

# Rory Harder

E-mail      rory.harder@mail.utoronto.ca  
URL        <https://www.roryharder.com>  
Citizenship   Canadian  
Address     Philosophy Department, 170 St. George St., Toronto, ON, Canada M5R 2M8

## Education

### CURRENT

2015–Present    PhD in Philosophy, University of Toronto, ABD  
                    *Committee:* Imogen Dickie (co-supervisor), Nate Charlow (co-supervisor), Philip Kremer  
AOS              Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind  
AOC              Epistemology, Logic, Probability and Decision Theory

### PAST

2019              VISITING STUDENT at Rutgers University, Department of Linguistics  
                    *Host Supervisor:* Simon Charlow  
2012–2015      B.A. Hons. (with High Distinction) in Philosophy (Specialist) and History and Philosophy of Science  
                    and Technology (Minor), University of Toronto  
2011–2012      Trent University  
2010–2011      Fleming College

## Dissertation

Title              *Joint Action and Communication, With a Focus on Demonstratives*  
Summary        There is a tension between accounting for the rationality of things we do—explaining our actions as sensible activities for us to engage in, and not just as, say, reflexes—but at the same time do so in a way that is empirically and introspectively responsible. The goal of my dissertation is to account for the rationality of special kinds of human joint engagement—things we do together—and to do so without overintellectualization. The two special kinds of joint engagement I address are joint attention and linguistic communication, and with the latter I focus on demonstratives (e.g. “this” and “that”).

## Papers

2020              *Joint Attention: The Window Into Other Minds?* (In Preparation)  
                    *The Grammar of Reference: Perspective and Salience in Anaphor Resolution* (In Preparation)

## Presentations (†: paper peer-reviewed ‡: abstract peer-reviewed)

### PHILOSOPHY

2021              *Joint Attention: The Window Into Other Minds?*†  
                    95th Meeting of the APA Pacific Division (Symposium)  
2020              *The Grammar of Reference*  
                    New York Philosophy of Language Workshop

- 2019 *Clearing up Clouds: Nonspecificity and Goal-Sensitivity in Demonstrative Communication*<sup>†</sup>  
93rd Meeting of the APA Pacific Division (Colloquium)
- 2017 *Inferences and Neutrality of the Deliberative Ought*<sup>†</sup>  
91st Meeting of the APA Pacific Division (Colloquium); Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting

#### INTERDISCIPLINARY

- 2020 *Perspectives in Demonstrative Semantics*<sup>‡</sup>  
WeSSLII Student Session; 21st Szklarska Poreba Workshop
- 2019 *The Affiliative Conception of Sense*<sup>‡</sup>  
6th Annual Workshop of the Expression, Communication, and Origins of Meaning Research Group
- 2018 *Clearing up Clouds: Nonspecificity and Goal-Sensitivity in Demonstrative Communication*<sup>‡</sup>  
The 2nd Context, Cognition, and Communication Conference
- 2017 *Inferences and Neutrality of the Deliberative Ought*  
Computational Linguistics Seminar, University of Toronto Department of Computer Science
- 2016 *Inferences and Neutrality of the Deliberative Ought*  
Semantics Research Group, University of Toronto Department of Linguistics

## Academic Employment

#### 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)

- 2018 *Ancient Philosophy* (2nd year), *17th- and 18th-Century Philosophy* (2nd year)
- 2016 *Knowledge and Reality* (2nd year), *Probability and Inductive Logic* (2nd year)
- 2013–2014 *Introduction to Philosophy* (1st year)

#### OTHER (AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)

- 2020 *Graduate Student Coordinator* (Language and Cognition Institutional Strategic Initiative)
- 2016–2018 *Philosophy Don* (Tutor and Residence Assistant, Trinity College)

## Graduate Coursework

- LEMM Perception and Epistemology; Vagueness; Mind or World; Semantics for Philosophy; Formal Epistemology; Metasemantics; Frege; Deductive and Inductive Logic
- History Seminar in Plato; Consciousness Then and Now
- Ethics Controlling Attitudes; Valuing, Narrative, and What Matters in Life
- Linguistics Topics in Event Semantics; Introduction to Syntactic Theory

## Honours & Awards

### GRADUATE

- 2020–2021     Doctoral Completion Award (\$14,859CAD)  
*Merit-based award aiding University of Toronto graduate students in the first year beyond their funded cohort.*
- 2019–2020     Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000CAD)  
*Merit-based scholarship encouraging excellence in graduate studies at publicly-assisted universities in Ontario.*
- 2019            SSHRC CGS Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (\$6000CAD)  
*Supports high-calibre Canadian students in research abroad. A total of 125 are awarded nationally each year for the social sciences and humanities.*
- 2016–2019     SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship (\$105,000CAD)  
*Supports high-calibre students engaged in doctoral programs in the social sciences and humanities. Awarded to about 22% of applicants.*

### UNDERGRADUATE

- 2015            The George Kennedy Scholarship, University of Toronto Department of Philosophy (\$296CAD)  
*Awarded annually to an outstanding graduating student with at least 3 full courses in philosophy.*
- 2012            Socrates Award, Trent University Department of Philosophy (\$100CAD)  
*Awarded annually to an outstanding undergraduate in Philosophy in each of the second and third years. The prizes commemorate Socrates' description of himself as one who rouses and reproves the society in which he lives just as a gadfly awakens a sluggish horse.*