

Phil Corkum

Philosophy Department
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Areas of Specialization

Ancient Philosophy, Metaphysics

Academic Appointments

Associate (2011-present) and Assistant (2005-11) Professor, University of Alberta
Visiting Instructor, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2004-5

Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles, 2006
M.A., Philosophy, University of London, 1996
M.A., Classics, Dalhousie University, 1994
B.A., Classics, Dalhousie University, 1991

Monograph

Neo-Aristotelian Metaphysics. Cambridge Elements in Metaphysics. Under contract with Cambridge University Press.

Articles and Book Chapters († invited)

16. "Is 'Cause' Ambiguous?" *Philosophical Studies* (2022) 179: 2945-71. DOI: [10.1007/s11098-022-01809-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-022-01809-2)
15. "Salience and Metaphysical Explanation." *Synthese* (2021) 199: 10771-92. DOI: [10.1007/s11229-021-03267-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-021-03267-5)
- †14. "Ancient" in *Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding*, ed. Michael Raven. New York: Routledge. 2020. Pp. 20-32.
- †13. "This." *Dialogoi: Ancient Philosophy Today* (2019) 1: 38-63. DOI: [10.3366/anph.2019.0004](https://doi.org/10.3366/anph.2019.0004)
12. "Empty Negations and Existential Import in Aristotle." *Apeiron* (2018) 51: 201-19. DOI: [10.1515/apeiron-2017-0018](https://doi.org/10.1515/apeiron-2017-0018)
- †11. "Ontological Dependence and Grounding in Aristotle." *Oxford Handbooks Online in Philosophy* (2016) DOI: [10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935314.013.31](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935314.013.31)
- †10. "Generality and Logical Constancy." *Revista Portuguesa de Filosofia*. Metaphysics: Contemporary Issues. ed. Ricardo Barroso Batista. (2015) 71: 755-69. DOI: [10.17990/rpf/2015_71_4_0753](https://doi.org/10.17990/rpf/2015_71_4_0753)
9. "Aristotle on Predication." *European Journal of Philosophy* (2015) 23: 793-813. DOI: [10.1111/ejop.12054](https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.12054)
8. "Presentism, Truthmakers and Distributional Properties." *Synthese* (2014) 191: 3427-46. DOI: [10.1007/s11229-014-0456-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-014-0456-8)

- †7. “Critical Notice of Michail Peramatzis, *Priority in Aristotle’s Metaphysics*, Oxford University Press, 2011.” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*. (2013) 43: 136-56. DOI: [10.1080/00455091.2013.803831](https://doi.org/10.1080/00455091.2013.803831).
- †6. “Substance and Independence in Aristotle” in *Varieties of Dependence*, edd. Benjamin Schnieder, Alex Steinberg and Miguel Hoeltje. Basic Philosophical Concepts Series, Philosophia Verlag (Munich). 2013. Pp. 65-97.
5. “Aristotle on Mathematical Truth.” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* (2012) 20: 1057-76. DOI: [10.1080/09608788.2012.731230](https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2012.731230)
4. “Meta-conceivability” in *Philosophical Methodology*, ed. James McBain. Special Volume of *Essays in Philosophy* (2012) 13: 195-210. DOI: [10.5840/eip201213112](https://doi.org/10.5840/eip201213112)
3. “Attention, Perception and Thought in Aristotle.” *Dialogue* (2010) 42: 199-222. DOI: [10.1017/s0012217310000247](https://doi.org/10.1017/s0012217310000247)
2. “Aristotle on Nonsubstantial Individuals.” *Ancient Philosophy* (2009) 29: 289-310. DOI: [10.5840/ancientphil200929227](https://doi.org/10.5840/ancientphil200929227)
1. “Aristotle on Ontological Dependence.” *Phronesis* (2008) 53: 65-92. DOI: [10.1163/156852808x252594](https://doi.org/10.1163/156852808x252594)

Work in Progress

- Aristotle on Ontological Structure*, monograph under review.
- “Aristotle on the Individuation of Syllogisms” under review.
- “Philosophy’s Past: Cognitive Values and the History of Philosophy” under review.
- “Causation and Questions Under Discussion” in progress.
- “Two Notions of Fundamentality in Aristotle” in *Ground and Fundamentality in Plato and Aristotle*, ed. Richard Neels. Monograph proposal under review. Invited and in progress.

