

Yasha Sapir

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Research Areas

Epistemology · Philosophy of Language · Ethics

Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Southern California	2021–
M.A. in Philosophy, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee	2019–2021
B.A. in Philosophy, Reed College	2015–2018

Publication

Hedging and the ignorance norm on inquiry (with Peter van Elswyk)
Synthese 199 (2021): 5837–5859.

Teaching Experience

As primary instructor

Reasoning and Argument	Fall 2024
Philosophy of Money, Markets, and Property	Summer 2024
Philosophy of Money, Markets, and Property	Summer 2023

As recitation instructor

Philosophy of Law	Spring 2023
Early Modern Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	Fall 2022
Introduction to Logic	Spring 2021
Introduction to Logic	Fall 2020
Introduction to Logic	Spring 2020
Introduction to Logic	Fall 2019

Refereed Presentations

Vague assertion

Central APA (Symposium) February 2024

Words, background understandings, and slurs

The Semantics of Hidden Meanings September 2023

Berkeley Stanford Davis Graduate Conference April 2023

How to understand a question

Inquiry work in progress workshop November 2022

Deliberative inquiry

Eastern APA (Poster) January 2023

Uppsala Epistemology Workshop June 2022

Utrecht Graduate Philosophy Conference May 2022

Notre Dame Northwestern Graduate Epistemology Conference April 2022

On precisifiers (with Adam Woodnutt)

NASSLLI Student Session June 2022

California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference May 2022

Hedging and settled inquiry (with Peter van Elswyk)

Nature of Inquiry Conference March 2020

Comments

Tomasz Zyglewicz, "What Belief Reports are For?"
Pacific APA March 2024

Scott Dixon, "Metaphysical Foundherentism"
Central APA February 2023

Jaakko Hirvelä, "The Structure of Moral Encroachment"
Uppsala Epistemology Workshop June 2022

Madeleine Levac, "Gaslighting and Fragile Knowledge"
Pacific APA April 2022

Elise Woodard, "The Ignorance Norm and Paradoxical Assertions"
Eastern APA January 2022

Fellowships and Awards

Richard Peltz Award for Excellence in Philosophy	2021
Awarded by UW-Milwaukee for best philosophy paper submission.	
Graduate Student Excellence Fellowship	2020
Ruby-Lankford Grant for Faculty Student Research	2017

Service

Philosophy area leader, USC graduate student union	2023-2024
President, USC speculative society	2022-2023
Committee member, USC Open house committee	2022
Graduate student mentor, Yuanye Hu	2023-2024
Referee, Canadian Philosophical Association meeting	2023
Referee, USC-UCLA graduate conference	2022, 2023, 2024
Journal referee, <i>Inquiry</i> , <i>Ergo</i> , <i>Erkenntnis</i> , <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i>	

Graduate Coursework

Courses marked with an asterix () were audited.*

Area Exam

- Conditionals (Andrew Bacon)
- Formal epistemology (Jeffrey Russell)
- Pragmatics (John Hawthorne)
- Vagueness (Andrew Bacon)

Epistemology

- The Social Epistemology of Inquiry (Peter van Elswyk)
- Epistemic Normativity* (Ralph Wedgwood, John Hawthorne, Maria Lasonen-Aarnio)

History of Philosophy

- Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit (William Bristow)
- Kant's Critique of Pure Reason: Self and World (Nataliya Palatnik)
- Kant's and Kantian Practical Thought (Nataliya Palatnik)
- Schopenhauer and Nietzsche (William Bristow)

Language

- Compositional Degree Semantics (Alexis Wellwood and Roumyana Pancheva)
- Language and Meaning (Peter van Elswyk)
- Language Proseminar (Scott Soames)
- Semantics, Vagueness, and Paradox (Andrew Bacon)
- Speech Act Theory (Peter van Elswyk)
- Conditionals* (Andrew Bacon and John Hawthorne)
- Epistemic Modals* (Deniz Rudin)
- Semantics and Pragmatics of Epistemic Vocabulary* (Peter van Elswyk)
- Slurs* (Robin Jeshion)
- Speech Acts* (Robin Jeshion)

Linguistics

- Semantics (Deniz Rudin)
- Syntax (Travis Major)

Metaphysics

- Composition and Metaphysical Explanation (Joshua Spencer)
- The Passage of Time (Joshua Spencer)
- Bounds of Possibility* (John Hawthorne)
- The Metaphysical Toolkit* (Joshua Spencer)

Mind

- Intentionality (James Van Cleve)

Logic

- Modal Logic (Gabriel Uzquaino)
- Fundamentals of Formal Logic (Joshua Spencer)

Pedagogy

- Teaching Seminar (Mark Schroeder)
- Future Faculty Teaching Institute (USC Center for Excellence in Teaching)

Social and Political Philosophy

Critical Theory* (Karen Ng)

Public Reason and the Pursuit of Justice* (Blain Neufeld)

Value Theory

Blame: A Beginner's Guide (Zoe Johnson King)

Contemporary Philosophical Literature on Value (Ralph Wedgwood)

Feminist Perspectives on Sex and Love (Robin Jeshion)

Mental Ethics (Mark Schroeder)

Last updated: June 19, 2024