial team; I also wrote various articles related to politics and established the science section of the magazine.

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 NON-ACADEMIC WRITINGS
 

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- The Magical World of Lucy and Leo. *Effective Altruism Forum*, October 23, 2021.
- Smartphones keeping us awake. *The Glasgow Insight into Science and Technology*, January 2, 2015.
- Corporate psychopaths talk their way up. *The Glasgow Insight into Science and Technology*, October 28, 2014.
- The Science of Conveying Science. *The Glasgow Insight into Science and Technology*, September 25, 2014.

In Finnish:

- Kuvareportaasi: Kaamos. *Rönsy*, 1/2015, pp. 8–9.
- Kuvareportaasi: Taistelu paremmasta maailmasta. *Rönsy*, 22.7.2013.
- Kuvareportaasi: Norjan vihreä voitto. *Rönsy*, 2/2013, pp. 16–17.
- Sukupuoli—Biologiaa vai performanssia? *Rönsy*, 1/2013, p. 7.
- Nosta statustasi ekoilemalla! *Rönsy*, 4/2012, p. 14.