



Matthew Wray Perry

Diligent and ambitious ESRC funded graduate researcher at The University of Manchester. I study in the field of Political Philosophy, with focus on Justice, Moral Status and Rights Theory. Please get in touch for more information on my research.

Email: matthew.perry@manchester.ac.uk

Mobile: +447561094808

Education

The University of Manchester	Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Politics – Political Theory <i>Title of PhD project:</i> What is the point of dignity? A re-characterisation of dignity as the basis of (human) rights status <i>Short Abstract:</i> I seek to explain the possession of rights through interrogating the idea often established at their foundation: “human” dignity. The ambiguity of this notion will be cleared by, among other things, attending to: the status of and human differentiation from non-human animals, the problem of equalising status and what the recognition of dignity amounts to.	09/19 – Present
	Masters degree (MA) in Political Science - Political Theory (Research Route). 79.6% average (with a letter of commendation for the highest grade) Student Representative for my course pathway. Participant/attendee at the Manchester Central for Political Theory seminar series.	09/18-09/19
	Undergraduate degree (BA) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) completed with a first class (79.4% average). <i>Awards:</i> 1) Norman Geras Prize for best Political Theory Dissertation; 2) PPE Final Year Award for highest achieving student in my class; 3) Dean's Award for Achievement. <i>Societies & activities:</i> PPE Society Academic Rep., Cycling Club, Cross Country Club, Squash Club, Manchester Labour Students, The Manchester Magazine, Mancunion and Francophone Society, inc Non-credited qualification of B1 French, achieving a first class (74%).	09/15 - 07/18
Sciences Po	Exchange Programme: 5 months studying at the Paris Institute of Political Studies through Erasmus. Received a high GPA (16.5/20). <i>Societies & activities:</i> Studied French through OLS+ Erasmus, Squash Club, International Exchange Society, Running Club.	01/17 - 05/17
Project Trust	Level 3 OCN award in Global Citizenship and Volunteering gained through completion of my year teaching (TEFOL) in India. Assessed and interviewed prior to acceptance onto programme. Award involved 4 units: Fundraising (£5,600), Overseas Reflection, Community Report and Debriefing.	09/13 - 08/15

References available on request

Dereham Sixth Form College	A Level: Maths (A), Philosophy (A), English Language and Literature (A) AS Level: EPQ Dissertation (A), Critical Thinking (B), History (C) <i>Societies & activities:</i> Chairman of the Amnesty International Society (managed the team and fortnightly meetings, organised campaigns/events), contributor to the Student Eye magazine, member of Debating Society, MUN conference (best position paper award).	09/12 - 07/14
-----------------------------------	---	----------------------

Conference and Workshop Presentations

- Brave New World, 2020: “Human Dignity Beyond the Human”
- MANCEPT Workshop on Human Rights, 2020: “Human Dignity Beyond the Human”
- IVR World Congress, 2019, Lucerne: "Dignity: The Grounds of "Human" Rights as Human Needs"
- Brave New World, 2019, Manchester: "Potential People and Superchimps: Do infants have the same rights-status as chimpanzees?"
- MANCEPT Away Day, 2018: "What is the point of Dignity?"

Publications

- (forthcoming, 2021) “From Concept to Conception: Dignity and the Basic Needs Approach”, in Pribytkova, E. and Schweiger, G. (eds), *In Search for a Social Minimum: Human Dignity, Poverty and Human Rights*, Springer: London
- (2018) “Closed Borders, Open Immigration: Can Nationalism Ground the Right to Exclude?”, *Juncture: The University of Manchester Undergraduate Politics Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 2, pp.86-107
- (2018) “Can Individuals have Moral Rights in the Absence of Legal Rights?”, *Juncture: The University of Manchester Undergraduate Politics Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 1, pp.53-59

Teaching Experience

The University of Manchester: Widening Participation Fellow	As a Widening Participation Fellow, my role is to support the university in both increasing access to HE for pre-university students from under-represented socio-economic backgrounds and helping current Widening Participation students in facing the challenges posed by progressing through university. I have produced two pre-recorded sessions for the pre-university side of my role, which schools are able to use, subsequently booking me for Q&A follow up sessions if they wish (one on “Why Study Politics” at University and another is a guided Philosophy Subject Taster Workshop, with activities, on “Should animals have human rights?”). For current university students, I am (alongside the WP Lead for Politics) in the process of organising and running a series of workshops to support current students through their undergraduate journeys and beyond. I also act as a Data and Evaluation Partner for the WP team to support them in the production of reports on the impact of WP work at The University of Manchester.	10/20 – Present
The University of Manchester: Teaching Assistant	Course Unit: Ideals of Social Justice – 3 weekly seminars on an intermediate level course on contemporary theories of justice with a particular focus on Liberal Egalitarianism, its foundations, form and critique. Marking of two assessments – one formative midterm and one exam.	09/20 – 01/21

