

Employment

- 2020– **Assistant Professor of Philosophy**, *University of British Columbia*.
- 2019–2020 **Assistant Professor of Philosophy**, *National University of Singapore*.
- 2017–2019 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Philosophy**, *Simon Fraser University*.

Education

- 2011–2017 **PhD in Philosophy**, *University of Texas at Austin*.

REASON UNBOUND: A NEO-RATIONALIST MANIFESTO

The Principle of Sufficient Reason (PSR) states that everything has an explanation. My dissertation defends a commitment to the PSR—a principle many take to be a prime tenet of the rationalist metaphysics of Leibniz and Spinoza—from three influential challenges: (1) that we lack reason to accept the PSR; (2) that a commitment to the PSR is inconsistent with the widespread recognition that there are metaphysically fundamental facts; (3) that the PSR entails that the world could not have been otherwise.

- 2009–2010 **PhD Program in Philosophy**, *University of Western Ontario*.
- 2008–2009 **MA in Philosophy**, *University of Toronto*.
- 2004–2008 **Honours Bachelor of Arts (with Distinction)**, *University of Toronto*.

Research Interests

- AOS Early Modern (including Kant), Metaphysics, Feminist Philosophy
- AOC Philosophy of Religion, History of Analytic Philosophy, Philosophy of Science

Articles & Book Chapters

- forthcoming ‘The Contingency of Creation and Divine Choice’, *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*
- forthcoming ‘Metaphysics’, *Cambridge Handbook of Analytic Philosophy*, (ed. Marcus Rossberg), Cambridge University Press.
- forthcoming ‘Neo-Rationalist Metaphysics’, *Principle of Sufficient Reason*, Fatema Amijee and Michael Della Rocca (eds.), Oxford University Press
- forthcoming ‘Russell’s Commitment to the Principle of Acquaintance’, *The Oxford Handbook of Bertrand Russell*, Kevin Klement (ed.), Oxford University Press.

- 2021 ‘Explaining Contingent Facts’, *Philosophical Studies* 178(4): 1163-1181.
- 2021 ‘Something from Nothing: Why Some Negative Existentials are Fundamental’, *Non-Being: New Essays on the Metaphysics of Nonexistence*, Sara Bernstein and Tyron Goldschmidt (eds.), Oxford University Press.
- 2020 ‘Principle of Sufficient Reason’, *Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding*, Michael Raven (ed.), Routledge.
- 2013 ‘The Role of Attention in Russell’s Theory of Knowledge’, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 21 (6): 1175-1193.

Encyclopedia Entries

- forthcoming ‘Principle of Sufficient Reason’, *Encyclopedia of Early Modern Philosophy and the Sciences* (Eds. Dana Jalobeanu and Charles T. Wolfe).

Edited Collections

- forthcoming *Principle of Sufficient Reason*. Oxford University Press. (Edited with Michael Della Rocca)
- 2021 Issue of *Philosophical Studies* on the Principle of Sufficient Reason. (Guest Editor)

Manuscripts

- ‘Scripture and Epistemic Injustice’, *Analytic Philosophy of Islam*, Yujin Nagasawa and Mohammad Saleh Zarepour (eds.)
- ‘The Rationalist Commitments of Inquiry’
- ‘Quantum Mechanics Poses No Threat to the Principle of Sufficient Reason’
- ‘Feminist Islam: A Philosophical Approach’
- ‘Relativism about Fundamentality’
- ‘Ignorance Lost: How We Cognize Things in Themselves’
- ‘Plural Explanation in Leibniz’
- ‘The Disharmony of Leibniz and Du Châtelet’
- ‘The Rationalist Foundations of Hume’s Dictum’

Professional Presentations

- Apr. 2022 Title TBA, Vanderbilt University (Invited Talk)
- Jan. 2022 Title TBA, The International Society for Buddhist Philosophy, APA – Eastern Division (Invited Talk)
- Jan. 2022 Title TBA, Symposium on the Attitudes of Early Modern Philosophers to Islam, APA – Eastern Division, New York (Invited Talk)
- Oct. 2021 Title TBA, The Principle of Sufficient Reason and its History, Yale University

