

Brian Knab

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AOS: Philosophy of Science, Formal Epistemology
AOC: Logic, Philosophy of Language

Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, *In Progress*, Expected Spring 2018.

Dissertation: "How to do things with probabilities"

I defend three views in formal epistemology and the philosophy of science: I offer a new solution to the problem of the priors. I show why it's rational, on Bayesian grounds, to search for a secular explanation of fine tuning. And I argue that evidential decision theorists should two-box.

Committee: Sinan Dogramaci (Supervisor), Sahotra Sarkar (Supervisor), Kenny Easwaran, Cory Juhl, Miriam Schoenfield

M.S. Statistics, University of Texas at Austin, 2016.

Thesis: "Infectious disease and the South Texas colonias"

Supervisor: Sahotra Sarkar

B.A. Mathematics, B.A. Philosophy with high honors, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2010.

Articles

Co-authored with Cory Juhl, "On the empirical inaccessibility of higher-level modality and its significance for cosmological fine-tuning." *Synthese*, Forthcoming.

"Origins of life research does not rest on a mistake." *Ergo*, 2016.

Presentations

Original Work

"Mythical objects and the Hob/Nob puzzle." Eighth Annual MLK Conference, University of Texas at Austin, 2012.

Commentary

On Sophie Horowitz's "Credences, Truth, and Educated Guesses," Formal Epistemology Workshop, 2015.

On Nilanjan Das's "A Problem for Radical Probabilism," University of Texas Graduate Conference, 2014.

On Woo-Ram Lee's "Non-Cognitivism and the Wishful Thinking Problem," AGENT, University of Texas, 2013.

On Ben Lennertz's "Taking 'Might'-Communication Seriously," University of Texas Graduate Conference, 2012.

Awards

Graduate School Continuing Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, 2016.

High Commendation, Department of Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, 2012, 2013, 2014.

Teaching

As Primary Instructor, University of Texas

Introductory Symbolic Logic, Spring 2017.

Introduction to Logic, Fall 2016.

As Teaching Assistant, University of Texas

Medical Ethics, Spring 2016.

Plan II Honors: Problems of Knowledge and Valuation, Fall 2014, Spring 2015.

Philosophy of Science, Spring 2014.

Introduction to Logic, Fall 2013.

Contemporary Moral Problems, Spring 2013.

Introduction to Logic, Fall 2012.

Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2012.

Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2011.

Service

Organizer of ERGo, the Epistemology Reading Group at the University of Texas, 2015-2017.

Graduate Representative, University of Texas Philosophy Department, 2012-2013.

Organizer of the University of Texas Graduate Conference, University of Texas, 2012.

Graduate Coursework

In Philosophy

Russell, 1900-1914.
 Meta-Ethics in 20th Century Analytic Phil
 Core Logic
 Philosophy of Action
 Perspectivalism
 Philosophy of Set Theory
 Epistemology of Language
 Consciousness and Intentionality
 Philosophy of Mind: Color
 Definiteness

In Statistics

Statistical Methods
 Bayesian Statistical Methods
 Design and Analysis of Experiments
 Mathematical Statistics I
 Mathematical Statistics II
 Regression Analysis
 Monte Carlo Methods in Statistics
 Linear Models

References

Sinan Dogramaci, Supervisor
 Associate Professor of Philosophy
 University of Texas at Austin
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Cory Juhl
 Associate Professor of Philosophy
 University of Texas at Austin
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Kenny Easwaran
 Associate Professor of Philosophy
 Texas A & M University
easwaran@tamu.edu

Sahotra Sarkar, Supervisor
 Professor of Philosophy, Integrative Biology
 University of Texas at Austin
sarkar@austin.utexas.edu

Miriam Schoenfield
 Associate Professor of Philosophy
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
mschoenfieldphil@gmail.com

Ian Proops, Teaching Reference
 Professor of Philosophy
 University of Texas at Austin
iproops@austin.utexas.edu

Other

Languages

R, Python, Ruby, SQL (MS, Postgre), VB, C#, C++, Objective-C