

# PRESTON STOVALL, PH.D

Assistant Professor  
Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences  
University of Hradec Králové  
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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, University of Hradec Králové, beginning January 2022  
Program Manager and Instructor, *Critical Thinking About Social Media*, Center for Science, Technology, Ethics, and Society at Montana State University, beginning October 2021  
Postdoctoral Researcher, *Inferentialism Naturalized*, University of Hradec Králové, beginning January 2020  
Postdoctoral Researcher, *Inferentialism and Collective Intentionality*, University of Hradec Králové, June 2017 to January 2020  
Intermittent Online Teaching at La Roche University, Montana State University, Park University, and University of Nevada, Las Vegas, beginning Spring 2016; responsible for designing Park University's Fundamentals of Logic course  
Education Researcher, Studium Consulting, beginning Fall 2016; principal organizer for programs of pre-college philosophical instruction in Pennsylvania, Montana, and the Czech Republic  
Assistant Professor (non-TT), St. Vincent College, Spring 2017  
Visiting Lecturer, University of Pittsburgh, 2015-16

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh, August 2015  
DISSERTATION: *Chemicals, Organisms, and Persons: Modal Expressivism and a Descriptive Metaphysics of Kinds*  
COMMITTEE: Robert Brandom (director), Edouard Machery, John McDowell, James O'Shea  
M.A. in Philosophy and Certificate in Advanced International Affairs, Texas A&M, 2008  
Visiting student, Oxford University, St. Peter's College, 2005-6  
Honors B.A. in Philosophy, Religious Studies option, Montana State University, 2004

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Mind, American Pragmatism, German Idealism, Professional Ethics

## BOOK

2022. *The Single-Minded Animal: Shared Intentionality, Normativity, and the Foundations of Discursive Cognition*, Routledge.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

Forthcoming. “On the Natural Ground of Discursive Cognition: Building a Heterodox Explanatory Bridge Between Philosophy and the Cognitive Sciences”, *Philosophical Topics*, issue on Inferentialism on Naturalized Grounds.

Forthcoming. “Deontic Modal Expressivism: Proof-Theoretic and Model-Theoretic Views”. *Logica Yearbook 2021*.

2021. “Modeling Descriptive and Deontic Cognition as Two Modes of Relation Between Mind and World”, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, published online August 30, 2021.

2021. “The Metaphysics of Practical Rationality: Intentional and Deontic Cognition”, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, published online August 11, 2021.

2021. “Essence as a Modality: A Proof-Theoretic and Nominalist Analysis”, *Philosophers’ Imprint*, 21 (7): 1-28.

2020. “Syllogistic Reasoning as a Ground for the Content of Judgment: A Line of Thought from Kant through Hegel to Peirce”, *European Journal of Philosophy*, published online October 20, 2020.

2020. “Proof-Theoretic Semantics and the Interpretation of Atomic Sentences” in *The Logica Yearbook 2019* (June 2020): 163-178.

2020. “Rationality, Autonomy, and Obedience to Linguistic Norms” *Synthese*, published online March 4, 2020.

2019. “Characterizing Generics are Material Inference Tickets: A Proof-Theoretic Analysis”, *Inquiry*, published online March 18, 2019.

2016. “Nature, Purpose, and Norm: A Program in American Philosophy” in *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, Vol. 2, No. 4 (2016): 617-636.

2015. “Inference by Analogy and the Progress of Knowledge: From Reflection to Determination in Judgements of Natural Purpose” in *British Journal of the History of Philosophy*, Vol. 23, No. 4 (2015): 681-709.

2011. “Professional Virtue and Professional Self-Awareness: A Case Study in Engineering Ethics” in *Science and Engineering Ethics*, Vol. 17, No. 1 (March 2011): 109-32.

