

## Erin Islo

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[e.islo@northeastern.edu](mailto:e.islo@northeastern.edu)

### Employment

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**Northeastern University School of Law**, Boston, MA

Assistant Professor of Law, 2023-present

**Second Circuit Court of Appeals**, New York, NY

Law clerk to the Honorable Barrington D. Parker, Jr., 2019-2020

### Education

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**Princeton University**, Philosophy Department, Princeton, NJ

*Candidate for Doctor of Philosophy, expected September 2025*

**Yale Law School**, New Haven, CT

*Juris Doctor, May 2019*

President, First Generation Professionals, 2017-2018

Advanced Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Team Leader

**KU Leuven, Hoger Instituut voor Wijsbegeerte**, Leuven, Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium

*Master of Arts in Philosophy, magna cum laude, June 2014*

**Haverford College**, Haverford, PA

*Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, High Honors, May 2012*

Charles Schwartz Memorial Prize for Excellence in Thesis Work

### Teaching (Law)

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Civil Procedure

Family Law

Jurisprudence

### Teaching (Philosophy)

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**Kierkegaard in Copenhagen**, University of Copenhagen and Princeton University, *Assistant in Instruction* (with Professor Hans Halvorson)

Summer 2023

**Department of Philosophy**, New York University, *Recitation Instructor*

Spring 2021

*Early Modern European Philosophy*, Professor Don Garrett (Spring 2021)

**Department of Philosophy**, Princeton University, *Teaching Assistant/Preceptor*

2015–2016

*Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz*, Professor Daniel Garber (Spring 2016)

*Philosophy of Law*, Professor Gideon Rosen (Fall 2015)

## **Publications**

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*Not Like Other Contracts: The Supremacy and Exceptionalism of Arbitration*, 59 Idaho L. Rev. 1 (2023).

“Essence, Virtue, and the State” in *The Blackwell Guide to Spinoza’s Ethics*, edited by Yitzhak Melamed. Oxford: Blackwell (2020).

## **Works-in-Progress**

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### *Arbitration’s Anti-Erie Doctrine*

This Article argues that the result of the Supreme Court’s FAA jurisprudence is a body of law that, while nominally embedded in the court’s preemption jurisprudence, is so divorced from the text and history of the FAA as to amount to the creation of a federal common law of arbitration. This federal common law has displaced large swathes of state law, bringing about a sweeping but underexplored change in traditional state authority and relationship to contract law.

### *En Banc Entendre*

This Article presents data new in both time and type to investigate whether the nature of en banc procedure is indeed changing, and whether the data justifies worries about the degradation of norms critical to the rule of law.

### *Equitable Estoppel in the Age of Adhesive Arbitration*

This Article deals with the state of contemporary consumer and employment contracting – specifically the ubiquity of binding arbitration clauses, which I call “adhesive arbitration” – and how the Federal Arbitration Act is being applied by the courts such that these contracts-within-contracts are precipitating a radical development to the doctrine of equitable estoppel and courts’ application of third-party (nonsignatory) enforcement.

### *Policing the Family with Predictive Analytics*

This Article presents the most comprehensive dataset on predictive analytics in family regulation that currently exists. Normatively, it looks at how and why counties have started adopting programs utilizing predictive analytics in their family regulation processes, and what the consequences have been.

## **Selected Academic Presentations (\*indicates comments)**

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“Arbitration’s Anti-Erie Doctrine,” Junior Scholars Conference, Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, February 2025

“Arbitration’s Anti-Erie Doctrine,” Ninth Annual Civil Procedure Workshop, UC Law San Francisco, May 2024

“Arbitration’s Anti-Erie Doctrine,” Michigan Junior Scholars Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 2024

“Equitable Estoppel in the Age of Adhesive Arbitration,” LEGS Workshop, Princeton University, April 2023

“Facilitating Family Resilience,” Berkeley Poverty Law Conference, UC Berkeley, March 2023

“Algorithms in California’s Family Welfare System,” Transition-Aged Youth Coalition, San Francisco, January 2023

“Drop Out: Legal Realism for Legal Education,” LEGS Workshop, Princeton University, December 2022

\*Early Moderns on the Power of Philosophy, University College Dublin (Comments on “Spinoza and the Problem of Imperfect Rationality”), October 2022

