

Elisabeth Maura Camp

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Academic Appointments

Rutgers University, New Brunswick
Professor, July 2018 to present
Associate Professor, September 2013 to June 2018
Affiliated Faculty, Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science

University of Pennsylvania
Associate Professor, July 2011 to July 2013
Assistant Professor, July 2006-July 2011
Affiliated Faculty, Institute for Research in Cognitive Science

Society of Fellows, Harvard University, 2003-2006

Areas of Specialization Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind, Aesthetics

Areas of Competence Philosophy of Psychology, Philosophy of Linguistics

Teaching Interests Philosophy and Literature, History of Analytic Philosophy

Education

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley; Philosophy, 1996-2003
Saying and Seeing-As: The Linguistic Uses and Cognitive Effects of Metaphor
Committee: Richard Wollheim (chair), John Searle, John MacFarlane, Kristen Hanson (English)
B.A. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1989-1993; Highest Honors (in English)
Concentrations in English and Philosophy

Publications

Journal Articles

- "Nicknames as Tools for Managing Face"
Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume 99:1 (July 2025), 47–74.
- "Playing with Labels: Identity Terms as Tools for Building Agency," with Carolina Flores
Philosophical Quarterly 74:4 (October 2024), 1103–1136.
- "Stories and Selves: A Twisted Love Story about the Meaning of Life"
Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement 95 (May 2024), 157-179.
- "Perspectives in Imaginative Engagement with Fiction"
Philosophical Perspectives: Philosophy of Mind, ed. J. Hawthorne 31:1 (December 2017), 73-102.

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- "Why Metaphors Make Good Insults: Perspectives, Presupposition, and Pragmatics"
Philosophical Studies 174:1 (January 2017), 47-64.
- "Conventions' Revenge: Davidson, Derangement, and Dormativity"
Inquiry 59:1 (January 2016), 113-138.
- "Slurring Perspectives"
Analytic Philosophy 54:3 (September 2013), 330-349.
- "Sarcasm, Pretense, and the Semantics/Pragmatics Distinction"
Noûs 46:4 (December 2012), 587-634.
- "Wordsworth's *Prelude*, Poetic Autobiography, and Narrative Constructions of the Self"
Nonsite.org vol. 3 [Online], (October 2011), 34 pp.
- "Two Varieties of Literary Imagination: Metaphor, Fiction, and Thought Experiments"
Midwest Studies in Philosophy: Poetry and Philosophy XXXIII, ed. Howard Wettstein (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009), 107-130.
- "Putting Thoughts to Work: Concepts, Systematicity, and Stimulus-Independence"
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 78:2 (March 2009), 275-311.
[reprinted as "Poniendo en marcha los pensamientos: conceptos, sistematicidad e independencia del estímulo," in *Conceptos, Lenguaje y Cognición*, ed. Mariela Aguilera, Laura Danón y Carolina Scotto (Cordoba, Argentina: Editorial de la UNC, 2015), pp. 149-210.]
- "Sarcastic 'Like': A Case Study in the Interface of Syntax and Semantics"
[primary author], with John Hawthorne, *Philosophical Perspectives* 22:1: *Language and Logic*, ed. J. Hawthorne (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2008), 1-21.
- "Showing, Telling, and Seeing: Metaphor and 'Poetic' Language"
The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic, and Communication, vol. 3: *A Figure of Speech: Metaphor* [Online] (2008), 1-24.
- "Thinking with Maps"
Philosophical Perspectives 21:1, *Philosophy of Mind*, ed. J. Hawthorne (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2007), 145-182.
- "Contextualism, Metaphor, and What is Said"
Mind & Language 21:3 (June 2006), 280-309.
- "Metaphor and That Certain 'Je Ne Sais Quoi'"
Philosophical Studies 129:1 (May 2006), 1-25.
- "Critical Study of Josef Stern's *Metaphor in Context*"
Noûs 39:4 (December 2005), 715-731.

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"The Generality Constraint, Nonsense, and Categorical Restrictions"

Philosophical Quarterly 54:215 (April 2004), 209-231.

Book Chapters

"'That's All You Really Are': Centering Identities and Essentialist Beliefs," with Carolina Flores

forthcoming, *Mind, Language, and Social Hierarchy: Constructing a Shared Social World*, ed. Sally Haslanger, Karen Jones, Greg Restall, François Schroeter, and Laura Schroeter (Oxford University Press).

"Perspectival Complacency, Perversion, and Amelioration"

The Virtue of Open-Mindedness and Perspective, ed. Wayne Riggs and Nancy Snow (Oxford University Press, 2025), 19–57.

"Linguistic Variation, Agency and Style," with Ethan Nowak

Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy of Language, ed. Ernie Lepore and Una Stojnic (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2025), 676-712.

"Just Saying, Just Kidding: Liability for Accountability-Avoiding Speech in Ordinary Conversation, Politics and Law"

From Lying to Perjury: Linguistic and Legal Perspectives on Lies and Other Falsehoods, ed. Laurence R. Horn. *Foundations in Language and Law*, Volume 3 (De Gruyter Mouton, 2022), 227-258.

"Introduction: Emily Dickinson's Epistemic Ambitions for Poetry"

Philosophy and Emily Dickinson, ed. E. Camp (Oxford University Press, 2021), 1-29.

"Priorities and Diversities in Thought and Language"

Language and Reality from a Naturalistic Perspective: Themes from Michael Devitt, ed. A. Bianchi (London: Springer Publishing, 2020), 45-66.

"Imaginative Frames for Scientific Inquiry: Metaphors, Telling Facts, and Just-So Stories"

The Scientific Imagination, ed. P. Godfrey-Smith and A. Levy (Oxford University Press, 2019), 304-336.