- Sept. 2021 ‘Feminist Islam: A Philosophical Approach’, Princeton Project in Philosophy and Religion Conference, Princeton University
- Jun. 2021 Title TBA, Hamburg University (Invited Talk)
- May. 2021 Title TBA, Metaphysics and Logic Research Group, University of St. Andrews (Invited Talk)
- Mar. 2021 ‘The Disharmony of Leibniz and Du Châtelet’, The Vanderbilt Modern Philosophy 2021 Spring Seminar Series
- Feb. 2021 ‘Plural Explanation in Leibniz’, The Groningen Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Thought Lecture Series (Invited Talk)
- Nov. 2020 ‘Why Inquiry Commits Us to the Principle of Sufficient Reason’, University of Oxford (Invited Talk)
- Nov. 2020 ‘Why Inquiry Commits Us to the Principle of Sufficient Reason’, Brandeis University (Invited Talk)
- Feb. 2020 ‘The Rationalist Commitments of Inquiry’, Duke University (Invited Talk)
- Feb. 2020 ‘The Disharmony of Leibniz and Du Châtelet’, University of British Columbia (Invited Talk)
- Feb. 2020 ‘The Rationalist Commitments of Inquiry’, Australian National University (Invited Talk)
- Jan. 2020 ‘The Rationalist Commitments of Inquiry’, University of Edinburgh (Invited Talk)
- Jan. 2020 ‘The Rationalist Foundations of Hume’s Dictum’, Systematic Metaphysics: Prospects and Problems, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Invited Talk)
- Nov. 2019 ‘Plural Explanation in Leibniz’, Australasian Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Queensland
- Nov. 2019 ‘Reconciling Feminism and Islam’, Yale-NUS College (Invited Talk)
- Oct. 2019 ‘Does Quantum Mechanics Pose a Threat to the Principle of Sufficient Reason?’, Nanyang Technological University (Invited Talk)
- Oct. 2019 ‘Relativism about Fundamentality’, University of Oxford (Invited Talk)
- Aug. 2019 ‘Plural Explanation in Leibniz’, Workshop on Hyperintensionality, Humboldt University of Berlin (Invited Talk)
- Jun. 2019 ‘Relativism about Fundamentality’, Mentoring Workshop for Early-Career Women in Philosophy, Boston University
- Jun. 2019 ‘The Rationalist Foundations of Hume’s Dictum’, David Lewis and his Place in the History of Analytic Philosophy, University of Manchester
- May. 2019 ‘Plural Explanation in Leibniz’, History of Philosophy Roundtable, UCSD (Invited Talk)
- May. 2019 ‘Feminist Islam: A Philosophical Approach’, UC Santa Cruz (Invited Talk)
- May. 2019 ‘Plural Explanation in Leibniz’, Metaphysics and its History: Regress Arguments, Simon Fraser University
- Mar. 2019 ‘Relativism about Fundamentality’, Claremont McKenna College (Invited Talk)

