

# Janum Sethi

*Curriculum Vitae*

April 2025

2251 Angell Hall  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
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## EMPLOYMENT

Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan Ann Arbor  
Associate Professor, 2023-present  
Assistant Professor, 2015-2023

## EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, 2007-2015, Ph.D. in Philosophy,  
Dissertation: *Kant on Subjectivity and Self-Consciousness*, 2015

Yale University, 2001-2005. B.A. Philosophy with Honors, 2005

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Kant; Early Modern Philosophy

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Aesthetics; Epistemology; Philosophy of Perception

## RESEARCH

“Kant on Prejudice.” Revise and Resubmit.

Forthcoming. “Universal Laws for the Humans We Happen to Be.” *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* (49).

Forthcoming. “Form and Matter in Kant’s Account of Self-Consciousness.” *The Aristotelian Kant*. Eds. Land, Thomas and Gobsch, Wolfram, Cambridge University Press.

2022. “Is it the Understanding or the Imagination that Synthesizes?” *Kant-Studien* 113 (3): 535-554.

2022. “Subjective Validity, Self-consciousness and Inner Experience: Comments on Kraus.” *Kantian Review* 27 (3): 461-467.

2022. “Kant on Common Sense and Empirical Concepts.” *Kantian Review* 27 (2): 257-277.
2021. “Kant on Empirical Self-Consciousness.” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*: 1-21.
2021. “Watkins on Kant’s Laws of Nature.” *Kantian Review* 26 (2): 307-14.
2020. “‘For Me in My Present State’: Kant on Judgments of Perception and Mere Subjective Validity.” *Journal of Modern Philosophy* 2 (9): 1-20.
2019. “Two Feelings in the Beautiful: Kant on the Structure of Judgments of Beauty.” *Philosophers’ Imprint* 19 (34): 1-17.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

TBD Keynote Talk. Eastern North American Kant Society Conference, Swarthmore, PA, Nov 2025.

Critic for Author-Meets-Critics session on Samantha Matherne’s *Seeing More: Kant’s Theory of Imagination*. North American Kant Society Biennial Conference, Montreal, QC, October 2025.

“Universal Laws for the Humans We Happen to Be,” Conference on Self-Consciousness and Mutual Recognition, UC Riverside, March 2025

“Kant’s Map of the Obscure Mind,” Eastern APA NAKS Session, New York, January 2025

“A Scandal of Philosophy”: Kant’s Refutation of External World Skepticism

- Berlin Summer Colloquium, Freie Universität, June 2024
- Lorne Machlachlan Lecture on Kant, Queen’s University, March 2024
- Chicago-Area Consortium in German Philosophy, Chicago, March 2024
- Guest speaker in Colin McLearn’s Kant seminar, University of Lincoln, Nebraska, October 2023
- Workshop on Kant’s Theory of Imagination, Harvard University, May 2023
- Brown University, March 2023

Commentator on Samantha Matherne’s “‘The Value of Creativity: A Kantian Perspective,’” UNC Annual Colloquium, Chapel Hill, September 2023

Critic for author-meets-critics panel on Katalin Makkai’s *Kant’s Critique of Taste: The Feeling of Life*, American Society of Aesthetics, Portland, OR, November 2022.

Commentator on Alix Cohen’s “Heteronomy and Theoretical Reason”, Conference on Kant’s Transcendental Dialectic, Simon Fraser University, Oct 2022

“Kant’s Complete Solution to Hume’s Problem”

- Talk sponsored by MAP, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, November 2022.

- Invited Presentation to Graduate Proseminar in the History of Philosophy, taught by Michelle Kosch and Scott MacDonald, Cornell University, April 2022.
- University of Chicago, January 2022

“‘For me, in my present state’: Kant on Judgments of Perception and Mere Subjective Validity”

- “Super Saturday Seminars,” Bombay, Virtual, June 2021.
- Invited Presentation to John Callanan’s seminar, King’s College London, December 2021.