"Perspectives and Frames in Pursuit of Ultimate Understanding"

Varieties of Understanding: New Perspectives from Philosophy, Psychology, and Theology, ed. Stephen Grimm (Oxford University Press, 2019), 17-45.

"Why Maps are Not Propositional"

Non-Propositional Intentionality, ed. A. Grzankowski and M. Montague (Oxford University Press, 2018), 19-45.

"A Dual Act Analysis of Slurs"

Bad Words, ed. D. Sosa (Oxford University Press, 2018), 29-59.

"Insinuation, Common Ground, and the Conversational Record"

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New Work in Speech Acts, ed. D. Harris, D. Fogal and M. Moss (Oxford University Press, 2018), 40-66.

“The Meaning of Perspectives in Engagement with Fiction”

trans. as “Die Bedeutung von Perspektiven für die Auseinandersetzung mit Fiktionen,”

Perspektive und Fiktion, ed. T. Hilgers and G. Koch (Wilhelm Fink Verlag, Paderborn, 2017), 53-78.

“Metaphors in Literature”

The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Literature, ed. N. Carroll and J. Gibson (Routledge Press, 2015), 334-346.

“Logical Concepts and Associative Characterizations”

The Conceptual Mind: New Directions in the Study of Concepts, ed. E. Margolis and S. Laurence (MIT Press, 2015), 591-621.

reprinted as “Conceptos lógicos y caracterizaciones asociativas,” in *Conceptos, Lenguaje y Cognición*, ed. Mariela Aguilera, Laura Danón y Carolina Scotto (Cordoba, Argentina: Editorial de la UNC, 2015), pp. 149-210.

“Metaphor and Varieties of Meaning”

A Companion to Davidson, ed. E. Lepore and K. Ludwig (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), 361-378.

“A Language of Baboon Thought?”

The Philosophy of Animal Minds, ed. R. Lurz (Cambridge University Press, 2009), 108-127.

“Prudent Semantics Meets Wanton Speech Act Pluralism”

Context-Sensitivity and Semantic Minimalism: New Essays on Semantics and Pragmatics, ed. G. Preyer and G. Peter (Oxford University Press, 2007), 194-213.

Surveys and Reviews

“*The Politics of Language* by David Beaver and Jason Stanley”

Mind (December 2024); fzae068, <https://doi.org/10.1093/mind/fzae068>

“Agency, Stability, and Permeability in ‘Games’” (Commentary on Thi Nguyen’s “Games and the Art of Agency,” with reply by Nguyen); *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* 23:3 (January 2023), 448-462.

“Organization and Structure in Service of Systematicity and Productivity” (Commentary on Nicholas Shea’s *Representation in Cognitive Science*, with reply by Shea)

Studies in History and Philosophy of Science 92 (March 2022), 264-266.

“Language: Power Plays at the Edges of Communication”

Philosophy for Girls: An Invitation to the Life of Thought, ed. Melissa Shew and Kimberly Garchar (Oxford University Press, 2020), 167-180.

“Pragmatic Force in Semantic Context: Robert Stalnaker’s *Context*”

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Philosophical Studies 174:6 (June 2017), 1617–1627.

“Metaethical Expressivism”

The Routledge Handbook of Metaethics, ed. Tristram McPherson and David Plunkett (Routledge Press, 2017), 87-101.

“Instrumental Reasoning in Non-Human Animals” (with Eli Shupe)

The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy and Animal Minds, ed. Jake Beck and Kristin Andrews (Routledge Press, 2017), 100-108.

“Ofra Magidor’s *Category Mistakes*”

Mind 125:498 (April 2016), 611-615.

“Metaphor”

The Pragmatics Encyclopedia, ed. Louise Cummings (Routledge Press, 2010), 264-266.

“Metaphor in the Mind: The Cognition of Metaphor”

Philosophy Compass 1:2 (March 2006), 154-170.

“Metaphor” [second author, with Marga Reimer]

The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Language, ed. Ernie Lepore and Barry Smith (Oxford University Press, 2006), 845-863.

Edited Volumes

The Poetry of Emily Dickinson: Philosophical Perspectives, Oxford University Press, 2021.

A Figure of Speech: Metaphor, The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic and Communication, vol. 3 [online]. (Manhattan, KS: New Prairie Press), 2008.

Guest editor, *Philosophical Studies* 140:1, Papers from the Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, with Ryan Wasserman, Elizabeth Harman and Jonathan Schaffer (July 2008).

Other (Podcasts, blog posts, interviews, etc.)

Podcast interview with Robinson Erhardt, [Robinson’s Podcast](#), April 2023

Podcast interview with Kieran Setiya, [5 Questions](#), March 2021

“Economics of Imagination: Showing and Telling with Pictures and Words”

[The Junkyard](#), October 2020

“Footnotes, Asides, and Talking Under the Table: Some Hows and Whys of Marginal Speech”

Talk at [Tedx:Rutgers](#), October 2017

“[Metaphor](#)”; “[Imagination](#)”

Interviews with James Franco and Eliot Michaelson at [Philosophy Time](#), July 2017

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“Meaning, Perspective, and the Philosophy of Trumpian Language”

Podcast interview with Ian Olasov at [The Owl](#), June 2017

“Sounds of Silence, or Are We Responsible for What We Avoid Saying?”

