Eric Swanson

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Academic	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	
Appointments	Professor of Philosophy and Linguistics (by courtesy)	2019-
	Faculty Affiliate, Michigan Institute for Data Science	2023-
	Faculty Affiliate, Digital Studies Institute	2019-
	Faculty Affiliate, Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	2013-
	Faculty Affiliate, Weinberg Institute for Cognitive Science	2013-
	James B. and Grace J. Nelson Fellow in Philosophy	2012-
	Faculty Associate, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies	2009-
	Associate Professor of Philosophy and Linguistics (by courtesy)	2012-2019
	Assistant Professor of Philosophy	2006–2012
Education	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	
	Ph.D. in Philosophy, Minor in Linguistics	2006
	Tufts University, M.A. in Philosophy	2001
	Yale University, M.A. in Slavic Languages and Literatures	1999
	Bard College, B.A. in Literature	1997
Publications	"Communicating about Ethics with AI"	In preparation
	In Communicating with AI: Philosophical Perspectives, edited by	
	Herman Cappelen and Rachel Sterken. Oxford University Press.	
	"Slurs and Ideologies"	Forthcoming
	In Analyzing Ideology: Rethinking the Concept, edited by Robin Celikates,	
	Sally Haslanger, and Jason Stanley. Oxford University Press.	
	"Language and Ideology"	2021
	In The Routledge Handbook of Social and Political Philosophy of Language,	
	edited by Justin Khoo and Rachel Sterken. Routledge.	
	"Channels for Common Ground"	2020
	Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, vol. 104, issue 1: 171–185.	
	DOI: 10.1111/phpr.12741	
	"Omissive Implicature"	2017
	Philosophical Topics, vol. 45, no. 2: 117–137, edited by Jason Stanley.	
	DOI: 10.5840/philtopics201745216	
	Critical Notice of Jason Stanley's How Propaganda Works	2017
	<i>Mind</i> , vol. 126, no. 503: 937–947. DOI: 10.1093/mind/fzwo45	
	"Indeterminacy in Causation"	2017
	Philosophical Quarterly, vol. 67, no. 268: 606–624. DOI: 10.1093/pq/pqwot	08

"Probability in Philosophy of Language" In <i>The Oxford Handbook of Probability and Philosophy,</i> pp. 772–788. Alan Hájek and Chris Hitchcock, editors. Oxford University Press.	2016
"The Application of Constraint Semantics to the Language of Subjective Uncertainty" <i>Journal of Philosophical Logic</i> , vol. 45, no. 2: 121–146. DOI: 10.1007/s10992-0159367-5	2016
"Ordering Supervaluationism, Counterpart Theory, and Ersatz Fundamentality" <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> , vol. 109, no. 6: 289–310.	2014
"Subjunctive Biscuit and Stand-Off Conditionals" <i>Philosophical Studies</i> , vol. 163, no. 3: 637–648. DOI: 10.1007/s11098-011-9836-9	2013
"Conditional Excluded Middle without the Limit Assumption" <i>Philosophy and Phenomenological Research</i> , vol. 85, no. 2: 301–321. DOI: 10.1111/j.1933-1592.2011.00507.x	2012
"The Language of Causation" In <i>The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Language,</i> edited by Delia Graff Fara and Gillian Russell, pp. 716–728.	2012
"Propositional Attitudes" In <i>Semantics: An International Handbook of Natural Language Meaning</i> , vol. 2, edited by Claudia Maienborn, Klaus von Heusinger, and Paul Portner, pp. 1538–1561. Mouton de Gruyter.	2012
"On the Treatment of Incomparability in Ordering Semantics and Premise Semantics" Journal of Philosophical Logic, vol. 40, no. 6: 693–713. DOI: 10.1007/s10992-0109157-z	2011
"How Not to Theorize about the Language of Subjective Uncertainty" In <i>Epistemic Modality</i> , edited by Andy Egan and Brian Weatherson, pp. 249–269. Oxford University Press.	2011
"Lessons from the Context Sensitivity of Causal Talk" <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> , vol. 107, no. 5: 221–242.	2010
"Structurally Defined Alternatives and Lexicalizations of XOR" Linguistics and Philosophy, vol. 33, no. 1 (2010): 31–36. DOI: 10.1007/s10988-010-9074-1	2010
"On Scope Relations between Quantifiers and Epistemic Modals" <i>Journal of Semantics</i> , vol. 27, no. 4: 529–540. DOI: 10.1093/jos/ffq010	2010

