

CRESCENTE MOLINA
Rutgers Law School
217 N 5th St, Camden, NJ 08102, USA
crescente.molina@rutgers.edu

CURRENT POSITION

2026- RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, LAW SCHOOL: Associate Professor
2023-2026 RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, LAW SCHOOL: Assistant Professor
2023- RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY: Associate Graduate Faculty

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

2021-2023 HARVARD LAW SCHOOL: Postdoctoral Fellow in the Project on the Foundations of Private Law
2020-2021 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: Research Associate

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Philosophy of law; private law theory (especially contract theory); moral philosophy; contract law

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

[Review of ‘Wrongs and Rights Come Apart’ \(HUP, 2025\), by Nicolas Cornell](#) (forthcoming, *Mind*, 2026).

[‘Can We Derive Property Rights from Bodily Rights?’](#) 16 *Jurisprudence* 329 (2025) (special issue).

[‘The Conceptual Foundations of Contract Formation’](#) in Auer, Miller, Smith & Toomey (eds.) *Reinach and the Foundations of Private Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2025)

[‘Contracting Without Promising’](#) 75 *University of Toronto Law Journal* 203 (2025).

[‘Exhortative Legal Influence’](#), 43 *LAW AND PHILOSOPHY* 131 (2024) (2025 AALS ‘FUTURE PROMISE’ AWARD)

[‘Promises, Commitments, and the Nature of Obligation’](#), 25 *JOURNAL OF ETHICS AND SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY* 59 (2023)

[‘Promises, Rights, and Deontic Control’](#), 39 LAW AND PHILOSOPHY 409 (2020)

[‘Is There Value in Keeping a Promise? A Response to Joseph Raz’](#), 15 JOURNAL OF ETHICS AND SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY 85 (2019)

[‘The Authority in Property’](#), 1 JERUSALEM REVIEW OF LEGAL STUDIES 14 (2019)

‘The Normativity of Contract’ (in Spanish) in FUNDAMENTOS FILOSÓFICOS DEL DERECHO CIVIL CHILENO 167 (Esteban Pereira ed., 2019)

‘Normative Powers and Permissive Right’ (in-progress)

‘Cooperation and Technological Hazard’ (in-progress)

‘Promises and Deontic Constraints’ (in-progress)

EDUCATION

2021 UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil)

Thesis title: ‘The Morality of Promises and Contracts’

Supervisor: Sandy Steel

Examiners: Ruth Chang & Massimo Renzo

2016 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, Master of Laws (LLM, research track)

Thesis title: ‘Promises and Remedies’

Advisor: Christopher Kutz

2012 PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE, *Licenciado en Derecho* (JD equivalent) *summa cum laude*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023- RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL: Contracts; Jurisprudence; Advanced Contracts
- 2023 HARVARD LAW SCHOOL: Contractual Interpretation (upper-level elective)
- 2021 FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: Tutor (lecturer) in Philosophical Foundations of the Common Law (graduate seminar on contract theory)
- 2021 MERTON COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: Tutor (lecturer) in Jurisprudence
- 2021 UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBAÑEZ (Chile): Invited Professor (graduate seminar on libertarianism and property rights)
- 2019 KING’S COLLEGE LONDON, PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT: Graduate Teaching Assistant of Prof. David Owens for the course ‘Morality and Convention’ (upper-level undergraduate/graduate seminar)
- 2018 MAGDALEN COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: Tutor (lecturer) in Jurisprudence
- 2015 UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBAÑEZ (Chile): Lecturer in Contract law

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Papers/Talks delivered:

- 2025 ‘Too Much Assurance’: Faculty Workshop, Adolfo Ibanez University, Chile, Faculty of Law
- 2025 ‘Too Much Assurance’: Private Law Theory Workshop, Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law
- 2025 ‘Too Much Assurance’: Rutgers Law School Faculty Workshop
- 2024 ‘The Limits of Normative Jurisprudence: The case of Precedent’: Workshop on the Philosophical Foundations of Precedent, Notre Dame Law School
- 2024 ‘Too Much Assurance?’: Rutgers/USC/King’s College London Philosophy of Law Workshop, King’s College London.
- 2024 ‘The Conceptual Foundations of Contract Formation’: Obligations Discussion Group, University of Oxford
- 2024 ‘Contracting Without Promising’: Contract Theory Works in Progress Workshop, UC Berkeley
- 2023 ‘The Conceptual Foundations of Contract Formation’: Reinach and The Foundations of Private Law conference, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory

