

GREGORY JOHNSON

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<https://loighic.net>

- employment** Instructor, Mississippi State University, 2013 – present
Lecturer, Drexel University, 2007 – 2013
- interests** AOS: Philosophy of Psychology, Philosophy of Neuroscience
AOC: Game Theory, Inductive Logic, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Economics, Emotion
- education** Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Cincinnati, 2007
DISSERTATION: *On the Relationship between Psychology and Neurobiology: Levels in the Cognitive and Biological Sciences*
M.A. program, Economics (27 graduate credits completed), Temple University
B.A., Psychology, Georgetown University, 1995
- publications** *Book*
Johnson, G. (2016). *Argument and Inference: An Introduction to Inductive Logic*. MIT Press.
- Journal Articles and Chapters*
Johnson, G. & Knowles, A. (2023). Do you believe that aliens feel pain? An empirical investigation of mental state attributions. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 27, 199–213.
Johnson, G. (2022). Tools, experiments, and theories: An examination of the role of experiment tools. In Bickle, Craver, & Barwich (eds.) *The Tools of Neuroscience Experiment: Philosophical and Scientific Perspectives*. Routledge.
Johnson, G. (2016). Methodological functionalism and the description of natural systems. *Philosophical Psychology*, 29, 374–389.
Johnson, G. (2012). The relationship between psychological capacities and neurobiological activities. *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, 2, 453–480.
Johnson, G. (2009). Mechanisms and functional brain areas. *Minds and Machines*, 19, 255–271.
Johnson, G. (2008). LeDoux's fear circuit and the status of emotion as a non-cognitive process. *Philosophical Psychology*, 21, 739–757.

Other Publications

Johnson, G. (2019). What is ethics anyway? *The Montréal Review*.

Johnson, G. (2009). [Theories of emotion](#). In *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. J. Fieser and B. Dowden (Eds.).

open source [forall x: the Mississippi State edition](#) (co-authored, open source logic textbook)
[The MSUMe Principles of Macroeconomics](#) (co-authored, open source textbook)

presentations (47) Comments on ‘Your brain is like a computer’. Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf VIII. Pensacola Beach, FL. September 26, 2025.

A program for finding forgetting

Society for Philosophy and Neuroscience Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO. May 1, 2025.

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: HPS Division. Hattiesburg, MS. March 20, 2025.

Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf VII. Pensacola Beach, FL. October 5, 2024.

Identity and autonomy: An examination of methodological independence.

Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN. March 29, 2025.

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: HPS Division. Hattiesburg, MS. March 1, 2024.

Seeing the mind: Hacking, microscopes and calcium imaging. Spring meeting of the Deep South Philosophy and Neuroscience Workgroup. Memphis, TN. April 13, 2024.

Active forgetting in *Drosophila* and the limitations of cognitive psychology. Annual Conference of the International Society for the Philosophy of the Sciences of the Mind. Online. November 25, 2023.

Repetition and memory: An investigation of confirmation in cognitive psychology and neurobiology. Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf VI. Pensacola Beach, FL, September 28, 2023.

In defense of the bottom-up method. Spring Meeting of the Deep South Philosophy and Neuroscience Workgroup. Memphis, TN, March 25, 2023.

Functional kinds and the special sciences

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Louisville, KY, March 9, 2023.

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: History & Philosophy of Science Division. Biloxi, MS, February 23, 2023.

Active forgetting in *Drosophila* and the limitations of cognitive psychology

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Mobile, AL, April 2, 2022.

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: History & Philosophy of Science Division. Biloxi, MS, March 31, 2022.

Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf IV. Pensacola Beach, FL, September 23, 2021.

Is psychology special? Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: History & Philosophy of Science Division. Biloxi, MS, August 5, 2021.

Attributing conscious mental states: An empirical investigation (with Alana Knowles)

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Online, December 3, 2020.

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: Psychology & Social Science Division. Biloxi, MS, February 20, 2020.

Active forgetting and the limitations of cognitive psychology. Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf III. Online, October 11, 2020.

Hacking, microscopes, and calcium imaging

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: History & Philosophy of Science Division. Biloxi, MS, February 20, 2020.

