

David Boylan

curriculum vitae

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of language, epistemology, philosophical logic

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics, philosophy of mind, symbolic logic, ethics

EMPLOYMENT

July
2018- Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Associate, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

EDUCATION

2013-
2018 Ph.D. in Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
With minor in Linguistics
Dissertation: *Subjective Modality*
Committee: Robert Stalnaker (chair), Stephen Yablo, Kai von Fintel, Justin Khoo

2008-
2012 B.A. in Philosophy, Trinity College Dublin
First Class Honors

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Forthcoming "What the Future 'Might' Brings", *Mind*.
Forthcoming "How Strong is a Counterfactual?" (with Ginger Schultheis), *Journal of Philosophy*.
2017 "Agentive Modals" (with Matthew Mandelkern and Ginger Schultheis). *The Philosophical Review*, 126: 3, 2017.

Conference Proceedings

2019 "Abilities and Success". *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*.
2019 "Attitudes, Conditionals and Margins for Error" (with Ginger Schultheis). *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*.
2018 "Miners and Modals". *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 22*.
2017 "Strengthening Principles and Counterfactual Semantics" (with Ginger Schultheis). *Proceedings of the 21st Amsterdam Colloquium*.

2015 “I Believe I Can φ ” (with Matthew Mandelkern and Ginger Schultheis). *Proceedings of the 20th Amsterdam Colloquium*.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PROGRESS

“Putting ‘Ought’s Together”, R&R at *Mind*.
“Does Success Entail Ability?”, R&R at *Nous*.
“Attitudes, Conditionals and Stalnaker’s Thesis” (with Ginger Schultheis), R&R at *Journal of Philosophy*.
“Conditionals, Context-Sensitivity and Negative Introspection”, under review.
“Know How is Knowing How You’re Able”, in progress.

PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS (“*” = REFEREED)

Know How is Knowing How You’re Able
Feb 2020 National University of Singapore

Does Success Entail Ability?
Dec 2019 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium (alternate)*
Sept 2019 Language Workshop, Rutgers

Attitudes, Conditionals and Margins for Error (with Ginger Schultheis)
Dec 2019 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium
June 2019 Formal Epistemology Workshop (poster), Turin*
March 2019 Hans Kamp Seminar in Logic and Language, University of Texas, Austin
Brown Bag Talk, NYU
Feb 2019 New York Philosophy of Language Workshop

Putting ‘Ought’s Together
April 2019 Symposium, Pacific APA*
March 2019 Colloquium talk, UT Austin
Nov 2018 LENLS 15, Keio University, Yokohama*

Relativism in a Bind
July 2018 2018 Joint Session, Oxford*

Strengthening Principles and Counterfactual Semantics (with Ginger Schultheis)
April 2018 Pacific APA, San Diego*
Dec 2017 21st Amsterdam Colloquium*
April 2017 Work in Progress, MIT

Miners and Modals
Sept 2017 Sinn und Bedeutung 22, Berlin*
May 2017 New York Philosophy of Language Workshop

Dec 2016 Situations, Information, and Semantic Content Conference, MCMP, Munich*

What the Future 'Might' Brings

Aug 2017 the Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference*
July 2017 2017 Joint Session, Edinburgh*
April 2017 Colloquium, Pacific APA, Seattle*
March 2017 USC/UCLA Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy*
Feb 2017 MITing of the Minds, MIT
Nov 2016 Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference*
Oct 2016 Arche Graduate Conference*

I Believe I Can Phi (with Matthew Mandelkern and Ginger Schultheis)

Dec 2015 20th Amsterdam Colloquium*
Sept 2015 SPE 8, Cambridge*

Comments

Jan 2020 Junhyo Lee, "'Ought' and Intensionality", Eastern APA, Philadelphia
April 2019 Dilip Ninan, "Easy Foreknowledge?", Pacific APA, Vancouver
April 2019 Fabrizio Cariani, "Future Orientation", Pacific APA, Vancouver
March 2018 Malte Willer, "Two Puzzles about Agentive 'Can'", Central APA, Chicago
June 2017 Anne Peterson, "Conceptual Obscurity and Metaphysical Methodology", Midsummer
Philosophy Workshop*
Jan 2016 Sarah Moss, *Probabilistic Knowledge*, MITing of the Minds, MIT
Oct 2013 Agustin Rayo, *The Construction of Logical Space*, Constructing Logical Space Conference,
MIT

TEACHING

Instructor

Fall 2019 Epistemology, Rutgers University.
Spring 2019 Knowledge and Assertion, Rutgers University.
Fall 2018 Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision Making, Rutgers University.
Jan. 2017 Mini-Course: Belief Revision and Conditionals, MIT.