2007. “Hegel’s Realism: The Implicit Metaphysics of Self-Knowledge” Critical Study in *The Review of Metaphysics*, Vol. 61 No. 1, (September 2007): 81-117.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming. “Practical Cognition, Motor Intentionality, and the Idea of the Good: Considerations of Denotational and Connotational Meaning”. In a book on Wilfrid Sellars’ practical philosophy (Routledge).
2021. “Introduction: Themes in the Study of Human Cognition as a Social Phenomenon”, with Leo Townsend, *The Social Institution of Discursive Norms*, edited by Leo Townsend, Hans Bernhard Schmid, and Preston Stovall (Routledge): 1-21.
2021. “Normative Attitudes, Collective Intentionality, and Discursive Cognition”, *The Social Institution of Discursive Norms*, edited by Leo Townsend, Hans Bernhard Schmid, and Preston Stovall (Routledge): 138-176.
2021. “Understanding What We Ought and Shall Do: A Hyperstate Semantics for Descriptive, Prescriptive, and Intentional Sentences”, *Groups, Norms, and Practices*, edited by Ladislav Koreň, Hans Bernhard Schmid, Preston Stovall, and Leo Townsend (Springer): 215-38.
2020. “Education is the Art of Making Humanity Ethical”, *Diversity in Perspective*, edited by Cinzia Ferrini (Italian University Press): 209-235.
2019. “The Lamp of Reason and the Mirror of Nature”, *Richard Rorty and Beyond*, edited by Randall Auxier, Eli Kramer, and Krzysztof Piotr Skowronski (Lexington Books): 215-234.
2018. “The Enlightened Polity as an Autonomous Intentional Collective”, *Questions of Identity*, edited by Michaela Marková (Gaudeamus): 78-104.
2014. “Abductive Inference, Autonomy, and the Faith of Abraham”, *Interpreting Abraham*, edited by Bradley Beach (Fortress Press): 101-130.

## EDITED VOLUMES

2021. *The Social Institution of Discursive Norms*, with Leo Townsend and Hans Bernhard Schmid (Routledge).
2021. *Groups, Norms, and Practices*, with Ladislav Koreň, Hans Bernhard Schmid and Leo Townsend (Springer).
2018. *Analytic Philosophy*, Vol. 59, No.1, Symposium on Perceptual Experience and Empirical Reason, with Raja Rosenhagen and Benjamin Schulz (March 2018).

## BOOK REVIEWS

- Forthcoming. *The Dialogical Roots of Deduction: Historical, Cognitive, and Philosophical Perspectives on Reasoning*, by Catarina Dutilh Novaes, *Metascience*.
2019. *From Rules to Meanings: New Essays on Inferentialism*, edited by Ondřej Beran, Vojtěch Kolman, and Ladislav Koreň, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, May 17, 2019. <https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/from-rules-to-meanings-new-essays-on-inferentialism/>

## BOOK REVIEWS, CONT.

2019. *Brandom: Key Contemporary Thinkers*, by Ronald Loeffler, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 27, No. 1 (2019): 106-110.

2017. *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason: An Introduction and Interpretation*, by James R. O'Shea, *Kantian Review*, Vol. 22 (2017): 162-4.

## PUBLIC ESSAYS

2021. "In Defense of Philosophy: Analytic, Pragmatist, and Transcendental" July 5, 2021, in *The Sooty Empiric*, <http://sootyempiric.blogspot.com/2021/07/further-reflections-on-analytic.html>, and July 25, 2021 in *The Electric Agora* <https://theelectricagora.com/2021/07/25/in-defense-of-philosophy-analytic-pragmatist-and-transcendental/>

2020. "Education as a Public Resource for Addressing American Political Polarization" in *Civil American*, June 23, 2020 <https://www.philosophersinamerica.com/2020/06/23/education-as-a-public-resource-for-addressing-american-political-polarization/>.

2019. "A Crisis of Trust in News Media Institutions: What the Covington Episode Can Teach Us" in *Conatus News* (now *Uncommon Ground*), January 30, 2019 <https://conatusnews.com/crisis-trust-news-media-institutions-covington/>.

2018/2020. "Are Students Increasingly Hostile to Free Expression on Campus? Look to Behaviors, not Surveys" in the *Heterodox Academy*, August 13, 2018 <https://heterodoxacademy.org/blog/student-hostility-free-expression-behaviors-surveys/>. Republished in *Introducing Issues with Opposing Viewpoints: Student Protests*, edited by Martin Gitlin, pp.40-5. New York: Greenhaven Publishing, 2020.

2018. "On the Benefits of Philosophical Instruction" in *Quillette*, January 11, 2018 <https://quillette.com/2018/01/11/benefits-philosophical-instruction/>.

2017. "Why Call for Heterodoxy in the Academy?" in the *Heterodox Academy*, July 11, 2017 <https://heterodoxacademy.org/blog/why-call-for-heterodoxy-in-the-academy/>.

2017. "Reassessing Cultural Divisions in the United States" in *Quillette*, January 13, 2017 <http://quillette.com/2017/01/13/reassessing-cultural-divisions-in-the-united-states/>.

