

# Rory Harder

AOS      Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind  
AOC      Epistemology (including formal), Logic

## Contact Information

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## Academic Employment

2021–2022    Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Toronto  
2019–2021    Part Time Lecturer, Rutgers University

## Education

### GRADUATE

2015–2022    PhD in Philosophy, University of Toronto, ABD  
                 *Dissertation Title:* Joint Action and Communication, With a Focus on Demonstratives  
                 *Co-Supervisors:* Imogen Dickie and Nate Charlow  
                 *Expected Defense:* January 2022  
2019          VISITING STUDENT in Linguistics, Rutgers University  
                 *Host Supervisor:* Simon Charlow

### UNDERGRADUATE

2012–2015    BA (HONS) with High Distinction in Philosophy (Specialist) and History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (Minor), University of Toronto  
2011–2012    Trent University

## Papers

Clearing up Clouds: Underspecification in Demonstrative Communication  
*Revise and Resubmit*  
Salience and Deixis in the Anaphora Resolution of Demonstratives  
*Under Review*

## Presentations

### REFEREED

- 2021 Joint Attention: The Window Into Other Minds?  
*American Philosophical Association (APA) Pacific Division Meeting* (Symposium)  
Joint Attention and Communication  
*Mutual Knowledge 40 Workshop*  
A Puzzle about Demonstrative Understanding  
*PhiLang2021*
- 2020 Perspectives in Demonstrative Semantics  
*WeSSLLI Student Session; Szklarska Poreba Workshop*
- 2019 The Affiliative Conception of Sense  
*Communication, Context, Conversation Workshop*  
Clearing up Clouds  
*APA Pacific Division Meeting* (Colloquium)
- 2018 Clearing up Clouds  
*Context, Cognition, and Communication Conference*
- 2017 Inferences and Neutrality of the Deliberative Ought  
*APA Pacific Division Meeting* (Colloquium); *Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting*

### INVITED

- 2020 The Grammar of Reference  
*New York Philosophy of Language Workshop*

## Teaching

### COURSE INSTRUCTORSHIPS

- 2020 Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision Making (*1st year, Online, Rutgers University*)  
Special Topics in Philosophy: Frege's Puzzle (*3rd year, Online, University of Toronto*)
- 2019 Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision Making (*1st year, Rutgers University*)  
Issues in Philosophy of Mind: Perception and Conception (*3rd year, University of Toronto*)

### TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS (AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)

- 2013–2018 Ancient Philosophy (*2nd year*), 17th- and 18th-Century Philosophy (*2nd year*), Introduction to Philosophy (*1st year*), Knowledge and Reality (*2nd year*), Probability and Inductive Logic (*2nd year*), Introduction to Symbolic Logic (*2nd year*)

## OTHER

- 2021–2022 Super-TA for the Socrates Project (*Supervising Undergraduate TAs, University of Toronto*)  
2016–2018 Philosophy Don (*Tutor and Residence Assistant, Trinity College, University of Toronto*)

## Scholarships & Awards

### GRADUATE

- 2020–2021 Doctoral Completion Award (\$14,859)  
*Merit-based award for graduate students at the University of Toronto.*  
2019–2020 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000)  
*Merit-based scholarship for graduate students at public universities in Ontario.*  
2019 SSHRC CGS Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (\$6,000)  
*Awarded annually to 125 Canadian graduate students in the social sciences and humanities.*  
2016–2019 SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship (\$105,000)  
*Awarded to about 22% of applicants, who are Canadian graduate students in the social sciences and humanities.*

### UNDERGRADUATE

- 2015 The George Kennedy Scholarship, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto  
*Awarded annually to a graduating philosophy student.*  
2012 Socrates Award, Department of Philosophy, Trent University  
*Awarded annually to a philosophy student in each of the second and third years.*

## Dissertation

- Title *Joint Action and Communication, With a Focus on Demonstratives*  
Summary I develop a view of communication, in the Gricean tradition, according to which it is the essentially joint activity of making sense of one another's actions. I begin by motivating my proposal on the basis of recent work on joint attention. I then turn to linguistic communication, and even more specifically to that involving demonstratives. Linguistic communication is distinctive in that it involves the deployment of Chomskian linguistic competence. I argue that this linguistic competence involves dynamic semantics, so I provide a formal semantics for demonstratives in the dynamic tradition. Finally, I draw upon the semantics of demonstratives and the overarching joint-action-based view of communication in order to solve two old puzzles about what demonstrative understanding requires.

## Professional Activity

- 2020 GRADUATE STUDENT COORDINATOR for Institutional Strategic Initiative in Language and Cognition, University of Toronto
- 2017 ATTENDEE at 29th European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information
- 2016 ATTENDEE at Seventh North American Summer School on Logic, Language, and Information
- REFEREE and COMMENTATER for Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, University of Toronto

## References

- Research IMOGEN DICKIE, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto  
*Contact:* imogen.dickie@utoronto.ca
- NATE CHARLOW, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto  
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- PHILIP KREMER, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto  
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- Teaching RACHEL BARNEY, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto  
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- MICHAEL RATCLIFFE, Dean of Arts and Vice-Provost, Trinity College, University of Toronto  
*Contact:* michael.ratcliffe@utoronto.ca