Invited Talks

- 17-19. “Cognitive Values and the History of Philosophy” (1) Invited Symposium: Metaphysical Methodology in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Denver, February 2023. Under the title “Philosophy’s Past: Cognitive Values and Historiography” (2) The Higher Seminar in Theoretical Philosophy and The Higher Seminar in the History of Philosophy, Uppsala University, June 2022. (3) University of Calgary, February 2022.
16. “Is ‘Cause’ Ambiguous?” Dalhousie University, July 2020.
- 14-15. “Context and Causal Selection.” (1) (as “Cause and Context”) University of Kansas, November 2019. (2) Dalhousie University, June 2018.
13. “Ancient.” Workshop on the Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding, University of Hamburg, May 2018.
- 12-11. (1) “Salience and Metaphysical Explanation.” University of Victoria, March 2017. (2) (as “Metaphysical Explanation”) The Creighton Club: New York Philosophical Association Annual Conference, Syracuse, October 2016. Commentator: Paul Audi.
- 8-10. “Aristotle on Artifacts.” (1) Syracuse University, September 2016. (2) (as “Explaining Artifacts”) Invited Symposium: The Metaphysics of Artifacts, American Philosophical Association

Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2016. Commentator: Simon Evnine. (3) 2015 Metaphysics Workshop: Artifacts and Metaphysical Explanation, Banff, May 2015.

7. "Aristotle on Logic and Science." Second Campinas Colloquium on Aristotle's Theory of Demonstration. Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil, March 2014.

6. "Natural Priority in Aristotle." Invited Symposium: Aristotle and Ontological Priority, American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Seattle, April 2012. Commentator: Alan Code.

4-5. "Is the Syllogistic a Logic?" (1) Arché Centre, University of St Andrews, March 2012. (2) University of California, Los Angeles, History of Philosophy Workshop, February 2012.

3. "Is Aristotle an Aristotelian Realist?" Ontological Dependence Conference, Colorado, March 2009. Commentator: Christian Lee.

1-2. "Aristotle on Logical Consequence." (1) University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, February 2005. (2) University of Alberta, January 2005.

Refereed Talks

37. "Is 'Cause' Ambiguous?" American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, February 2021. Commentator: Ned Hall.

36. "Separating the Forms: Aspects of Aristotle's Criticism of Plato." UNAM Ancient Philosophy Workshop, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, cancelled due to COVID-19.

35. "Aristotle's Validation of the Syllogistic." American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, April 2019. Commentator: Willie Costello.

33-34. "Context and Causal Selection." (1) American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Denver, February 2019. Commentator: Henry Schiller. (2) 2018 Language and Essence Conference, Victoria, October 2018. Commentator: Clifford Roberts.

30-32. "Salience and Metaphysical Explanation." (1) Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Montreal, May 2018. Commentator: Jonathan Payton. (2) 3rd Epistemology of Metaphysics Workshop, University of Helsinki, August 2017. (3) Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, Calgary, May 2017.

29. "Aristotle on Artifacts." Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, March 2016.

28. "'This'." American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, St. Louis, February 2015. Commentator: Christopher Frey.

27. "Contingency in the Metaphysics of Time." Society for the Philosophy of Time at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego, April 2014.

26. "'Snub'." Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2013.

25. "Presentism and Distributional Properties." American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, February 2013. Commentator: Andrew Bailey.

24. "Aristotle on Quantification." International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science 9th Biennial Meeting, Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 2012.

22-23. "Aristotle on Existence." (1) American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Boston, December 2010. Commentator: Tim Clarke. (2) Thirty-Fourth Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Washington University, St. Louis, March 2011. Commentator: Robin Smith.

