

# Shaun Respass

Curriculum Vitae

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2024-Present: Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, NC State University

2022-2024: Visiting Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy and Department of Political Science, Virginia Tech

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy (Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought) – Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2021.

M.A. in Humanities (Philosophy) – Old Dominion University, 2017.

B.A. in Philosophy – Old Dominion University, 2015.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Books:**

**Respass, Shaun, and Victor Counted.** 2026 (Anticipated). *Attachment Disruptions in Ecological Systems: Despair, Depression, and Human Flourishing*. Springer Nature.

### **Peer-Reviewed Papers:**

**Respass, Shaun.** 2025 (forthcoming). “Natural Disorder: Psychiatric Waste and Ecological Matters of Care.” In *Handbook of Environmental Bioethics*, ed. Cristina Richie. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**Respass, Shaun.** 2025 (forthcoming). “Telehealth Publics: Networked Milieus of Care Production.” In *Future Spaces of Power: The Global Politics of Digital and Outer Spaces*, eds. Caroline G. Alphin, E. Leigh McKagen, and Shelby E. Ward. Lanham: Lexington Books.

Harris, Jack, and Shaun **Respass.** 2025. “Ordering Care Principles for Cost-Related Non-Adherence.” *American Journal of Bioethics* 25 (8): 134-136.

Shussett, Daniel, and Shaun **Respass.** 2025. “Extended Will, Epistemic Care, and Motivational Barriers to Care.” *American Journal of Bioethics – Neuroscience* 16 (3): 181-183.

**Respass, Shaun, and Ariana D’Alessandro.** 2025. “Biomedical, Neurodiverse, and Mad Affinities: The Constraints of Collective Epistemic Resources.” *American Journal of Bioethics – Neuroscience* 16 (1): 39-41.

**Respass, Shaun.** 2024. “Resentment as Responsiveness: Psychiatric Care and the Problem of Ethical Loneliness.” *Azimuth: Philosophical Coordinates in Modern and Contemporary Age* 24 (2): 137-156.

**Respass, Shaun, and Veljko Dubljević.** 2024. “Moral Stress, Distress, and Injury: Clarifications

Using the ADC Model of Moral Judgment.” *American Journal of Bioethics* 24 (12): 54-56.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2024. “Madness in Relation: The Autonomy of a Joke.” In *Joker and Philosophy*, eds. Massimiliano L. Cappuccio, George A. Dunn, and Jason T. Eberl, 117-125. The Blackwell Philosophy and Pop Culture Series.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2024. Review of *Revolutionary Care: Commitment and Ethos*, by Maurice Hamington. *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 41 (5): 928-930.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2023. “Caring Affinity Networks: Integrating Relational Epistemologies into Mental Health Justice.” *Social Philosophy Today* 39: 51-69.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2023. Review of *Care-Centered Politics: From the Home to the Planet*, by Robert Gottlieb. *New Political Science* 45 (4): 663-665.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2021. “Going Telemental: Contact and Intimacy in Digital Mental Health.” In *Applied Ethics in a Digital World*, eds. Ingrid Vasiliu-Feltes and Jane Thomason, 125-139. Hershey: IGI Global Publishing.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2021. “The Space Between and Beyond: Timeless Depictions of Care.” In *Exploring the Orville: Essays on Seth MacFarlane’s Space Adventure*, eds. David Kyle Johnson and Michael R. Berry, 196-208. Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers.

Plummer, Sarah, and Shaun **Respass**. 2021. “Getting Into ‘Good Trouble’: An Interview with *History is Illuminating*.” *SPECTRA* 8 (2): pp. 38-44.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2020. “Suffering in Science: Care and Recovery in Evidence-Based Psychiatric Treatments.” *Ethics, Medicine and Public Health* 15: 100532.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2020. “Expert Care in Mental Health Paternalism.” In *Epistemic Paternalism Reconsidered: Conceptions, Justifications, and Implications*, eds. Amiel Bernal and Guy Axtell, 107-122. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2019. “Reinventing Authoritarianism: The Digital and the Donald.” Review of *Digital Demagogue: Authoritarian Capitalism in the Age of Trump and Twitter*, by Christian Fuchs. *SPECTRA* 7 (1): 47-49.

#### **Under Review:**

**Respass**, Shaun, Ishita Pai Raikar, Veljko Dubljević, Munindar P. Singh, and William Rand. 2025. “Competent Carebots for Mild Cognitive Impairment: Effective and Ethical Human-AI Teaming.” *AI & Ethics*.

**Respass**, Shaun. 2025. “Intersubjective Carebots: Emergent Normativity in Artificial Agency.” *Philosophy and Technology*.