	Review of <i>Reflections on Meaning</i> , by Paul Horwich <i>Philosophical Review</i> , vol. 118, no. 1 (2009): 131–134.	2009
	"Modality in Language" Philosophy Compass, vol. 3, no. 6: 1193–1207. DOI: 10.1111/j.1747-9991.2008. 00177.x	2008
	"A Note on Gibbard's 'Rational Credence and the Value of Truth'" Oxford Studies in Epistemology, vol. 2, edited by Tamar Szabó Gendler and John Hawthorne: 179–189.	2007
	"Biscuit Conditionals and Common Ground" Second North American Summer School in Language, Logic and Information Student Session Proceedings: 26–34.	2003
Talks	"Non-Ideal Philosophy of Language and the Space of Pro Tanto Reasons" The Non-Ideal Philosophy of Language Workshop, Boston University	2024
	"'If you see something, say something': Legitimization and its dynamics" Colloquium series on common ground at the University of Tübingen	2024
	"Teaching (Philosophy) in the Age of Artificial Intelligence" New Currents in Teaching Philosophy, Council of Independent Colleges	2023
	"A New Reconstruction of Raz on Committed, Detached, and External Utterances"	
	Philosophy Desert Workshop	2023
	Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom: A Panel Discussion A MIDAS Data and AI in Society Forum, University of Michigan	2023
	"Teaching Minds and Machines" New Currents in Teaching Philosophy, Council of Independent Colleges 202	1, 2022
	"'If You See Something, Say Something': On the Dynamics of Deniable Possibility Raising"	
	Guest at a seminar taught by Josh Dever, University of Texas, Austin	2021
	HaLO Conference, Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft	2021
	UNC / NCSU Workshop on Social and Political Philosophy of Language	2020
	"'Black Lives Matter' and 'White People Are Anxious': A Case for Pragmatic Particularism"	
	4th International Congress of the American Pragmatics Association	2018
	Guest at a seminar taught by Lynne Tirrell, University of Pittsburgh	2018
	"Three Kinds of Indeterminacy in Normative Modals"	
	7th CSLI Workshop on Logic, Rationality, and Intelligent Interaction	2018

"Implicature, Authority, and the Social" Language and Authority Conference, Yale University	2018
"'Unless That's Racist,' If I'm Not Mistaken"	
Tufts University	2018
"Assorted Biscuits and Conversational Implicatures" Workshop on Biscuit Conditionals, jointly organized by the Konstanz research group What If, the Konstanz Emmy Noether group What is it to ask a question?, and the Hamburg Emmy Noether group Ontology after Quine	2017
"'Black Lives Matter,' 'White People Are Anxious,' and Omissive Implicature" Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS)	2017
"Dilemmas, Conflicts, and Gaps: Three Varieties of Normative Indeterminacy" The Third Varieties of Normativity Workshop, Uppsala University	2017
"Channels for Common Ground" ConceptLab Meaning Innovation and Meaning Change Workshop, University of Oslo	2017
"Political Context Setting" University of Pittsburgh	2016
"Metaethics Without Semantics: Presupposition, Force, and Ideology in Ethical Appraisal" University of California, Davis	2016
"Omissive Implicature" PhLiP (Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistical Philosophy)	2016
"Metaethics Without Semantics" Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference	2016
"Context and Community" Social and Political Philosophy of Language Roundtable Bob Stalnaker Celebration, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2016
"Slurs and Ideologies" Michigan Faculty Forum, University of Michigan Law School Michigan / Mellon Project on the Egalitarian Metropolis	2020 2016
Yale Ideology Conference	2016
SIUCC XXIV, University of Valladolid	2015
Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference	2015

