

Michael Rescorla

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Employment

Professor, Summer 2016 to present
Department of Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles
Professor, Summer 2015 to Spring 2016
Department of Philosophy, University of California, Santa Barbara
Associate Professor, Summer 2009 to Spring 2015
Department of Philosophy, University of California, Santa Barbara
Assistant Professor, Fall 2003 to Spring 2009
Department of Philosophy, University of California, Santa Barbara

Education

Harvard University, Ph.D., Philosophy, June 2003
Dissertation: *Is Thought Explanatorily Prior to Language?*
Harvard University, B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, Philosophy and Mathematics, June 1997
Senior Thesis: *Forcing, Atoms, and Choice*

Published Papers

- “Reflecting on Diachronic Dutch Books,” *Noûs*, forthcoming.
- “Foundations of Cognitive Science: Mental Representation,” *The Sage Handbook of Theoretical Psychology*, eds. H. Stam and H. L. de Jong (forthcoming). Sage Publications.
- “An Improved Dutch Book Theorem for Conditionalization,” *Erkenntnis* (published on-line; print version forthcoming).
- “Bayesian Modeling of the Mind: From Norm to Neurons.” *WIREs Cognitive Science* 12 (2021): p. e1540.
- “On the Proper Formulation of Conditionalization,” *Synthese* 198 (2021): pp. 1935-1965.
- “Perceptual Co-Reference,” *The Review of Philosophy and Psychology* 11 (2020): pp. 569-589.
- “How Particular Is Perception?”. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 100 (2020): pp. 721-727. (Contribution to a book symposium on Susanna Schellenberg’s *The Unity of Perception*.)
- “Reifying Representations,” *What Are Mental Representations?*, eds. Joulia Smorthchkova, Tobias Schlicht, and Krzysztof Dolega. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2020): pp. 135-177.
- “A Realist Perspective on Bayesian Cognitive Science,” *Inference and Consciousness*, eds. Anders Nes and Timothy Chan. Routledge (2020): pp. 40-73.
- “A Dutch Book Theorem and Converse Dutch Book Theorem for Kolmogorov Conditionalization,” *The Review of Symbolic Logic* 11 (2018): pp. 705-735.
- “Motor Computation,” *The Routledge Handbook of the Computational Mind*, eds. Matteo Colombo and Mark Sprevak. Routledge (2018): pp. 424-435.
- “An Interventionist Approach to Psychological Explanation,” *Synthese* 195 (2018): pp. 1909-1940.
- “Maps in the Head?”, *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Animal Minds*, eds. Kristin Andrews and Jacob Beck. Routledge (2017): pp. 34-45.

- “Levels of Computational Explanation,” *Philosophy and Computing: Essays in Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind, Logic, and Ethics*, ed. Thomas Powers. Springer (2017).
- “From Ockham to Turing --- and Back Again,” *Turing 100: Philosophical Explorations of the Legacy of Alan Turing*, in *Boston Studies in the Philosophy and History of Science*, eds. Alisa Bokulich and Juliet Floyd. Springer (2017): pp. 279-304.
- “Bayesian Sensorimotor Psychology,” *Mind and Language* 31 (2016): pp. 3-36.
- “The Representational Foundations of Computation,” *Philosophia Mathematica* 23 (2015): pp. 338-366.
- “Some Epistemological Ramifications of the Borel-Kolmogorov Paradox,” *Synthese* 192 (2015): pp. 735-767.
- “Bayesian Perceptual Psychology,” *The Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of Perception*, ed. Mohan Matthen. Oxford University Press (2015): pp. 694-716.
- “Computational Modeling of the Mind: What Role for Mental Representation?,” *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science* 6 (2014): pp. 65-73.
- “Can Perception Halt the Regress of Justifications?,” *Ad Infinitum*, eds. Peter Klein and John Turri. Oxford University Press (2014): pp. 179-200.
- “The Causal Relevance of Content to Computation,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 88 (2014): pp. 173-208.
- “Perceptual Constancies and Perceptual Modes of Presentation,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 88 (2014): pp. 468-476. (Contribution to a book symposium on Tyler Burge’s *Origins of Objectivity*.)
- “A Theory of Computational Implementation,” *Synthese* 191 (2014): pp. 1277-1307.
- “Against Structuralist Theories of Computational Implementation,” *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 64 (2013): pp. 681-707.
- “Rationality as a Constitutive Ideal,” *A Companion to Davidson*, eds. Ernie Lepore and Kirk Ludwig. Wiley-Blackwell (2013): pp. 472-488.
- “Millikan on Honeybee Navigation and Communication,” *Millikan and Her Critics*, eds. Dan Ryder, Justine Kingsbury, and Kenneth Williford. Wiley-Blackwell (2013): pp. 87-102.
- “How to Integrate Representation into Computational Modeling, and Why We Should,” *The Journal of Cognitive Science* 13 (2012): pp. 1-38.
- “Are Computational Transitions Sensitive to Semantics?,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 90 (2012): pp. 703-721.
- “Copeland and Proudfoot on Computability,” *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science A* 43 (2012): pp. 199-202.
- “Predication and Cartographic Representation,” *Synthese* 169 (2009): pp. 175-200.
- “Shifting the Burden of Proof?,” *The Philosophical Quarterly* 59 (2009): pp. 86-109.
- “Epistemic and Dialectical Regress,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 87 (2009): pp. 43-60.
- “Assertion and its Constitutive Norms,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 79 (2009): pp. 98-130.
- “Chrysippus’s Dog as a Case Study in Non-Linguistic Cognition,” *The Philosophy of Animal Minds*, ed. Robert Lurz. Cambridge University Press (2009): pp. 52-71.
- “Cognitive Maps and the Language of Thought,” *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 60 (2009): pp. 377-407.
- “A Linguistic Reason for Truthfulness,” *Truth and Speech Acts*, eds. Dirk Greimann and Geo Siegwart. Routledge (2007): pp. 250-279.
- “Church’s Thesis and the Conceptual Analysis of Computability,” *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic* 48 (2007): pp. 253-280.