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2017 Paradox and Infinity, Agustin Rayo
Fall 2016 Moral Problems and the Good Life, Kieran Setiya
Spring 2016 Political Philosophy, Lucas Stanczyk
Fall 2015 Minds and Machines, Sarah Paul
Spring 2015 Modal Logic, Stephen Yablo
Fall 2014 Problems of Philosophy, Caspar Hare

Guest Lectures

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Spring 2019 | Guest lecture on “How Strong is a Counterfactual?” for Counterfactual Reasoning, Normative and Descriptive Aspects, Justin Bledin and Steven Gross, Johns Hopkins University |
| Spring 2017 | Guest lecture on Putnam’s “Meaning and Reference” for Introduction to Philosophy of Language, Justin Khoo. |
| Fall 2016 | Guest lecture on Appiah on Singer for Moral Problems and the Good Life, Kieran Setiya. |
| Spring 2015 | Guest lecture on Counterfactuals, Modal Logic, Stephen Yablo. |
| Fall 2015 | Guest lecture on Derek Parfit’s “Personal Identity” for Problems of Philosophy, Caspar Hare. |

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

| | |
|------|---|
| 2013 | Presidential Fellowship, MIT. |
| 2012 | Gold Medalist, Trinity College Dublin. |
| 2010 | Elected Foundation Scholar of Trinity College Dublin. |

SERVICE

Reviewer for *Critica*, *Ergo*, *Inquiry*, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, *Linguistics and Philosophy**, *Mind**, *Philosophers’ Imprint*, *Res Philosophica*, *Semantics and Pragmatics*, *Synthese*, *Theoria* (* indicates multiple)

Member of MIT Committee on Department Life, 2016/2017

Co-organiser, MIT Linguistics and Philosophy Reading Group, 2016/2017

Co-organiser, MIT Colloquium Series, 2015/2016

Organiser, MIT Semantics Reading Group, 2015/2016

Co-organiser, MIT LLaMM Reading Group, 2015/2016

MIT Prospective Students Organiser, 2013-2015.

GRADUATE COURSEWORK (‘A’ = AUDITED)

Philosophy of Language and Linguistics

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Spring 2016 | Pragmatics in Linguistic Theory, Danny Fox and Irene Heim |
| Spring 2015 | Advanced Semantics, Kai von Stechow |
| Fall 2014 | Introduction to Semantics, Martin Hackl and Roger Schwarzschild |
| Fall 2014 | Topics in Metaphysics and Ethics: Ought and ‘Ought’, Justin Khoo and Jack Spencer |
| Fall 2013 | Topics in Philosophy of Language: Conditionals and Modals, Justin Khoo |

Epistemology

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Fall 2015 | Independent Study on Epistemic Utility Theory, Roger White |
|-----------|--|

- Spring 2015 Topics in Moral Philosophy: Issues at the Intersection of Epistemology and Ethics, Caspar Hare and Roger White
- Spring 2014 Topics in Theory of Knowledge: Introduction to Epistemology, Roger White

Logic

- Fall 2014 Model Theory, Vann McGee^A
- Spring 2014 Modal Logic, Robert Stalnaker^A

Metaphysics and Philosophy of Mind

- Spring 2014 Problems in Metaphysics: Materialism, Jack Spencer
- Spring 2014 Proseminar II, Agustin Rayo and Robert Stalnaker
- Fall 2013 Topics in Philosophy of Mind: The Epistemic Role of Consciousness, Declan Smithies
- Fall 2013 Proseminar I, Alex Byrne and Stephen Yablo

History of Philosophy

- Spring 2016 Topics in the History of Political Philosophy, Sally Haslanger and Rachel McKinney
- Spring 2015 The Empiricists, Alison Simmons

LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES

German (B2, CEFR)
French (~ B2, CEFR)

REFERENCES

Robert Stalnaker
Professor Emeritus of Philosophy
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Fabrizio Cariani
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Northwestern University

Stephen Yablo
David W. Skinner Professor of Philosophy
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Justin Khoo
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Kai von Fintel
Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Linguistics
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Kieran Setiya (teaching reference)
Professor of Philosophy
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jeffrey King
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy
Rutgers University

Please direct requests for letters of recommendation to Jen Purdy (purdy@mit.edu)