"Causal Distribution: The Logic of Counterfactuals Reflected in the Logic of Causation"	
Second Annual California Metaphysics Conference, USC	2013
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2013
Trassactuseus Histitute of Technology	2012
"Imperative Force in the English Modal System"	
Michigan Workshop in Philosophy and Linguistics	2012
"Context Setting"	
University of Toronto	2011
University of St. Andrews	2011
"Ordering Supervaluationism, Counterpart Theory, and Ersatz Fundamentality"	
Carolina Metaphysics Workshop	2011
"Constraint Semantics and the Language of Subjective Uncertainty"	
Chambers Philosophy Conference, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2010
Guest speaker at a seminar taught by Daniel Rothschild, Yale University	2008
"Counterpart Theory and Limit Assumptions"	
Summer Seminar Tenth Anniversary Reunion Conference	
University of Colorado, Boulder	2000
Offiversity of Colorado, Boulder	2009
"Conditional Excluded Middle (and Causal Decision Theory)	
without the Limit Assumption"	
Second Formal Epistemology Festival, University of Michigan	2009
"Incomparability and Ordering Semantics for Modals and Counterfactuals"	
Rutgers Semantics Workshop	2009
"Lessons from the Context Sensitivity of Causal Talk"	
Guest speaker at a seminar taught by Sam Cumming	
University of California, Los Angeles	2009
"Constraint Semantics and its Application to Conditionals"	0
First Formal Epistemology Festival, University of Konstanz	2008
"Something 'Might' Might Mean"	
University of California, Berkeley	2006
Harvard University	2006
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	2006
Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference	2005
Similar Similar i Imosophy Conditione	_009
"Frege's Puzzle and the Presuppositions of Proper Names"	
APA Central Division Meeting	2005
Brown Graduate Philosophy Conference	2004
56th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference	2004

	"Common Attitudes"	
	APA Pacific Division Meeting	2005
	University of Rochester Graduate Epistemology Conference	2004
	"Supposition and Compartmentalization"	
	APA Eastern Division Meeting	2004
	"Demonstratives as Pronouns"	
	Princeton-Rutgers Graduate Philosophy Conference	2004
	University of Pittsburgh-Carnegie Mellon Graduate Philosophy Conference	2004
	"A Friendly Amendment to the Standard Analysis of Supposition"	
	University of Colorado, Boulder Graduate Philosophy Conference	2004
	CUNY Graduate Philosophy Conference	2004
	University of Miami Graduate Epistemology Conference	2004
	"Biscuit Conditionals and Common Ground"	
	North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information	2002
	North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and miormation	2003
Commentaries	On Frank Pasquale's "Power and Knowledge in Policy Evaluation:	
	From Managing Budgets to Analyzing Scenarios"	
	Michigan Law, Philosophy, and Social Theory Colloquium	2023
	On Ben Holguín and Harvey Lederman's "Trying without Fail"	
	Ranch Metaphysics Workshop	2023
	On Robin Dembroff's "Oppressive Categories"	
	Ranch Metaphysics Workshop	2018
	Trailer Metaphysics Workshop	2010
	On David Boylan's "What the Future 'Might' Brings"	
	Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference	2017
	On David Pizarro's "Disgust as a Metaphor for Moral Disapproval"	
	Cornell Workshop in Linguistics and Philosophy	2016
	Cornen Workshop in Linguistics and I imosophy	2010
	On Ana Arregui's "On Indexical Anchoring in Conditionals"	
	Michigan Workshop in Philosophy and Linguistics	2012
	On Dilip Ninan's "Counterfactual Attitudes and Assignment-Sensitivity"	
	Michigan Workshop in Philosophy and Linguistics	2011
	On Eliza Block's "Is the Symmetry Problem Really a Problem?"	
	Michigan Workshop in Philosophy and Linguistics	2008
	The same of the sa	2000
	On Adrian Brasoveanu's "Anaphora to Quantificational Dependencies"	
	On Sam Cumming's "Hypercontexts"	
	Rutgers Semantics Workshop	2007