Other Publications

- “Review of Gualtiero Piccinini’s *Neurocognitive Mechanisms: Explaining Biological Cognition*,”
- “Review of Nicholas Shea’s *Representation in Cognitive Science*,” *The Philosophical Review* 130 (2021): pp. 180-185.
- “The Language of Thought Hypothesis,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2019), ed. Edward Zalta.
- “Review of Andy Clark’s *Surfing Uncertainty*,” *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (January 2017).
- “Review of Gualtiero Piccinini’s *Physical Computation*,” *BJPS Review of Books* (2016).
- “The Computational Theory of Mind,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (published in Fall 2015; substantive revision in Winter 2020), ed. Edward Zalta.
- “Review of Dominic Gregory’s *Showing, Sensing, and Seeming*,” *Mind* 124 (2015): pp. 911-914.
- “Review of Nico Orlandi’s *The Innocent Eye*,” *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (January 2015).
- “Review of Gary Hatfield’s *Perception and Cognition*,” *The Philosophical Quarterly* 61 (2011): pp. 205-207.
- “Convention,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, (published in Fall 2007; substantive revisions in Fall 2011, Winter 2015, and Spring 2019), ed. Edward Zalta.
- “Review of Christopher Gauker’s *Words without Meaning*,” *The Philosophical Review* 115 (2006): pp. 121-124.

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

- National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers, Grant FA-232860-16 (Fall 2016-Spring 2017).
- Herbert A. Simon Award for Outstanding Research in Computing and Philosophy, awarded annually by the International Association for Computing and Philosophy (2015).
- National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers, Grant FA-56081-11 (Winter 2011-Fall 2012).
- R. M. Martin Fellowship in Philosophy, Harvard University (2002-3).
- John Parker Scholarship, Harvard University (2001-2).
- Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University (Spring 2000).
- Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies (1997-8, declined).
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship in Mathematical Sciences (Fall 1997 through Summer 1999, Fall 2000 through Summer 2001).
- Thomas T. Hoopes Prize for Senior Thesis, Harvard University (Spring 1997).

Presentations

- “Comments on André Curtis-Trudel,” *American Philosophical Association, Central, Colloquium Commentary*, February 2020.
- “A Realist Perspective on Bayesian Cognitive Science,” *Workshop on Current Topics in Cognitive Science at Ruhr Universität Bochum*, October 2019.
- “Bayesian Cognitive Science.” Three invited lectures delivered at the *Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind*, August 2019.
- “A Realist Perspective on Bayesian Cognitive Science,” *Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Symposium Talk*, July 2019.
- “How Particular Is Perception?”. Book symposium on Susanna Schellenberg’s *The Unity of Perception* at the *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, Invited Talk, April 2019.

