

Jeffrey Sanford Russell

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Research Interests Logic, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Decision Theory, Philosophy of Religion, Mathematics, Science, and Language

Career

University of Southern California

Associate Professor of Philosophy 2017–present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy 2014–2017

Magdalen College, Oxford University

Tutorial Fellow and CUF Lecturer 2011–2014

Education

New York University

PhD in Philosophy 2007–2011
Dissertation *Possible Worlds and the Objective World*
Committee Ted Sider (supervisor), Hartry Field, Kit Fine, Michael Strevens

Rutgers University

PhD candidate in Philosophy 2006–2007

Stanford University

Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in Philosophy 2001–2005
Bachelor of Science with Distinction in Mathematics
Minor in Symbolic Systems

Stanford-in-Oxford Programme Fall 2004

Awards

<i>The Philosopher's Annual</i> vol. 35, "Groupthink"	2015
Oxford Studies in Metaphysics Younger Scholars Prize	2008
MacCracken Fellow, New York University	2007
Rhodes finalist	2005
Barry M. Goldwater Scholar	2004
Phi Beta Kappa, early induction	2003
President's Award for Excellence in the Freshman Year, Stanford University	2001
President's Scholar, Stanford University	2001

Publications

- "On the Probability of Plenitude." *Journal of Philosophy* 117 (5 2020): 267–292. <https://doi.org/10.5840/jphil2020117517>.
- "Infinite Prospects." With Yoaav Isaacs, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1111/phpr.12704>.
- "Non-Archimedean Preferences Over Countable Lotteries." *Journal of Mathematical Economics* 88 (May 2020): 180–186. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmateco.2020.03.011>.
- "Sleeping Beauty's Evidence." In *The Routledge Handbook of the Philosophy of Evidence*. Maria Lasonen-Aarnio and Clayton Littlejohn, eds. Forthcoming.
- "Quality and Quantifiers." *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 96, no. 3 (2018): 562–577. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00048402.2017.1363259>.
- "Possible Patterns." With John Hawthorne, *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics* 11 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198828198.001.0001>.
- "The Logic of Opacity." With Andrew Bacon, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1111/phpr.12454>.
- "Composition as Abstraction." *Journal of Philosophy* 114 (9 2017): 453–470. <https://doi.org/10.5840/jphil2017114931>.
- "How Much is at Stake for the Pragmatic Encroacher." *Oxford Studies in Epistemology*, Forthcoming. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198833314.003.0013>.
- "General Dynamic Triviality Theorems." With John Hawthorne, *Philosophical Review* 125 (3 2016): 307–339. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00318108-3516936>.
- "Qualitative Grounds." *Philosophical Perspectives* 30 (1 2016): 309–348. <https://doi.org/10.1111/phpe.12078>.
- "Temporary Safety Hazards." *Noûs* 50 (3 2015). <https://doi.org/10.1111/nous.12104>.

- “Indefinite Divisibility.” *Inquiry* 59 (3 2015): 239–263. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2015.1033006>.
- “Groupthink.” With John Hawthorne and Lara Buchak, *Philosophical Studies* 172 (5 2015): 1287–1309. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-014-0350-8>.
- “On Where Things Could Be.” *Philosophy of Science* 81 (1 2014): 60–80. <https://doi.org/10.1086/674344>.
- “Possible Worlds and the Objective World.” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2013. <https://doi.org/10.1111/phpr.12052>.
- “Actuality for Counterpart Theorists.” *Mind*, 2013. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mind/fzt037>.
- “The Structure of Gunk: Adventures in the Ontology of Space.” In *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, 4:248–274. Dean Zimmerman, ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Presentations

