

Byron Simmons
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
Texas A&M University
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Visiting Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University, Spring 2023-Present

Instructor, Syracuse University, Fall 2019-Fall 2022

EDUCATION

Syracuse University, *Ph.D. Philosophy*, 2019

Ph.D. Dissertation: "The Nature of Being"

Dissertation Committee: Kris McDaniel (chair), Mark Heller, Michael Rieppel, Joshua Spencer (external), Jason Turner (external)

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, *BA Philosophy, Mathematics*, 2007

Magna Cum Laude, Departmental Honors in Philosophy

Honors Thesis: "The Humean Denial of Necessary Connections"

Thesis Advisors: Phillip Bricker and Bradford Skow

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AOS: Metaphysics, 19th Century Continental Philosophy

AOC: Ethics, Early Modern Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

"Schopenhauer's Pessimism" in *The Schopenhauerian Mind*, ed. David Bather Woods and Timothy Stoll (London: Routledge, forthcoming).

"Should an Ontological Pluralist be a Quantificational Pluralist?", *Journal of Philosophy* 119/6 (2022): 324-346.

"A Thousand Pleasures are Not Worth a Single Pain: The Compensation Argument for Schopenhauer's Pessimism", *European Journal of Philosophy* 29/1 (2021): 120-136.

"Ontological Pluralism and the Generic Conception of Being", *Erkenntnis* 87/3 (2022): 1275-1293.

"Fundamental Non-Qualitative Properties", *Synthese* 198/7 (2021): 6183-6206.

"Impure Concepts and Non-Qualitative Properties", *Synthese* 197/7 (2020): 3065-3086.

PRESENTATIONS

“Should an Ontological Pluralist be a Quantificational Pluralist?” *The 165th Meeting of the Creighton Club: the New York State Philosophical Association*, September 7, 2019 (received the Graduate Student Presentation Award). Comments from Anthony Nguyen.

“Should an Ontological Pluralist be a Quantificational Pluralist?” *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association*, Vancouver, British Columbia, April 18, 2019. Comments from Nicholas Tourville.

“Fundamental Non-Qualitative Properties” *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association*, San Francisco, California, March 31, 2016. Comments from Ned Markosian.

“The Compensation Argument for Schopenhauer’s Pessimism” *Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association*, Vancouver, British Columbia, April 3, 2015. Comments from Sandra Shapshay.

COMMENTARIES

Comments on Weiting Huang’s “A Cause Obscure to Human Reasoning’: A New Account of the Stoic Theory of Chance”, *Syracuse University ABD Workshop*, April 22, 2022.

Comments on Rhys Borchert’s “A Fair Shake for Fragmentalism”, *Central Division of the American Philosophical Association*, Chicago, Illinois, February 25, 2022.

Comments on Jan Swiderski’s “The Varieties of Metaphysical Coherentism”, *Syracuse University ABD Workshop*, March 19, 2021.

Comments on Carolyn Garland’s “Plural Persons, Practical Persons”, *Syracuse University ABD Workshop*, November 7, 2019.

Comments on David Builes’s “Pluralism and the Problem of Purity”, *Syracuse University Graduate Conference*, April 13, 2018.

Comments on Naomi Dershowitz’s “Contingently Sized Simples”, *Syracuse University ABD Workshop*, December 7, 2017.

Comments on Arturo Javier-Castellanos’s “Two Three-Dimensional Cohabitants are One Too Many Thinkers”, *Syracuse University ABD Workshop*, December 1, 2016.

TEACHING

Visiting Assistant Professor at Texas A&M:

Introduction to Logic, Spring 2023

Metaphysics, Spring 2023

Instructor at Syracuse University:

Theories of Knowledge and Reality, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022

Introduction to Philosophy (Honors), Spring 2022

Introduction to Moral Theory, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2018

Human Nature, Spring 2019

Teaching Assistant at Syracuse University:

Theories of Knowledge and Reality, Fall 2012 (Robert Van Gulick), Spring 2014 (Mark Heller)

Introduction to Moral Theory, Spring 2012 (Samuel Gorovitz), Fall 2013 (Ben Bradley)

Human Nature, Fall 2011 (Aaron Koller), Fall 2017 (Christopher Noble)

Logic, Spring 2013 (Thomas McKay)

Ethics and the Media Professions, Fall 2016, Spring 2018 (Paul Prescott)

GRADUATE COURSEWORK (* = audit)

Metaphysics:

Proseminar: Language, Epistemology, Mind, Metaphysics, André Gallois, Fall 2011

Metaphysics of Freedom and Knowledge, André Gallois, Fall 2012

Metaphysics: Free Will, Mark Heller, Spring 2013

Hyperintensionality, Kris McDaniel, Fall 2013

* *Beyond the Modal: Essence and Potentiality*, Kris McDaniel, Fall 2016

History of Philosophy:

Proseminar: History of Philosophy, Kara Richardson, Spring 2012

* *Aristotle on Nous*, Jessica Gelber, Spring 2014

* *Plotinus*, Christopher Noble, Fall 2017

* *Classical Arabic Philosophy*, Kara Richardson, Spring 2018

* *Descartes*, Kris McDaniel and Kara Richardson, Fall 2014

* *Spinoza*, Frederick Beiser, Spring 2016

Leibniz, Kris McDaniel and Kara Richardson, Spring 2013

* *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*, Frederick Beiser, Fall 2011

Kant, Kris McDaniel, Fall 2012

* *German Political Philosophy, 1780-1830*, Fredrick Beiser, Spring 2019

Schopenhauer, Frederick Beiser, Spring 2013

Husserl's Logical Investigations, Kris McDaniel, Spring 2012

Ethics and Social Philosophy:

Proseminar: Moral and Political Philosophy, Hille Paakkunainen, Fall 2012
Varieties of Naturalism in Metaethics, Hille Paakkunainen, Spring 2013
Recent Work in Democratic Theory, Kenneth Baynes, Spring 2012
Feminist Philosophy, Kara Richardson, Fall 2013

Philosophy of Science and Logic:

Philosophy of Physics, Joshua Spencer, Fall 2011
Logic and Language, Thomas McKay, Fall 2011

OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University, May 2018

OUTREACH

Philosophy Club Discussion Leader, Southside Academy Charter School, 2014-2015

SERVICE

Referee for: *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Synthese*

President, Syracuse Philosophy Graduate Student Organization, 2017-2018
GSO Representative, Syracuse Philosophy Graduate Student Organization, 2012-2013

REFERENCES

Kris McDaniel
University of Notre Dame
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Christopher Noble (teaching)
Syracuse University
cinoble@syr.edu

Phillip Bricker
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
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Joshua Spencer
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
joshuatspencer@gmail.com

Mark Heller
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