

# ADAM BALES

AOS: Decision Theory, Ethics  
AOC: Philosophy of Science

## DETAILS

atb39@cam.ac.uk  
<http://adambales.weebly.com>

## EMPLOYMENT

2017-Present **Junior Research Fellow** at St John's College, the University of Cambridge

I am currently a Junior Research Fellow at St John's College of the University of Cambridge. This post is a research-focused, postdoctoral position. During my time in this role, I have worked on decision theory, ethical issues around supererogation, and the role of aesthetic norms in choice. In my future research, I will explore questions around the ethics of emerging technology and mental health ethics.

## EDUCATION

2014-2017 **PhD (Philosophy)** at the University of Cambridge

Supervisors: Richard Holton and Arif Ahmed  
Title: Decision and Dependence  
A Defence of Causal Decision Theory

2012-2013 **Master of Arts (Philosophy)** at Monash University

Supervisors: Toby Handfield and Justin Clarke-Doane  
Title: Expanding the Bounds of Rationality  
Awards: Faculty of Arts Best Thesis Award  
Vice-Chancellor's Commendation for MA Thesis Excellence

2011 **Honours (Philosophy)** at Monash University

Grade: First Class Honours

2005-2008 **Bachelor of Arts (Philosophy)** at the University of Sydney

## PUBLICATIONS

### Published and Forthcoming

Bales, A. Forthcoming. Bad Apples and Broken Ladders: A Pragmatic Defence of Causal Decision Theory, *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy*

Bales, A and Benn C. Forthcoming. Supererogation and Sequence. *Synthese*

Benn, C and Bales A. 2020. Rational Supererogation. *Mind*. 129(515): 917-938

Bales, A. 2020. Intentions and Instability: A Defence of Causal Decision Theory. *Philosophical Studies* 177(3): 793-804

Bales, A. 2018. Decision-Theoretic Pluralism: Causation, Evidence and Indeterminacy. *Philosophical Quarterly* 68(273): 801-818

Bales, A. 2018. Indeterminate Permissibility and Choiceworthy Options. *Philosophical Studies* 175(7): 1693-1702

Bales, A. 2017. Richness and Rationality: Causal Decision Theory and WAR. *Synthese* 195(1): 259-267

Bales, A. 2016. The Pauper's Problem: Chance, Foreknowledge and Causal Decision Theory. *Philosophical Studies* 173(6): 1497-1516

Bales, A, D. Cohen and T. Handfield. 2014, Decision Theory for Agents with Incomplete Preferences. *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 92(3): 453-470.

### Small-Group Teaching

Academic Writing Workshop  
University of Cambridge, 2019

Ethics/Metaphysics 1a Discussion Group  
University of Cambridge, 2015, 2016

Reality, Ethics, Beauty Tutorials  
University of Sydney, 2014

Practical Ethics Tutorials  
University of Sydney, 2014

Philosophy: Life, Death, Morality Tutorials  
Monash University, 2012 and 2013

Philosophy: Logic Tutorials  
Monash University, 2012

### Lecturing and Unit Coordinating

Causation (Metaphysics), Lecturer  
University of Cambridge, 2019

Probability (Philosophy of Science), Lecturer  
University of Cambridge, 2016, 2017, 2018

Practical Ethics, Unit Coordinator  
University of Sydney, 2014

Practical Ethics, Guest Lecturer  
University of Sydney, 2014

Philosophy: Logic, Guest Lecturer  
Monash University, 2012

### Postgraduate Supervising

Decision Theory, MPhil Supervisions  
University of Cambridge, 2019

### Undergraduate Supervising

Meaning 1a  
2020

Ethics and Political Philosophy 1a  
2019

Philosophy of Science 2  
2019

Extended Essay: Rationality and Explanation  
2018, 2019

Philosophy of Science 1b  
2016, 2017, 2018

Philosophical Logic 1a  
University of Cambridge, 2015, 2016

Metaphysics 1a  
University of Cambridge, 2015, 2016

Metaphysics and Epistemology 1b  
University of Cambridge, 2015, 2016

### Teaching Younger Students

Summer School  
Concord College, 2018, 2019

Decision Theory, High School Teaching  
The Brilliant Club, 2015

Normative Ethics Tutor  
Sutton Trust Summer School 2015

Normative Ethics Tutor  
Sixth-Form Residential, Trinity College, 2015

Participant in Cambridge-LMU Seed Grant (The University of Cambridge), 2019

School of Arts and Humanities Conference Grant (The University of Cambridge), 2017

Trinity College External Research Scholarship (The University of Cambridge), 2014-2017

Honourary Cambridge International Scholarship (The University of Cambridge), 2014-2017

Vice-Chancellor's Commendation for MA Thesis Excellence (Monash University), 2013

Faculty of Arts Best Thesis Award (Monash University), 2013

Dean's Sessional Commendation for Teaching (Monash University), 2012

Australian Postgraduate Award (Monash University), 2012-2013

Honours Study Assistance Scholarship (Monash University), 2011

Postdoc Application Evaluation, Various Colleges, Cambridge,  
2019

Admissions Interviewer, Various Colleges, Cambridge  
2017, 2018, 2019

Referee

Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Dialectica,  
Erkenntnis, Synthese, Ergo

Editor for Causal Decision Theory category, PhilPapers  
2015-2017

Workshop Co-Organiser, AI, Severe Uncertainty and the Frontiers of Decision Theory  
2017

Secretary, Cambridge Moral Sciences Club (Visiting Speaker Series)  
2015-2016

Workshop Co-organiser, Monash University Workshop on Decision, Agency and Time  
2012

**Prof. Richard Holton**

Professor, Cambridge University  
PhD Supervisor  
rjh221@cam.ac.uk

**Prof. Toby Handfield**

Professor, Monash University  
M.A. Thesis Supervisor  
toby.handfield@monash.edu

**Dr Arif Ahmed**

Reader, Cambridge University  
PhD Supervisor  
ama24@cam.ac.uk

**Prof. Alan Hajek**

Professor, Australian National University  
alan.hajek@anu.edu.au