- Mar. 2019 'The Case for Eliminating Identity', York University (Invited Talk)
- Feb. 2019 'Explaining Contingent Facts', Bilkent University (Invited Talk)
- Feb. 2019 'Was Leibniz a Priority Monist?', New College of Florida (Invited Talk)
- Jan. 2019 'Explaining Contingent Facts', National University of Singapore (Invited Talk)
- Nov. 2018 'Relativism about Fundamentality', University of Victoria (Invited Talk)
- Nov. 2018 'Feminist Islam: A Philosophical Approach', Minds of Our Own: An Anniversary Celebration, MIT
- Oct. 2018 'The Case for Eliminating Identity', 2018 Language and Essence Conference, University of Victoria
- Jun. 2018 'Relativized Fundamentality', Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Montreal
- May 2018 'Ground and the Principle of Sufficient Reason', Workshop on Metaphysical Grounding, University of Hamburg (Invited Talk)
- May 2018 'Ignorance Lost: How We Cognize Things in Themselves', North American Kant Society Biennial Conference, Simon Fraser University
- Apr. 2018 'Feminist Islam: A Philosophical Defense', NYC MAP Spring Workshop, Columbia University
- Apr. 2018 'The Rationalist Commitments of Inquiry', Then and Now: The Principle of Sufficient Reason, Simon Fraser University (Invited Talk)
- Feb. 2018 'Relativized Fundamentality', The Question of Ontology: the Contemporary Debate, Complutense University of Madrid
- Feb. 2018 'Explaining Contingent Facts', University of Manitoba (Invited Talk)
- Jan. 2018 'Explaining Contingent Facts', Arizona State University (Invited Talk)
- Jul. 2017 'Kant's Humility Thesis and Grounded Appearances', International Kant Summer School, The Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz
- Jul. 2017 'The Contingency of Explanation', University College London (Invited Talk)
- Jun. 2017 'The Contingency of Explanation', University of Southampton (Invited Talk)
- Apr. 2017 'Grounding Perspectival Facts', APA – Pacific Division, Seattle
- Feb. 2017 'The Ontological Status of Identity', 1st eidos Graduate School in Metaphysics on Identity, Université de Neuchâtel
- Jan. 2017 'The Contingency of Explanation', Simon Fraser University (Invited Talk)
- Jun. 2016 'Emergence and Grounded Fundamentality', Grounding and Consciousness Conference, University of Birmingham
- Dec. 2015 'A Plea for Grounded Fundamentality', The Metaphysics and Epistemology of Grounding and Fundamentality, CUNY
- Oct. 2015 'Emergence and Metaphysical Explanation', Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science
- Aug. 2015 'Contingentism and the Principle of Sufficient Reason', 2015 Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference

- Mar. 2015 'How Nonsense Regulates Belief', 2015 Edinburgh Foundations of Normativity Workshop, University of Edinburgh
- Nov. 2014 'Russell's Principle of Acquaintance: Why Believe It?', Early Analytic Meet-Up, University of Stirling (Invited Talk)
- Oct. 2014 'Identity is Not Fundamental', The Logic, Semantics, and Metaphysics of Identity Workshop, UC Irvine (Invited Talk)
- May 2014 'The Normativity of Nonsense', SWIP-Analytic Talk, The Graduate Center, CUNY (Prize Talk)
- Apr. 2014 'Why Identity is not a Relation', APA – Pacific Division, San Diego
- Nov. 2013 'A Puzzle about Nonsense', Russell and Wittgenstein at the Crossroads, McMaster University
- May 2013 'Why Identity is not a Relation', Society for Exact Philosophy 2013 Meeting, Montreal
- May 2013 'Kant's Transcendental Idealism and the Grounding Constraint', North American Kant Society Biennial Conference, Cornell University
- Mar. 2013 'A Return to Neutral Relations: A Puzzle about Symmetry', APA – Pacific Division, San Francisco
- Oct. 2012 'Symmetrical Relations Revisited: A Defense of Positionalism', Society for Exact Philosophy 2012 Meeting, Ohio State University
- May 2012 'The Role of Acquaintance in Russell's Philosophy', First Annual Conference of the Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy (SSHAP), McMaster University

Graduate Conference Presentations

- Nov. 2016 'How a Necessary Fact can Ground a Contingent Fact', Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Oxford
- May 2015 'Nonsense and the First Person', The University of Toronto Graduate Conference, University of Toronto
- Nov. 2014 'How Nonsense Regulates Belief', Arche Graduate Conference, University of St. Andrews
- Apr. 2014 'Beneath Appearances', Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference, MIT
- Apr. 2013 'Kant's Transcendental Idealism and the Grounding Constraint', Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference, Harvard University
- Mar. 2013 'Kant's Transcendental Idealism and the Grounding Constraint', 36th Annual Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Urbana-Champaign
- Jun. 2012 'Knowledge by Acquaintance Revisited', Graduate Conference: The Problems of Philosophy Then and Now, University of Glasgow
- Jun. 2012 'In Defense of Understanding-Assent Links', Graduate Epistemology Conference, University of Edinburgh, University of Edinburgh