21. "Aristotle and the Foundations of Logic." Conference on the Foundations of Logical Consequence, Arché Centre, University of St Andrews, June 2010.
- 19-20. "Aristotle on Reference and Generality." (1) American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2010. Commentator: Scott O'Connor. (2) Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Victoria, October 2004.
18. "Is Aristotle an Aristotelian Realist?" American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, New York, December 2009. Commentator: Jeff Brower.
- 16-17. "Are Aristotle's Universals Sortals?" (1) American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, April 2009. Commentator: Jurgis Brakis. (2) 2008 International Conference on Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Fordham University, October 2008.
15. "Apriority and Logical Constancy." Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, Vancouver, May 2007.
- 13-14. "Aristotle on Mathematical Existence." (1) American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2007. Commentator: John Mouracade. (2) Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, April 2007.
- 10-12. "Aristotle on Consciousness." (1) Symposium Paper, American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Portland, Oregon, March 2006. Commentators: Margaret Scharle, Paul Studtmann. (2) Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, University of Western Ontario, May 2005. Commentator: Byron Stoyles. (3) American Philological Association Annual Meeting, Boston, January 2005.
9. "Etchemendy's Finitist Argument." Northwest Philosophy Conference, Bellevue, Washington, October 2004. Commentator: Meggan Payne.
- 5-8. "Aristotle on Logical Consequence." (1) Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 2004. Commentator: Dwayne Raymond. (2) American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, April 2004. Commentator: Michael Scanlan. (3) 2003 International Conference on Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Fordham University, November 2003. Commentator: Tad Brennan. (4) Twenty-Sixth Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy at Texas A&M University, March 2003. Commentator: Robin Smith.
- 2-4. "Ontological Independence in Aristotle's *Categories*." (1) Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2003. (2) Berkeley-Stanford Graduate Conference in Philosophy, Stanford, May 2003. Commentator: Neil Van Leeuwen. (3) Fourth Annual Rutgers-Princeton Graduate Conference in Philosophy, Princeton, April 2003. Commentator: Dimitrios Dentsoras.
1. "Parts and Properties in Aristotle's *Categories*." Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, December 2002.

Commentary

9. Comments on Cruz Davis, "Geometric Possibility, Supersubstantialism, and Ideological Parsimony." Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Toronto, November 2019.
8. Comments on Emily Katz, "Are Numbers Hylomorphic Unities?" 11th Annual Toronto Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, March 2019.
7. Comments on Daniel Devereaux, "Puzzles Concerning Definition in *Metaphysics Z 5*." Allan Gotthelf Memorial Workshop, University of Pittsburgh, October 2015.

6. Comments on Kathy Fazekas, "Special Relativity and Multiple B-Series." Society for the Philosophy of Time at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, February 2013.
5. Comments on Jurgis Brakis, "Aristotle's Homonyms Reconsidered." American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego, April 2011.
4. Comments on David Bronstein, "Aristotle on Learning, Knowledge and Meno's Paradox in *Posterior Analytics* I 1." Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Winnipeg, Manitoba, October 2005.
3. Comments on Dwayne Raymond, "Drawing Upon an Ancient Logical Intuition." Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 2004.
2. Comments on David C. Williams, "Aristotle on the Methodology of Mathematical Concept Acquisition: Resolving an Apparent Inconsistency Between *Metaphysics* 1077B16 and 1077B33." American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Pasadena, March 2004.
1. Comments on John Thorp, "Aristotle on Splitting the Semantic Atom." Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 2003.

Reviews

4. Review of Anna Marmodoro and David Yates (eds.), *The Metaphysics of Relations*, Oxford, 2016, *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*. 2016.07.09. <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/68119-the-metaphysics-of-relations/>
3. Review of Daniel D. Novotný and Lukáš Novák (eds.), *Neo-Aristotelian Perspectives in Metaphysics*, Routledge, 2014, *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*. 2014.08.06. <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/49601-neo-aristotelian-perspectives-in-metaphysics/>
2. Review of Charles Kahn, *Essays on Being*, OUP, 2009, *Journal of Hellenic Studies* (2010) 130: 285-86.
1. Review of Gisela Striker, *Aristotle's Prior Analytics Book I*. Clarendon, 2009, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (2010) 48: 236-37.