[Blog of the APA](#), June 2017

(expanded version of “The Hot Potato of Interpretive Responsibility,” [Language Log](#), June 2017)

“Personal Identity: The Narrative Self”

Video on [WiPhi](#), February 2016

“Pretty in Pink”

[Aeon Magazine](#), January 2015

(revised version of “The Socio-Aesthetics of Pink,” [Aesthetics for Birds](#), November 2014)

“Metaphors and Minds”

Interview with Richard Marshall, [3AM Magazine](#), January 2014

Presentations (2020-2025)

Talks Delivered

- “Nicknames as Tools for Managing Face,” Symposium (with Eliot Michaelson and Ethan Nowak), 99th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind, University of Glasgow, July 2025
- “Whence, and Wherefore, Semantics?,” Keynote Address, 4th Annual Conference of the Philosophy of Language Association, Edinburgh University, July 2025
- “Interpretive Perspectives: The Perceptual Analogy” Mind and Language Workshop, NYU, February 2025
- “Stories and Selves: A Twisted Love Story about the Meaning of Life” Smith College, December 2024
- “Nicknames as Tools for Face and Frame,” Joint Colloquium in Linguistics and Philosophy, Oxford University, November 2024
- “Nicknames as Tools for Face and Frame,” Linguistics Department, University College London, November 2024
- “From Perceptual Point of View to Interpretive Perspective,” Philosophy Department, University College London, November 2024
- “Nicknames as Tools for Face and Frame,” Joint Colloquium in Linguistics and Philosophy, Georgetown University, October 2024
- “Nicknames as Tools for Face and Frame,” Non-Ideal Philosophy of Language Workshop, Boston University, October 2024
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, NYU, September 2024

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- “Learning from Thought Experiments,” World Congress of Philosophy, Rome, August 2024
- “Expressive Style as Perspectival Performance,” World Congress of Philosophy, Rome, August 2024
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” World Congress of Philosophy, Rome, August 2024
- “Attention, Indirection, and Accountability,” Symposium on Jessica Keiser’s *Non-Ideal Philosophy of Language*, Yale University, May 2024
- “Stories and Selves: A Twisted Love Story about the Meaning of Life” Keynote Address, USC-UCLA Graduate Conference, April 2024
- “From Perceptual Point of View to Interpretive Perspective,” University of California Irvine, April 2024
- “From Perceptual Point of View to Interpretive Perspective,” Johns Hopkins University, April 2024
- “Stories and Selves: A Twisted Love Story about the Meaning of Life,” Tel Aviv University (virtual), April 2024
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Keynote Address, 23rd Annual Pitt-CMU Philosophy Graduate Conference, March 2024
- “Stories and Selves: A Twisted Love Story about the Meaning of Life,” Mind and Moral Philosophy Group, University of Michigan, February 2024
- “Perspectives on Perspectives,” Invited symposium with comments from Ege Yumsak (Columbia University) and Sandra Mitchell (HPS, University of Pittsburgh), Eastern APA, New York, January 2024
- “Stories and Selves,” World Philosophy Day Lecture, North Carolina State University, November 2023
- “Stories and Selves,” NEW Metaphysics (with comments by Justin Khoo), Providence RI, October 2023
- “Stories and Selves,” University of Massachusetts Amherst, October 2023
- “Identity Labels as Interpretive Frames for Building Agency,” Keynote, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Pittsburgh, June 2023
- “Norms of Perspectival Assessment,” Normativity Online Workshop on Non-Linguistic Normativity, May 2023 (online)
- “From Point of View to Perspective — And Back Again,” Workshop on Imagistic Cognition, University of Salzburg, May 2023
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” Northwestern University, March 2023
- “Way-finding and Perspective-Shifting: Toward a Non-Arithmetic Theory of Creative Cognition,” Lakatos Award Workshop for Nick Shea, London, March 2023

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- “Stories and Selves,” Royal Institute of Philosophy, London, March 2023
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” University of Texas Austin, February 2023
- “Perspectival Framing with Pictures and Words,” Mary Mothersill Lecture, University of British Columbia, January 2023
- “Stories and Selves,” Workshop on the Metaphysics of Personal Identity, Rutgers University, November 2022
- “Liability for Accountability-Avoiding Speech,” CUNY Workshop on Language, Planning, and Cooperativity, November 2022
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” CUNY Graduate Center, November 2022
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” Claremont-McKenna College, November 2022
- “Nicknames as Tools for Navigating Social Space,” University of Buffalo, October 2022
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Keynote, AI: The Act of Interpretation, Seminar at the Institute for Philosophy and the New Humanities, The New School, September 2022
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Burman Lecture 1, Umeå University, Sweden, June 2022
- “Perspectival Framing with Pictures and Words,” Burman Lecture 2, Umeå University, Sweden, June 2022
- “Frames, Nicknames, and the Coercion of Intimacy,” Burman Lecture 3, Umeå University, Sweden, June 2022
- “Stories and Selves: The Stories We Tell,” (two lectures, a panel and a workshop), 48th Conference on the Great Mother and the New Father, Camp Kieve, Nobleboro Maine, June 2022
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Conceptual Engineering Seminar Series, Arché, St Andrews and University of Zurich, May 2022 (online)
- “Organization and Structure in the Service of Systematicity,” Mental Formats Workshop, York University, May 2022
- “From Perceptual Point of View to Interpretive Perspective,” Thacher Lecture, George Washington University, March 2022
- “Perspectives, Propositions and Agents in Jason Stanley and David Beaver’s *Politics of Language*,” (Author Meets Critics), Central APA, March 2022
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Princeton University, February 2022 (online)
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Ohio State University, January 2022 (online)
- “Point of View and Perspective in Pictures and Words,” Northern Imagination Forum, January 2022 (online)

