

Ryan Simonelli

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Employment:

Wuhan University. 2024-present.
International Research Fellow in Philosophy.

University of Chicago. 2022-2024.
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Humanities.

Education:

University of Chicago. PhD, Philosophy. 2015-2022.
Dissertation: *Meaning and the World* (available at ryansimonelli.com/research)
Committee: Michael Kremer (co-chair), Malte Willer (co-chair), Robert Brandom, James Conant, Jason Bridges

University of Pittsburgh. Visiting Scholar. 2019.

New College of Florida. BA, Philosophy. 2010-2014.

Oxford University. Visiting Student. 2013.

Areas of Specialty:

Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics, Philosophical Logic

Areas of Competence:

Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, History of Analytic Philosophy, Indian Buddhist Philosophy, Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence

Journal Articles (preprints available at ryansimonelli.com/research):

"An Act-Based Approach to Assertibles and Instantiables." *Ergo*. Forthcoming.

"A General Schema for Bilateral Proof Rules." *Journal of Philosophical Logic*. 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10992-024-09743-w>

"How to be a Hyper-Inferentialist." *Synthese*. 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-023-04382-1>

"Why Must Incompatibility Be Symmetric?" *Philosophical Quarterly*. 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1093/pq/pqad078>

"Considering the Exceptions: On the Failure of Cumulative Transitivity for Indicative Conditionals." *Synthese*. 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03854-0>

"Sellars's Ontological Nominalism." *European Journal of Philosophy*. 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.12729>

Book Chapters and Conference Proceedings (preprints available at ryansimonelli.com/research):

“Transcendental Linguistics and Picturing.” For *The Sellarsian Mind*, ed. by Jeremy R. Koons. Under contract with Routledge.

“Meaning, Coherence, and Consequence: Rethinking the Philosophical Significance of the Sequent Calculus.” For a Festschrift for Michael Kremer.

“Generalized Bilateral Harmony.” In the *2023 Logica Yearbook*, ed. Igor Sedlár. Forthcoming.

“Sellars’s Two Worlds.” In *Reading Kant with Sellars*, ed. M. Rane and L. C. Seiberth. Routledge. 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1515/jtph-2019-0021>

“The Normative/Agentive Correspondence.” *Journal of Transcendental Philosophy* 3, no. 1. 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1515/jtph-2019-0021>

“Pointing Out the Skeptic’s Mistake.” *Florida Philosophical Review* Volume 9, Issue 1. 2014. <https://cah.ucf.edu/fpr/article/pointing-out-the-skeptics-mistake/>

“Reformulating the Two Aspects of Justification.” *Florida Philosophical Review*. Volume 8, Issue 1. 2013. <https://cah.ucf.edu/fpr/article/reformulating-the-two-aspects-of-justification/>

Response Papers and Book Reviews:

“Supposition: No Problem for Bilateralism” (a response to Nils Kürbis’s “Supposition: A Problem for Bilateralism”). *Bulletin of the Section of Logic*. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.18778/0138-0680.2025.01>

Review of *Belief, Inference, and the Self-Conscious Mind*, by Eric Marcus. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. 2024. ndpr.nd.edu/reviews/belief-inference-and-the-self-conscious-mind/

Papers Under Review (drafts available at ryansimonelli.com/research):

“Bringing Bilateralisms Together: A Unified Framework for Inferentialists.” Conditionally Accepted at *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.

“ ‘Yes,’ ‘No,’ Neither, and Both: Bilateral Systems for the FDE Family”

“There is a Logical Negation: ‘Yes,’ ‘No,’ Both, and Neither” (a response to Jc Beall’s “There is No Logical Negation: True, False, Both, and Neither”). Revise and Resubmit at *Australasian Journal of Logic*.

Papers in Progress (drafts available upon request):

“The Consequentiality of Explicitation”

“Properties without Problems”

“Against Conceptual Svabhāva”

“Epistemological Platonism and the Rule-Following Problem”

Presentations (“*” indicates refereed presentation):

“Sapience without Sentience: An Inferentialist Approach to AI.” March 2025. National Taiwan University.

