Brian Weatherson

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Ann Arbor, MI 48109 U.S.A.

Born: April 20, 1973—Melbourne, Australia
Nationality: Australian
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Last Updated: March 11, 2018

Current position

Marshall M. Weinberg Professor of Philosopy, Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan

Areas of specialization

Epistemology • Philosophy of Language

Areas of competence

Ethics • Logic • Theory of Choice

Employment

1999-2001	Sutton Faculty Fellow, Syracuse University
2001-2004	Assistant Professor, Brown University
2004-2007	Associate Professor, Cornell University
2008-2011	Associate Professor, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
2012-present	Marshall M. Weinberg Professor of Philosophy, University of Michigan
2008-present	Professorial Fellow, Arché, University of St Andrews (quarter-time appointment)

Education

1994	BA(Hons) with Honors in Philosophy, Monash University
1998	PhD in Philosophy, Monash University. Thesis title: *On Uncertainty*.

Publications & talks

Epistemology Articles

2018   Interests, Evidence and Games. *Episteme*, forthcoming.

2017a   Intellectual Skill and the Rylean Regress. *Philosophical Quarterly*, 67: 370-386.

2017b   Interest-Relative Invariantism. In *Routledge Handbook of Epistemic Contextualism*, edited by Jonathan Jenkins Ichikawa, Routledge, 240-253.

2016a   Games, Beliefs and Credences. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 92: 209-236.

2016b   Reply to Blackson. *Journal of Philosophical Research* 41: 73-75.

2016c   Reply to Eaton and Pickavance. *Philosophical Studies*, 173: 3231-3233.

2015a   For Bayesians, Rational Modesty Requires Imprecision. *Ergo*, 2: 529-545.

2015c   Memory, Belief and Time. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 45: 692-715.

2014b   Probability and Scepticism. In *Scepticism and Perceptual Justification*, edited by Elia Zardini and Dylan Dodd, OUP, pp. 71-86.

2013a   Disagreements, Philosophical and Otherwise. In *The Epistemology of Disagreement*, edited by Jennifer Lackey and David Christensen, OUP, pp. 54-75.

2013b   Margins and Errors. *Inquiry*, 56: 63-76.

2013c   Ross on Sleeping Beauty. *Philosophical Studies* 163: 503-512.

2012a   Dogmatism, Probability and Logical Uncertainty. Co-authored with David Jehle. In *New Waves in Philosophical Logic*, edited by Greg Restall and Gillian Russell, Palgrave, pp. 95-111.

2012b   Games and The Reason-Knowledge Principle. *The Reasoner* 6: 6-7.

2012c   Knowledge, Bets and Interests. In *Knowledge Ascriptions*, edited by Jessica Brown and Mikkel Gerken, OUP, 2012, pp. 75-103.

2012d   Induction and Supposition. *The Reasoner* 6: 78-80.

2012e   The Temporal Generality Problem. *Logos & Episteme* 3: 117-122.

2011a   Defending Interest-Relative Invariantism. *Logos and Episteme* 2: 591-609.

2011b   Stalnaker on Sleeping Beauty. *Philosophical Studies* 155: 445-456.

2008   Deontology and Descartes' Demon. *Journal of Philosophy* 105: 540-69.

2007   The Bayesian and the Dogmatist. *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 107: 169-85.

2005a   Should we Respond to Evil with Indifference? *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 70: 613-35.

2005b   Scepticism, Rationalism and Externalism. *Oxford Studies in Epistemology* 1: 311-31.

2005c   Can we Do Without Pragmatic Encroachment? *Philosophical Perspectives* 19: 417-43.

2004   Luminous Margins. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 83: 373-83.

2003   Are You a Sim? *Philosophical Quarterly* 53: 425-31.

2002   Keynes, Uncertainty and Interest Rates. *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 26: 47-62.

1999   Begging the Question and Bayesians. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 30: 687-97.

Philosophy of Language Articles

2017   Relativism. Co-authored with Patrick Shirreff. In *A Companion to the Philosophy of Language*, edited by Bob Hale, Alex Miller and Crispin Wright, Wiley-Blackwell, 787-803.

2016   Analytic-Synthetic and A Priori-A Posteriori. In *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophical Methodology*, edited by Herman Cappelen, Tamar Szabó Gendler and John Hawthorne, 231-248.

2011a   No Royal Road to Relativism. *Analysis* 71: 133-43.