“Kant on Prejudice”

- Theoretical Philosophy of Kant and Hegel, Society for German Idealism and Romanticism Annual Conference, Berlin, June 2022.
- Virtual Naks session, “Kant on Reasoning Well,” January 2022.
- Ashoka University Department Colloquium, New Delhi (virtual), December 2021.
- Western University Department Colloquium, London, ON, November 2021.

“Is it the Understanding or the Imagination that Synthesizes?”

- Berlin Summer Colloquium, Freie Universität, Berlin, June 2022
- North American Kant Society, Pacific Study Group, Claremont Colleges, February 2022.
- Mainz Kant Workshop: *Kant and the Norms of Cognition: A Revaluation of the Synthetic A Priori*. Virtual. July 2021

“Form and Matter in Kant’s Account of Self-Consciousness.” Workshop for *The Aristotelian Kant*. Virtual. June 2021.

“Kant on Empirical Self-Consciousness”

- Hegel-Kreis, Berlin, virtual presentation, September 2020.
- Pacific APA Symposium, Virtual, April 2021.

Speaker in Book Symposium on Katharina Kraus’ *Kant on Self-Knowledge and Self-Formation*. History of Philosophy Form, Notre Dame, virtual, March 2021.

Speaker in Book Symposium on Watkins’ *Kant on Laws*, virtual, July 2020.

Commentator on Nicholas Dunn’s “Subsuming ‘Determining’ Under ‘Reflecting’: Kant’s Power of Judgment, Reconsidered,” Pacific APA, 2020, Canceled due to Covid.

Commentator on Marcus Willaschek’s “The Structure of Normative Space According to Kant”, Sixteenth Annual Conference on Issues in Modern Philosophy: Normativity, New York University, New York, November 2019

“‘For me, in my present state’: Kant on Judgments of Perception and Mere Subjective Validity”

- University of South Florida Department Colloquium, February 2019.
- Eastern North American Kant Society Study Group, Brandeis University, May 2019.
- 13<sup>th</sup> International Kant Congress, Oslo, Norway, August 2019.

“Concepts, Common Sense and the Systematicity of Nature,” Society for German Idealism and Romanticism, Invited Session on “Aesthetics and Cognition,” Central APA, Denver, CO, February 2019.

“Two Feelings in the Beautiful: Kant on the Structure of Judgments of Beauty”

- Mentoring Workshop for Pre-Tenure Women in Philosophy, Salt Lake City, UT, June 2017
  - Midwest North American Kant Society Study Group, Minneapolis, MN, October 2017
  - Pacific APA main program, San Diego, CA, March 2018
  - Leuven Kant Conference, Belgium, May-June 2018
  - Aesthetics Discussion Group, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 2018
- Comments on “Kant on Reflection,” by Colin McLear, 4th North American Kant Society Biennial Conference, Vancouver BC, May 2018.
- “Kant on Self-Affection and Self-Consciousness,” Central APA main program, Chicago, IL, February 2018.
- Commentator for the Society for German Idealism and Romanticism’s Session on *Systematicity in German Idealism*, Eastern APA, Savannah, GA, January 2018.

“Kant on Subjectivity and Self-Consciousness”

- Second Budapest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, *Personal Identity and Self-Interpretation*, Hungary, November 2017
  - North American Kant Society Mentoring Workshop for Junior Kantians, St. Louis, MO, November 2017
- Comments on Stephanie Adair’s “Disjunctivity and Purposiveness without a Purpose,” North American Kant Society, Third Biennial Meeting, Atlanta, GA, May 2016.

“Kant on Empirical Self-Consciousness”

- Clark University, Department of Philosophy, February 2015
- UC Berkeley, Department of Philosophy Research Colloquium, February 2015
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of Philosophy, January 2015
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Department of Philosophy, December 2014

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2020-1 Steelcase Faculty Fellowship, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan  
2015-20 Denise Research Fellowship, Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan  
2014 Philosophy Department Summer Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley  
2013 Philosophy Department Summer Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley  
2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of California at Berkeley  
2011 Dean’s Normative Time Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley

2010 Graduate Division Travel Grant, University of California at Berkeley  
2008 Department of Philosophy Summer Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley  
2007 UC Graduate Division "William V. Power Graduate Award," University of California at Berkeley  
2005 Magna Cum Laude with a Distinction in Philosophy, Yale University  
2005 Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa  
2004 Richter Fellowship for Independent Senior Thesis, Yale University

