

MARC-KEVIN DAoust

Professor of Ethics, École de technologie supérieure

Regular researcher, Groupe de recherche interuniversitaire sur la normativité (GRIN)

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Areas of specialization: Epistemology; Ethics

Areas of competence: Philosophy of Science; Metaethics

APPOINTMENTS

- 2022- Professor (Teaching Stream), École de technologie supérieure
- 2020-22 Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard University (funded by SSHRC)
- 2019-20 Research Agent, Commission de l'éthique en science et en technologie

EDUCATION

- 2019 PhD Philosophy, Université de Montréal
Dissertation title: *The Normativity of Epistemic Rationality*
- 2017-18 Doctoral Fellow in Philosophy, Harvard University
- 2017 Visiting Doctoral Student, Uppsala University
- 2014 MA Philosophy, Université de Montréal
Dissertation title: *Les sciences sociales devraient-elles être neutres?*
- 2011 BA Political Science and Philosophy, Université de Montréal

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Books

With Thomas Mekhaël, *L'éthique et le génie québécois*. Québec: Presses de l'Université du Québec, 2024, 270 p.

Refereed Articles

With Marie Laplante-Anfossi, "Teaching the Web of Rationality: A Case Study on Coherence and Conspiracy Worldviews", *Journal of Philosophy of Education*, forthcoming

"Robustness and the Distinctive Properties of Epistemic Ideals", *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming

"What Second-Best Epistemology Could Be", *Analytic Philosophy*, forthcoming. DOI: 10.1111/phib.12361

- With Camélia Raymond and Sylvie Ratté, « Le développement d'une IA explicable: entre principes éthiques généraux et mesures concrètes », *Dialogue*, Special Issue: Normativity, 64.1, 2025: 81-99.
- “Imperfection, Accuracy, and Structural Rationality”, *Erkenntnis*, 89.3, 2024: 1095-1116.
- “Transformative Experiences, Rational Decisions and Shark Attacks”, *Inquiry*, 67.6, 2024: 1619-1639.
- With Victor Babin, « Les conseillers du secteur public devraient-ils se soucier de la Théorie des optima de second rang? », *Les ateliers de l'éthique*, 18.1, 2024: 4-28.
- “Coherence, First-Personal Deliberation, and Crossword Puzzles”, *Philosophical Topics*, special issue: Beyond Evidence in Epistemology, 51.2, 2023: 241-263
- With Victor Babin, “Two Philosophical Issues Surrounding the Structure of Public-Policy Recommendations”, *Dialogue*, 62.3, 2023: 413-429.
- With Victor Babin, « Deux enjeux philosophiques entourant la structure des recommandations issues du secteur public », *Dialogue*, 62.3, 2023: 431-446.
- “Structural Rationality and the Property of Coherence”, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, 104.1, 2023: 170-94.
- “The Comparison Problem for Approximating Epistemic Ideals”, *Ratio*, 36.1, 2023: 22-31.
- With Charles Côté-Bouchard, “Epistemic Consequentialism, Veritism, and Scoring Rules”, *Erkenntnis*, 88.4, 2023: 1741-1765.
- With David Montminy, “Immodesty and Permissivism”, *Synthese*, 200.4 (article #266), 2022: 1-21. DOI: [10.1007/s11229-022-03758-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03758-z)
- “Optimizing Individual and Collective Reliability: A Puzzle”, *Social Epistemology*, 36.4, 2022: 516-531.
- “Adversariality and Ideal Argumentation: A Second-Best Perspective”, *Topoi*, Special Issue: Adversariality in Argument, 40.5, 2021: 887-898
- “Peer Disagreement and the Bridge Principle”, *Topoi*, Special Issue: Disagreement—Epistemological and Argumentation-Theoretic Perspectives, 40.5, 2021: 1213-1223
- “False Beliefs and Misleading Evidence”, *Theoria*, 87.3, 2021: 520-541
- “Should Agents Be Immodest?”, *Analytic Philosophy*, 62.3, 2021: 235-251
- “Consistency, Obligations, and Accuracy-Dominance Vindications”, *Dialectica*, 74.1, 2020: 139-156.
- “The Explanatory Role of Consistency Requirements”, *Synthese*, 197.10, 2020: 4551-4569
- “A Puzzle about Knowledge, Blame and Coherence”, *Acta Analytica*, 34.4, 2019: 493-503
- “Epistemic Akrasia and Epistemic Reasons”, *Episteme*, 16.3, 2019: 282-302
- “One Standard to Rule Them All?”, *Ratio*, 32.1, 2019: 12-21
- « Sciences normatives, procédures neutres », *Philosophia Scientiae*, 22.2, 2018: 37-57
- “Epistemic Uniqueness and the Practical Relevance of Epistemic Practices”, *Philosophia*, 45.4, 2017: 1721-1733
- With Félix Schneller, « La neutralité axiologique, vertu professorale ou exigence institutionnelle? », *Penser l'éducation*, 40.1, 2017: 25-44
- « Pourquoi délibérer? Du potentiel épistémique à la justification publique », *Philosophiques*, 43.1, 2016: 23-48
- « Tolérance libérale et délibération : l'apport de la neutralité scientifique », *The Ethics Forum*, 11.1, 2016: 4-28

