

# RAFAEL RUIZ DE LIRA

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## ACADEMIC INTERESTS

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### Areas of Specialization:

Moral Epistemology, Metaethics, Normative Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Social Science, Moral Psychology, Synthetic Philosophy

## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. Candidate in Philosophy

expected Sep 2022 - 2026

**London School of Economics and Political Science** – London, England

Graduate Teaching Assistant for:

Philosophy of Economics - Methodology

Philosophy of Economics - Ethics

Philosophy of Society

Philosophy, Morals and Politics - Theoretical Issues

Philosophy, Morals and Politics - Applied Issues

Student Representative for the Academic Year 2022/2023

### Master of Arts in Political Philosophy

Sep 2020 - Sep 2021

**Pompeu Fabra University** - Barcelona, Spain

Thesis: "Social Science and Moral Philosophy: Disagreement, Debunking, Calibration"

Advisor: Andrew Williams

- The thesis brought recent empirical evidence from social psychology and evolutionary anthropology to bolster the arguments from moral disagreement and debunking arguments of morality.
- Courses included Global Justice, Distributive Justice, Contemporary Nationalism, Social Psychology, Research Methodology, among others.

### Master of Arts in Philosophy

Sep 2019 - Sep 2020

**King's College London** - London, England

Thesis: "Normative Uncertainty and Value Incomparability"

Advisor: Julien Dutant

- Thesis focused on the intersection of decision theory under uncertainty and ethics, particularly the possibility of commensurating values among different ethical theories into a unified meta-value.
- Courses included Ethics I & II, Philosophy of Psychology I & II, Philosophy of Science, and Epistemology.
- Attended several reading groups and did additional research on the philosophy of Wittgenstein, Quine, and Brandom.
- Earned the Associate of King's College (AKC) degree and title, where I was also awarded the Dean's Commendation for Exceptional Commitment during both years of the course.

### Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Mar 2015 - Sep 2018

**University of the Republic of Uruguay** - Montevideo, Uruguay

Thesis: "The Epistemological Problems of Ethics"

Advisor: Gustavo Pereira

Awarded Summa Cum Laude

- Wrote a 60-page thesis on current debates on metaethics, including the realism/anti-realism debate, evolutionary debunking arguments, and a defense of metaethical constructivism.
- My philosophy coursework focused on ethics and political philosophy. I also took elective courses in social sciences like economics and political science.

## PRESENTATIONS

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"Moral Progress Beyond Moral Disagreement" LSE Choice Group, 2025.

"Moral Progress Beyond Moral Circle Expansion" Global Priorities Institute, Oxford. February 2024.

"Progress, Misinformation, and Violence: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" LSE Philosophy Cumberland Lodge Retreat. November 2023.

**"A Defense of the Experience Machine through Ideal Observer Theory."** Article presentation given at the Philosophy MA Seminar at King's College London. London, UK. February 2020.

**"The Refutation of Ethics through Biology."** Article presentation given at colloquium #20 – "Political philosophy: contemporary issues and challenges" at the University of the Republic of Uruguay. Montevideo, Uruguay. October 2017.

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#### PUBLICATIONS

**"La Refutación de la Ética a través de la Biología" (The Refutation of Ethics through Biology).** (2018) In UMTEC (ed.) *Research Advances, Faculty of Humanities and Education Sciences, Vol. 2. Students.* Faculty of Humanities and Education Sciences, University of the Republic of Uruguay.

**"Cómo Enseñar Filosofía" (How to Teach Philosophy).** (2017) *Convocación*, 31, 22-31.

**"Una Nueva Ética Animalista: el Bienestarismo Fuerte" (New Animal Ethics: Strong Welfarism).** (2016) *ACTIO*, 18, 95-116.

**"Ateísmo para mi madre" (Atheism for my mother)** (2015), *Imprenta Diagonal*. Montevideo, Uruguay.

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#### WORK EXPERIENCE

**Founder of Futurosophia** ([www.futurosophia.com](http://www.futurosophia.com))

Jul 2021 - 2023

**Founded a Spanish-Speaking NGO and website focused on Effective Altruism, Longtermism, and Existential Risk.** - Madrid, Spain

##### Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Attended Global Summits on Effective Altruism and related topics, such as EA Global London (2021, 2022, 2023), EAG San Francisco (2022), EAGxOxford (2022), EAGxPrague (2022), EA Student Summit (2020), Global Transhumanism Summit (2021).
- Write blog and OP-ed content on Effective Altruism for websites on Effective Altruism, Moral Philosophy, Longtermism, Existential Risk, Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, Biorisks, Bioengineering and Transhumanism, Climate Change, Animal Welfare, Economic and Social Development, Cosmopolitanism and International Politics.
- Administrative tasks, hiring, and fundraising.

**Internship at UNESCO's Bioethics, Humanities and Philosophy Program**

Mar 2018 – Jul 2018

Montevideo, Uruguay

##### Responsibilities and Achievements:

- Composed Memorandums of Understanding for over 20 Universities and Public Institutions.
- Assisted the Program Lead for the Bioethics, Humanities and Philosophy UNESCO program for Latin America with tasks such as producing documents, emailing, and calling other institutions.

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#### PRIZES AND ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- **Forethought Foundation Global Priorities Fellow for 2023.** Oxford. - 5000£ Bursary Awarded
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