

curriculum vitae of

Petra Kosonen

Population Wellbeing Initiative,
University of Texas at Austin,
Austin TX 78712, USA

✉ kosonenpetra@gmail.com 🏠 petrakosonen.com

AREAS OF INTEREST

AOS: Normative and Applied Ethics, Decision Theory

AOC: Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Metaethics

EMPLOYMENT

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

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

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*.

 UNPUBLISHED WORK

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.

 AWARDS

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

 PRESENTATIONS

December 2021	8th Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research (by invitation)	OXFORD (ONLINE)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title: Tiny Probabilities and the Value of the Far Future 	
December 2020	5th Oxford Workshop on Global Priorities Research (by invitation)	OXFORD (ONLINE)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title: Prudential Longtermism • With Johan E. Gustafsson 	
March 2020	Slippery Slope Normativity Summit	LILLEHAMMER, NORWAY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title: A Lexical Solution to the Intrapersonal Addition Paradox 	

 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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 *Theory of Politics* UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD
I taught one-on-one and one-on-two tutorials on political philosophy for three students.
- 2021 *Philosophy of Science* UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
I taught one-on-three tutorials on philosophy of science.
- 2020 *Introduction to Philosophy* SARAH LAWRENCE PROGRAMME, OXFORD
I taught tutorials on Mill's utilitarianism, free will and ancient philosophy for one student.

MARKING EXPERIENCE

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

GRANTS

- 2021 *Open Philanthropy Project Scholarship Program* 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 *The Forethought Foundation for Global Priorities Research* 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 *The Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation* 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

- Summer *Early Career Conference Programme* 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 *Effective Altruism Advanced Fellowship* 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 *Bayes by the Sea Summer School* MARCHE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, ITALY
A summer school on formal epistemology, statistics and game theory.
- Summer 2015 *Erasmus Work Placement at the Department of Psychology* 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.

COMMITTEES AND SERVICE

- 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.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- 2014–2015 **Student Journalist** GLASGOW INSIGHT INTO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
I wrote articles for a student-run science and technology magazine.
- 2013 **Blogger** LOGIKKAPOLIISI-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.

NON-ACADEMIC WRITINGS

- 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.