

Ryan Simonelli

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy,
1115 E. 58th St.
Chicago, IL 60637

(401) 714-3570
simonelli@uchicago.edu
ryansimonelli.com

Employment:

University of Chicago. 2022-present.
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Humanities.

Education:

University of Chicago. 2015-2022.
PhD, Philosophy. Dissertation: *Meaning and the World*. Committee: Michael Kremer (co-chair), Malte Willer (co-chair), James Conant, Robert Brandom, Jason Bridges. Available at ryansimonelli.com/dissertation.

University of Pittsburgh. Fall, 2019.
Visiting Scholar under the supervision of Robert Brandom.

New College of Florida (The Honors College of Florida). 2010-2014.
BA, Philosophy.

Oxford University. Winter, 2013.
Visiting Student.

Areas of Specialty:

Philosophy of Language, Philosophical Logic, History of Analytic Philosophy

Areas of Competence:

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion

Publications:

"Sellars's Ontological Nominalism." *European Journal of Philosophy*. 2021. Early access: <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.12729>

"The Normative/Agentive Correspondence." *Journal of Transcendental Philosophy*. 2020. Early access: <https://doi.org/10.1515/jtph-2019-0021>

"Pointing Out the Skeptic's Mistake." *Florida Philosophical Review* Volume 9, Issue 1. 2014.

"Reformulating the Two Aspects of Justification." *Florida Philosophical Review*. Volume 8, Issue 1. 2013.

Papers Under Review:

“Considering the Exceptions: On the Failure of Cumulative Transitivity for Indicative Conditionals.” Revise and Resubmit (with Minor Revisions) at *Synthese*.

Papers in Progress:

“Sellars’s Two Worlds.” To appear in *Reading Kant with Sellars*, ed. M. Rane and L. C. Seiberth. Routledge.

“Why Must Incompatibility Be Symmetric?”

“Bringing Bilateralisms Together (and Pulling Them Apart Again)”

Interview:

“A Conversation with Ryan Simonelli.” Interview conducted by L. Ralon. *Figure/Ground*, March 4, 2022: figureground.org/a-conversation-with-ryan-simonelli.

Refereed Presentations:

“Can the Content of Perception Be Conceptual?” June 2019. The Significance of Self-Consciousness – A Workshop with Mathew Boyle. Leipzig University, Leipzig Germany.

“Discursive Normativity, Agentive Modality, and Perceptual Knowledge.” February 2019. Themes from the Philosophy of Robert Brandom. Marquette University, Milwaukee WI.

“Propositional Acts and Opaque Contexts.” July 2017. Logic and Life – A Workshop with Irad Kimhi. Leipzig University, Leipzig Germany.

“Truth and Being in Aristotle’s *Metaphysics*.” July 2016. The Activity of Being – A Workshop with Aryeh Kosman. Leipzig University, Leipzig Germany.

“How to Tell the Skeptic to Get Lost.” November 2013. The Florida Philosophical Association Conference. Stetson University, Deland FL.

“Reformulating the Two Aspects of Justification.” November 2012. The Florida Philosophical Association Conference. University of Central Florida, Orlando FL.

University of Chicago Workshop Presentations:

“Sellars’s Two Worlds.” February 2022. The German Philosophy Workshop.

“Simply Substructural Semantics.” November 2021. Graduate Student Research Symposium.

“Sellars’s Ontological Nominalism.” November 2020. The Theoretical Philosophy Workshop.

“Frege and the Logical Notion of Judgment.” April 2019. The German Philosophy Workshop.

“Discursive Role Semantics.” February 2019. The Theoretical Philosophy Workshop.

“Propositions and the Power to Represent.” December 2017. The Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop.

“The Skeptical Thought and Its Dissolution.” October 2017. The Wittgenstein Workshop.

“Indexicality, Opacity, and Perspectivity.” March 2017. The Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop.

“Comments on Markus Gabriel’s ‘The Meaning of “Existence” and the Contingency of Sense’.” April 2016. Contemporary European Philosophy Workshop.

“Having Knowledge in Experience.” April 2016. German Philosophy Workshop.

Honors and Awards:

University of Chicago Graduate Student Essay Prize in Philosophy (for “Considering the Exceptions”) (2021)

The Hanna Holborn Gray Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2021)

Awarded to One Student in the Humanities Division at the University of Chicago Each Year

University of Chicago Graduate Fellowship (2015-2020)

The Gerrit and Edith Schipper Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Philosophy Paper in a Four-Year College or University (2012 and 2013)

New College of Florida Merit Scholarship (2010-2014)

Teaching (“*” indicates self-designed course):

As Primary Instructor:

Doing Things with Words: A Venture into Speech Act Theory.* University of Chicago. Winter, 2022 (prosecutive).

Philosophical Perspectives II. University of Chicago. Winter, 2022 (prosecutive).

Science Fiction and Philosophy.* University of Chicago. Fall, 2022 (prospective).

Philosophical Perspectives I. University of Chicago. Fall, 2022 (prosecutive).

Consciousness and Language.* University of Chicago. Spring, 2020.

As Course Assistant:

Elementary Logic. Teaching Assistant for Michael Kremer. University of Chicago. Winter 2021.

Philosophy of Religion. Teaching Assistant for Ben Callard. University of Chicago. Winter 2021.

Varieties of Philosophical Skepticism. Teaching Assistant for James Conant. University of Chicago. Spring, 2019.

