

Benjamin Callard

Curriculum Vitae

May 2022

Contact Information

Department of Philosophy
University of Chicago
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Chicago, IL 60637

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Areas of Specialization

Ethics; Metaphysics & Epistemology

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Mathematics; Philosophy of Mind; Philosophy of Language

Education

2007 Ph.D. in philosophy, University of California, Berkeley.

Dissertation: *Ignorance & Innocence*.

Supervisors: Samuel Scheffler, John Searle

1998 M.A. in philosophy, Tufts University.

1993 B.A., with highest honors, in philosophy, Brandeis University.

Employment History

2018-2022. Instructional Professor in Philosophy, University of Chicago.

2008-2018. Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Chicago.

2007-2008. Assistant Professor of Philosophy,
Lehman College, City University of New York.

Spring 2007. Lecturer in Philosophy,
Mills College, Oakland, California.

Papers

Published:

“The Conceivability of Platonism”, *Philosophia Mathematica*, October 2007, Vol. 15, No. 3, pp. 347-356.

“Can Math Move Matter?”, *Inquiry*, October 2018.

Presented:

“Philosophy and the Liberal Arts”, Hutchins Undergraduate Conference: Timeless Conversations in the Liberal Arts and Philosophy, conversation with Nicholas Starr, April 2022

“Authenticity”: Veritas Forum Debate with Fiona Dieffenbacher, March 2022

Ethics Bowl (Judge), February 2022

“Kierkegaard, Authenticity, and the Death of God”, Brandeis University, February 2022
Debate at the Neuroscience Education, University Research, and Outreach Club, January 2022.

“The Problem of Free Will”, Model Class, Family Weekend 2021

“Flaws and Admiration”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2021

Debate at the Neuroscience Education, University Research, and Outreach Club, May 2021

Listener Questions (with Agnes Callard), Elucidations Podcast July 2020

Debate at the Neuroscience Education, University Research, and Outreach Club, April 2019

Latke-Hamantash Debate, Mandel Hall, November 2018

“Intention and Accident”, Chabad House, November 2018

Presentation on the philosophy of mathematics, Undergraduate Philosophy Club, October 2018

Hillel Faculty-Student Meeting, October 2018

“The Value of Free Speech”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2018

“Do Minds Exist?” Night Owls Debate with Jason Bridges, February 2018

“Of Monkeys and Morals” (with Julie Tannenbaum), Eastern APA, January 2018

“How Do We Know Anything?” Interview with panel from Barksdale Honors College, University of Mississippi, December 2017

“The Value of Freedom”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2017

“What is a Man?”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2016

“A Solution to the Paradox of Perfection”, Keynote Address, Tenth Annual Undergraduate Philosophy Club Conference, Spring 2016

“Rising Above Nature”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2015

“Humor and Explanation”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2014

“The Ethics of Charity”, Cathey House Chautauqua, Winter 2014

“Ethics and the Emotions”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2013
 Interview on the Persistence of Self, The Good Stuff, Google Web Series, Fall 2013
 “Immortality”, Keynote Address, Seventh Annual Undergraduate Philosophy Club Conference, Spring 2013
 “Ethics and the Consequences of our Actions”, Humanities Day Conference, Fall 2012
 “Capitalism”, Debate, Olive-Harvey College, Spring 2012
 “Literal Meaning, Paradigm Case Arguments, and Physicalism”, Butler Society, Oxford University, Spring 2011
 “Reply to Bridges”, Wittgenstein Workshop, Spring 2010
 “Causes in a World of Reasons: Or, What Can fMRI Scans Tell Us About How to Live?": Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Spring 2010
 “The Turing Test and The Chinese Room”: Department of Computer Science, University of Chicago, Fall 2009
 “The Role of Material Conditionals in Newcomb’s Problem”: Berkeley Graduate Student Colloquium, Spring 2004.
 “Hume’s Voluntarism”: Berkeley-Stanford Conference, Spring 2004
 “Why the Metaphysical Realist is Right After All”: Berkeley-Stanford Conference, Spring 2002
 “Secondary Qualities”: Berkeley Seminar Series, Fall 2001
 “The Referential/Attributive Distinction”: Berkeley Seminar Series, Fall 2001
 “Evidence and Inference”: Berkeley-Stanford Conference, Spring 2001
 “Perry and Frege on the Essential Indexical”: Berkeley Seminar Series, Fall 2000
 “Democracy and Equality”: Tufts Interdisciplinary Colloquium, Spring 1998.

