

David H. Finkelstein

May 2025

Department of Philosophy
University of Chicago
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Chicago, IL 60637

Education:

University of Pittsburgh, 1985-1994,
Ph.D. in Philosophy, December 1994
Harvard University, 1980-1984,
A.B., summa cum laude in Psychology and Philosophy, 1984

Positions Held:

Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Chicago, 2001-present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Indiana University, 1994-2001

Books:

Expression and the Inner (Cambridge, MA: Harvard, 2003.)
Spanish Translation: *La Expresión y lo Interno*, tr. Lino San Juan (Oviedo, Spain: KRK Ediciones, 2010)

Published Papers:

"Making the Unconscious Conscious," in *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Psychoanalysis*, R. Gipps and M. Lacewing, eds. (Oxford: 2019): 331-346.

"From Transparency to Expressivism," in *Rethinking Epistemology*, Guenter Abel and James Conant, eds. (De Gruyter, 2012): 101-118.

"Précis of *Expression and the Inner*," *Teorema*, XXX/3 (2011): 5-13.

"Replies to my Commentators," *Teorema*, XXX/3 (2011): 79-95.

“Rule-Following,” in *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Language Sciences*, ed. Patrick Colm Hogan (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011): 723-724.

“Expression and Avowal,” in *Wittgenstein: Key Concepts*, ed. Kelly Jolley (Durham, UK: Acumen Press, 2010): 185-198.

“Holism and Animal Minds,” in *Wittgenstein and the Moral Life: Essays in Honor of Cora Diamond*, ed. Alice Crary (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007): 251-278.

“Wittgenstein’s ‘Plan for the treatment of psychological concepts’,” in *Wittgenstein in America*, ed. Timothy McCarthy and Sean Stidd (Oxford, 2001): 215-236.

“Wittgenstein on Rules and Platonism,” in *The New Wittgenstein*, ed. Alice Crary and Rupert Reed (London: Routledge, 2000): 53-73.

“On Self-Blindness and Inner Sense,” *Philosophical Topics* 26 (1&2) (Spring & Fall 1999): 105-119.

“On the Distinction between Conscious and Unconscious States of Mind,” *American Philosophical Quarterly* 36 (2) (April 1999): 79-100.

Co-Authored Publications:

With Joshua Jay, “Magic Together and Alone,” *Portable Gray* 3 (1) (Spring 2020): 44-49.

In Progress:

Extending Consciousness Backwards: An Essay on First-Personal Memory

Giving Voice: Expressivism, Disjunctivism, and Conscious Perceptual Experience

“‘I was thinking of the piano-tuning’: Wittgenstein on Past-Tensed Self-Ascriptions”

Invited Papers and Presentations:

August 17, 2024

Keynote talk at the 45th International Wittgenstein Symposium 2024 in Kirchberg am Wechsel, Austria. “‘I was thinking of the piano-tuning’: Wittgenstein on Past-Tensed Self-Ascriptions”

August 6-10, 2024

15th Ludwig Wittgenstein Summer School in Kirchberg am Wechsel, Austria. Privacy, Expression, and Grammar: PI §§243-308. Co-taught with James Conant.

August 1-3 , 2024

University of Klagenfurt, Department of Philosophy, 2nd International Klagenfurt Wittgenstein Workshop. Privacy, Expression, the Human Body, and Other Minds: Cavell, McDowell, and Stroud on Wittgenstein. Co-taught with James Conant.

April, 2024

Auburn University, Department of Philosophy, “No-Nonsense Disjunctivism”

July, 2023

University of Klagenfurt, Department of Philosophy, “Wittgenstein and Moore’s Paradox,” a three-day workshop, run by James Conant and me.

Winter-Spring 2022

University of Stirling, Department of Philosophy, “Disjunctivism and Conscious Perception”

University of Chicago, Theoretical Philosophy Workshop, “Disjunctivism and Conscious Perception”

Winter-Spring 2020

Duke University, Wittgenstein Workshop at The Center for Philosophy, Arts, and Literature, “*Reading Philosophical Investigations* §244”

Summer-Fall 2019

Universität Leipzig, Wittgenstein’s Legacy, “Wittgenstein on First-Personal Memory”

Winter-Spring 2017

Court Theatre, post-play discussion of *The Hard Problem*

Summer-Fall 2016

Goodman Theatre, post-play discussion of *The Magic Play*

Court Theatre, Season Preview, discussion of *The Hard Problem*

University of Chicago, Fall Colloquium, Department of Philosophy,
“Conscious Expression”