On Martina Faller's "Evidentiality and Epistemic Modality at the Semantics / Pragmatics Interface" Michigan Workshop in Philosophy and Linguistics 2006 On Michael Blome-Tillmann's "Epistemic Contextualism and the Error-Theory Objection" Harvard-MIT Graduate Philosophy Conference 2005 Undergraduate Minds and Machines Philosophy of Language and Artificial Intelligence Social and Political Philosophy of Language Problems of Philosophy Causation, Responsibility, and the Force of Language in The Brothers Karamazov Philosophy and Narrative Introduction to Formal Philosophical Methods Introduction to Symbolic Logic Introductory Logic Philosophy of Language Language and Mind Candidacy Seminar Language and the Law Proseminar Language, Ideology, and Ideologues Social and Political Philosophy of Language Underdetermination Discourse Constraints on Anaphora (co-taught with Ezra Keshet) The Analysis, Representation, and Ascription of Belief

Graduate Supervision

Teaching

Graduate

Teaching

Dissertation committee member for L. R. "Nik" Nikolai (Michigan Linguistics)

Dissertation committee member for Csilla Tatár (Michigan Linguistics)

Dissertation committee member for Kevin Craven:

Mistaken Identity: Conceptual Change, Pragmatism, and the Truth About Gender 2023

Dissertation committee member for Rebecca Harrison:

Negotiating What We Do With Words: A Social Contestation Theory of Speech Acts 2023

Dissertation committee member for Chris Campbell (Michigan Political Science):

Rhetoric, Plurality, and Political Production 2021

Postdoctoral mentor for Guillermo Del Pinal

Weinberg Institute for Cognitive Science, University of Michigan 2017-2019

Dissertation committee member for Sam Berstler (Yale Philosophy):

What We Can Say to Each Other 2019

	Dissertation committee member for Adam Marushak (Pittsburgh Philosoph Reasons and Modals	y): 2018
	Dissertation committee member for Catharine St. Croix: Non-Ideal Epistemology in a Social World	2018
1	Dissertation committee chair for Daniel Drucker: Attitudes Beyond Belief: A Theory of Rational Non-Doxastic Attitude Formation and Evaluation	2017
1	Dissertation committee member for Patrick Shirreff: What We Can Do with Words: Essays on the Relationship Between Linguistic and Non-Linguistic Theorizing	2017
	Dissertation committee member for Rohan Sud: Vagueness in a Precise World: Essays on Metaphysical Vagueness	2016
	Dissertation committee member for Alex Silk: What Normative Terms Mean and Why It Matters for Ethical Theory	2013
_	Dissertation committee member for Nate Charlow: Practical Language: Its Meaning & Use	2011
	Dissertation committee member for Dustin Tucker: Propositions and Paradoxes	2011
	Dissertation committee chair for Eduardo García-Ramírez: Proper Names, A Cognitive-Philosophical Study	2010
	Dissertation committee member for Ivan Mayerhofer: Talk about Coming into Existence	2010
1	Member of the Editorial Panel for <i>Thought</i>	2024-
1	Member of the Editorial Board for the Journal of Philosophical Logic	2020-
(Consulting editor for <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i>	2019–2021
	Member of the Program Committee for PhLiP V (Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistical Philosophy)	2018
(Co-editor of the Journal of Philosophical Logic	2017-2020
1	Nominating editor of the <i>Philosopher's Annual</i>	2017-
(Organizer of the Marshall M. Weinberg Symposium on Neurolaw	2014
1	Member of the Editorial Board for Linguistics and Philosophy	2012-

Professional Service

Member of the Editorial Board for Semantics and Pragmatics	2011-
Co-organizer of the Third Formal Epistemology Festival, on Learning from Experience and Defeasible Reasoning, with Franz Huber and Jonathan Weisberg	2 010
Co-organizer of the Second Formal Epistemology Festival, on Causal Decision Theory and Scoring Rules, with Franz Huber and Jonathan Weisberg	2009
Co-organizer of Discourse Constraints on Anaphora: An Interdisciplinary Seminar and Conference, with Ezra Keshet Sponsored by the Marshall M. Weinberg Fund for Graduate Seminars in Cognitive Science	2009
Co-editor of <i>Conditionals and Ranking Functions</i> (a special issue of <i>Erkenntnis</i>) with Franz Huber and Jonathan Weisberg	2009
Philosophical Gourmet Report Department Evaluator and Area Evaluator for Philosophy of Language and Epistemology	2008 2011
Co-organizer of the First Formal Epistemology Festival, on Conditionals and Ranking Functions, with Franz Huber and Jonathan Weisberg	2008
Co-organizer of the Harvard-MIT-UConn Workshop on Indexicals, Speech Reports, and Logophors, with Pranav Anand, Andrew Nevins, and Yael Sharvit	2004