Consciousness. Teaching Assistant for David Finkelstein. University of Chicago. Fall, 2018.

Cognition. Teaching Assistant for Jason Bridges and Chris Kennedy. University of Chicago. Spring, 2018.

Formal Logic. Teaching Assistant for Aron Edidin. New College of Florida. Fall, 2013.

Professional Service:

Referee:

The Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy (× 2), *Theoria*

Conference Co-Organizer:

Skepticism as a Form of Philosophical Experience, with James Conant, Jason Bridges, and Rico Gutschmidt. University of Chicago. February, 2017.

Concepts of Aesthetic Form, with James Conant, Robert Pippin, and David Wellbery. University of Chicago. January, 2017.

Research Assistant:

Editorial Assistant for *Engaging Putnam*, with James Conant and Sanjit Chakraborty. De Gruyter: 2022.

Manuscript preparation and indexing for *Belief, Inference, and the Self-Conscious Mind*, Eric Marcus. Oxford University Press: 2021.

Manuscript preparation, indexing, and editorial assistant for *The Logical Alien*, James Conant and Sofia Miguens. Harvard University Press: 2020.

Graduate Coursework ("*" indicates audit):

What's Given to Perceptual Experience? (David Finkelstein)

Wittgenstein's Philosophical Investigations (Jason Bridges)

Introduction to Metaphysics: Existence, Truth, Activity (Irada Kimhi)

Intermediate Logic (Anubav Vasudaven)

Philosophy of Barry Stroud (James Conant and Jason Bridges)
 Philosophical Revolutions in the Concept of Form (James Conant, Robert Pippin, and David Wellbery)
 Indexicals (Malte Willer)
 Philosophy of Wilfrid Sellars (Michael Kremer)
 Aristotle's *De Anima* (Sean Kelsey, visiting from Notre Dame)
 Advanced Logic (Kevin Davey)
 Naturalism (Jason Bridges)
 Problems of the Self (Matthew Boyle)
 Heidegger's "Letter on Humanism"* (Irad Kimhi)
 Constitutivism (Matthias Haase)
 Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* (Matthew Boyle)
 Potentiality and Actuality: Aristotle's *Metaphysics-Θ* (Christopher Shields, visiting from Notre Dame)
 Semantics and Pragmatics 2: Pragmatics* (Chris Kennedy)
 Topics in Semantics and Pragmatics: Implicature* (Chris Kennedy)
 Varieties of Philosophical Skepticism* (James Conant)
 The Analytic Tradition: From Frege to Ryle* (James Conant)
 Conceptions of the Limits of Logic from Descartes to Wittgenstein* (James Conant)
 Consciousness and Memory* (David Finkelstein)
 Wilfrid Sellars* (Robert Brandom, while visiting at Pittsburgh)
 Metaontology* (J. Dmitri Gallow, while visiting at Pittsburgh)
 Further Topics in Logic: Quantification* (Kevin Davey)

Research Groups, Reading Groups, and Special Seminars:

Research Groups:

Research on Logical Expressivism (ROLE), a weekly research group focused on the development substructural logics in the theoretical framework of inferentialism and logical expressivism, led by Robert Brandom and Ulf Hlobil, (2019-Present). (logicaexpressivism.wixsite.com/role)

The *International Sellars Colloquium*, a monthly reasearch group focused on the philosophy of Wilfrid Sellars, (2021-Present). (wilfridsellars.org/isc)

Reading Groups:

James Shaw's *Wittgenstein on Rules*, led by James Shaw (2021).

Wilfrid Sellars's *Science and Metaphysics*, with Lawrence Dallman, Till Hoepfner, and Joe Brewer, (2018-2019).

James Conant's *The Logical Alien*, with Till Hoepfner, Andrew Pitel, Amy Levine, and (occasionally) James Conant, (2018).

Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*, led by Brian Leiter (2015).

Special Seminars:

Robert Brandom's "A Spirit of Trust" Mini Graduate Seminar, Leipzig University. Summer, 2016.

Aryeh Kosman's "The Activity of Being" Mini Graduate Seminar, University of Chicago. Fall, 2015.

"Justice." Summer Seminar in Philosophy at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Summer, 2013.

Non-academic Philosophical Writing:

Talking in Circles: Serious Philosophical Dialogues on the Silliness of Philosophy. An illustrated book of dialogues about overarching philosophical systems that undermine themselves. Self-Published in 2014 ([link](#)).

"Absolute Irony" (www.ryansimonelli.com/absolute-irony), a blog where I post about philosophy and related fields for a non-academic audience (2014-present).

2nd Place Winner of the 3 Quarks Daily Philosophy Prize, Judged by Huw Price (2014).

"Seeing Red, Working Nine to Five, and Wearing Platform Shoes." An article about Frank Jackson's Knowledge argument in *The Sophist*, a philosophy magazine organized by Oxford University students (2013).

"The Do-Be Tune." A short philosophical dialogue published in the New College Academic/Literary Journal *Nude Collage* (2011).

References:

Robert Brandom
University of Pittsburgh
brandom@pitt.edu

James Conant
University of Chicago
jconant@uchicago.edu

Michael Kremer
University of Chicago
kremer@uchicago.edu

Malte Willer
University of Chicago
willer@uchicago.edu

Benjamin Callard (teaching)
University of Chicago
bcallard@uchicago.edu