

JACOB WEINRIB
jacob.weinrib@queensu.ca

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Queen's University Faculty of Law

- Associate Professor, 2021–present
 - Canadian Association of Law Teachers Academic Excellence Award, 2025
 - Professor Les Green Award for Research Excellence, 2025
 - Stanley M. Corbett Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2023
- Assistant Professor, 2015–2021
 - Stanley M. Corbett Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2019

New York University School of Law

- Dworkin-Balzan Fellow, Center for Law and Philosophy, 2014–2015
- Global Hauser Research Fellow, Center for Constitutional Transitions, 2013–2014

University of Toronto, Centre for Ethics

- Doctoral Fellow, 2011–2012

EDUCATION

***Ph.D.* – Philosophy, University of Toronto, 2009–2013**

- David Savan Dissertation Prize, 2013

***J.D.* – University of Toronto Faculty of Law, 2006–2009**

- Alan Borovoy Prize in Civil Liberties, 2008
- Norman Levy Prize in Jurisprudence, 2008
- Australian Society of Legal Philosophy Essay Prize, 2007

***M.A.* – Philosophy, University of Toronto, 2005–2006**

- Martha Lile Love Essay Prize, best essay written by a graduate student in the Department of Philosophy, 2005 and 2006

***B.A.* – Philosophy (minor in Political Science), University of Toronto, 2002–2005**

- George Kennedy Scholarship, outstanding 4th year student, 2005
- Thomas Goudge Scholarship, outstanding 3rd year student, 2004
- John MacDonald Scholarship, outstanding 2nd year student, 2004

University of King's College Foundation Year Program, Halifax, 2001–2002

- Garfield Weston and Maritime Life Scholarships, outstanding 1st year student, 2002 (declined)

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

- *The Impasse of Constitutional Rights* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2025)
- *Dimensions of Dignity: The Theory and Practice of Modern Constitutional Law* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016)

Articles and Book Chapters

- “Reason and Fiat in Public Law” (2026) *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* (forthcoming) (review article of *Reclaiming the Public* by Avihay Dorfman and Alon Harel)
- “The Architecture of Property Rights” (2026) *University of Toronto Law Journal* (forthcoming) (review article of *Property Law in the Society of Equals* by Christopher Essert)
- “Taking Jokes Seriously” (2026) *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* (forthcoming)
- “The Constitutional Significance of Human Dignity: What Exactly?” in Gary Jacobsohn and Miguel Schor, eds, *Comparative Constitutional Theory* (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2025) 184–203
- “Charter Interpretation” in Richard Moon, Howard Kislowicz, and Asha Kaushal, eds, *The Canadian Constitutional Law Open Access Casebook*, 2nd ed. (2025), 2022 CanLIIDocs 1392, <https://canlii.ca/t/7jt2q>, 1107–1124 (with Megan Pfiffer)
- “What is Purposive Interpretation?” (2024) 74:1 *University of Toronto Law Journal* 74–108 (cited in *Taylor v. Newfoundland and Labrador*, 2026 SCC 5 at para 70)
- “The Essence of Rights and the Limits of Proportionality” in Geneviève Cartier and Mark Walters, eds, *The Promise of Legality: Critical Reflections upon the Work of TRS Allan* (Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2025) 161–176
- “The Frank Dissent’s *Charter* Framework: The Rhetoric and the Reality” (2021) 100 *Supreme Court Law Review* 85–103
- “Maitland’s Challenge to Administrative Legal Theory” (2021) 84:2 *Modern Law Review* 207–229
- “Dignity’s Constitution: A Reply” (2020) 11:2 *Jurisprudence* 298–308 (symposium on *Dimensions of Dignity* monograph)
- “Dignity and Autonomy” in Rainer Grote, Frauke Lachenmann, and Rüdiger Wolfrum, eds, *Max Planck Encyclopedia of Comparative Constitutional Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020)