Teaching

University of Alberta, Department of Philosophy 2005-present

Courses

- Aristotle [advanced undergraduates]: Winter 2008, 9, 13, 14, 16-19, 21, Fall 2009-10, 14, 22
- Epistemology [intermediate]: Fall 2021
- Greek Philosophy to Plato [intermediate]: Fall 2005, 6, 18, Winter 2022, 23
- Honours Seminar [advanced undergraduates]: Winter 2011, Fall 2012, 15
- Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality: Winter 2007-11, 13, 15, 16, Fall 2013, 16, 17
- Metaphysics [intermediate]: Fall 2005-8, 15-17, 21, Winter 2010, 17, 19, 23
- Topics in Ancient Philosophy [graduates and advanced undergraduates]:
 - Aristotle and Aristotelianism: A Case Study in Historiography Fall 2015

Aristotle's *De Anima* Fall 2007

Aristotle's metaphysics Winter 2006, 7, 14, Fall 2008, 10

Plato on Knowledge and Virtue Fall 2018

Topics in Epistemology [graduates and advanced undergraduates]:

Epistemic Contextualism Winter 2021

Topics in Metaphysics [graduates and advanced undergraduates]:

Causation Winter 2018, Fall 2020

Fundamentality Fall 2022

Neo-Aristotelianism Winter 2022

Parts and Wholes Fall 2009

Truthmaking Fall 2012

Time and Persistence Winter 2015

Supervision

as supervisor

Thomas Oberle, Ph.D in progress on fundamentality, co-supervised with Mike Raven.

Xiaojing Lu, M. A. "Responding to the Grounding Objection to Presentism" 2022

Ceren Yildiz, M. A. "How to Reconcile Identity and What Matters for Survival: Y-Shaped Space-time Worms" 2018

Matthew Small, M.A. "Matter, Extension and Intellect in Aristotle" 2012

Michael Flood, M.A. "The Problem of Temporary Intrinsic" 2011

as supervisory or candidacy examination committee member

Ka Ho Lam, Ph.D "Natural Kind Realism, Taxonomic Monism and the Hierarchy Assumption" 2018

Kaan Tabakci, M. A. "Actualism or Possibilism: A Grounding Approach" 2018

Ataollah Hashemi, M. A. "How To Deal With The Puzzle of Coincident Objects" 2017

Justin Zylstra, Ph.D "Dependence and Fundamentality" 2016

Lianghua Zhou, M. A. "Ontological Questions" 2015

Peter Dobozy, M.A. "Holy Intertextual Identity Conditions, Batman!" 2010

Shaheen Islam, M. A. "Reviewing Frege" 2009

Jason Taylor, Ph.D "Structuralist Ontologies and Causation" 2008

Seyed Mousavian, Ph.D "Empty Names and Neo-Russellianism" 2007

Yual Chiek, M.A. "Leibniz and Trans-World Identity" 2006

other supervision

Graduate Directed Reading, Ancient: Lianghua Zhou 2014, Matthew Small 2010, Charles Roger 2006

Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow supervisor: Riin Sirkel, 2010-12

Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam, Metaphysics: Thomas Oberle 2021, Mattia Sorgon 2019, James Bachmann 2009, Bart Lenart 2009, Jason Taylor 2008

Roger S. Smith Undergraduate Researcher Award supervisor: John Kardosh, 2008

University of Colorado at Boulder, Department of Philosophy 2004-5

Ancient Seminar: Aristotle on Logical Consequence [graduate seminar]: Fall 2004

Plato [graduates and advanced undergraduates]: Spring 2005

History of Ancient Philosophy [crosslisted with Classics]: Fall 2004, Spring 2005

Instructor, University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Philosophy 2003-4

Beginnings of Western Philosophy: Summer 2003, Summer 2004

*Teaching Fellow (2002-3), Teaching Associate (2000-2) and Teaching Assistant (1999-2000),
University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Philosophy*