“Subjectivity and Subversion: Satire as Philosophy in Mandeville and Du Châtelet,” University of Copenhagen, European Society for Early Modern Philosophy, September 2022

“The Politics of Monism,” Graduate Workshop in Modern Philosophy, University of San Diego, May 2022

“The Arbitration Supremacy Doctrine,” LEGS Workshop, Princeton University, March 2022

“*Ingenium*: Rational Persons and the Rational State,” Atelier Franco-Américain d’Histoire de la Philosophie Modern, Oxford University, July 2021

“Proprietary Algorithms in Local Governance,” LEGS Workshop, Princeton University, March 2021

“Algorithmic Promise and Peril: Black-box Algorithms and the Law,” Yale Law School, March 2019

“Minor Injustice: The Absence of Habeas Rights in Juvenile Justice,” Yale Law School, December 2018

“Resolving a Paradox for Natural Laws,” Princeton University, August 2016

\*Cognition and Causality Conference, Humboldt University, (Comments on “Hume’s Conception of a Person”) June 2016

“What’s Natural About Spinoza’s Natural Laws?” Atelier Franco-Américain d’Histoire de la Philosophie Modern, Princeton University, May 2016

“Hobbesian Democracy and How Spinoza Can Save It,” Princeton-Bucharest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Bran, Romania, July 2015

“Epistemic Dimensions of Democracy and Judicial Review,” Comparative Constitutional Cultures, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, June 2015

“Attribute Neutrality & Actual Essence,” Identity and Individuation in Early Modern Philosophy, Universität Zürich, June 2015

“Formal and Actual Essence in Spinoza’s *Ethics*,” 3e Atelier Franco-Américain d’Histoire de la Philosophie Modern, École Normale Supérieure (Séminaire Descartes et Centre d’Études Cartésiennes), May 2015

“Spinoza and Formal Essence,” Princeton-Penn-Columbia-Johns Hopkins Graduate Conference in the History of Philosophy, Princeton University, March 2015

“*Essentia*: Spinoza’s *Ethics*,” Early Modern Philosophy Initiative, Texas A&M, November 2013

### **Legal Experience and Field Research**

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**Latham & Watkins**, Summer Associate, *San Francisco, CA*  
 Summer 2018

Assisted associates and partners with ongoing litigation. Received employment offer.  
**Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic**, Yale Law School, *Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy*  
 January 2017–May 2019

Conducted interviews, co-wrote and submitted a report to the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Truth, Justice, Reparations, and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence detailing the use of statutes of limitations and fines to prevent victims of war crimes in Bosnia from seeking civil remedies in court.

**Streicker Fund**, Yale Law School, *Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe*

December 2018–January 2019

Conducted interviews and field research on legal infrastructures impacting families, especially minor dependents of the state, in Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**Youth Law Center**, Summer Law Clerk, *San Francisco, CA*

Summer 2017

Conducted research and drafted memoranda; assisted with site visits to California's juvenile detention facilities.

**Thomas J. Watson Foundation**, *Fellow*

2012–2013

Worked in Kazakhstan, India, Uganda, Ecuador, Peru, Estonia, Austria, and Germany in a variety of settings with children, including orphanages, shelters, schools, and a children's prison. The Watson Fellowship is a competitive grant that funds travel and research as part of a self-designed and self-executed project.

**Center for Peace and Global Citizenship**, Haverford College, *Independent Researcher*

Summer 2011 & 2012

**Senior Independent Research Grant**, *Brussels, Belgium*: Worked with Roma and asylum-seeker communities primarily in the Marolles district.

**Independent Summer Research Grant**, *Bucharest, Romania*: Researched the post-communist political climate of Romania at the University of Bucharest and studied the political and social processes of the country as a new member of the European Union.