« Repenser la neutralité axiologique. Objectivité, autonomie et délibération publique », *European Journal of Social Sciences*, 53.1, 2015: 199-225

Conference Proceedings

With Camélia Raymond and Sylvie Ratté. “Merging Roles and Expertise: Redefining Stakeholder Characterization in Explainable Artificial Intelligence”, *Proceedings of CASCON 2024*, DOI: [10.1109/CASCON62161.2024.10837695](https://doi.org/10.1109/CASCON62161.2024.10837695)

With David Montminy. “Testing Minimax for Rational Ignorant Agents”: 541-553, in *Logic, Rationality, and Interaction*, edited by A. Baltag *et al.*, LNCS 10455, Berlin, Springer, 2017.

Encyclopedia Entries

« Neutralité scientifique », in M. Kristanek (ed.), *l'Encyclopédie Philosophique*, 2018, <<http://encyclo-philo.fr/neutralite-scientifique-a/>>.

Research Reports for Public Agencies

Commission de l'éthique en science et en technologie (*qua* policy advisor in charge of research and writing), *The Internet of Things, Privacy, and Surveillance*, Québec, 2020, 45 p. URL: <<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/details/52327/4165677>>

Edited Volumes

With Stéphane Lemaire, Christine Tappolet and Patrick Turmel (eds.). « Dossier : La métaéthique et ses implications normatives. En hommage à Ruwen Ogien. (Circa 1949-2017) ». *The Ethics Forum* 14.1, 2019 : 26-189

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Peer-reviewed Talks

“Structural Rationality and the Separateness of Requirements”, 12th annual OZSW conference, Delft University of Technology, May 19-20 2025

With Victor Babin, “Why Policy Recommendations Are Poorly Structured,” *Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics Conference 2023*, Toronto (CA), May 28 2023

“The Comparison Problem for the Approximation of Epistemic Ideals”, CPA virtual congress, May 17 2022

“What Second-Best Epistemology Could Look Like”, CPA virtual congress, May 31 2021

“A Puzzle About the Optimization of Collective Reliability”, CPA congress, Vancouver, June 1-4 2019

“Immodesty in Social Contexts”, CPA congress, Vancouver, June 1-4 2019

“Apparent Reasons and Second-Best Epistemology”, *Saint-Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality*, Saint-Louis (MO), May 19-21 2019

“A Puzzle About the Optimization of Collective Reliability”, *SEP Meeting*, Toronto, May 17-19 2019

“Epistemic Teleology and the Normativity of Apparent Reasons”, French Society for Analytic Philosophy congress, Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium), July 2-5 2018