Tutor, London School of Economics 1998

Teaching Assistant, Dalhousie University, Department of Classics 1991-3

Service

Profession

Article referee: *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Analysis* (2), *Ancient Philosophy*, *Apeiron* (3), *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2), *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* (5), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (3), *dialectica*, *Dialogoi: Ancient Philosophy Today*, *Dialogue*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis* (2), *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (3), *Logical Analysis and History of Philosophy*, *Mind* (2), *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosopher's Imprint* (2), *Philosophia Mathematica*, *Phronesis*, *Polish Journal of Philosophy*, *Res Philosophica*, *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Studia Philosophica Estonica*, *Synthese* (5)

Conference organization: APA Pacific Division Program Committee, 2012-15; Faculty Organizer, 1st Annual Canadian Colloquium for Ancient Philosophy, 2012

Conference referee († multiple assignments): 2017 Hylomorphism Conference, 2019 Essence and Essentialism Conference, †APA Division Meeting, †Canadian Philosophical Assn. Annual Congress, †Western Canadian Philosophical Assn. Meeting

Editorial Board, *Metaphysics*, 2017-

External referee, grants: KU Leuven Research Council four year C1 grant proposal, 2020; SSHRC Insight Grant, 2020

External referee, pre-tenure and tenure evaluations: University of Utah, 2017; Dalhousie University, 2020

Monograph or monograph proposal referee: Broadview Press, Cambridge University Press (2), Palgrave MacMillan Press, Routledge (2)

University

Arts Research Excellence Award adjudication 2018-19

Arts Undergraduate Programs Committee 2022-present

Department Chairs Selection Committee Panel of Faculty Members, 2016-19
General Faculty Council Representative, Psychiatry Chair Review 2017-18
General Faculty Council Representative, Computer Science Chair Review 2018-19
Grade Appeal Ad Hoc Committee, 2018
Faculty of Arts Research Committee, 2016-19
Cecile E. MacTaggart Travel Award for Narrative Writing adjudication 2018-19
McCalla Award Adjudication Committee, 2017
Postdoctoral Fellow Travel Award adjudication, 2018-19
Roger S. Smith Undergraduate Student Researcher Award adjudication 2016-19
Student Financial Support Scholarship Selection Committee, 2017

Department

Colloquium Officer, 2005-8, 2017-19
Comprehensive Examination Committee Chair or Member: Ancient, Medieval, Metaphysics, 2005-present
Development Officer, 2015
Director of Undergraduate Programs, 2022-present
Graduate Studies Committee, 2006-7, 2009-11
History Curriculum Revision Ad Hoc Committee, 2015
Honours Advisor, 2021-22
Killam Award Ad Hoc Committee, 2021
Placement and Awards Committee, 2018-19, 2021-present, Chair 2012-14
Service Revision Ad Hoc Committee, 2013
Staff Selection Committee, 2012-13, 2015-16, Chair 2017-19
Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2008-9, 2015-17

Grants

External

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight Development Grant #430-2020-00713, "Cause and Context: An Experimental Methods Approach to Causal Discourse," \$49 690, 2020-23

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Standard Research Grant # 410-2008-0431, "Aristotle on Ontological Dependence," \$18 424, 2008-12

American Philosophical Association Conference Grant, \$2000, 2012

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship, \$60000, 1994-98

Internal (University of Alberta except as noted)

Support for the Advancement of Scholarship Research Fund Grant, \$2000, 2019.

Vice President Research Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Grant Assist Bridge Funding, \$5000, 2016-17.

Vice President Research Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada 4A Grant, \$7500, 2013-15.

Faculty of Arts Conference Fund, \$2000, 2012

Izaak Walton Killam Cornerstone Grant, \$2400, 2010

Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences Research Travel Grant, \$800, 2006

New Faculty Startup Grant, \$5000, 2005

Travel Grant, University of Colorado, \$500, 2004

Languages

English (Native), Ancient Greek, French, Latin (Reading)

Citizenship: Canadian

References

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current as of Oct 2022