Awards

Glenn and Claire Swogger Award for Exemplary Classroom Teaching, 2022
 Janel M. Mueller Award for Excellence in Pedagogy, 2017.
 PSC-CUNY 39 Research Award, 2008.
 Dean’s Normative Time Fellowship, 2001-2002.
 Berkeley Summer Grant, 2000-2001.
 University Fellowship, 1998-1999.
 Overseas Research Scholar (ORS) Fellowship, 1994-1995.

Professional Activity

Faculty sponsor and judge, Ethics Bowl (student philosophy club), 2020-22
 Pedagogy Program Panel, Spring 2016
 Moderator, Chicago Society Faculty Panel, “Do We Need the Core?”, Spring 2015
 Referee, *Inquiry*
 Referee, *Analysis*
 Referee, *Erkenntnis*

Teaching Experience

At Chicago:

Introduction to Wittgenstein
Philosophy of Fiction (intensive track seminar for majors)
Semantic externalism (intensive track seminar for majors)
The Problem of Free Will
Naturalism
Introduction to Frege
Introduction to Philosophy of Religion
Topics in Metaphysics
Introduction to Analytic Philosophy
Introduction to Philosophy of Language
The Philosophy of Art
Theory of Punishment (graduate seminar)
Skepticism (graduate seminar)
Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy
Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology
Contemporary Analytic Philosophy (Masters students)
Philosophy of Mind
Metaphysics & Ethics of Death
Introduction to Critical Theory: Core Course (Masters Students)
Senior Seminar (undergraduate philosophy honors majors)
Philosophical Perspectives (Common core)
Introduction to Ethics
Introduction to Philosophy of Science

At Lehman:

Philosophy of Law
Justice & Society
Business Ethics

At Mills:

Introduction to Ethics

As Primary Instructor at Berkeley:

Individual Morality and Social Justice
Knowledge & Its Limits

As Teaching Assistant at Berkeley:

Philosophy of Mind (Professor John Searle)
Modern Philosophy (Professor Hannah Ginsborg)

Philosophy of Language (Professor John Searle)
Ethical Theories (Professor Thomas Nagel)
Philosophical Methods (Dr. Ami Kronfeld)
Political Philosophy (Professor Hans Sluga)
Schopenhauer & Nietzsche (Professor Hans Sluga)
Philosophy of Science (Professor Thomas Ryckman)

As Teaching Assistant at Tufts:

Philosophy of Mind (Professor Daniel Dennett)
Reasoning & Critical Thinking (Dr. Susan Russinoff)

References

Samuel Scheffler. Class of 1941 World War II Memorial Professor of Philosophy and Law, University of California, Berkeley. (510) 642-2727; scheffler@berkeley.edu.

John R. Searle. Willis S. and Marion Slusser Professor of the Philosophy of Mind and Language, University of California, Berkeley. (510) 642-3173.

R. Jay Wallace. Professor of Philosophy and Chair, University of California, Berkeley. (510) 642-2730; rjw@berkeley.edu.

Niko Kolodny. Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley. (510) 642-4323; kolodny@berkeley.edu.

Palle Yourgrau. Harry A. Wolfson Professor of Philosophy, Brandeis University. (781) 736-2782; yourgrau@brandeis.edu.

Alan Code. Professor of Philosophy. Rutgers University. (732) 932-9861; acode@philosophy.rutgers.edu. (Teaching letter)

Richard L. Mendelsohn. Professor of Philosophy, CUNY Graduate Center. (718) 960-8292; rmendelsohn@gc.cuny.edu. (Teaching letter)