- 2022 'Contracting Without Promising': Harvard Private Law Group Seminar, Harvard Law School
- 2021 'Promises and Commitments': Oxford Jurisprudence Seminar, Oxford University (peer-reviewed event)
- 2021 'Contracts and Legal Authority': Private Law Theory Seminar, USC Gould, School of Law
- 2021 'The Role of Contract Law': Legal Theory and Private Law Discussion Groups, Max Weber Institute, European University Institute
- 2020 'The Normativity of Contracts and the Limits of Law': Legal Theory Discussion Group, Cambridge University
- 2020 'The Normativity of Contracts and the Limits of Law': Legal Philosophy Forum, University College London
- 2019 'Voluntary Obligations, Authority, and Allegiance': 5th Annual TAU Workshop, University of Tel Aviv (peer-reviewed event)
- 2019 'Voluntary Obligations and Promises': Obligations Discussion Group, University of Oxford
- 2017 'Promises, Rights, and Reasons': Jurisprudence Discussion Group, University of Oxford
- 2016 'Promises and Remedies': Contract Law in a Liberal Society Workshop, University of Amsterdam (peer-reviewed event)

Invited comments delivered:

- 2025 Response to Maximilian Keiner & Dennis Patterson's 'Economic Duress as Contextual Disqualification': Rutgers Institute for Law & Philosophy, Rutgers Law School
- 2024 Response to Emad Atiq's 'How to be a Non-Positivist': Normative Philosophy Conference, University of Pennsylvania
- 2024 Response to Jennifer Nadler's 'Impossibility and Frustration': Yale-Toronto Private Law Theory Workshop, online event
- 2023 Response to Jean Thomas' 'The Principle of Plural Justification: Tort Adjudication in the Face of Disagreement': North American Workshop on Private Law Theory, Rutgers Law School
- 2023 Response to Daniel Markovits' 'Promise as Contract': Legal Theory Workshop, University of Southern California
- 2021 Response to Brian Bix's 'The Moral Obligation to Perform Contracts': North American Workshop on Private Law Theory, Brooklyn Law School
- 2018 Response to David Owens's 'Private Authority': Conference in honor of John Gardner, Wadham College, University of Oxford

- 2016 Response to Mark Greenberg's 'Principles of Legal Interpretation': Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory, University of California, Berkeley
- 2015 Response to Seana Shiffrin's 'The Moral Neglect of Negligence': Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory, University of California, Berkeley

Conferences and workshops organized:

- 2024- Rutgers' 'General Jurisprudence Discussion Group' co-organized with Craig Agule (Rutgers) (bi-monthly discussion group)
- 2021- 'Early Career Philosophy & Private law Discussion Group' co-organized with Steve Schaus (Michigan) (monthly online workshop)
- 2025 Rutgers' Discussion Group on Legal Classification
- 2025 Book symposium on James Gordley's *Foundations of American Contract Law* (OUP, 2024) co-organized with Felipe Jimenez (USC)
- 2019 'Normative Powers in Law and Morality' 07/2019 co-organized with Maximilian Kiener (Oxford), speakers: Ruth Chang (Oxford), David Owens (KCL), Tom Dougherty (UNC Chapel Hill), Heidi Hurd (Illinois), Jed Lewinsohn (Pittsburgh), Joseph Millum (National Institutes of Health), Massimo Renzo (KCL), Peter Schaber (Zürich), Ezequiel Monti (Torcuato di Tella University), Catherine Robb (Tilburg). Funded by the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Oxford (£ 250), the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford (£ 1713), the Society for Applied Philosophy (£3000), and the Mind Association (£1000).
- 2019 Workshop on the morality of compensation, speakers: Victor Tadros (Warwick); Sandy Steel (Oxford); Diego Papayannis (Girona)
- 2018-2020 Convenor of the Oxford Jurisprudence Discussion Group (weekly speaker series)

SERVICE

- 2025- Book Review Editor for LAW & PHILOSOPHY
- 2023- Committee work at RUTGERS: Admissions (2023; 2024); Awards (2025)
- 2019- Peer-review: LAW & PHILOSOPHY (x4); MODERN LAW REVIEW; JOURNAL OF LEGAL PHILOSOPHY; ERGO; PHILOSOPHERS' IMPRINT; EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY; ERKENNTNIS; EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY; JOURNAL OF SOCIAL ONTOLOGY; GLOBAL JURIST; OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
- 2017-2019 Admissions committee (reviewing applications and conducting interviews) for WADHAM COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

NON-ACADEMIC LEGAL WORK

2020-2023 International consultant at UGARTE & CORREA (Chile)

- Provided advice on comparative contract law and commercial arbitration.

2013-2015 Associate at PHILIPPI PRIETOCARRIZOSA FERRERO DU & URÍA (Chile)

- Represented clients in contractual disputes in the construction, energy and mining industries, primarily in arbitration proceedings.