Commentaries

- Apr. 2021 Thiago de Melo's 'The Naturalness of Negative Properties: a case for category-relativism', APA – Pacific Division, Portland
- Apr. 2019 John Bunke's 'Existence Made Too Easy', APA – Pacific Division, Vancouver
- Jun. 2018 Damian Melamedoff's 'Truthmaker Noumenalism', Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Montreal
- Apr. 2017 Rebecca Chan's 'The Problem of Self-Transformation', Preconference on Themes in Transformative Experience, APA – Pacific Division, Seattle
- Mar. 2016 Justin Tiehen's 'Realization as Grounding (with a Big-"G")', APA – Pacific Division, San Francisco
- Apr. 2015 Jordan Kroll's 'Defending the Easy Road to Nominalism', UT–Austin Graduate Conference
- Apr. 2014 Kit Fine's 'Criteria of Identity and Ground' (Keynote Address), UT–Austin Graduate Conference
- Jan. 2014 Briana Toole's 'The Causal Theory and Fictional Names', Ninth MLK Conference, University of Texas at Austin
- Oct. 2013 Luis Ramon-Alarcon's 'Spinoza on Sensory Perception', UT-UNAM Workshop, UNAM
- Apr. 2013 Anthony Adrian's 'The Truth about Quantifier Variance', UT–Austin Graduate Conference
- Jan. 2013 Brian Knab's 'Mythical objects and the Hob/Nob puzzle', Eighth MLK Conference, University of Texas at Austin
- Nov. 2012 Bernard Linsky's 'Acquaintance and Certainty in *The Problems of Philosophy*', Conference for the 100th Anniversary of Russell's *Problems of Philosophy*, University of Mississippi

Other Presentations (Selected)

- Oct. 2014 'How Nonsense Regulates Belief', Epistemology Reading Group (ERGo), University of Texas at Austin
- Oct. 2014 'Should the Burqa be Banned?', Feminist Philosophy Reading Group, University of Texas at Austin
- Mar. 2014 'Can Islam and Feminism be Reconciled?', Feminist Philosophy Reading Group, University of Texas at Austin
- Mar. 2013 'Why Identity Is Not A Relation', Undergraduate Philosophy Association (UPA), University of Texas at Austin
- Jan. 2011 'The Individuation of Propositions in Russell's *Principles of Mathematics*', Sixth MLK Conference, University of Texas at Austin

Professional Development

- Jan. 2020 Ranch Metaphysics Workshop
- May 2014 Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University
- June 2013 Visiting Researcher, Bertrand Russell Research Centre, McMaster University

- Jul. 2011 International Summer School in Cognitive Science and Semantics
 Topic: David Lewis on Language and Mind
 Coordinator: Benj Hellie (Toronto)
 University of Latvia (Riga)
- Jul. 2010 Summer School on ‘Meaning, Context, and Intention’
 Coordinator: Jason Stanley (Rutgers)
 Central European University
- Summer 2010 Research Assistant, Joint Centre for Bioethics, University of Toronto

Professional Service

- 2011- Referee, *Nous, Mind, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Studies, Ergo, Synthese Metaphysics, Philosophical Quarterly, History of Philosophy Quarterly, Journal for the History of Analytic Philosophy, Journal of Medical Ethics*, Oxford University Press, Bloomsbury Press
- 2020- Organizer, UBC-SFU Faculty Work-In-Progress Seminar
- Winter 2020 External Examiner for MA Thesis on Hume’s Philosophy of Religion, National University of Singapore
- 2019-2020 Care Team Representative in the Philosophy Department, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
- 2018- Associate Member, Canadian Metaphysics Collaborative (CMC)
- 2018-2019 Conference Organizer, ‘Regress Arguments’, Simon Fraser University
- 2017-2018 Conference Organizer, ‘Then and Now: The Principle of Sufficient Reason’, Simon Fraser University
- 2017 Referee, Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference
- 2015-2016 Member, Dean of Students Student Advisory Council, UT–Austin
- 2011-2016 Referee, UT–Austin Philosophy Graduate Conference
- Spring 2015 Co-organizer, Feminist Philosophy Reading Group, UT–Austin
- Spring 2015 Vice President, MAP (Minorities and Philosophy) Chapter, UT–Austin
- Fall 2014 Organizer, ‘Women in Philosophy’ talk by Prof. Sally Haslanger, UT–Austin
- 2014 Graduate Student Representative, Philosophy Department, UT–Austin