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- “Perspectives and Personae in Poetry,” Words, Voices, and Bodies Workshop, Warwick University, January 2022 (online)
- “From Point of View to Perspective,” Keynote, San Raffaele School of Philosophy: Mind, Language, and the First-Person Perspective, Milan, September 2021 (online)
- “Expressing Perspectives Through Words,” Keynote, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, June 2021 (online)
- “Framing and Looping; Solidarity and Resistance,” HaLO4: Modelling Oppressive Speech/Norms & Social Meaning, Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics (ZAS), March 2021 (online)
- “Agency, Stability, and Permeability in ‘Games’,” *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* Symposium on Nguyen’s “Games and the Art of Agency,” University of Pennsylvania, March 2021 (online)
- “Just Kidding: Willful Deniability in Speech” Jowett Society, Oxford University, February 2021 (online)
- “Economics of Imagination: Showing and Telling with Pictures and Words” University of Manchester, February 2021 (online)
- “Just Kidding: Willful Deniability in Speech” HaLO2: Silencing, Speaking Up and Free Speech, Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics (ZAS), February 2021 (online)
- “Economics of Imagination: Showing and Telling with Pictures and Words” MUMBLE, University of Turin, December 2020 (online)
- “Economics of Imagination: Showing and Telling with Pictures and Words” Workshop on Cognitive Science, Aesthetics, and the Imagined World, Princeton University, November 2020 (online)
- “Perspectival Complacency, Perversion, and Amelioration,” Uppsala University, November 2020 (online)
- “Perspectival Complacency, Perversion, and Amelioration,” University of Sheffield, October 2020 (online)
- “Perspectival Complacency, Perversion, and Amelioration,” Cornell University, September 2020 (online)
- “Perspectival Complacency, Perversion, and Amelioration,” Central APA, February 2020
- “Up Close and Personal: Using Nicknames to Navigate Social and Semantic Space,” University of Pittsburgh, January 2020
- “Agents and Exportation in Thi Nguyen’s *Games: The Art of Agency*” (Author Meets Critics), Eastern APA, January 2020

Comments, Seminars, and Public Events

- Panelist, “Metaphors and Analogies to the Holocaust: Are They Ever Appropriate?” Panel Discussion (with Edna Friedberg, Senior Curator, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; Lisa Lehmann, Director of Bioethics and Health Trust, Google; and Kelly McBride, Public Editor, National Public

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Radio, moderated by Michael Smerconish, CNN radio host and television presenter), Sedley Holocaust and Medicine Symposium, NYU Grossman School of Medicine, February 2022 (online)

- “My Top 5: Teaching Vices,” Teaching Hub, Eastern APA, January 2020

Honors and Visiting Positions

Scots Philosophical Association Centenary Fellow, University of Glasgow, July 2025
residency

Burman Lectures, Umeå University, Sweden, June 2022
three lectures, plus a parallel workshop on the social nature of speech acts

Visiting Professor, Institut Jean Nicod/ L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, June 2019
residency, including a series of lectures about maps

Invited Guest, Varieties of Non-Propositional Content, *eikones* Center for the Theory and History of the Image, University of Basel, June 2019
one-day workshop about my work

Invited Guest, XXVII SIUCC: Inter-University Workshop on Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Spanish Society for Analytic Philosophy, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain, September 2018
three-day conference about my work

Philosophy Retreat, Davidson College, November 2018
three-day discussion with philosophy majors and faculty about my work

Faculty Fellow, Seminar on Art and Aesthetics; Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis, 2016-2017
course release to participate in interdisciplinary humanities seminar

Charles A. Ryskamp Research Fellow, American Council of Learned Societies, 2010-2011
to support research by untenured assistant professors in the humanities

Fellow, National Forum on the Future of Liberal Education, 2010-2012
to prepare a national group of emerging academic leaders to guide the future of the liberal arts

Junior Fellowship, Society of Fellows, Harvard University, 2003-2006
to enable exceptional early-stage scholars to pursue studies free from formal requirements

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, Penn Humanities Forum, 2003 (declined)

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award (APA, *Pacific Division*), 2002

William H. Fink Prize in Philosophy, 2001
for outstanding philosophy paper by a Berkeley graduate student

Una's Fellow, Townsend Center for the Humanities, 2000
for completion of dissertation and interdisciplinary discussion

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, 1999

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Fellowship, 1996
three-semester stipend for promising graduate students

Teaching

Undergraduate Courses

90:296: *What is Meaning?*

730:218: *Philosophy of Mind*

730:260: *Philosophical Topics in Literature*, with Ernie Lepore and Joyce Carol Oates

730:263: *Philosophy of Art*

730:320: *Speech Acts*

730:360: *Topics in Cognitive Science: Animal Minds, Maps and Movies*

730:409: *Wittgenstein*

Philosophy of Language (at Penn)

Graduate Courses

At Rutgers

Imaginative capacities and limitations in moral and political life, with Alex Guerrero (Fall 2023)

In this course we will explore the ways in which imagination both enables and constrains our engagement with other people. Standard philosophical methodology focuses on the causal roles and normative status of belief and desire, and downplays ‘non-propositional’ states like imagination, emotion, and interpretation. But these also occupy a pervasive role in our cognitive and social lives. We will focus especially on perspectival imagination: trying on an alternative point of view, orientation, or standpoint while holding (relatively) fixed how one takes the world to be. We’ll begin by surveying some key theoretical notions of perspective in cognition, epistemology and social theory, and how they contribute to explaining interpersonal interaction. How do mind-reading and empathy support and distort understanding other persons? In the second part of the course, we’ll explore normative and practical implications for moral and political life. Regarding moral engagement, we will focus on implications for love, respect, and consent. Regarding politics, we will consider what existing democratic institutions require of us (and our imaginative capacities), and what practices and reforms might be needed to support and sustain democracy, as well as implications for imagining and inaugurating alternative political structures.