2011b   Introduction. Co-authored with Andy Egan. In *Epistemic Modality*, edited by Andy Egan and Brian Weatherson, Oxford University Press, 1-18.

2010a   Assertion, Knowledge and Action. Co-authored with Ishani Maitra. *Philosophical Studies* 149: 99-118.

2010b   Vagueness as Indeterminacy. In *Cuts and Clouds: Vagueness, Its Nature and Logic*, edited by Richard Dietz and Sebastiano Moruzzi, Oxford University Press, 77-90.

2009   Conditionals and Indexical Relativism. *Synthese* 166: 333-57.

2008   Attitudes and Relativism. *Philosophical Perspectives* 22: 527-44.

| 2006 | Questioning Contextualism. In *Aspects of Knowing: Epistemological Issues*, edited by Stephen Hetherington, Elsevier, 133-47. |

2005a True, Truer, Truest. *Philosophical Studies* 123: 47-70.

2005b Epistemic Modals in Context. Co-authored with Andy Egan and John Hawthorne. In *Contextualism in Philosophy: Knowledge, Meaning, and Truth*, edited by Gerhard Preyer and Georg Peter, Oxford University Press, 131-69.

2003a Many Many Problems. *Philosophical Quarterly* 53: 481-501.

2003b Epistemicism, Parasites and Vague Names. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 81: 276-9.

2002 Misleading Indexicals. *Analysis* 62: 308-10.

2001 Indicative and Subjunctive Conditionals. *Philosophical Quarterly* 51: 200-16.

Other Research Articles

2018 Freedom of Research Area. Invited for a volume on academic freedom, edited by Jennifer Lackey, and forthcoming with OUP.

2014a Centrality and Marginalisation. *Philosophical Studies*, 171: 517-533.

2014b Humean Supervenience. forthcoming in *Blackwell Companion to David Lewis*, edited by Barry Loewer and Jonathan Schaffer, Blackwell.

2014c Running Risks Morally. *Philosophical Studies*, 167: 141-163.

2013a In Defence of the ACA's Medicaid Expansion. Co-authored with Ishani Maitra. *Public Affairs Quarterly*, 27: 267-288. Abridged version reprinted in *The Affordable Care Act Decision*, edited by Fritz Alhoff and Mark Hall, Routledge, 2013, pp 209-224.

2013b The Role of Naturalness in Lewis's Theory of Meaning. *Journal for the History of Analytic Philosophy*, 1 (10).

2012a Explanation, Idealisation and the Goldilocks Problem. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 86: 461-473.

2012b In Defence of a Kripkean Dogma. Co-authored with Jonathan Ichikawa and Ishani Maitra. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 85: 56-68.

2007a Humeans Aren't Out of Their Minds. *Noûs* 41: 529-35.

2007b Doing Philosophy with Words. *Philosophical Studies* 135: 429-37.

2006 The Asymmetric Magnets Problem. *Philosophical Perspectives* 20: 479-92.

2004a Morality, Fiction and Possibility. *Philosophers Imprint*, vol 4, number 3.

2004b Chopping up Gunk. Co-authored with John Hawthorne. *Monist* 87: 339-50.

2004c Prankster's Ethics. Co-authored with Andy Egan. *Philosophical Perspectives* 18: 45-52.

2003a What Good are Counterexamples? *Philosophical Studies* 115: 1-31.

2003b From Classical to Intuitionistic Probability. *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic* 44: 111-23.

2003c Nine Objections to Steiner and Wolff on Land Disputes. *Analysis* 63: 321-8.

2001 Intrinsic Properties and Combinatorial Principles. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 63: 365-80.

Encyclopaedia Articles

2010 Metaphysics. In Graham Oppy and N. N. Trakakis (eds.), *A Companion to Philosophy in Australia and New Zealand*, Monash University Publishing.

2009 David Lewis. In Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy.

2003 Problem of the Many. In Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy.

2002 Intrinsic vs Extrinsic Properties. In Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy.

Edited Book

2011 *Epistemic Modality*, co-edited with Andy Egan, Oxford University Press.