- “Conditioning on a Probability Zero Event,” *Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting*, Symposium Talk, November 2018.
- “Perceptual Representations,” *Workshop on Perceptual Capacities and Psychophysics at Rutgers University, New Brunswick*, Invited Talk, October 2018.
- “Structural Description,” Invited Talk, *University of Texas, Austin*, September 2018.
- “Spatial Representation in Mammals,” *Workshop on Non-Human Cognition*, University of Toronto, May 2018.
- “Bayesian Perceptual Psychology and Hierarchical Predictive Coding,” *Does Hierarchical Predictive Coding Explain Perception?*, Debate at New York University, Invited Talk, May 2018.
- “Reifying Representations,” *University of California, Irvine*, Invited Talk, April 2018.
- “Reifying Representations,” *Ohio State University*, Invited Talk, January 2018.
- “On the Proper Formulation of Conditionalization,” *Stanford University*, Invited Talk, November 2017.
- “Reifying Representations,” *Institute of Philosophy, London*, Invited Talk, September 2017.
- “An Interventionist Approach to Bayesian Cognitive Science,” *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Symposium Talk, July 2017.
- “Perceptual Representations,” *International Association for Computing and Philosophy Annual Conference*, Symposium Talk, June 2017.
- “Reifying Representations,” *University of Pittsburgh Center for Philosophy of Science*, Invited Talk, April 2017.
- “On the Proper Formulation of Conditionalization,” *Carnegie Mellon University*, Invited Talk, April 2017.
- “An Interventionist Analysis of Bayesian Cognitive Science,” *Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting*, Symposium Talk, November 2016.
- “Logic, Probability, and Exclusion Transitions,” *Origins of Logical Reasoning Workshop, York University*, Invited Talk, May 2016.
- “Maps in the Head?,” *Mental Representation: Naturalistic Approaches, Conference at University of London*, Invited Talk, May 2016.
- “Bayesian Modeling and Predictive Coding,” *Is the Brain Bayesian?*, Conference at New York University, Invited Talk, December 2015.
- “An Interventionist Analysis of Bayesian Perceptual Psychology,” *Workshop on Bayesian Models of Perception and Bayesian Epistemology, Cornell University*, Invited Talk, July 2015.
- “Levels of Computational Explanation,” *International Association for Computing and Philosophy Annual Conference*, Keynote Speech, June 2015.
- “Is Computation Formal?,” *University of Groningen*, Invited Talk, June 2014.
- “Bayesian Modeling of the Mind,” *Conference on Non-Propositional and Imagistic Representations, University of Antwerp*, Invited Talk, June 2014.
- “Mental Representation and Bodily Motion,” *UC Working Group on Perception, UCLA*, Invited Talk, March 2014.
- “Comments on Chris Smith,” *American Philosophical Association, Central*, Symposium Commentary, February 2014.
- “Is Computation Formal?,” *Columbia University*, Invited Talk, October 2013.
- “Modest Foundationalist Solutions to the Regress Problem,” *Workshop on Infinite Regress, Vanderbilt University*, Invited Talk, October 2013.
- “The Representational Foundations of Computation,” *Socal PhilMath + PhilLogic + FoM Workshop, University of California, Irvine*, Invited Talk, February 2013.
- “Comments on Robert Goldstone,” *Perceptual Learning and Perceptual Recognition Workshop, University of Toronto*, May 2012.

- “Bayesian Perceptual Psychology,” *University of California, Riverside, Philosophy of Psychology Workshop*, Invited Talk, March 2012.
- “Essential Meanings,” *University of Cincinnati, 46th Annual Philosophy Conference*, Invited Talk, May 2010.
- “Mental Syntax,” *Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Annual Meeting*, Invited Talk, April 2010.
- “Mental Syntax,” *University of California, Los Angeles*, Invited Talk, February 2010.
- “Mental Syntax,” *University of California, Riverside, Philosophy of Psychology Workshop*, Invited Talk, November 2009.
- “Richard’s Solution to the Liar Paradox,” *Author Meets Critics* session on Mark Richard’s *When Truth Gives Out* at the *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, Invited Talk, April 2010.
- “Logical Form and Cartographic Representation,” *Depiction and Description Conference, Singapore National University*, Invited Talk, January 2010.
- “Epistemic and Dialectical Regress,” *American Philosophical Association, Central*, April 2008.
- “Comments on Berislav Marusic,” *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, April 2007.
- “Assertion and its Constitutive Norms,” *American Philosophical Association, Central*, April 2006.
- “Norms of Assertion,” *University of California, San Diego*, Invited Talk, May 2005.
- “Predication and Maps,” *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, March 2006.
- “Comments on Ian Rumfitt,” *Third Steven Humphrey Excellence in Philosophy Conference*, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 2006.
- “Church’s Thesis and the Conceptual Analysis of Computability,” *Association for Symbolic Logic, Spring Meeting*, April 2005.
- “Comments on Michael Friedman,” *Second Steven Humphrey Excellence in Philosophy Conference*, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 2005.
- “Comments on Christopher Peacocke,” *First Steven Humphrey Excellence in Philosophy Conference*, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 2004.
- “Why Should I Speak the Truth?,” *New York University*, Invited Talk, February 2003.
- “Why Should I Speak the Truth?,” *University of California, Berkeley*, Invited Talk, January 2003.
- “Why Should I Speak the Truth?,” *University of Minnesota*, Invited Talk, January 2003.
- “Why Should I Speak the Truth?,” *University of Colorado, Boulder*, Invited Talk, January 2003.
- “Why Should I Speak the Truth?,” *University of Toronto*, Invited Talk, January 2003.
- “Brandom’s Philosophy of Logic,” *Association for Symbolic Logic, European Meeting*, July 2000.