Keeping track of conversations: Scoreboards, Semantics and Psychology, with Chris Barker (NYU Linguistics) and Andy Egan (Spring 2022)

In this course we'll be concerned with questions about what kinds of theoretical resources we need in order to characterize states of conversations, and ways in which states of conversations evolve in response to various actions (especially utterances) by participants in the conversation. One theme will be the attractions and limitations of “flat” models, according to which all we need is information, and in particular information that can be represented with a set of possible worlds. (Rather than something more dynamic or more complex.) Another theme will be the relation(s) between the objects that we use to characterize conversational states and linguistic meanings and the psychological states of participants, speakers, and hearers. A third theme will be questions about what line of work semantic theories are in: which phenomena are they properly accountable to? Which phenomena should we be trying to model with semantic theories? Why?

Aesthetics: From Point of View to Perspective (Fall 2019)

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In everyday life and theoretical discussions, we often talk about perspectives as open-ended modes of interpretation. In art, we are often interested in how artworks express perspectives. But the notion of 'perspective' must be highly abstract to cover the uses we put it to, including diverse perspectives on topics like war, modernity, female bodies, and the nature of truth. This course explores what a perspective is, how perspectives are expressed and embodied in art, and how they are put to aesthetic use through style. We begin with literal spatio-temporal point of view in photographs, work through pictures to literary fiction, and then examine some multi-modal media: dance, film, games, comics and music. Readings will be drawn from analytic aesthetics, art history, and literary and film theory.

Prosem, with Michael Glanzberg (Fall 2022); with Andy Egan (Fall 2017)

As an entry point into graduate studies in philosophy at Rutgers, this course aims to accomplish three things. First, it will provide an introduction to some core topics in contemporary analytic philosophy, including language, mind, metaphysics, epistemology, and value. Second, it will provide you with a chance to practice presenting, discussing, and writing philosophy. Third, we will discuss – and implement – practical issues in professional development.

Philosophy of Language: Assertion and Other Speech Acts (Spring 2017)

This course considers the speech act of assertion by comparing it to some of its cousins: 'not-at-issue' informational contributions like presuppositions and implicatures; and non-information-contributing acts like questions, imperatives, and promises. It focuses on differences both in these various speech acts' dynamic conversational effects and in their longer-term public consequences. It considers whether and to what extent they are conventional, and tied to or marked by specific linguistic constructions. And it examines the various epistemic and social norms that govern them, and how these play out socially and politically. Readings range from classics by Austin, Searle, Strawson, Grice and Stalnaker to forthcoming articles by Yalcin, Starr and Murray, and Saul; and include philosophers of language, linguists, epistemologists, and feminists.

Philosophy of Mind: Concepts (Fall 2015)

This course examines what concepts are, and what functions they need to perform. More specific topics include whether and how inferential roles can play a constitutive role in individuating concepts (atomism and holism); how the reference of concepts is determined (individualism and externalism); and compositionality (prototypes, the Language of Thought, and cognitive maps). For each topic, we consider the canonical philosophical background, relevant psychological investigations, and more recent philosophical discussion.

Creativity in Language Use (Spring 2014)

This course will explore ways in which speakers and listeners (and authors and readers) act creatively in using language. We will pay special attention to the ways in which they respond to and manipulate nuanced aspects of syntactic, lexical, and discourse structure in order to achieve communicative, aesthetic, and other ends. Topics include ambiguity resolution and neologisms, figurative speech (metaphor, sarcasm and irony), and linguistic art (poetry and fiction).

Dissertation Seminar (Spring 2015)

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This is a seminar for advanced graduate students in philosophy, aimed at developing philosophical skills in the context of a collaborative community of peers. Students will write, present, and respond to others' philosophical work, both orally and in writing. We will also discuss other aspects of professional life and the profession.

At Penn

Proseminar (Fall 2012)

Philosophy and/of Literature (Fall 2011)

This course has two parts. First, we consider a collection of philosophical views about what literature is and what it does to and for us. What makes literary language and form distinctive? In particular, how does it differ from philosophical language and form? Does this difference make literature especially apt, or limited, at expressing certain kinds of truths, or conveying certain types of knowledge—perhaps especially ethical ones? Second, we'll explore these issues in a more concrete way through a series of (mostly philosophical) comparisons between philosophical and literary texts.

Philosophy of Language: Expressivism and Affective Language (Fall 2009)

This course explores the virtues and drawbacks of expressivism, broadly construed. Most contemporary philosophers of language analyze meaning in terms of truth-conditional content: how the world would have to be for an assertion or other speech act to be satisfied. But in many cases, it's unclear just what ontologically respectable facts could make our utterances true. Further, much of our communicative activity appears to be aimed at affecting our interlocutors' hearts and actions as much as their minds. If some aspects of conventional linguistic meaning involve the expression of evaluative or emotional attitudes rather than (just) truth-conditional content, how should a theory of meaning analyze this? We begin with classic discussions of moral emotivism and more recent versions of expressivism in ethics, paying special attention to the Frege-Geach problem. We then turn to recent discussions of epithets, especially racial slurs, in the philosophy of language, tracing out similarities and contrasts with moral expressivism.

Philosophy of Art: Emotions in the Arts (with Paul Guyer; Spring 2009)

This course investigates historical and contemporary philosophical views on the role of the emotions in the arts. Do we have genuine emotional responses to works of art – to fiction? paintings? music? If so, what are the conditions under which we do and don't have such emotional responses? When are such responses appropriate? In particular, does an appropriate aesthetic attitude require emotional distance from the object of the artwork? Is it inappropriate to respond emotionally to morally depraved artworks? How do formal devices induce, constrain, and otherwise alter our emotional responses to art?