- “Teaching the Limits of Logic.” Math Education Seminar, University of Southern California, March 18, 2019.
- “Vague Existence.” NYIP Workshop on Metaphysics in Higher-Order Languages, New York, May 21, 2017.
- “Vague Existence.” Invited talk, Hans Kamp Seminar in Language and Logic, University of Texas, Austin, March 2, 2017.
- “Testimonial Evidence.” Invited talk, Sawyer Seminar in Social Epistemology, Northwestern University, August 27, 2016.
- “The Logic of Opacity.” Workshop on Higher-Order Metaphysics, with Andrew Bacon, Oslo, June 5, 2016.
- “Possible Patterns.” Invited talk, Structure in Metaphysics Workshop, Ertegun House, Oxford, May 30, 2016.
- “Possible Patterns.” Invited talk, Working Group in the History and Philosophy of Logic, Mathematics, and Science, University of California, Berkeley, October 21, 2015.
- “Sleeping Beauty and the Dogmatist.” Invited talk, Baylor University, April 24, 2015.
- “Temporary Safety Hazards.” Ranch Metaphysics Workshop, Tucson, Arizona, January 30, 2015.
- “Indefinite Divisibility.” California Metaphysics Conference on the Relationship Between Logic and Metaphysics, University of Southern California, January 25, 2015.
- “Trivialities.” Invited talk, CRNAP Philosophy of Language Workshop, University of Oxford, June 22, 2014.

- “Quality and Quantifiers.” Invited talk, University of Leeds, March 28, 2014.
- “Monadic Foundations for Probability.” Theoretical Work in Progress Seminar, University of Oxford, February 28, 2014.
- “Quality and Quantifiers.” Stanford University, March 17, 2014.
- “Quality and Quantifiers.” University of Notre Dame, February 14, 2014.
- “On Where Things Could Be.” University of Michigan, January 31, 2014.
- “Quality and Quantifiers.” Columbia University, January 28, 2014.
- “On Where Things Could Be.” Invited talk, University of Southern California, September 27, 2013.
- “Temporary Safety Hazards.” Birmingham Time Workshop, Birmingham, May 1, 2013.
- “How Much is at Stake for the Pragmatic Encroacher.” Epistemology Workshop, Innsbruck, April 11, 2013.
- “Conceptual Revision.” Philosophical Society, University of Oxford, February 1, 2013.
- “On Where Things Could Be.” Invited talk, CRNAP Modality Conference, Princeton University, November 18, 2012.
- “Possible Worlds and the Objective World.” Invited talk, PERSP Metaphysics Seminar, Universitat de Barcelona, March 9, 2012.
- “On Where Things Could Be.” Philosophy of Physics Seminar, University of Oxford, March 1, 2012.
- “Possible Worlds and the Objective World.” Theoretical Works in Progress Seminar, University of Oxford, February 23, 2012.
- “Possible Worlds and the Objective World.” Invited talk, University of Michigan, January 27, 2012.
- “Possible Worlds and the Objective World.” Invited talk, Magdalen College, Oxford, March 2, 2011.
- “The Future in Context.” Oxford Graduate Conference, University of Oxford, November 21, 2010.
- “Indefinite Divisibility.” Arché/CSMN Graduate Conference, St. Andrews University, November 8, 2009.
- “Actuality for Counterpart Theorists.” Phloxshop II: Modality, Humboldt University, Berlin, September 11, 2009.
- “Indefinite Divisibility.” Washington Square Circle, New York University, January 27, 2009.
- “‘Probably If’ and Conditional Probability.” Yale/UConn Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Connecticut, November 10, 2007.

“A Domain-Specific Statistical Surface Realizer.” In *Proceedings of the Student Research Workshop at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*. University of Michigan, June 27, 2005.

“Statistical Natural Language Generation for Navigation Instructions.” CSLI Talk, Stanford University, August 27, 2004.

Comments, Etc.

Spencer, Jack. “Is Non-Fundamental Existence Relative?” Metaphysics on the Mountain virtual workshop, July 3, 2020.

Invited Participant. “Ranch Metaphysics Workshop.” January 28, 2019.

Glazier, Martin. “What Time is it in Other Possible Worlds?” APA Eastern Division Meeting, Savannah, January 4, 2018.

Solomyak, Olla. “The Meta-Metaphysics of Distant Entities: Unifying the Temporal and Modal Domains.” APA Eastern Division Meeting, Savannah, January 4, 2018.

Bergmann, Michael. “Skeptical Theism, Representativeness, and Radical Uncertainty.” APA Central Division Meeting, Kansas City, March 3, 2017.

Invited Participant. “Ranch Metaphysics Workshop.” January 25, 2017.

van Inwagen, Peter. “The Rev’d Mr. Bayes and the Life Everlasting.” International Conference on New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology, St Anne’s College, University of Oxford, June 23, 2015.

Visiting Fellow. Princeton University, fall semester, 2013.