*“ ‘Yes,’ ‘No,’ Neither, and Both.” February 2025. The Inaugural Symposium on Logic in the Arab World. Kuwait University.

*“There Is a Logical Negation: ‘Yes,’ ‘No,’ Both, and Neither.” February 2025. The Florida Philosophical Association Conference. Flagler College.

“Semantic Norms and Their Worldly Correspondents.” December 2024. University of Potsdam Colloquium in Theoretical Philosophy. (virtual)

*“Semantic Norms and Their Worldly Correspondents.” November 2024. Beijing International Conference on Normativity. Beijing Normal University, China.

“The Consequentiality of Explicitation.” September 2024. Thought, Reason, Logic. Concordia University, Canada.

*“‘Yes,’ ‘No,’ Neither, and Both: Bilateral Systems for the FDE Family.” September 2024. 7th World Congress of Paraconsistency. Universidad Benito Juárez de Oaxaca, Mexico.

“Inferentialism and AI.” August 2024. Logic, Methodology of Science, and Its Applications. Emily Harvey Foundation. New York (hybrid).

“Some Thoughts on the General Form of a Linguistic Capacity.” June 2024. Conference on James Conant’s *The Logical Alien*. University of Patras, Greece.

“Against Conceptual Svabhāva.” April 2024. The Philosophy of Religions Workshop. University of Chicago.

“Meanings Done Right: An Act-Based Theory of Linguistic Meaning.” January 2024. Haverford College.

“An Act-Based Theory of Assertibles and Instantiables.” November 2023. University of Potsdam Colloquium in Theoretical Philosophy. (virtual)

“The Meaning(s) of the Classical Connectives.” October 2023. The Theoretical Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

*“A General Schema for Bilateral Proof Rules.” June 2023. The 36th Annual Logica Conference. Teplá Monastery, Czech Republic.

“Consequence, Coherence, and Consequence Again: Rethinking the Philosophical Significance of the (Classical) Sequent Calculus.” May 2023. Retirement conference for Michael Kremer. University of Chicago.

"Sellars's Two Worlds." December 2022. The International Sellars Colloquium. Virtual.

"Sellars's Two Worlds." February 2022. The German Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

"Simply Substructural Semantics." November 2021. Graduate Student Research Symposium. University of Chicago.

"Sellars's Ontological Nominalism." June 2021. The International Sellars Colloquium. Virtual.

"Sellars's Ontological Nominalism." November 2020. The Theoretical Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

*"Can the Content of Perception Be Conceptual?" June 2019. The Significance of Self-Consciousness – A Workshop with Mathew Boyle. Leipzig University.

"Frege and the Logical Notion of Judgment." April 2019. The German Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

"Discursive Role Semantics." February 2019. The Theoretical Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

*"Discursive Normativity, Agentive Modality, and Perceptual Knowledge." February 2019. Themes from the Philosophy of Robert Brandom. Marquette University.

"Propositions and the Power to Represent." December 2017. The Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

"The Skeptical Thought and Its Dissolution." October 2017. The Wittgenstein Workshop. University of Chicago.

*"Propositional Acts and Opaque Contexts." July 2017. Logic and Life – A Workshop with Irad Kimhi. Leipzig University.

"Indexicality, Opacity, and Perspectivity." March 2017. The Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

*"Truth and Being in Aristotle's *Metaphysics*." July 2016. The Activity of Being – A Workshop with Aryeh Kosman. Leipzig University.

"Comments on Markus Gabriel's 'The Meaning of "Existence" and the Contingency of Sense'." April 2016. Contemporary European Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

"Having Knowledge in Experience." April 2016. German Philosophy Workshop. University of Chicago.

*"How to Tell the Skeptic to Get Lost." November 2013. The Florida Philosophical Association Conference. Stetson University.

*“Reformulating the Two Aspects of Justification.” November 2012. The Florida Philosophical Association Conference. University of Central Florida.

Interviews:

“Inferentialism.” *Elucidations Podcast*. To be released.