- “Epistemic Teleology and the Normativity of Apparent Reasons”, *The Future of Normativity* conference, University of Kent (UK), June 28-30 2018
- “Epistemic Akrasia, Rational Closure and Lotteries”, CPA congress, Montreal, June 4-7 2018
- “Epistemic Inconsistency and Irrationality: A Methodological Contribution”, *Epistemology and its History*, Ottawa, Canada, October 19-21 2017
- With David Montminy. “Testing Minimax for Rational Ignorant Agents”, *The International Conference on Logic, Rationality and Interaction (LORI)*, Sapporo, Japan, September 11-14 2017
- With David Montminy, “Credence Permissiveness and Scoring Rules”, *University of Rochester Graduate Epistemology Conference*, Rochester (NY), October 21 2016
- “Are There Plausible Cases of Interpersonal Epistemic Permissiveness?”, *European Epistemology Network Meeting*, EHESS, Paris, July 4 2016
- With Félix Schneller, “Axiological Neutrality and Academic Freedom: from Virtuous Professors to Institutional Requirements”, Workshop *Au milieu des fluctuations historiques: quel rôle pour l’université aujourd’hui?*, ACFAS, Montréal, May 9-13 2016
- “Why You (Almost) Never Find Yourself in an Epistemically Permissive Situation”, *Epistemic Normativity Conference (Post-graduate workshop)*, KU Leuven, Belgium, November 8 2015
- “Rational Requirements and Collective Intentions”, French Society for Analytic Philosophy congress, UQÀM, Montréal, June 19 2015
- With Félix Schneller, “Axiological Neutrality and Academic Freedom: from Virtuous Professors to Institutional Requirements”, *International Workshop on Affective, Moral and Civic Education*, Université de Montréal, May 20 2015

Invited talks and commentaries

- With Thomas Mekhaël, « Aspects individuels et institutionnels de la délibération éthique », Colloque sur l’éthique des organisations publiques, Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor, June 10-11 2025
- With Thomas Mekhaël, « Les enjeux entourant la fraude et la conformité au Québec », Symposium 2025 sur la prévention de la fraude, Institut des auditeurs interne du Québec et Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Montréal, March 19 2025
- “Structural Rationality and the Separateness of Requirements”, Canadian Society for Epistemology Annual Meeting, Concordia University, September 14 2024
- “Andreou, C. *Choosing Well: The Good, the Bad, and the Trivial* (OUP, 2023)”, commentary, Author-meets-critics workshop, Centre de recherche en éthique, Montréal (CA), June 16 2023
- « La normativité de la cohérence et l’inséparabilité des exigences », Séminaire de métaéthique, Université de Rennes, March 24 2023
- « Deux perspectives institutionnelles sur l’Internet des objets », Webinaires de l’Institut intelligence et données (IID), Université Laval, February 10 2023
- « Une nouvelle stratégie pour justifier la normativité de la cohérence », French Society for Analytic Philosophy congress, Université de Neuchâtel, July 18-20 2022
- “Ziliotti, E., Calling Things by their Name: An Inquiry into the meanings of Meritocracy, Hierarchy, and Democracy”, commentary, *Workshop on Hierarchies*, Université de Montréal, January 28-29 2021

“Epistemic Akrasia and Reasons-Responsiveness”, *Higher Seminar in Theoretical Philosophy*, Uppsala University, April 20 2017

« Le potentiel épistémique de la délibération et l'exigence de justification publique », Post-graduate workshop in social and political philosophy, Université Paris 1, February 16 2016

TEACHING AND PEDAGOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching

At École de technologie supérieure:

- Ethics of distributed computing (ETH300), Summer 2024 and Summer 2025.
- Ethics of artificial intelligence (ETH610), Fall 2023, Summer 2024 and Summer 2025.
- Healthcare, technology, and society (TIN504), Summer 2022, Winter 2023 and Winter 2024.
- Leadership and collective responsibility (LRC110), Winter 2023 and Winter 2024.
- Professional ethics for engineers (PEP110), Summer 2019 to Fall 2025.
- Environment, technology, and society (TIN503), Fall 2020, Winter 2021 and Fall 2022.

At Université de Montréal:

- Problems in ethics (PHI1400), Fall 2018.
- Ethics for professionals in homeland security (PHI2990), Winter 2018 and Winter 2019.
- Ethics for urban planning professionals (PHI6990), Fall 2017, Summer 2018 and Fall 2018.