Book Reviews

2007 Daniel Nolan, David Lewis, *Mind* 116: 191-3.
2005 Frank Jackson and Graham Priest (eds.) *Lewisian Themes: The Philosophy of David K. Lewis.* Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews.
2004 Christopher Peacocke, *The Realm of Reason. Times Literary Supplement*, Oct 15, 2004, 8-9.
2003a Rosanna Keefe, *Theories of Vagueness. Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 67: 491-4.
2003b Roy Sorensen, *Vagueness and Contradiction. Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 81: 290-2.
2003c Christopher Gauker, *Words without Meanings.* Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews.
2002a Michael DePaul (ed.), *Rethinking Intuition. Ethics* 112: 361-4.
2002b Ted Lockhart, *Moral Uncertainty and Its Consequences. Mind* 111: 693-6.
2002c David Wiggins, *Sameness and Substance Renewed.* Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews.
2002d William Lycan, *Real Conditionals. Philosophical Review* 111: 609-11.

Talks

2017 Blame and Fragmented Desire
      · University of Graz, December 2017
2017 Inferentialism and Logical Knowledge
      · Conceptual Truth, Analyticity, and Conceptual Competence workshop, ConceptLab, University of Oslo, June 2017
2017 Interests and Evidence
      · Pragmatic Encroachment Conference, Sedona, AZ, February 2017
      · Arché, University of St Andrews, June 2017
      · *Episteme* Conference, Galapagos Islands, July 2017
2017 Thick Moral Ignorance
      · Blame Workshop, Arché, University of St Andrews, June 2017
      · University of Vienna, December 2017
2016 Signalling Games
      · Decisions, Games and Logic Workshop, University of Michigan, July 2016
2016 Accuracy and the Imps
      · Arché, University of St Andrews, May 2016
2016 Asymmetries in Disagreement
      · Complex Disagreement Workshop, University of St Andrews, May 2016
2015 Determinacy and Borderline Cases
      · University of Chicago, April 2015
2015 Memory, Belief and Time
      · Belief, Rationality and Time Conference, University of Wisconsin - Madison, September 2015
2014 Should We Act on Higher-Order Evidence
      · Australasian Association of Philosophy Annual Conference, ANU, July 2014
2014 Moral Ignorance is (Almost) Never Exculpatory
      · University of Sydney, April 2014
      · Australian National University, April 2014
      · University of Melbourne, May 2014
      · Arché Reading Party, June 2016
2014 Intellectual Skills and the Rylean Regress
      · Monash University, February 2014
2013 Rayo on Possibility
      · MIT, October 2014
2013 Stopped Clocks and Generative Testimony
      · University of St Andrews, October 2013
2013 Games, Beliefs and Credences
      · Formal Epistemology Workshop/Rutgers Epistemology Conference, May 2012
2013 Centrality and Marginalisation

- Contribution to author meets critics session on David Christensen's *Putting Logic in Its Place*, APA Pacific Division Conference, Portland OR, March 2006.

2006b   Natural Quantities
- University of Manitoba, March 2006
- Stanford University, May 2006

2006c   In Defence of a Dogmatist
- University of Texas, May 2006
- Stanford University, May 2006

2006d   Norms of Assertion and Expressivism
- Workshop on ethics and epistemology, University of Missouri at Columbia, September 2006

2006e   The Bayesian and the Dogmatist
- Rutgers University, October 2006.
- University of Oklahoma, November 2006.
- University of California at Berkeley, November 2006.
- The Aristotelian Society, London, February 2007.

2006f   Tracking, Closure and Conjunctions
- Contribution to author meets critics session on Sherri Rousch's *Tracking Truth*, Philosophy of Science Association cofnerence, Vancouver, November 2006.

2005a   Vagueness as Indeterminacy
- Australian National University, January 2005
- Princeton University, February 2005
- Arché Workshop on Vagueness, University of St Andrews, February 2005

2005b   Dutch Books and Infinity
- Prague International Colloquium on Dutch Book Arguments, Prague, August 2005

2005c   Knowledge, Justification and Practical Interests
- Monash University, September 2005
- Australian National University, October 2005

2005d   Conditionals and Relativism
- LOGOS Workshop on Relativising Utterance Truth, Barcelona, September 2005
- Workshop on Conditionals, University of Connecticut, April 2006

2004a   Morality in Fiction and Consciousness in Imagination
- APA Pacific Division Conference, Pasadena, March 2004

2004b   Uncertainty, Probability and Non-Classical Logic
- Formal Epistemology Workshop, University of California at Berkeley, May 2004

2004c   Morality, Fiction and Possibility
- American Society for Aesthetics Conference, Houston , October 2004

2004d   Intuitions and Meanings
- Fribourg Workshop on Intuitions, Fribourg Switzerland, November 2004.
- Australian National University, January 2005.
- University of Glasgow, February 2005.

