

# Joan Eleanor O'Bryan

Assistant Professor of Political Science, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY)

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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| <b>John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY</b><br>Assistant Professor, Political Science | 2026–     |
| <b>Harvard University</b><br>Lecturer, Social Studies                                       | 2024–     |
| <b>Deep Springs College</b><br>Visiting Faculty Member, Political Theory                    | Fall 2022 |

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## EDUCATION

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| <b>Stanford University</b><br>Ph.D., Political Science<br>Dissertation: <i>On Patriarchy: Origin Stories in Feminist Thought</i><br>Committee: Professors Alison McQueen, Emilee Chapman, Josh Ober, and Abigail Favale | 2024 |
| <b>University of Cambridge</b><br>M.Phil., Public Policy                                                                                                                                                                | 2018 |
| <b>Swarthmore College</b><br>B.A., Political Science and German Studies                                                                                                                                                 | 2013 |

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## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- “Position: Strategic Resilience Requires the Targeted Maintenance of Human Technical Capacities.” TAIGR Workshop at ICML 2026. [PDF](#)
- “Government AI Use as a Monitoring Primitive: A Public Document Pilot Study.” TAIGR Workshop at ICML 2026. [PDF](#)
- “Commercial Pornography and Sexual Autonomy: A Case for Sex Exceptionalism in Contract Law” (with Ashley McWilliam). *Law & Philosophy*, forthcoming. [Draft](#)
- “‘The only thing I want is for people to stop seeing me naked’: Consent, Contracts, and Sexual Media.” *Hypatia*, 2024. [Link](#)

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## OTHER WRITING

- “A Guide to Whistleblowing for National Security Contractors Working with Artificial Intelligence.” AI Whistleblower Initiative. [Link](#)
- “Report: Whistleblowing at the Intersection of Artificial Intelligence and National Security” (with Jesselyn Radack). Center for AI Risk Management & Alignment (CARMA) and the AI Whistleblower Initiative, forthcoming.
- “AI in Politics.” In *Encyclopedia of Artificial Intelligence*, eds. Philip L. Frana and Michael J. Klein. Bloomsbury Press, forthcoming 2026.
- “Reading across the Atlantic: Simone de Beauvoir in France and America.” Review of *Sex, Love, and Letters* by Judy G. Coffin. *Tocqueville 21*. [Link](#)

“Democracy” and “Gender.” Stanford Basic Income Lab, *UBI Visualization Project*. [Link](#)

Review of *Feminist Trouble: Intersectional Politics in Postsecular Times* by Éléonore Lépinard. *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy*. [Link](#)

“Analysing Data: CIPFA Statistics and the Future of England’s Libraries.” Report for the UK Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. [PDF](#)

## TEACHING

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### Instructor of Record

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Political Philosophy</i> · John Jay College                               | Fall 2026   |
| <i>Law, Justice, Order &amp; Society in the Age of AI</i> · John Jay College | Fall 2026   |
| <i>The Governance of Artificial Intelligence</i> · Harvard University        | Spring 2026 |
| <i>Social Studies 10A &amp; 10B</i> · Harvard University                     | 2024–2026   |
| <i>The Ethics of Sex, Gender, &amp; Reproduction</i> · Deep Springs College  | Fall 2022   |

### Teaching Assistant, Stanford University

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|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Ethics on the Edge</i> · Dr. Susan Liautaud     | Spring 2022              |
| <i>Justice</i> · Dr. Brian Coyne                   | Fall 2020, Fall 2021     |
| <i>Citizenship</i> · Dr. Brian Coyne               | Summer 2021              |
| <i>Ethics for Activists</i> · Prof. Emilee Chapman | Winter 2019, Winter 2021 |

## RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Researcher</b> · Center for AI Risk Management & Alignment (CARMA) and the AI Whistleblower Initiative     | 2026        |
| <b>Peer Reviewer</b> · <i>AI Policy Bulletin</i>                                                              | 2025–2026   |
| <b>Intern</b> · Effective Institutions Project                                                                | Summer 2024 |
| <b>Graduate Student Researcher</b> · Stanford Basic Income Lab                                                | 2019–2021   |
| <b>Research Work Placement</b> · Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, <i>Libraries Taskforce</i> | Spring 2019 |
| <b>Research Consultant</b> · Institute for the Study of War                                                   | 2016–2017   |
| <b>Teaching Fellow</b> · Match Education                                                                      | 2014–2016   |

## PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES & INVITED TALKS

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### “Reimagining Politics Post-AGI”

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|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| Morningside Institute, Columbia University | Nov 2026 |
| Elm Institute, Yale University             | Oct 2026 |

### “The Evolution of ‘Patriarchy’ in the Thought of Catharine MacKinnon”

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| Institute of Historical Research, Early Career Seminar in the History of Political Ideas ( <i>held as a public lecture at the Marx Memorial Library due to strike action</i> ) | Feb 2023 |
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### “A Case for Sex Exceptionalism: Pornography & Contract Law”

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| Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA) Annual Meeting | Nov 2023 |
| Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting      | Apr 2023 |