Philosophy of Mind: Aspects in Perception and Thought (Spring 2008)

This course examines a range of cases in which we experience or think of something 'under an aspect', in a way that appears not to be reducible to simply taking in or entertaining propositional information. In the first half, we consider the most familiar case, of aspectual perception. As Wittgenstein says, when I come to see the duck-rabbit figure *as* a duck, "I see that it has not changed, and yet I see it differently." What changes, and what remains constant, in my perceptual experience? In the second half, we consider a range of cases of aspects in thought: emotions, metaphor, narrative,

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and ethics. In what respects are these ‘perspectives’ non-propositional? In what ways are they similar to and different from the structural and conceptual aspects in perception?

Theories of Communication (Summer 2012, International Summer School in Cognitive Science and Semantics)

A graduate course co-organized by The University of Latvia and the Department of Philosophy at McMaster University; co-taught with Ernie Lepore (Rutgers), Peter Ludlow (Northwestern), Dan Sperber (Central European University, and CNRS, Paris), Matthew Stone (Rutgers), and Deirdre Wilson (University College London). What linguistic knowledge and interpretive mechanisms are required to explain the phenomena of inferential communication? Should we favor an explanation rooted in Relevance Theory? And what insight can a pragmatic approach give us into the evolution of human communication? Among the topics explored will be the following: (i) information structure, (ii) temporal reference, (iii) indirect speech acts, (iv) non-literal uses of language, in particular, metaphor and related tropes, including hyperbole, simile, sarcasm and irony, (v) hinting, (vi) the nature of word meaning, (vii) cooperation and antagonism in conversation, (viii) slurs, and (ix) the idea of a dynamic lexicon.

Advising

Graduate Students

In progress

Lauren Richardson (Rutgers, supervisor), 2020-present
“Linguistic Profiling, Machine Learning and Linguistic Bias”
Mia Accomando (Rutgers, supervisor), 2020-present
“Sensory Gating, Perspectival Perception, and Neural Ontology”
Kayla Jackson (Rutgers), 2024-present
“Resistance in Action: Protest Reimagined through the Lens of Black Resistance”
Rose Fonth (Rutgers), 2024-present
“New Kinds of Social Wrongs: Misnaming, Acoustic Injustice, and Intimate Deception”
Adrian Liu (Rutgers), 2025-present
“Evidence”
Devin Morse (Columbia, external member), 2022-present
“Conversational Dynamics & Deniability”
Noah Betz-Richman (Columbia, external member), 2023-present
“Stylistic Variation and Linguistic Practice”
Steven Hernandez (CUNY, external member), 2022-present
Jordan Bridges (Rutgers), 2024-present
“Self-Fulfilling Reasoning”
Mara McGuire (University of Pittsburgh, external member), 2024-present
“Metaphor in the Scientific Image”
Isabel Uriagereka Herburger

Degrees Granted (PhD committee member unless otherwise noted)

Rutgers

Patrick Brooks (Rutgers, July 2025; NIH postdoc)

Elisabeth Maura Camp

“Democracy in Crisis”

Caroline von Klemperer (Rutgers, June 2025; Idaho State University)

“The Ethics of Our Cognitive Lives”

Callan Howland (Rutgers, supervisor, August 2024; RuCCS postdoc)

“Presumed Cooperation as a Pragmatic Presumption”

Carolina Flores (Rutgers, co-supervisor, June 2022; Post-doctoral Fellow, UC Irvine; Assistant Professor, UC Santa Cruz; Assistant Professor, University of Lisbon)

“Bad Believers: Evidence-Resistance, Rational Persuasion, and Social Change”

Adam Gibbons (Rutgers, June 2022; Assistant Professor, Lingnan University, Hong Kong)

“Incentives, Institutions, and the Language of Politics”

Olivia Odoffin (Rutgers, August 2021; Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Antwerp)

“A Response to the Two-Fold Heterogeneity Problem for Affect Programs”

Dee Payton (Rutgers, April 2021), Assistant Professor, Howard University

“How to Be Social”

David Anton Johnson (Rutgers, July 2020; Post-doctoral Fellow, Brown University)

“Deliberation as the Resolution of Questions”

Eli Shupe (Rutgers, co-supervisor, May 2020; Assistant Professor, University of Texas Arlington)

“Animal Reasoning and Human Understanding”

Cameron Domenico Kirk-Giannini (Rutgers, 2019; Assistant Professor, Rutgers University Newark)

“Commitment, Communication, and Content: Toward a Theory of Assertion”

Peter van Elswyk (Rutgers, 2018; Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)

“Un/Qualified Declaratives”

Georgi Gardiner (Rutgers, 2017; Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee)

“In Pursuit of Understanding”

Una Stojnic (Rutgers, 2016; Assistant Professor, Princeton University)

“Context-Sensitivity in a Coherent Discourse”

Non-Rutgers

Michael O’Leary (Universität Basel, co-supervisor, April 2025)

“The Formats of Mental Representation: Explaining the Differences between Human and Nonhuman Animal Thought”

Emily Lacy (University of Illinois Chicago, external member, April 2024)

“The Role of Interpretation in Art Criticism”

Paula Keller (Cambridge University, external examiner, October 2023, JRF Christ College Cambridge)

“Epistemic Emancipation”

Claire Darteiz (University of Tennessee, external member, June 2023, lecturer)