2003a   Prankster's Ethics (with Andy Egan)
- International Symposium on Theoretical and Applied Ethics, Louisiana State University, February 2003
- APA Central Division Conference, Cleveland OH, April 2003

2003b   Scepticism, Rationalism and Externalism
- Cornell University, October 2003
- Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, Washington State University and University of Idaho, April 2004

2002a   Justification and Innateness
- Australasian Association of Philosophy conference, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, July 2002

2002b   My Favourite Puzzle
- University of Melbourne, October 2002

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	· University of California at Davis, January 2004
2001a	Indicatives and Subjunctives
	· Brown University, February 2001
	· Rutgers University, February 2001
	· University of Colorado at Boulder, February 2001
2001b	Growing Individuals and Intrinsic Properties
	· APA Pacific Division Conference, San Francisco, March 2001
2001c	True, Truer, Truest
	· University of Michigan, October 2001
	· APA Central Division Conference, Chicago, April 2002
	· Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University, August 2003
2000a	Stages, Worms, Slices and Lumps
	· Syracuse University, May 2000
2000b	A Puzzle About Duplication
	· Monash University, June 2000
2000c	Is This Title Ambiguous?
	· Australasian Association of Philosophy conference, University of Queensland, July 2000
1999	What Good Are Counterexamples?
	· Australasian Association of Philosophy conference, University of Melbourne, July 1999
1998	Supertruth
	· Australasian Association of Philosophy conference, Macquarie University, July 1998
1997	The Dutch Bookie Goes to Market
	· International Economics and Philosophy Society Conference, University of New South Wales, July 1996, and published in conference proceedings: Julian Lamont and Christi Dawn Favor (eds.) *Edited Proceedings of the 1997 International Economics and Philosophy Society Conference*, 97-100
1996a	The Possibility of Revealed Preference
	· International Economics and Philosophy Society Conference, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, July 1996, and published in conference proceedings: Julian Lamont (ed.) *Edited Proceedings of the 1996 International Economics and Philosophy Society Conference*, 121-125
1996b	Inductive Arguments and Probability
	· Australasian Association of Philosophy conference, University of Queensland, July 1996

Panel Presentations and Invited Commentaries

2017	Arizona Ontology Conference, January 2017
2016a	APA Central Division, San Francisco, March 2016
2016b	APA Pacific Division, San Francisco, April 2016
2015	Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University, 2015
2009	Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado at Boulder, August 2009
2008	Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University, August 2008
2007	Rutgers Semantics Workshop, New Brunswick, October 2007
2006a	Arizona Ontology Conference, January 2006
2006b	Panel on Blogging in Philosophy, APA Pacific Division, March 2006
2006c	NYU Causation Workshop, Florence, June 2006
2005	APA Central Division, Chicago, April 2005
2004	Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University, August 2004
2003a	APA Pacific Division, San Francisco, March 2003
2003b	Syracuse Workship on Metaphysics, Syracuse University, August 2003
2003c	BloggerCon, Harvard University, October 2003
2001	Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University, August 2001
2000	Metaphysical Mayhem V, Syracuse University, August 2000

Teaching

Introduction to Philosophy
- Taught eight times: Spring 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007 and Spring 2008, Winter 2013, Winter 2016, Winter 2018.
- Topics included philosophy of religion, philosophy of mind, scepticism and ethics
- In early years, mainly used readings. In later years, the focus was more on great books, such as Descartes' *Meditations* and Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*.
- All the courses were large introductory lecture courses, to between 80 and 150 students, except the Spring 2008 course, which was a freshman Honors seminar.

Introduction to Logic
- Taught four times: Spring 2003, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2011.
- Topics included validity and soundness, the predicate calculus, models, and proofs in propositional and predicate logic.
- The courses had no pre-requisites, and focussed on continuous assessment.
- All the courses were large lecture courses, with 80 to 100 students.

Intermediate Logic
- Taught four times: Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Spring 2004, Fall 2004.
- The course was on predicate logic, from introduction to the proof of completeness.
- The courses had between 20 and 40 students.

Advanced Logic
- Taught four times: Fall 2000, Spring 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2009.
- Topics varied, but included non-classical logic, modal logic and the incompleteness of arithmetic.
- All courses were small graduate focussed courses, with 5 to 10 students.