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| <b>“Patriarchy as Class Division: Varieties of Materialism in Second Wave Feminist Thought”</b> |          |
| American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting (online)                           | Aug 2023 |
| London Graduate Conference in the History of Political Thought                                  | Jun 2022 |
| <b>“Origin Stories as Methodology in History of Feminist Thought”</b>                           |          |
| Western Political Science Association (WPSA) Annual Meeting                                     | Apr 2023 |
| American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting                                    | Sep 2022 |
| <b>“The Gender Wars”</b>                                                                        |          |
| Invited faculty lecture, Deep Springs College                                                   | Nov 2022 |
| <b>“Beauvoir’s Ontology of Patriarchy”</b>                                                      |          |
| 27th Conference of the International Simone de Beauvoir Society                                 | Jun 2022 |
| Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting                                     | Apr 2022 |
| Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference, University of Arizona                          | Mar 2022 |
| Western Political Science Association (WPSA) Annual Meeting                                     | Mar 2022 |
| Contexts Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Sciences Po                                   | Nov 2021 |
| <b>“All I Want is for People to Stop Seeing Me Naked: Consent, Contracts, and Media”</b>        |          |
| Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting                                     | Apr 2021 |
| Stanford Workshop in Political Theory                                                           | Oct 2020 |
| <b>“Female Equality in Plato and Aristotle”</b>                                                 |          |
| Critical Perspectives in Philosophy, Stanford Minorities and Philosophy                         | Dec 2019 |

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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### **Stanford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, co-founder**

With Joseph Cloward and Avshalom Schwartz, founded an annual conference inviting nine domestic and international graduate students to present their work to the Stanford Department of Political Science. Past keynote speakers include Wendy Brown, Daniela Cammack, and Desmond Jagmohan.

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|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022 | Discussant for Jacob Hoerger (Harvard), <i>“Lived Experience” and Its Critics</i>                                             |
| 2021 | Discussant for Ophelia Vedder (Princeton), <i>Political Liberalism and Feminist Public Policies</i>                           |
| 2020 | Discussant for Christy Brandly (Chicago), <i>Rethinking the Political and Familial in Ivan Turgenev’s Shakespearean Works</i> |

### **Stanford Workshop in Political Theory**

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|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 | Discussant for Bernardo Zacka (MIT), <i>Designing a More Hospitable Welfare State</i>             |
| 2022 | Discussant for Valerie Soon (Stanford), <i>An Ecological Conception of Freedom of Association</i> |
| 2021 | Discussant for Robin Dembroff (Yale), <i>Beneath the Binary</i>                                   |
| 2019 | Discussant for Kate Vredenburg (LSE), <i>The Right to an Explanation</i>                          |

**Politeia** (formerly Society for the Dirty Leviathan), *chair* 2019–2022  
Organized political theory retreats for Stanford graduate students and postdocs, hosted the annual Stanford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, and ran the graduate student workshop. Funded by the McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society.

**Stanford Basic Income Lab, Graduate Research Fellow** 2019–2021  
Researched the implications of contemporary empirical work on UBI for gender equality and democratization.

## SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Crisis Counselor</b> · YWCA                                                                                      | 2021–2022 |
| Certified in California via the 75-hour Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking Counselor Training |           |
| <b>Head Community Associate</b> · Rains Residence Complex, Stanford University                                      | 2019–2022 |
| Organized weekly events for resident mental health and well-being                                                   |           |
| <b>Guest Lecturer</b> · Women's Empowerment Ambassadors Club, Homestead High School, Cupertino, CA                  | Apr 2022  |

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & GRANTS

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| <b>BlueDot Impact Rapid Research Grant</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2026      |
| Compute budget for “Government AI Use as a Monitoring Primitive: A Public Document Pilot Study”                                                                                                                                                            |           |
| <b>LawAI Summer Institute</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2026      |
| <b>Gerald J. Lieberman Fellowship</b> · Stanford University                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2023      |
| One of Stanford's most prestigious fellowships, awarded to graduate students with outstanding accomplishments, leadership potential in the academic community, and promising careers in university teaching and research. By departmental nomination only. |           |
| <b>Centennial Teaching Assistant Award</b> · Stanford University                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2022      |
| Awarded to outstanding graduate student teachers for dedication to teaching and excellence in the classroom                                                                                                                                                |           |
| <b>Marilyn Yalom Prize</b> · Clayman Institute for Gender Research, Stanford University                                                                                                                                                                    | 2022      |
| In support of original humanities research on issues concerning women and gender                                                                                                                                                                           |           |
| <b>Ethics Center Small Grant</b> · McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society                                                                                                                                                                               | 2021      |
| To organize a reading group in queer theory                                                                                                                                                                                                                |           |
| <b>Graduate Student Fellowship</b> · McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society                                                                                                                                                                             | 2020      |
| Competitive fellowship awarded to ten graduate students a year to examine ethical questions in their research and their roles as scholars and citizens                                                                                                     |           |
| <b>Student Projects for Intellectual Community Enhancement Grant</b> · Stanford University                                                                                                                                                                 | 2019–2022 |
| For graduate student initiatives that expand the intellectual community; co-received with Joseph Cloward and Avshalom Schwartz                                                                                                                             |           |
| <b>Maroulis Family Graduate Student Support Fund</b> · Stanford University                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2018–2023 |
| <b>YouGov Bursary</b> · Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge                                                                                                                                                          | 2017      |
| <b>Hannah A. Leedom Fellowship</b> · Swarthmore College                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2017      |
| For advanced study, on the recommendation of the Swarthmore Committee on Fellowships and Prizes                                                                                                                                                            |           |
| <b>STEM Education Grant</b> · Boston Girls Leadership & Organized Women (GLOW)                                                                                                                                                                             | 2017      |
| <b>Fulbright Grant</b> · Germany                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2013      |