- “Rights in Search of Protection” (2020) 40:2 Oxford Journal of Legal Studies 403–423 (review article of *Where Our Protection Lies: Separation of Powers and Judicial Review* by Dimitrios Kyritsis)
- “Sovereignty as a Right and as a Duty” in Claire Finkelstein and Michael Skerker, eds, *Sovereignty and the New Executive Authority* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019) 21–46
- “The Principles of Constitutional Reform” (2019) 24:4 (Special Issue on Kant and Law) Kantian Review 631–651
- “Human Dignity and its Critics” in Gary Jacobsohn and Miguel Schor, eds, *Comparative Constitutional Theory* (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2018) 167–186
- “When Trumps Clash: Dworkin and the Doctrine of Proportionality” (2017) 30 Ratio Juris 341–352

[This article has been translated into Spanish: “Cuando las cartas del triunfo chocan: Dworkin y la Doctrina de la Proporcionalidad” in Marcelo Alegre, ed, *El imperio de Ronald Dworkin: ensayos de filosofía moral, política y jurídica* (Buenos Aires: Departamento de Publicaciones, Facultad de Derecho Universidad de Buenos Aires, 2019) 175–186]
- “Authority, Justice, and Public Law: A Unified Theory” (2014) 64:5 University of Toronto Law Journal 703–735
- “The Modern Constitutional State: A Defense” (2014) 40 Queen’s Law Journal 165–212 (cited in *R. v. C.P.*, 2021 SCC 19 at para 116)
- “Permissive Laws and the Dynamism of Kantian Justice” (2014) 33:1 Law and Philosophy 105–136
- “What can Kant Teach Us about Legal Classification?” (2010) 23:1 Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence 203–231
- “What is the Purpose of Freedom of Expression?” (2009) 67 University of Toronto Faculty of Law Review 165–190 (cited in *Toronto (City) v. Ontario (Attorney General)*, 2021 SCC 34 at paras 128, 156)
- “Kant on Citizenship” (2008) 33 Australian Journal of Legal Philosophy 1–25
- “The Juridical Significance of Kant’s ‘Supposed Right to Lie’” (2008) 13:1 Kantian Review 141–170

Book Review

- Alon Harel, *Why Law Matters*, reviewed in (2016) 29 Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence 267–270

Blogs

- “Lost in the Balance: Daly on the Structure of Administrative Law,” Adminlawblog.org, March 17, 2022
- “Maitland’s Challenge,” New Directions in Administrative Law Theory Series, Int’l J. Const. L. Blog, September 12, 2019
- Catherine Dupré, *The Age of Dignity: Human Rights and Constitutionalism in Europe*, reviewed in Int’l J. Const. L. Blog, July 8, 2016

Podcast

- Podcast Guest, “What’s the point of s. 1?”, Charter: A Course (David Asper Center, University of Toronto Faculty of Law), September 27, 2021

In Progress

- “What Justifies Proportionality?”
- “Constitutional Law’s Two–Stage Model: A Defense”
- “What is a Living Constitution?”

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “Beyond the Baker Balance,” Administrative Law Workshop, McGill Faculty of Law, 2026
- “The Architecture of Property Rights,” University of Toronto Faculty of Law, 2025
- “Designing Effective Presentations,” Queen’s University Faculty of Law, 2025
- “Notwithstanding Notwithstanding: On the Relationship Between ss. 28 and 33,” Queen’s University, Faculty of Law, 2025
- “Constitutional Rights without Applied Ethics,” Kant in Canada Conference, McMaster University, 2024
- “What Justifies Proportionality?” International Constitutional Law Conference, IE University Law School, Madrid, 2024
- “What Justifies Proportionality?” Biennial Public Law Conference, University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, 2024
- “The Impasse of Constitutional Rights,” Hebrew University Faculty of Law, Legal Theory Workshop, 2024