Grants, Scholarships & Awards

- 2021 *The Social Science and Humanities Research Council Connection Grant* for The Principle of Sufficient Reason and its History; Amount: CAD 25,000.
- 2014 *The SWIP-Analytic 2014 Graduate Essay Prize* for ‘The Normativity of Nonsense’. SWIP-Analytic
- 2014 *Cogburn Essay Prize* for ‘The Ontological Status of Identity’. UT–Austin Philosophy Department
- 2013 *The British Society for the History of Philosophy Graduate Essay Prize* for ‘Acquaintance, Attention, and Knowledge in Russell’. British Society for the History of Philosophy (BSHP)

- 2009 *Dean's Entrance Scholarship*. U. of Western Ontario Philosophy Department
- 2009 *Chair's Entrance Scholarship*. U. of Western Ontario Philosophy Department
- 2008 *George Kennedy Scholarship in Philosophy*. Awarded by the University of Toronto Philosophy Department to the top graduating student in Philosophy
- 2008 *Douglas Bond Symons Prize in Philosophy*. Awarded to the top graduating student in Philosophy at Trinity College, University of Toronto

Teaching

University of British Columbia

- Winter 2021 Seminar on Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*
- Winter 2021 Philosophy in the 18th Century
- Fall 2020 Philosophy in the 17th Century

National University of Singapore

- Winter 2020 Supervisor for Undergraduate Independent Study on Al-Kindi's Metaphysics
- Winter 2020 Hume and Kant
- Winter 2020 Advanced Metaphysics (Graduate Course)
- Fall 2019 Founders of Modern Philosophy

Simon Fraser University

- Summer 2019 Advanced Topics in the Philosophy of Race and Gender
- Winter 2019 Metaphysics
- Fall 2018 Metaphysics
- Summer 2018 History of Analytic Philosophy: Frege, Russell, and Early Wittgenstein
- Winter 2018 Advanced Topics in Early Modern Philosophy: The Principle of Sufficient Reason) [Co-taught with Dai Heide] (Graduate Course)
- Fall 2017 Philosophy of Race and Gender

University of Texas at Austin

- Fall 2016 Rhetoric of Religion
- Summer 2016 Contemporary Moral Problems
- Spring 2016 Rhetoric and Writing: Race and Criminal Justice in America
- Fall 2015 Rhetoric and Writing: Race and Criminal Justice in America
- Summer 2015 Science and Philosophy

Graduate Supervision

Committee Member – Jade Hadley's Prospectus Committee; University of British Columbia

Pedagogical Training

- Fall 2015 Supervised Teaching Seminar in Rhetoric and Writing
- Spring 2014 Supervised Teaching Seminar in Philosophy

References

Michael Della Rocca

Andrew Orrick Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
Yale University
michael.della@yale.edu

Mark Sainsbury

Professor
Department of Philosophy
University of Texas at Austin
marksainsbury@austin.utexas.edu

Eric Watkins

Professor
Department of Philosophy
University of California San Diego
ewatkins@ucsd.edu

Evan Tiffany (*Teaching Reference*)

Associate Professor
Department Chair
Department of Philosophy
Simon Fraser University
etiffany@sfu.ca

Gideon Rosen

Stuart Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
Princeton University
grosen@princeton.edu

Sally Haslanger

Ford Professor of Philosophy
Department of Linguistics and Philosophy
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
shaslang@mit.edu

Jessica Wilson

Professor
Department of Philosophy
University of Toronto
jessica.m.wilson@utoronto.ca

Sinan Dogramaci (*Teaching Reference*)

Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy
University of Texas at Austin
sinan.dogramaci@gmail.com