Course Unit: Introduction to Political Theory – 5 weekly seminars on an introductory course with three blocks 1) why we have states, 2) how states should govern and 3) how states can be more just. Marking of two assessments – one formative midterm and one exam. **02/20 – 06/20**

The average lesson was structured as follows: 5 minute recap of lecture material (with pp slides), questions to check understandings, further summary, followed by discursive activities to engage critical thought. My peer review report concluded that: “Matthew’s delivery was very clear. He is very knowledgeable and well prepared [and his] demeanor was also confident, friendly and engaging.”

Project Trust: Teacher at Ahilya Bal Jyoti School Selected for the charity after an intense assessment. Travelled to and adjusted to live in a rural community in India. English teacher (TEFOL) and administrative aide. Fundraised £5,600 for the charity to fund the trip. Gained experience in communication, public speaking, language (Hindi) and leadership, as well as an understanding of how to manage relations and conduct presentations **08/14 - 08/15**

Work Experience

Brave New World: Conference Organiser I am currently co-organising the 25th annual Postgraduate Conference in Political Theory at The University of Manchester, Brave New World. This involves contacting and booking keynote speakers as well as managing the receipt and blind-review of abstracts in application to the conference. I will also be responsible for the production of the conference programme and panels. During the conference, I will chair panel sessions and introduce speakers. This provides me extensive experience in event management. **11/20 – Present**

MANCEPT Member I was the first undergraduate to act as a helper at the Manchester Centre for Political Theory's annual academic conference, which I have proceed to help at each year since, where needed. Assisted in organising and facilitating the event. Participated in debates developing working papers. Additionally, I currently attend and contribute to the weekly Mancept seminars, where an academic presents a working Political Theory paper to be discussed with PhD students and academics. **09/17, 09/18, 09/19**

Political Perspectives: Co-Chief Editor Political Perspectives is the Graduate Journal at The University of Manchester, publishing academic papers, working papers and blog posts from academics in the social sciences. When my colleague and I took over the journal, we updated the website and expanded its focus: as editors, we publicise the journal, administer peer-reviews with colleagues and affiliates of the journal, and finalise contributions **01/20 - Present**

Chief-Editor and Co-Founder of Juncture Juncture is the University of Manchester Undergraduate Politics Journal. Founded in collaboration with a course-mate in order to provide space to share ideas and kindle debate. As Chief Editor, I directed board meetings, oversaw/participated in peer-review of papers, adjudicated on board decisions, oversaw the editing of final pieces, promoted the journal, wrote reviews, and ensured academic integrity. **09/17 - 09/18**

General Marking Supervisor: Pearson	Leading and advising teams of general markers for the national SATs qualifications. I helped oversee the marking process, advised markers on correct implementation of the approved mark scheme, managed teams to ensure speed/accuracy with marking and supported the lead Marking Centre Managers with administrative tasks.	05/18 - 06/18
The University of Manchester: Research Intern (SEI)	Work as a research intern for the Business Engagement team at the Faculty of Science and Engineering. I produced and updated detailed reports analysing companies to provide recommendations for future strategic partners. Written reports include various quantitative and qualitative analysis, including company goals, matching with university vision, research priorities, financial condition, development, spending, market position, etc.	08/16 - 06/17
Immigration Advice Service: Business Development Intern	Market research conducted for this law firm to compile databases of prospective corporate clients and templates for pursuing contact. Sourcing international and national institutions, companies and community centres to network with them so as to increase business scope. Greatly improves my understanding of business relations and markets and builds on my efficient and comprehensive research and communication skills	06/17 - 07/17
Hope for Children: Student Ambassador	Promoted the charity on university campus, fundraised and ran information and training sessions. Gained further skills in presentation, communications building and public relations as well as experience leading a team.	10/15 - 06/16