- “Constitutional Justification: What Exactly?” European Human Rights Law Conference, University of Cambridge Faculty of Law, 2023
- “The Crises of Constitutional Rights Theory,” Cardiff/Peking Current Issues in Political Philosophy, 2023
- “Justifying Proportionality,” Queen’s–Ottawa Public Law Workshop, Ottawa, 2023
- “Constitutional Rights Theory: Escaping the Impasse,” University of Western Ontario Faculty of Law, 2023
- Panelist, “The Many Meanings of Dignity,” The Right to Dignity in Canadian Law Conference, Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, Halifax, 2022
- “Section 1: The Big Picture,” Department of Justice, Constitution40 Conference, Ottawa, 2022
- “The Impasse in Constitutional Rights Theory,” Queen’s–Ottawa Public Law Workshop, 2022
- “The Essence of Rights and the Limits of Proportionality,” The Promise of Legality: Critical Reflections upon the Work of TRS Allan Conference, Montreal, 2022
- “Lost in the Balance: Daly on the Intelligible Structure of Administrative Law,” Book Launch, Paul Daly’s *Understanding Administrative Law in the Common Law World*, 2022
- “Human Dignity in a Nutshell,” Dignity Rights International, 2021
- “Vavilov at First Sight,” Queen’s Law, Kingston, 2020
- “What is Hate Speech?” Free Speech and Hate Speech, Queen’s University, Department of Philosophy, Kingston, 2020
- “Proportionality: The Nightmare and the Noble Dream,” Queen’s Law/University of Ottawa Workshop, Queen’s Law, Kingston, 2019
- “Administrative Law as an Idea about Human Rights,” Common Law Group at the Université de Montréal, Adjudicating Human Rights in Administrative Agencies, 2019
- “Maitland’s Challenge,” New Directions in Administrative Theory Conference, Oxford University, All Souls College, 2019
- Comments on Hasan Dindjer, “Administrative Law and Democracy,” New Directions in Administrative Theory Conference, Oxford University, All Souls College, 2019

- Comments on David Dyzenhaus, *The Long Arc of Legality*, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, 2018
- “Positive Rights and the Morality of Administration,” Biennial Public Law Conference, University of Melbourne Law School, 2018
- “The Principles of Constitutional Reform,” Kant and the Law Conference, University of Cardiff, Wales, 2018
- “Positive Rights and the Morality of Administration,” University of Ottawa, Public Law Workshop, 2018
- “The Puzzle of the State,” University of Toronto, Department of Philosophy, 2018
- Comments on Adam Perry (Oxford University), “Government Mercy,” Oxford-UCLA-Toronto Colloquium in Legal and Political Philosophy, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, 2017
- “Human Dignity and Constitutional Reform,” Human Dignity and the Constitutional Crisis in Europe Conference, European University Institute, Department of Law, Florence, 2017
- Comments on Alec Stone Sweet and Clare Ryan, *A Cosmopolitan Legal Order: Kant, Constitutional Justice, and the ECHR*, Pluricourts Workshop, University of Oslo, 2017
- “Sovereignty as a Right and as a Duty,” Norwegian Kant Society, University of Oslo, Department of Philosophy, 2017
- “Proportionality: The Nightmare and the Noble Dream,” Dean’s Lecture, Queen’s University Faculty of Law, 2017
- “Sovereignty as a Right and as a Duty,” Kant, Rights, and the State Conference, University of Oxford, 2016
- “Dimensions of Dignity,” Invited Seminars in Constitutional Theory, University of Oxford Faculty of Law, 2016
- “The Moral Significance of Constitutional Culture,” Constitutional Culture: Identities, Texts, Institutions Conference, Queen’s University Faculty of Law, 2015
- “On Justifying Eternity Clauses,” Constitutionalism in Crisis Conference, Hebrew University of Jerusalem Faculty of Law, 2015

- “When Trumps Clash: Dworkin and Proportionality,” The Legacy of Ronald Dworkin Conference, University of Buenos Aires Faculty of Law, 2015
- “Human Dignity and Public Law,” Law and Political Thought Workshop, University of Tel Aviv Buchmann Faculty of Law, 2015
- “Human Dignity and Access to Justice,” University of British Columbia Faculty of Law, 2015
- “Human Dignity and Freedom of Religion,” New York University School of Law, 2014
- “The Theory and Practice of Modern Constitutional Law,” Global Fellows Forum, New York University School of Law, 2014
- “Does Dworkin Have a Liberal Theory of Law?” Ontario Legal Philosophy Conference, Osgoode Hall Law School, 2013
- “Rights and Limits in a Constitutional State,” Political Theory Research Workshop, University of Toronto, 2013
- “Reason and Fiat in Public Law,” Legal Theory Workshop, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, 2012
- “Progressive Legal and Political Theory,” Workshops in Political Theory, University of Manchester, 2012
- “Permissive Laws in Kantian Public Right,” Kant’s Legal and Political Philosophy, University of Göttingen, 2012
- “Kant’s Dynamic Theory of Justice,” Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Princeton University, 2012