## **TEACHING**

### At the University of Michigan:

Winter 2025 Phil 514: *Transcendental Arguments*  
Winter 2025 Phil 289: *Descartes to Kant*  
Fall 2024 Phil 297: *Honors Introduction to Philosophy*  
Fall 2024 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Winter 2024 Phil 289: *Descartes to Kant*  
Winter 2023 Phil 297: *Honors Introduction to Philosophy*  
Winter 2023 Phil 289: *Descartes to Kant*  
Fall 2022 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Fall 2022 Phil 196: *Art and Aesthetic Experience*  
Winter 2022 Phil 297: *Honors Introduction to Philosophy*  
Winter 2022 Phil 289: *Descartes to Kant*  
Fall 2021 Phil 514: *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*  
Winter 2020 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Fall 2019 Phil 289: *Descartes to Kant*  
Fall 2019 Phil 530: *Transcendental Arguments*  
Winter 2019 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Winter 2019 Phil 289: *Descartes to Kant*  
Winter 2018 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Winter 2018 Phil 389: *History of Philosophy: 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries*  
Winter 2017 Phil 510: *Kant's Critique of Judgment*  
Winter 2017 Phil 389: *History of Philosophy: 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries*  
Fall 2016 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Fall 2015 Phil 383: *Knowledge and Reality*  
Winter 2016 Phil 196: *Art and Aesthetic Experience*  
Winter 2016 Phil 389: *History of Philosophy: 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries*  
Fall 2015 Phil 458: *Kant*  
Fall 2015 Phil 297: *Honors Introduction to Philosophy*

### As Primary Instructor at UC Berkeley:

Summer 2014 Phil 25b: *History of Modern Philosophy*  
Summer 2012 Phil 25b: *History of Modern Philosophy*

### Dissertation Committee Member

Sean Costello, 2025-present  
Guus Duindam, 2019-2022

Outside Thesis Committee Member  
Jesse Karlsberger, MFA Thesis 2022-24

Outside Dissertation Committee Member  
Dane Anderson, 2025-present

Dossier Reading Course  
Alison Weinberger, Fall 2024

Prospectus Committee Member

Alison Weinberger, 2025-present  
Sean Costello, 2024-5  
Guus Duindam, 2019  
Johann Hariman, 2017

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor

Zuzanna Lutzykowska, F20-W21

Graduate Independent Study/Directed Reading Course

Alison Weinberger, Summer-Fall 2024  
Alejo Stark, Summer 2020  
Alice Kelley, Winter 2019

## **SERVICE**

- Ombudsperson for the Philosophy Department, 2024-present
- Launch Committee member, Gabriel Shapiro, 2024-25
- Teaching Mentor, Gabriel Shapiro, 2024-present
- University of Michigan Department Committees:
  - o Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2015-2017
  - o Graduate Admissions Committee, 2017-8
  - o GSI Evaluation Committee, 2019-21, 2021-22
  - o Graduate Studies Committee, 2023-5
- Co-organizer, Kant on Consciousness Working Group, 2021-2023
- Member of the Selection Committee, North American Kant Society Biennial Meeting, 2020
- Member of the Selection Committee, North American Kant Society Midwest Study Group, 2024
- Member of the Program Committee, APA Central Division, 2019-20

- Faculty Mentor, Job Candidate Mentoring Program for Women in Philosophy, 2015-6; 2018-9
- Judge for Michigan High School Ethics Bowl, 2020-5
- Faculty Panelist, COMPASS workshop for students from diverse backgrounds considering graduate school in philosophy, 2019; 2021; 2022; 2024.
- Peer Mentor, National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity
- Referee for *Archiv Für Geschichte der Philosophie*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Ergo*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Inquiry*, *Journal of Modern Philosophy*, *Journal of Transcendental Philosophy*, *Kantian Review*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *History of Philosophy and Logical Analysis*.

## **LANGUAGES**

English (native speaker)

Hindi (native speaker)

German (reading proficiency)

Spanish (proficient)