Hirsch, Eli. “Talmudic Destiny.” Association for the Philosophy of Judaism, online symposium, July 28, 2013. <http://www.theapj.com/symposium-on-eli-hirschs-talmudic-destiny-28-august-04-july/>.

Pickavance, Tim, and Daniel Eaton. “Wagering on Pragmatic Encroachment.” Religious Epistemology, Contextualism, and Pragmatic Encroachment Workshop, University of Oxford, March 14, 2013.

Internal visitor. New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology. University of Oxford, 2013.

Ren, Huiming. “Inverted Earth Revisited.” Meiguó Metaphysical Mayhem, Peking University, June 2012.

Buchak, Lara. “Risk and Tradeoffs.” Meiguó Metaphysical Mayhem, Peking University, June 2012.

Commentator-at-large. California Metaphysics Conference, University of Southern California, January 21, 2012.

Williamson, Timothy. "Metaphysics and Higher-Order Modal Logic." Oxford Metaphysics Workshop, University of Oxford, September 25, 2011.

Invited participant. St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology, University of St. Thomas, June 2011.

Segal, Aaron. "Identity Variance." APA Eastern, Boston, December 30, 2010.

Invited participant. St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology. University of St. Thomas, June 2010.

Aas, Sean. "Modality: Norms and Naturalism." NYU/Columbia Graduate Philosophy Conference, New York University, March 7, 2009.

Przyjemski, Katrina. "A Monstrous Semantics for Anaphoric Pronouns." NYU / Columbia Graduate Philosophy Conference, Columbia University, March 1, 2008.

Rasmussen, Joshua. "A Scotistic Cosmological Argument for the Existence of God." Religion at Rutgers, Rutgers University, January 13, 2007.

Teaching

Graduate

Epistemology (Phil 570) with John Hawthorne, Spring 2020

Identity Confusion (Phil 551) with Andrew Bacon, Fall 2016

Metaphysics (Phil 560) with Shieva Kleinschmidt, Spring 2016

Epistemology and Metaphysics of Time and Space (Phil 570) Fall 2014

Philosophy of Logic and Language BPhil Seminar, with Cian Dorr, Michaelmas 2011

Metaphysics BPhil Tutorials, various terms 2011–2014

Philosophy of Language BPhil Tutorials, various terms 2011–2014

Undergraduate

The Limits of Logic (Phil 450) Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019

Philosophy of Religion (Phil 361) Spring 2015, Spring 2019

Probability and Rational Choice (Phil 258g) Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2021

The End of the World (GESM 120) Spring 2021

Minds and Machines: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence (GESM 120) Spring 2017

Frege's *Foundations of Arithmetic* Lectures, Trinity 2013 and 2014

Undergraduate Tutorials, various terms 2011–2014

Introduction to Logic, Elements of Deductive Logic, Formal Logic, General Philosophy, The Leibniz-Clarke Correspondence, Ethics, Knowledge and Reality, Philosophy of Logic and Language, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mathematics

Professional Service

Metaphysics Subject Co-Editor, <i>Pacific Philosophical Quarterly</i>	2016–2019
GPS California workshop organizing committee	2018
Placement Committee	2014–present; co-chair 2019–2020
Diversity Liaison	2017–present
Graduate Studies Committee	2015–2016, 2018–2019
Culture & Outreach Committee	2016–2017
Graduate Admissions Committee	2014–2015, 2019–2020
Co-convener, Philosophical Society, Oxford	2014
Magdalen College Governing Body	2011–2014
Magdalen College Tutorial Board	2011–2014
Magdalen College Library and Archives Committee	2012–2014
Referee, <i>American Philosophical Quarterly, Dialectica, Ergo, Journal of Philosophical Logic, Journal of Philosophy, Mind, Oxford University Press, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Synthèse</i>	
NYU Philosophy computer & website maintenance	2008–2011
Co-organizer, NYU/Columbia Graduate Conference	2008

Research Experience Outside Philosophy

Robert Bosch Corp. Research and Technology Center Computational linguistics & artificial intelligence Supervisor: Fuliang Weng	2005–2006
Center for the Study of Language and Information, Semantics Lab Computational linguistics Supervisor: Stanley Peters	2004–2005
U. Washington, Research Experiences for Undergraduates Mathematics Supervisor: James Morrow	Summer 2003
Philips/Heartstream Applied mathematics	Summer 2002

Supervisor: Stacy Gehman

Last updated: November 4, 2020
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