#### **TEACHING**

Contemporary Science, Technology and Society	NC State: Fall 2025
Issues in Business Ethics	NC State: Fall 2025
Global Economics and World Politics	Virginia Tech: Summer 2024
Political Theory	Virginia Tech: Spring 2024
Morality & Justice	Virginia Tech: Fall 2021; Fall 2023
The Evolution of World Order	Virginia Tech: Spring 2023 – Fall 2023
Research Methods in Political Science	Virginia Tech: Fall 2022 – Fall 2023
Religious Ethics	Virginia Tech: Winter 2022-2023

International Development  
Global Ethics

Virginia Tech: Fall 2022  
Virginia Tech: Spring 2018 – Spring 2022

### **AWARDS, HONORS, AND CERTIFICATES**

2025 National Critical Thinking Fellow  
2022 ASPECT Outstanding Dissertation Award at Virginia Tech  
2021 Honorable Mention for the Outstanding Doctoral Graduate Student Award of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences at Virginia Tech  
2020 Future Professoriate Certificate from Virginia Tech  
2019 Graduate Student Presentation Award at the Virginia Humanities Conference  
2016 Susan Rowell Graduate Scholarship in Humanities from Old Dominion University

### **SELECT CONFERENCES**

“Competent Carebots for Mild Cognitive Impairment: Effective and Ethical Human-AI Teaming,” Annual Meeting of the International Neuroethics Society, Munich, Germany, April 2025.  
“Intersubjective Carebots: Emergent Normativity in Artificial Agency,” Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Philosophical Society, Winston-Salem, NC, March 2025.  
“Natural Disorder: Psychiatric Waste and Ecological Matters of Care,” Caring Futures: Contradictions, Transformation, and Revolutionary Possibilities Conference, Paris, France, May 2024.  
“Telehealth Publics: Networked Milieus of Care Production,” International Studies Association Northeast Annual Conference 2023, Providence, RI, November 2023.  
“Resentment as Responsiveness: Psychiatric Care and the Problem of Ethical Loneliness,” Care Ethics Otherwise: A Conference, State College, PA, June 2023.  
“Constraints of Professionalism: Feminist Techniques for Mental Health Practice,” Annual Association for Practical and Professional Ethics International Conference, Portland, OR, March 2023.  
“Caring Affinities: Affiliations of Epistemic Justice in Mental Health,” Western Michigan University Medical Humanities Conference, Virtual, September 2022.  
“Caring Affinities: Interdependent Considerations for the Unjust Medicalization of Mental Health,” The North American Society for Social Philosophy 39<sup>th</sup> International Conference, Delaware County, PA, July 2022.  
“Going Telemental: Contact and Intimacy in Digital Mental Health,” Northeast Modern Language Association 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD, March 2022.  
“Care-Abilities in Mental Health,” 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Association for Practical and Professional Ethics International Conference, Cincinnati, OH, February 2022.  
“Plight of the Caregiver: The Commodification of Mental Health Care,” American Philosophical Association’s Eastern Division Conference, Baltimore, MD, January 2022.  
“Abandoning the Psychiatric Gaze: Resentment Towards the Medical Model of Mental Health,” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Virtual, October 2021.  
“Escaping the Paradigm: Resentment Towards the Biomedical Gaze,” Western Michigan University Medical Humanities Conference, Virtual, September 2021.  
“The Suicidal Body: Expressions of a Grievable Resistance,” Cultural Studies Association 19<sup>th</sup>

- Annual Conference, Virtual, June 2021.
- “Going Telemental: Contact and Intimacy in Digital Mental Health,” Virginia Humanities Conference, Blacksburg, VA, March 2021.
- “Caring for Depression: The Limits of Biomedical Treatment,” 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Association for Practical and Professional Ethics International Conference, Virtual, United States, February 2021.
- “The Problem of Moral Disconnection: Lessons of Depression for Cosmopolitan Care,” American Philosophical Association’s Eastern Division Conference, Virtual, United States, January 2021.
- “Contact & Intimacy in Digital Therapy,” Lockdown: Mental Illness, Wellness, and COVID-19, Virtual, East London, UK, November 2020.
- “Intimacy Through/With Technology: An Evaluation of Care for Despondency,” Gender, Bodies, and Technology Conference, Roanoke, VA, April 2019.

### SERVICE

Bridge Experience Program Faculty for the *Kellogg Center for PPE*, 2024  
Research Fellow in the *Center for European and Transatlantic Studies*, 2024  
*Public Health* – Reviewer  
*The American Journal of Bioethics – Neuroscience* – Reviewer  
*International Journal of Health Economics and Policy* – Reviewer  
*Ethics, Medicine, and Public Health* – Reviewer  
*Global Policy* - Reviewer  
Ethics Bowl at Virginia Tech, 2021 – 2024  
*SPECTRA* Co-Editor, 2020 – 2021 (Issues 8.1 & 8.2)  
*SPECTRA* Co-Editor Elect, 2019 – 2020 (Issue 7.2)  
ASPECT Student Association President, 2019  
ASPECT Student Association Vice President, 2020 – 2021  
ASPECT Conference Planning Committee, 2018 – 2019; 2019-2020