“The Epistemic Value of Resonance: Intuitive Thinking in Theoretical Understanding”

Joy Shim (Princeton University, external member, June 2023; medical school)

“The Spatial Model of Group Perspectives”

Henry Schiller (University of Texas, Austin, external member, June 2021; McDonnell Postdoctoral Fellow in Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology at Washington University in St. Louis; Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at University of Sheffield)

“The Ethics of Linguistic Interaction”

Constant Bonard (University of Geneva and University of Antwerp, external member, February

Elisabeth Maura Camp

2021; Swiss National Post-doctoral Fellowship)

“Meaning and Emotion”

Nicolas Porot (CUNY, external member, August 2019; Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Antwerp)

“Some Non-Human Languages of Thought”

Andrés Soria Ruiz (Institut Jean Nicot, École Normale Supérieure, external member, June 2019;

Postdoctoral Researcher, Instituto de Filosofia IFILNOVA, Universidade Nova, Lisbon)

“The Place of Value in Natural Language: A Non-Factualist Approach to Evaluative Terms and Judgment”

Gretchen Ellefson (Northwestern University, external member, July 2019; Assistant Professor, Southern Utah University)

“Communicative Context and Normativity”

Amanda McMullen (University of Miami, external member, July 2019; Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas)

“Offensive Uses of Language: Slurs and Synechdochical Utterances Targeting Women”

Shereen Chang (Penn, 2019; Post-Doctoral Fellow, Messerli Research Institute)

“Birds With Words: How Talking Parrots Expand Our Knowledge of Cognition”

Nemira Gasiunas (Columbia University, 2018, external member)

“Patterns Of Perception”

Devin Sanchez Curry (Penn, 2018; Assistant Professor, West Virginia University)

“How Beliefs Are Like Colors”

Jessica Keiser (Yale, 2017, external member; Lecturer, University of Leeds)

“Languages and Language Use”

Robert Willison (Penn, 2017, supervisor; Research Assistant Professor, Parr Center for Ethics, University of North Carolina)

“The Ethics of Irony”

Louise Daoust (Penn, 2017; Assistant Professor, Ekert College)

“Seeing as We are: Ecological Psychology and the Normative Status of Visual Experience”

Daniel Miller (Dartmouth, 2017: MA in Digital Musics; external member)

“Are Scores Maps? A Wayfinding Approach to Composition”

Lindsey Fiorelli (Penn, 2016, supervisor; Assistant Professor, Minerva University)

“What Movies Show: Realism, Perception and Truth in Film”

Carlos Santana (Penn, 2016; Assistant Professor, University of Utah)

“Evidence and Formal Models in the Linguistic Sciences”

Bradley Taylor (Penn, 2014; Adjunct Professor, Sacred Heart University)

“Human Beings and the Moral Law: Moral Precariousness in Kant’s Ethical Philosophy”

Christopher Melenovsky (Penn, 2014; Assistant Professor, Suffolk University)

“A Mooring For Ethical Life: Assessing the Basic Structure of Society”

Alkistis Elliott-Graves (Penn, 2014; Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Helsinki)

“Target Systems and their Role in Scientific Inquiry”

Matthew Bateman (Penn, 2012; Vice President of Content, Higher Ground Education)

“The Dynamics Of Inquiry In Cognitive Neuroscience”

Krisanna Scheiter (Penn, 2012; Associate Professor, Union College)

“Aristotle on the Emotions”

Marcy Latta (Penn, 2011; Assistant Professor, Bryn Athyn College)

Elisabeth Maura Camp

“Kant’s Problem Regarding Others: Knowing, Seeing, and Treating Others as Free”

Aili Bresnahan (Temple University, 2011, external member; Associate Professor, University of Dayton)

“Dance as Art: A Studio-Based Account”

Paul Franco (Penn, 2011; Lecturer, University of Washington)

“The Constitutive *A Priori* and the Structure of Physical Knowledge”

Thomas Hilgers (Penn, 2010; Kunstakademie Düsseldorf)

“On Aesthetic Disinterestedness”

Matthew Katz (Penn, 2008; Assistant Professor, Central Michigan University)

“Numerical Competence and the Format of Mental Representation”

Independent Studies

Isabel Uriagereka Herburger, Adrian Liu, Audrey Powers, Kayla Jackson, Callan Howland (Rutgers)
Speech acts, Spring 2024

Callan Howland and Morgan Meyer (Rutgers)
Semantics and pragmatics, Spring 2019

Eli Shupe (Rutgers)
Non-human animal thought, Spring 2016

Olivia Odoffin (Rutgers)
Aesthetics, Spring 2015

Thomas Noah, Louise Daoust, Lindsey Fiorelli (Penn)
Concepts, Spring 2013

Visiting Graduate Scholars

Michael O’Leary (University of Basel)
Animal cognition and cartographic representation, Spring 2018

Jędrzej Grodniewicz (LOGOS, University of Barcelona)
Language Understanding, Fall 2017

Federico Castellano (University of Cordoba, Argentina)
Non-human animal thought, Fall 2016

Undergraduate Students

At Rutgers

Honors Theses

Kai Simon, 2023
“Education and Philosophy”
Steven Hernandez, 2020
“Failman and Good Bad Art”
Chelsea Kotun, 2019
“Predicative Analyses of Cartographic Semantics”
Julius Solatorio, 2018
“Blue-Collar Semantics: Why Meaning Means Work”
Shuguo Tang, 2018
“Category Mistakes in Thought”
Nick Popow, 2017

Elisabeth Maura Camp

“On Not-So-Cooperative Communication”

Charly Santagado, 2017

“The ‘Art’ of Translation”