University of Murcia, Workshop on Contemporary Rationalist and
Expressivist Approaches to Self-knowledge, “Unconscious Expression”

Summer-Fall 2015

University of Oviedo, Workshop on Transparency in Self-Knowledge and
Belief: “‘Can’t I say both?’: Investigations §682 and Wittgenstein on First-
Personal Memory”

University of Amherst, Department of Philosophy, “One Kind of Wonder”

Summer-Winter 2014

University of Chicago, Wittgenstein Workshop: “‘Can’t I say both?’:
Investigations §682 and Wittgenstein on First-Personal Memory”

Winter-Spring 2014

University of Madrid: “Memory, Expression, and Consciousness”

University of Murcia, Self-Knowledge, Expression, and Transparency:
“Memory, Expression, and Consciousness”

Summer-Fall 2013

University of Leipzig, The Capacity to Follow a Rule: “On ‘Wittgenstein on
Rules and Platonism’”

Winter-Spring 2013

Technische Universität Berlin: “Consciousness Extended Backwards”

University of Potsdam: “Consciousness Extended Backwards”

University of Leipzig: “Consciousness Extended Backwards”

University of Chicago, Midwest Faculty Seminar, Between Cognition and
Culture: “Two Ways to Understand Consciousness”

Summer-Fall 2013

Harvard University, Self, Knowledge, and Expression: “Consciousness
Extended Backwards”

University of Chicago, Wittgenstein Workshop: “Consciousness Extended
Backwards”

Summer-Fall 2011

Université Paris I – Panthéon Sorbonne, L'Expressivité : "Conscious Judgment"

Winter-Spring 2011

Auburn University: "A Truth in Transparency"

Summer-Fall 2010

LMU München, Aspects of Self-Knowledge, "A Truth in Transparency"

Winter-Spring 2010

University of Oviedo, Inter-University Workshop on *Expression and the Inner*:

"Lecture I: Highly Selective Review of *Expression and the Inner*"

"Lecture II: "Post-Postscript"

"Lecture III: "Judgment, Unity, and First-Person Authority"

University of Southampton, Self and Others in Wittgenstein and Contemporary Analytic Philosophy: "A Plea for Unity"

University of Chicago, Wittgenstein Workshop: "The Truth in Transparency."

Summer-Fall 2007

University of Iceland: "Rational Animals."

University of Iceland: "Magic and Metaphilosophy."

Winter-Spring 2007

The New School for Social Research: "Rational Animals."

Winter-Spring 2006

Uppsala University: "Holism and Animal Minds."

University of Bergen: "Holism and Animal Minds."

Summer-Fall, 2004

University of Chicago, Midwest Faculty Seminar, Relating to Animals: "Animal minds."

Winter-Spring, 2004

Salisbury University: "Is the Mind the Brain?"

Winter-Spring, 2003

University of Paris: "Detection, expression, and first-person authority."

Winter-Spring, 2001

University of Chicago: "How not to think about first-person authority."

Fall-Winter, 2000

Auburn University: "How not to think about first-person authority."

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: "How not to think about first-person authority."

Summer-Fall, 2000

Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, *Skepticism and Interpretation*:
"Nonsense, grammar, and the austere reading of Wittgenstein."

Winter-Spring, 2000

American Philosophical Association, Chicago: "Wittgenstein on other-mindedness."

Northern Illinois University: "Wittgenstein's 'Plan for the treatment of psychological concepts.'"

Winter-Spring, 1998

University of Pennsylvania: "On the Distinction between Conscious and Unconscious States of Mind."

Winter-Spring, 1996

American Philosophical Association, Chicago: "The Self and its Sensations."

Summer-Fall, 1995

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Wittgenstein in America*:
"Wittgenstein on Expression."

Summer-Fall, 1994

Central States Philosophical Association and Tennessee Philosophical Association Joint Meeting: "Sense and Nonsense in Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*."

Winter-Spring, 1994

University of Chicago, Department of Philosophy: “Unconscious Mental States.”

Columbia University, Department of Philosophy: “Unconscious Mental States.”

Kansas State University, Department of Philosophy: “Unconscious Mental States.”

Indiana University, Department of Philosophy: “Unconscious Mental States.”