Pedagogical development

Creation of a course in ethics of distributed computing (ETH300), École de technologie supérieure (2023-2024)

Creation of a course in ethics of artificial intelligence (ETH610), École de technologie supérieure (2022-2023)

With Éric Francoeur, creation of a hybrid course in professional ethics (PEP110), École de technologie supérieure (2018-2021).

With Christian Nadeau, creation of online ethics courses (PHI2990 and PHI6690), Université de Montréal (2012-2018).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference Organization

Organization of the roundtables titled *Variété des parcours professionnels en philosophie* I and II, SPQ congress, May 12 2022 (5 participants) and June 7 2023 (5 participants)

With Stéphane Lemaire, Christine Tappolet and Patrick Turmel, coorganizer of the *Meta-Ethics and its Normative Implications* workshop, May 2-4 2018, Montréal, Canada

Under the supervision of Christine Tappolet, Sarah Stroud, Andrée-Anne Cormier and Michele Palmira, support in the organization of the *Faces of Disagreement* conference, May 26-28 2016, Montréal, Canada (15 talks, 15 commentaries and 1 roundtable)

Under the supervision of Christine Tappolet, Sandra Lapointe and Alain Voizard, support in the organization of the French Society for Analytic Philosophy congress, June 17-20 2015, Montréal, Canada (5 keynotes, 2 symposia, 12 roundtables and 78 talks)

Under the supervision of Christine Tappolet and Fabrice Correia, support in the organization of the young researcher workshop *Metaethics and Metametaphysics*, French Society for Analytic Philosophy, March 1-3 2014, Ovronnaz, Switzerland (16 talks)

Service for Societies and Research Groups

2022-24 Director of the axis “Norms of practical and epistemic rationality”, Interuniversity research group on normativity (GRIN)

2022-25 Board member, Academic Affairs, Société de Philosophie du Québec

Other

2017- Reviewer for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Dialectica*, *Dialogue*, *Episteme*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis*, *Grazer Philosophische Studien*, *Igitur*, *Inquiry*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Noûs*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophical Explorations*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Res Philosophica*, *Synthese*, SSHRC, *The Ethics Forum*, and *Theoria*

2019- Program committee member, Canadian Society for Epistemology congress (2019) and Canadian Philosophical Association congress (2024, 2025).

2018 Voluntary work for *Les Classiques des sciences sociales* (open access, francophone social sciences library). Online proofreading and editing of Condorcet's *Discours préliminaire* (56 000 words, 175 pages)

RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2024-26 SSHRC Insight Development Grant, Principal Investigator, with Charles Côté-Bouchard (Collège Montmorency) and Rémi Tison (UQAM), 56 305\$

2023 SSHRC Connection Grant, Co-Applicant, with Christophe Point (Sherbrooke, Principal Investigator), Marie-Josée Drolet (UQTR), Gilles Beauchamp (McGill) and François Claveau (Sherbrooke), 25 000\$

2022-24 ÉTS Institutional Support Grants, Principal Investigator, 22 500\$

2022-24 SSHRC Insight Development Grant, Principal Investigator, 67 310\$

2022 FRQSC Individual Start-Up Grant, Principal Investigator, 15 000\$

2020-22 SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship, 90 000\$

2020-22 FRQSC B3 Postdoctoral Fellowship, 110 000\$ (declined in part)

2017-18 SSHRC Michael-Smith Foreign Study Supplement, 6 000\$

2016-19 SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier Doctoral Scholarship, 105 000\$

2015-18 FRQSC B2 Doctoral Scholarship, 60 000\$ (declined after the first year)

PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

- 2025 Louise-Dandurand Prize, awarded by the Fonds de recherche du Québec. Paper title: « Deux enjeux philosophiques entourant la structure des recommandations issues du secteur public » (co-authored with Victor Babin)
- 2020 Social Epistemology Network early career award. Paper title: “A Puzzle About the Optimization of Collective Reliability”
- 2019 Doctoral Dissertation awarded with highest distinction