RESEARCH GRANTS

- Insight Grant, “Constitutional Rights and the Justification Crisis,” SSHRC, Government of Canada, 2025–2030, \$89,074 (principal investigator)
- Insight Development Grant, “Just Administration: A Unified Theory,” SSHRC, Government of Canada, 2019–2021, \$55,612 (principal investigator)
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, “The Modern Constitutional State in Theory and Practice,” SSHRC, Government of Canada, 2013–2015, \$81,000

- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, “Towards a Just Society,” SSHRC, Government of Canada, 2010–2013, \$150,000
- Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (Berlin, Germany; Host Supervisor: Professor Dieter Grimm), SSHRC, Government of Canada, 2012, \$6,000
- Germany Research and Study Fund, Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto, 2012, \$2,400
- Thomas A. Goudge Memorial Fellowship in Philosophy, University of Toronto, 2009, \$5,000
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Government of Ontario, 2008–2009, \$30,000

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

Teaching Awards

- Canadian Association of Law Teachers Academic Excellence Award, 2025
- Stanley M. Corbett Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2019 and 2023

Courses Taught

- Constitutional Law: The Charter of Rights and Freedoms (J.D., first year lecture course), Queen’s Law, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2025, 2026
- Public Law (J.D., first year lecture course), Queen’s Law, 2020, 2022, 2024
- Administrative Law (J.D., upper year lecture course), Queen’s Law, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Comparative Constitutional Law (J.D., upper year seminar), Queen’s Law, 2025
- Advanced Constitutional Law (J.D., upper year seminar), Queen’s Law, 2019, 2023
- Jurisprudence (J.D., upper year seminar), Queen’s Law, 2023
- Law and Morality (large undergraduate lecture course), University of Toronto, Department of Philosophy, 2013

Graduate and J.D. Supervision

- Ph.D. Level
 - Wondwossen Firew (completed)
- Master’s Level
 - Thomas Decker (expected 2027)
 - Jinze Li (completed)
 - Ian Davis (completed)
 - Abigail Bergeron (completed)
 - Oliver Chan (completed)
 - Nicholas Postle (completed)
 - Joao Rocha (completed)

- J.D. Level
 - 13 J.D. Supervised Research Projects

SERVICE

Refereeing Service to the Profession

- **University Presses:** Cambridge University Press; University of Toronto Press; Hart Publishing
- **Journals:** Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence; Comparative Constitutional Studies; Journal of Politics; Jurisprudence; Kantian Review; Law and Philosophy; McGill Law Journal; Modern Law Review; Oxford Journal of Legal Studies; Philosopher's Imprint; Queen's Law Journal; Ratio Juris; Social Theory and Practice; Supreme Court Law Review; University of Toronto Law Journal
- **Research Agencies:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Service to Queen's Law

- Chair, Curriculum Committee, 2024–present
- Member, Graduate Studies Committee, 2024–present
- Member and Equity Officer, Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, 2023–2024
- Chair, Renewal, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, 2022–2023
- Member, Truth and Reconciliation Commission Working Group, 2020–2021
- Member, Curriculum Committee, 2020–2021; 2022–2023
- Organizer, “Vavilov at First Sight,” Administrative Law Roundtable, Queen's Law, 2020
- Member, Appointments Committee, 2018–2021
- Equity Officer, Appointments Committee, 2020–2021
- Chair, Writing Prize Committee, 2018–2020
- Coach, Justice Wilson Moot in Constitutional and Administrative Law, 2017–2019
- Chair, Visitors Committee, 2016–2017
- Member, Visitors Committee, 2015–2016
- Member, Queen's Research Opportunities Postdoctoral Fund, 2016