## **Grants and Funding**

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**Department of Philosophy Travel Grant**, Princeton University

*May, September, October 2022*

Graduate Workshop in Modern Philosophy, UCSD, *San Diego, California*

New Perspectives on Early Modern Philosophy, ESEMP, *Copenhagen, Denmark*

Early Moderns on the Power of Philosophy, *Dublin, Ireland*

**Streicker Fund**, Yale Law School

*December 2018–January 2019*

*Gaborone and Kasane, Botswana; Lusaka and Kazungula, Zambia; and Hwang and Harare, Zimbabwe*

**Ancient Philosophy in Early Modern Europe** (conference co-organized with Tom Davies)

*May 2017*

Obtained funding to organize and run a major international conference, sponsored by: Departments of Classics and Philosophy (Princeton), Center for

Collaborative History, Postclassicisms (Princeton), Stanley J. Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, Council of Humanities (Princeton)

**Humboldt University Philosophy Grant**, Humboldt Universität  
*June 2016*  
 Cognition and Causality Conference, Humboldt University, *Berlin, Germany*

**Department of Philosophy Travel Grant**, Princeton University  
*June 2016*  
 Legal Philosophy Workshop at Queen's University, *Kingston, Ontario*

**Political Philosophy Research Grant**, University Center for Human Values  
*July 2015*  
 Collegium Spinozanum, University of Groningen, *Groningen, the Netherlands*  
 Princeton-Bucharest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, *Bran, Romania*

**Law and Public Affairs Grant**, Princeton University  
*June–July 2015*  
 Comparative Constitutional Cultures; participated in an intensive, month-long Humboldt University Law School seminar, *Berlin, Germany*

**Department of Philosophy Travel Grant**, Princeton University  
*June 2015*  
 Tracing the Path of Tolerance: Storia e critica di un concetto politico, Università di Padova, *Padua, Italy*  
 Identity and Individuation in Early Modern Philosophy, Universität Zürich, *Zurich, Switzerland*

**CRNAP Grant**, Princeton University  
*May 2015*  
 Atelier Franco-Américain d'Histoire de la Philosophie Modern, *Paris, France*

**Philosophy Department Travel Grant**, KU Leuven  
*November 2013*  
 Early Modern Philosophy Initiative, Texas A&M, *College Station, Texas*

**Center for Peace and Global Citizenship**, Haverford College  
*Summer 2011 & 2012*  
 Senior Independent Research Grant, *Bucharest, Romania (2011)*  
 Independent Summer Research Grant, *Brussels, Belgium (2012)*

**Grant for Independent Scholarship**, Haverford College  
*August–December 2011*  
 Hurford Humanities Center, to attend a graduate seminar on Spinoza

**Philosophy Department Grant**, Haverford College  
*February 2011*  
 New York City Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, *New York, NY*

**Snider Family Endowment for Excellence in European Studies**, University of Notre Dame  
*June–July 2010*  
 Nanovic Institute for European Studies grant to attend the Princeton-Bucharest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, *Bucharest and Bran, Romania*

**Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement Grant**, University of Notre Dame

March 2010

Boston Colloquium for the Philosophy of Science at Boston University

### **Additional Honors**

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High Honors, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Haverford College, May 2012  
Charles Schwartz Memorial Prize for Excellence in Thesis Work, Haverford College, May 2012  
Invited Speaker, Celebration of Scholarships, Haverford College, May 2012  
Kafker Scholar, Haverford College, August 2011- May 2012  
Quest Scholar, Quest Scholars Network, University of Notre Dame and Haverford College, 2008 – 2012

### **Selected Non-Legal Employment**

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**Research Assistant**, Yale Law School (January 2017–January 2019)  
**Editor**, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University (2014–2015)  
**Freelance Editor**, Leuven, Belgium (2013–2014)  
**Consultant**, Van Dijk Management Consultants, Brussels, Belgium (Spring 2014)  
**Tutor**, Haverford, PA (2010-2012)  
**Project Manager**, QuestBridge and Quest Scholars Network, Palo Alto, CA (Summer 2010)  
**Barista**, Starbucks, LaFortune Student Center, Notre Dame, IN (2008-2010)  
**Secretary**, Political Science, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN (2009- 2010)  
**Childcare provider**, International Student Services, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN  
**Intern**, Quest Scholars Network, Palo Alto, CA (Summer 2009)

### **Service**

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**Watson Fellowship Committee**, Haverford College, *Committee Member* (2015-present)  
**York Prison**, Connecticut Department of Corrections, *Volunteer Teacher* (2018-2019)  
**First Generation Professionals**, Yale Law School, *President* (2017-2018)  
**Graduate Student Government**, Princeton University, *Philosophy Representative* (2014-2016)

### **Bar Admission**

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California