NeuroTech: An Interdisciplinary Early Career Workshop on Tools and Technology in Neuroscience. Pittsburgh, PA, January 25, 2020.

Tools, experiments, and hypotheses: An examination of Bickle's "Revolutions in neuroscience." Tool Development in Neuroscience: A Science-in-Practice Workshop. Pensacola Beach, FL, September 28, 2019.

Business and climate change. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, March 22, 2019.

Confirmation and psychological explanation

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Cincinnati, OH, March 9, 2019.

Causality in the Neuro and Psychological Sciences 2018. Antwerp, Belgium, September 19, 2018.

Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting. Hattiesburg, MS, February 23, 2018.

Annual Meeting of the Alabama Philosophical Society. Pensacola, FL, September 29, 2017.

- The hypothetico-deductive method in psychology and the neurobiological alternative
 Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Cincinnati, OH, March 8, 2019.
- Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting: History & Philosophy of Science Division. Hattiesburg, MS, February 21, 2019.
- Probabilities and the St. Petersburg paradox (POSTER). Society for Judgment and Decision Making Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA, November 18, 2018.
- Confirmation in psychology and neurobiology. Deep South Philosophy and Neuroscience Workshop. Pensacola Beach, FL, September 28, 2018.
- Autonomy in the age of identity: A Critique of Polger & Shapiro. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, March 24, 2018.
- Some comments on the doctrine of multiple realization. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, April 1, 2017.
- Psychology and explanatory extinction
 Annual Meeting of the Alabama Philosophical Society. Pensacola, FL, September 30, 2016.
- Psychology and Explanatory Extinction. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, February 20, 2016.
- A short argument for the reduction of cognitive psychology to neurobiology. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, March 2015.
- The nature and scope of methodological functionalism. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, February 2014.
- A new argument for the reduction of psychology. Department of Philosophy and Religion, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, September 13, 2013.
- Methodological functionalism and the reduction of psychology. Society for Philosophy and Psychology and European Society for Philosophy and Psychology Joint Annual Meeting. Montreal, Canada, July 2011.
- Levels and the relationship between psychology and neurobiology (POSTER). Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA, June 2008.
- Levels and cognitive psychology. Philosophy Department, University of Cincinnati. Cincinnati, OH, December 12, 2006.
- Some criticisms of Lycan's account of a hierarchy of levels. Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, February 2006.

Comments on affect programs

(POSTER) Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting. Winston-Salem, NC, June 2005.

Midsouth Philosophy Conference. Memphis, TN, February 2005.

Some criticisms of affect programs, primitive emotions, and LeDoux's fear circuit. Indiana University Cog-X meeting. Bloomington, IN, April 2005.

A social constructionist model for the emotions based on a theory of language acquisition (POSTER). International Society for Research on the Emotions Annual Conference. New York City, July 2004.

What to do with Buridan's theory of common supposition. International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 2004.

professional service

Co-Chair, History and Philosophy of Science Division, Mississippi Academy of Sciences, 2019–present

Co-Chair, Community College Outreach Committee, Mississippi Academy of Sciences, 2022–present

Institutional Review Board Member, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 2011–2013

Journal referee: *Behavioral Sciences*, *Kairos: Journal of Philosophy & Science*, *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosophies*, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, *Synthese*, *Teorema*

Conference referee: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting

courses taught

Course numbers in parentheses

Mississippi State University

Decisions, Games, and Rational Choice (4990)

Consciousness (4990), co-taught with Rodney Wilson, Ph.D. (psychology)

Happiness and Well-being (4990)

Investigations of Folk Psychology I & II [independent studies] (4000)

Medical Ethics (3323)

Philosophy of Religion (3123)

Business Ethics (3013)

Introduction to Ethics (1123)

Introduction to Logic (1113)

Introduction to Philosophy (1103)

Principles of Macroeconomics (2113)

Drexel University

Critical Reasoning (105)

Introduction to Philosophy (101)

University of Cincinnati

Aesthetics (423)

Issues of the Information Age (345)

Philosophy of Mind (307)

Love, Anger, Fear and Other Emotions (280)

Critical Thinking (121)

Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics (106)

Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge (104)

Moral and Political Ideas (103)