“A Conversation with Ryan Simonelli.” Interview conducted by L. Ralon. *Figure/Ground*, March 4, 2022: figureground.org/a-conversation-with-ryan-simonelli.

Honors and Awards:

Nominated by the University of Chicago Philosophy Department for the Dean’s Dissertation Award (2022)

University of Chicago Graduate Student Essay Prize in Philosophy (for “Considering the Exceptions”) (2021)

The Hanna Holborn Gray Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2021)

Awarded to One Student in the Humanities Division at the University of Chicago Each Year

The Gerrit and Edith Schipper Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Philosophy Paper in a Four-Year College or University (2012 and 2013)

Teaching:

As Sole Instructor (syllabi and more available at ryansimonelli.com/teaching):

Appearance and Reality: Perspectives Across Philosophical Traditions. University of Chicago. Spring 2024.

Introduction to Logic. University of Chicago. Winter 2023.

Authored textbook, available at: ryansimonelli.com/logic-textbook

Doing Things with Words: A Venture into Speech Act Theory. University of Chicago. Winter 2023.

Philosophical Perspectives II. University of Chicago (Core curriculum). Winter 2023. Winter 2024.

Philosophy and Science Fiction. University of Chicago. Fall 2022.

Philosophical Perspectives I. University of Chicago (Core curriculum). Fall 2022. Fall 2023.

Consciousness and Language. University of Chicago. Spring 2020.

As Co-Instructor

(Topics in) Philosophy of Language (with Da Fan and Bo Chen). Wuhan University. Spring 2025.

As Course Assistant:

Elementary Logic (Michael Kremer). University of Chicago. Winter 2021.

Philosophy of Religion (Ben Callard). University of Chicago. Winter 2021.

Varieties of Philosophical Skepticism (James Conant). University of Chicago. Spring 2019.

Consciousness (David Finkelstein). University of Chicago. Fall 2018.

Cognition (Jason Bridges and Chris Kennedy). University of Chicago. Spring 2018.

Formal Logic (Aron Edidin). New College of Florida. Fall 2013.

Research Groups and Teams:

Core member of the *Research on Logical Expressivism* (ROLE) working group, a research group led by Robert Brandom and Ulf Hlobil focused on the development substructural logics in the theoretical framework of inferentialism and logical expressivism (2019-present). (logicaexpressivism.wixsite.com/role)

Member of the *International Sellars Colloquium*, a monthly research group focused on the philosophy of Wilfrid Sellars, (2021-present). (wilfridsellars.org/isc)

Team member for “Research on the Concepts of Agency and Responsibility from a Constructivist Perspective” (建构主义视阈下的能动性 with 责任观研究) project. Chinese Social Science Grant, led by Shiwen Zhong, (2024-present).

Professional Service:

Referee:

Australasian Journal of Philosophy; Ergo; Erkenntnis; Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy (× 2); *Journal of Contemporary Chinese Philosophy*, *Journal of Logic, Language, and Information*; *Journal of Philosophical Logic*; *Logics*; *Open Philosophy*; *Review of Symbolic Logic*; *Synthese*; *Theoria*; *Topoi*

Popular Philosophy:

Talking in Circles: Serious Philosophical Dialogues on the Silliness of Philosophy. An illustrated book of dialogues about overarching philosophical systems that undermine themselves. Self-Published in 2014, available at ryansimonelli.com/talking-in-circles.

“Absolute Irony” (www.ryansimonelli.com/absolute-irony), a blog where I post about philosophy and related fields for a non-academic audience (2014-present).

2nd Place Winner of the 3 Quarks Daily Philosophy Prize, Judged by Huw Price (2014).

“A Word on Our Being Here.” A short piece on Heidegger’s “question of being,” in *Property Zine*, vol. 1. no. 3. 2016.

“Seeing Red, Working Nine to Five, and Wearing Platform Shoes.” An article about Frank Jackson’s Knowledge argument in *The Sophist*, a philosophy magazine organized by Oxford University students (2013).

“The Do-Be Tune.” A short philosophical dialogue published in the New College Academic/Literary Journal *Nude Collage* (2011).

References:

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University of Chicago
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