Philosophy of Language
- Taught twice: Fall 2001, Spring 2003.
- Topics included reference and description, implicature and vagueness.
- Course was a small undergraduate seminar, with some graduates sitting in, with 5 to 10 students.

Decision Theory
- Taught five times: Spring 2000, Fall 2004, Fall 2008, Fall 2011, Winter 2016.
- Topics included probability and utility functions, paradoxes of decision theory, game theory and collective decision making.
- Courses were targeted at juniors and seniors, with between 5 and 20 students.

300-level Epistemology
- Taught twice: Fall 2013, Winter 2015.
- Topics included scepticism, analysis of knowledge and social epistemology.
- Courses were targeted at intermediate level philosophy students, with roughly 40 students.

400-level Groups and Choices
- Taught twice: Winter 2017, Winter 2018.
- Topics include game theory, voting theory and group minds.
- Courses are targeted at upper level undergraduates and beginning graduate students, with courses being 25 or 50 students.

Undergraduate courses taught just once (all student numbers approximate)
- History of Political Philosophy, Spring 2001, 50 students
- Time Travel, Fall 2003, 20 students
- Mid 20th Century philosophy, Spring 2005, 5 students
- Applied Ethics, Summer 2005, 40 students
- Semantics, Fall 2007, 5 students
- Philosophical Babies, Fall 2012, 20 students
- 400-level Epistemology, Winter 2013, 10 students
- 400-level Ethics, Fall 2015, 10 students
- Honors Logic, Fall 2016, 18 students
- 300-level Formal Methods, Winter 2017, 45 students

Graduate Seminars
- Intuitions, Fall 1999
- Vaguness, Spring 2002
- Conceivability, Spring 2002
- Philosophy of Economics, Spring 2004
- David Lewis, Spring 2006, Fall 2013
- Dissertation Workshop, Spring 2008
- Probability, Spring 2009
- Scepticism, Fall 2010
- Game Theory, Summer 2011
- Scepticism, Winter 2012
- Normative Uncertainty, Fall 2014
- Responsibility, Fall 2017

Professional service

2006-2012	Editor-in-Chief, *Philosophy Compass*.
2006-07	Co-editor, *Philosophical Review*.
2012-2014	Associate Editor, *Thought*.
2013-	Associate Editor, *Philosophical Review*

External examiner for graduate degrees at Rutgers University, Australian National University, University of Oslo, University of Melbourne and Monash University.

External reviewer for funding proposals for FWO (Belgium), AHRC (UK) and PETAF (Spain).

Reviewed book manuscripts or proposals for Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, MIT Press, Harvard University Press and Routledge.

Referee for, among others, American Philosophical Quarterly, Analytic Philosophy, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Australasian Journal of Logic, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Dialectica, Ethics, Journal of Philosophical Logic, Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy, Linguistics and Philosophy, Mind, Mind and Language, Noûs, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophical Quarterly, The Philosophical Review, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Ratio and Synthese.

Departmental and university service

2014-6	Chair, Graduate Studies Committee (i.e., DGS), University of Michigan.
2014-5	Member, Search Committee, PPE Search, University of Michigan.
2013, 2017	Member, Search Committee, Philosophy Department, University of Michigan.
2012-3	Chair, Search Committee, Philosophy Department, University of Michigan.
2012, 2017	Graduate Admissions Committee, Philosophy Department, University of Michigan
2009-10	External Speakers Co-Ordinator, Philosophy Department, Rutgers University
2008-10	Appointments and Promotions Committee, Dean's Office, Humanites, Rutgers University
2008-10	Web co-ordinator, Philosophy Department, Rutgers University
2009	Graduate Admissions committee, Philosophy Department, Rutgers University
2008-09	Search committee, Philosophy Department, Rutgers University
2008	Graduate Admissions committee, Philosophy Department, Rutgers University
2006-07	Search committee, Philosophy Department, Cornell University
2004-05	External Speakers Co-Ordinator, Philosophy Department, Cornell University
2004-05	Search committee, Philosophy Department, Cornell University
2004-07	Webmaster, Philosophy Department, Cornell University
2004	Graduate Admissions committee, Philosophy Department, Brown University
2003-04	Logic & Philosophy of Science concentration advisor, Brown University
2003-04	Search committee, Philosophy Department, Brown University
2002	Graduate Admissions committee, Philosophy Department, Brown University