Nicole Salvatore, 2015

“In Defense of Frege’s Notion of Sense”

Shagun Kukreja, 2015 (joint thesis in English and Philosophy)

“The Beauty of Justice: A New Way of studying Aesthetics and Ethics in *The Bluest Eye*”

Independent Studies

Cristina Sanchez (Aresty Research Assistant, Fall 2016-Spring 2017, imagination)

Shuguo Tang (Fall 2016, metaphor)

Nick Popow (Spring 2016, philosophy of language)

At Penn

Honors Theses

Nana Adwoa Sey, 2013 (Visual Studies)

“The DISCOURSE/ART Project: On the Importance of Artistry as Uniquely and Universally Human”

Zachary Baran, 2010

“Our Metaphysics: A New Kripkean Theory of Linguistic Natural Kinds”

Alana Kopke-Edelstein, 2008

“Burge’s Social Anti-Individualism: A Case Study in the Theory’s Applicability to ‘Justice’”

Matthew Hoffarth, 2008

“Minds and Mental Imagery”

Justin Tackett, Spring 2007

“‘Of Epi-taphs Nice De-rangement A’: The Importance of Syntax in Language”

Independent Studies

Adam Croom, Spring 2010

Linguistic and Metaphysical Analysis of Racist Language

John Knutsen, Spring 2009

Theory of Mind and the Development of Emotions

Jeffery McAlvay, Spring 2007

Frege and Russell on Proper Names

Monica Haak, Fall 2007

Philosophy of Art and Art Theory

Visiting Graduate Scholar

Sun Ah Kang, Ph.D. candidate in Aesthetics, Seoul National University, Korea, Spring 2010

Pictorial Metaphor

Selected Service

Service to the Department

Elisabeth Maura Camp

Vice-Chair of Undergraduate Studies, 2017-2020, 2021-2024
Restroom Committee, 2019-2020
Department Administrator Supervisor Hiring Committee, 2021
Mellon Post-doc Search Committee, 2017-19, 2021
Chair, Mind Search Committee, 2017-2018
Faculty Advisor, Committee of 1970s Lecture, 2017-2018
MC, Day of Revolutionary Philosophical Thinking, Rutgers 250th Celebration, November 2016
Peer Evaluation Committee, 2016, 2017
Graduate Admissions Committee, 2016, 2017
Summer Diversity Institute Admissions Committee, 2016, 2018
Mellon Chair Search Committee, 2014-15
Graduate Degree Requirements Committee, 2014-15
Faculty Advisor, Graduate Teaching Workshop, Spring 2015
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2014-15, 2016-17

Service to the University

SAS Curriculum Committee, 2025-2027
Co-Coordinator, with Nancy Yousef (English), Working Group in Art and Aesthetics, 2018-present
Humanities Minors Committee, 2021
Steering Committee, Rutgers New Brunswick Academic Master Plan, 2021-2022
Steering Committee, Critical AI Initiative, 2020-present
Executive Committee, Center for Cultural Analysis, 2017-2020
SAS Honors Program Faculty Mentor, 2015-2016
Co-Coordinator, with Nick Gaskill (English), Working Group in Philosophy and Literature, 2014-2015

Service to the Profession

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Subject Editor in Philosophy of Language, 2017-present
Book Referee: Cambridge University Press, MIT Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge Press, Wiley Blackwell.
Journal Referee: *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, *Cognition*, *Confluences*, *Criminal Law and Philosophy*, *Dialectica*, *Ergo*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Hypatia*, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, *Journal of Semantics*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Pragmatics*, *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*, *Mind*, *Language and Cognition*, *Mind & Language*, *Noûs*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Perspectives on Science*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophy Compass*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Semantics & Pragmatics*, *Social Epistemology*, *Synthese*
Grant and Program Referee: Workshop on Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Buenos Aires 2017; IASM Workshop (Integrating Approaches to Social Meaning), ESSLLI 2017; Society for Philosophy and Psychology (2017); ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2015, 2016, 2017); Israel

Elisabeth Maura Camp

Science Foundation (2014); Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (2016, 2014); Institut Jean-Nicod (2013); Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (2013)

Participant: Book Development Seminar for Mary Kate McGowan's *Just Words*, Wellesley College, January 2014

Summer Teaching:

Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy, Rutgers University, July 2015, July 2022

Summer Program for the Advancement of Women in Philosophy, University of California San Diego, July 2022

Committees:

Harvard Philosophy Visiting Committee, 2017

Member, Research Group in Conceptual Engineering, University of Oslo, 2016-2021

APA Eastern Division Nominating Committee, 2015-2018, 2021-2023

APA Committee on Lectures, Publications and Research, 2015-2018

APA Eastern Division Advisory Committee to Program Committee, 2012-2015

American Society for Aesthetics Program Committee, 2008-2009

Conferences Organized:

Workshop on Perspectives on Perspectives in Literature, World Congress of Philosophy, Rome, August 2024

Rutgers-NYU Workshop on Perspectives in Language, East Stroudsburg PA, October 2023

Athena in Action: Networking and Mentoring Workshop for Graduate Student Women in Philosophy, with Elizabeth Harman and Jill North; August 2014, August 2016, June 2018 (at Princeton); June 2022 (at Rutgers); June 2024 (at Notre Dame)

Thinking through Forms: Emily Dickinson and Philosophy, Rutgers University, December 2015

3rd International Symposium of Cognition, Logic and Communication ("A Figure of Speech:

Conference on Metaphor"), Riga Latvia, December 2007, with Sandra Lapointe and Ernie Lepore

Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Bellingham WA, August 2007, with Liz Harman, Jonathan Schaffer, and Ryan Wasserman