Reviewer for the Amsterdam Colloquium*; Analytic Philosophy; Analysis*; The Australasian Journal of Philosophy*; The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic, and Communication; the Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference*; Canadian Journal of Philosophy; Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience; Deutscher Kongress für Philosophie; Dialectica*; Ethics; Ergo*; Erkenntnis*; Freie Universität Berlin, Dahlem Postdoctoral Fellowship Program; International Congress of Linguists*; Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy; Journal of Philosophical Logic; Journal of Philosophy*; Journal of Pragmatics; Journal of Semantics*; Journal of the American Philosophical Association; Linguistics and Philosophy*; Mind*; Natural Language Semantics; Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic; Noûs*; Oxford Studies in Epistemology; Oxford University Press*; Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*; Palgrave Macmillan; Philosophers' Imprint*; Philosophical Quarterly*; Philosophical Review*; Philosophical Studies*; Philosophy Compass; Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*; Ratio; Research Committee of Lingan University; Res Philosophica; Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT)*; Semantics and Pragmatics*; Social Theory and Practice; Southern Journal of Philosophy; Springer; Studia Logica; Studies in Linguistics and Philosophy*; Synthese*; Theoria; Thought*; University of Vienna REWIRE (Reinforcing Women in Research) Fellowship Program, the Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference*. ('*' indicates that I have refereed multiple submissions.)

Reviewer for various tenure and promotion cases

University Service	University of Michigan Artificial Intelligence Research Committee; Ethics Subcommittee	2023-2024
	Linguistics Promotion Review Panel Chair	2024
	Philosophy Third Year Review Panel	2024
	Philosophy Placement Director	2022-
	Philosophy Events Chair	2021-2022
	Philosophy and DAAS Promotion Review Panel Chair	2021
	Philosophy Graduate Studies Committee	2021
	Graduate Student Instructor Training and Evaluation Committee	2020-2021
	Philosophy Promotion Review Panel	2020
	Philosophy Graduate Studies Committee	2017-2019
	Philosophy Department Ombudsperson	2017-2019
	Weinberg Institute for Cognitive Science Graduate Certificate Committee	2016–2019
	LSA Information Technology Faculty Advisory Committee	2015–2019
	Linguistics Tenure Review Panel	2014
	Philosophy Department Course Scheduler	2013–2019
	Philosophy Graduate Admissions Committee Chair	2012-2013
	Philosophy Graduate Admissions Committee	2008–2014
	University of Michigan Senate Assembly Alternate	2010-2011
	Philosophy Undergraduate Studies Committee	2006–2010
	Philosophy Faculty Recruitment Committee	2006–2007
Awards	Michigan Housing Honored Instructor	2020
and Grants	University of Michigan, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Associate Professor Support Fund	2017–2018
	Fellowships awarded, but declined for family reasons Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship Stanford Humanities Center External Faculty Fellowship	2013-2014

Marshall M. Weinberg Fund for Graduate Seminars in Cognitive Science \$42,000 to support a co-taught seminar and a conference	2009
on issues in philosophy, linguistics, and other cognitive sciences	
University of Michigan, Office of the Vice President for Research Small Grants to Support Major Conferences	2009
\$2,455 to support the Second Formal Epistemology Festival, described above	
University of Michigan, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Organize an Event Grant	2009
\$2,500 to support the Second Formal Epistemology Festival, described above	
Rackham Graduate School Dean's Strategic Funding for Conferences \$1,000 to support the Second Formal Epistemology Festival, described above	2009

Last updated September 2024