

Mason Westfall

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Mind · Cognitive Science · Epistemology

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics · Business Ethics · Environmental Ethics · Philosophy of Sexuality

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022–4 **McDonnell Postdoctoral Fellow**
Washington University in St. Louis
Philosophy–Neuroscience–Psychology
- 2020–2 **Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream**
University of Toronto
Department of Philosophy

EDUCATION

- 2020 **Ph.D., Philosophy**
University of Toronto
Thesis: *Understanding Minds: Essays on Social Cognition*
Committee: Jennifer Nagel (Supervisor), Diana Raffman, David Barnett, Kristin Andrews (External)
- 2012 **B.A., Philosophy**
UC San Diego
Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 ‘Towards Biologically Plausible Artificial Vision’
Behavioral and Brain Sciences, In Press
- 2022 ‘Constructing Persons: On the Personal–Subpersonal Distinction’
Philosophical Psychology, Online
- 2022 ‘Perceiving Agency’
Mind & Language, Online

2021 'Other Minds Are Neither Seen Nor Inferred'
Synthese, 198, 11977-97

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

'Polarization is Epistemically Innocuous'	Revise and Resubmit
'Phenomenal Anti-Imperialism'	Under Review
'Reinforcement Learning and Natural Agents'	In preparation
'What Unifies Social Cognition?'	In Preparation
'Why Don't You Have 6,845,932 Beliefs?' with Preston Lennon	In Preparation
'Mindshaping and Constructing Kinds' for <i>Routledge Handbook of Mindshaping</i>	In Preparation

PRESENTATIONS

April 2023	'Polarization is Epistemically Innocuous' Epistemology Group, WashU St. Louis
April 2023	'Phenomenal Anti-Imperialism' American Philosophical Association: Pacific Division Meeting
July 2022	'Polarization is Epistemically Innocuous' North American Society for Social Philosophy
February 2022	'Polarization is Epistemically Innocuous' American Philosophical Association: Central Division Meeting
April 2021	'A Constructivist Account of the Personal–Subpersonal Distinction' American Philosophical Association: Pacific Division Meeting
July 2021	'Perceiving Agency' Society for Philosophy and Psychology
December 2020	'Animacy as Perceived Agency' Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology
January 2020	'The Epistemology of Looks' American Philosophical Association: Eastern Division Meeting
July 2019	'Perceiving Animacy' The Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society & the Mind Association
July 2019	'The Personal–Subpersonal Distinction and Social Cognition' (Poster) Society for Philosophy and Psychology
June 2019	'Ampliative Perceptual Judgments and Other Minds' Canadian Philosophical Association: Annual Congress

January 2019 'Other Minds are Neither Seen Nor Inferred'
American Philosophical Association: Eastern Division Meeting

TEACHING, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Philosophy–Neuroscience–Psychology Senior Seminar Winter '24
Philosophy of Emotions Fall '22, Winter '23, Fall '23

TEACHING, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Philosophy of Emotions Winter '22
Issues in Philosophy of Mind Fall '20, '21
Introductory Philosophy Winter '20, '21, '22
Business Ethics Fall '19, '20, '21
Issues in Environmental Ethics Winter '20, '21
Seminar in Metaphysics: Color Fall '19
Persons Minds and Bodies Summer '19
Philosophy of Sexuality Summer '17, '18

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Reviewer Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Philosopher's Imprint, Erkenntnis, Synthese, Ergo, Episteme, Philosophical Psychology, Philosophical Quarterly, Diametros, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Routledge Handbook
2022 'Philosophy, Twitter and Hierarchy'
Guest Blog Post, The Sooty Empiric
2021 'What Are Mental States'
WiPhi Video (Script)
2021 The Problem of Other Minds
WiPhi Video (Script)
2021 Replies to The Problem of Other Minds
WiPhi Video (Script)
2020 'Free and Easy Conversing: Zhuangzi and Skepticism'
Animated Dialogue (Animation)
2020 Head Judge
Ontario High School Ethics Bowl

AWARDS

- 2018–9 Graduate Fellow in Humanities
Jackman Humanities Institute (\$30,000)
- 2013–8 Connaught International Scholarship
University of Toronto (\$175,000)

REFERENCES

Jennifer Nagel
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University of Toronto
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