University Service at UCLA

Summer Sessions Officer, Fall 2019-present.

Placement Committee, Fall 2017-present.

Dissertation Year Fellowship Review Committee, Spring 2018.

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship Review Committee, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021.

Renovation Committee, Spring 2021-present.

University Service at UCSB

Principal Investigator for University of California Humanities Research Institute Multi-Campus Working Group on Philosophy and Inclusive Pedagogy (Fall 2015-Spring 2016).

Faculty Advisor for UCSB chapter of Minorities and Philosophy (Fall 2015-Spring 2016).

Departmental Colloquium Officer (Fall 2004 through Winter 2007, Fall 2009 through Spring 2011, Winter 2013 through Fall 2013).

Chair of Departmental Graduate Admissions Committee (2013-16).

Departmental Graduate Admissions Committee (Spring 2006, 2010-11, 2012-13).
 Graduate Division Recruitment Fellowship Committee (Winter 2010, Winter 2014).
 Departmental Affirmative Action Officer (2008-9).
 Departmental Education Abroad Advisor (2008-9).
 Dean's Prize Teaching Fellowship Committee (Spring 2009).
 Departmental TA Coordinator (Summer 2009).
 Departmental Courseload Committee (2007-8).
 Departmental Distinguished Visitors Committee (Fall 2006 to present).
 Departmental Library Coordinator and Liaison (2003-4).
 Departmental Search and Interviewing Committee (2003-4, 2007-8, 2014-2015).
 Faculty Advisor to Graduate Student Reading Group on Philosophy of Mind (2004-5, 2005-6).
 Co-organizer for Fifth Steven Humphrey Excellence in Philosophy Conference, UCSB (May 2010).

Professional Service

- Referee for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *The Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *dialectica*, *Episteme*, *Erkenntnis*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Mind*, *Mind and Language*, *Minds and Machines*, *Noûs*, *Pacific Philosophy Quarterly*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophia Mathematica*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Ratio*, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, *Review of Symbolic Logic*, *Synthese*, *Theoria*, *Thinking and Reasoning*.
- Book referee for Oxford University Press, MIT Press, and Routledge Press.
- Refereed grant applications for *Council for the Humanities of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research* and *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada*.
- Editor for "Computation and Representation" category in *PhilPapers*.
- Member of editorial panel for *Thought: A Journal of Philosophy*.

Courses Taught at UCLA

Introductory and intermediate undergraduate

Theory of Knowledge (Fall 2017)
Major Philosophers of the 20th Century: Logical Positivism (Winter 2018, Winter 2019)
Introduction to Philosophy of Mind (Winter 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021)
The Regress of Justifications (Winter 2019)
Philosophy of Mathematics (Fall 2019)
Philosophy of Mind (Winter 202)
Philosophy of Language and Communication (Winter 2021)

Graduate seminar

Probability and Inductive Logic: Bayesian Paradigm (Winter 2018)
Philosophy of Mind: The Objects of Thought (Spring 2019)
Philosophy of Mind: Modes of Presentation (Winter 2020)
Philosophy of Mind: Mental Representations (Fall 2020)

Courses Taught at UCSB

Introductory and intermediate undergraduate

Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Winter 2013, Winter 2016)
Philosophy of Science (Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2006, Fall 2008, Fall 2013, Fall 2015)
Philosophy of Language (Winter 2009, Fall 2010, Winter 2016)
Philosophy of Mind (Winter 2006, Winter 2008)
Epistemology (Winter 2004, Winter 2005, Winter 2007, Fall 2015)

Advanced undergraduate (with graduate section)

Advanced Philosophy of Science: Logical Positivism (Winter 2004, Fall 2007, Fall 2010, Spring 2015)
Advanced Philosophy of Language: Convention and Meaning (Winter 2010)
Advanced Philosophy of Mind: Mental Representation (Winter 2008, Fall 2008)
Advanced Epistemology: The Regress Problem (Winter 2011, Winter 2013, Fall 2015)
Advanced Metaphysics: Truth (Fall 2013)
Philosophy of Mathematics (Winter 2006, Fall 2007)
Frege (Winter 2007, Winter 2009)

Graduate seminar

Spatial representation (Fall 2003)
Use and meaning (Winter 2005)
Truth (Fall 2005)
Computational theory of mind (Fall 2006, Winter 2014)
Conceptual role semantics (Spring 2008)
Linguistic understanding (Spring 2009)
Mental causation (Fall 2009)
Perception (Spring 2011)
The Bayesian paradigm (Spring 2013)
Intentional explanation (Spring 2015)