2016. "On the Role of the Public Intellectual in the United States" in *Heterodox Academy*, November 28, 2016 <https://heterodoxacademy.org/blog/on-the-role-of-the-public-intellectual-in-the-united-states/>.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Humanities Montana, *Thinking Critically about Social Media*, 2021-2 (with Kristen Intemann and Bonnie Sheehy of Montana State University)

American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2014-5

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2008-9, 2010-11, 2012-13

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS, CONT.

2008 Manuel Davenport Graduate Essay Award, Texas A&M University

## PRESENTATIONS

2021. “Agentive and Linguistic Notions of Rejection in the Ontogeny and Phylogeny of Shared Intentionality and Discursive Cognition” at Why and How We Give and Ask for Reasons: Philosophical and Scientific Perspectives, University of Hradec Králové, October 19-22.
2021. “Modal Logic, Discursive Cognition, and Social-Practice Theories of Reasoning” at Reasons, Rationality and Culture Workshop, Tilburg University, October 14-15, 2021
2021. “Proof-Theoretic and Model-Theoretic Deontic Modal Expressivism” at Logica 2021, September 28-October 1, 2021.
2021. “Shared Intentionality and Discursive Cognition” at Ethics, Practical Reasoning, Agency: Sellars’ Practical Philosophy, Grand Valley State University, July 11-14, 2021.
2021. “Idealism, Pragmatism, and Contemporary Philosophy” Lecture Series at Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin, June 1-3, 2021.
2021. “Understanding Human Cognitive Evolution: Philosophical and Scientific Perspectives” at Polish Philosophical Society, University of Wrocław, May 28, 2021.
2021. “Single-Minded Agency as the Foundation of Discursive Cognition”, Lecture at University of Cyprus, April 21, 2021.
2020. “The Libertine and the Fanatic: Some Thoughts on the Single-Minded Animal” at Language, Mind, and Society Lecture Series, University of Hradec Králové, October 21, 2020.
2020. “On Current Events in the United States: Or, Why We Should Not LARP a New Revolution”, University of Hradec Králové Summer School in Philosophy, September 16, 2020.
2019. “Proof-Theoretic Semantics and the Interpretation of Atomic Sentences” at Logica 2019, June 24-28, 2019.
2019. “The Metaphysics of Intentionality” at The Social Institution of Norms, University of Vienna, April 10, 2019; at Olomouc University, April 3, 2019.
- 2018/2019. “From Inference to Modality in Hegel’s *Science of Logic*”, at Charles University, April 30, 2019; at Themes from Hegel’s *Science of Logic*, Boğaziçi University, October 19-20, 2018
2018. “The Enlightened Polity as an Autonomous Intentional Collective” at Narratives of Independence, University of Hradec Králové, October 25 to 27, 2018.
2017. “Moral Reasoning as a Species of Practical Rationality” at University of Leipzig Department Colloquium, May 30, 2018; at the Center for Language, Mind, and Society Public Lecture Series, University of Hradec Králové, October 25, 2017.

## PRESENTATIONS, CONT.

2017. “A Hyperstate Semantics for Descriptive, Prescriptive, and Intentional Sentences” at Perspectives On Sellars’ Scientific Naturalism, University College Dublin, June 11, 2018; at Groups, Norms, and Practices: Intentionalists vs. Inferentialists, University of Vienna, November 3-4, 2017.
2017. “Doing What We Must to Be as We Ought” at The nature of the Normative – Ontology, Semantics, and Logic, Charles University, Prague, October 16-17, 2017.
2016. “A Proof-Theoretic Expressivist Analysis of Grounding Explanations” at the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, University of Miami, May 6-8, 2016.
2015. Comments on James Kirkpatrick “Generics and (Reverse) Sobel Sequences” at The Generic Workshop, Harvard University, October 3-4, 2015.
2015. “On the Ground of Persons in Nature” at Sellars in a New Generation, Kent State University, April 30-May 2, 2015.
2014. “Purpose, Command, and What Might Have Been” at The Charles S. Peirce International Centennial Congress, session on Peirce and the Pittsburgh School, University of Massachusetts Lowell, July 16-19, 2014.
2013. “Kind Terms, Modal Operators, and the Subjunctive Conditional” at Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, Wilfrid Sellars Society session on naturalism and normativity, December 27-30, 2013.
2013. “The Lamp of Reason and the Mirror of Nature” at American and European Values IX: Richard Rorty and Beyond, Institute of Philosophy, Opole University, Poland, July 30-August 2, 2013.
2013. “The Lamp of Reason and the Mirror of Nature” at Daniel N. Boone Speaker Series, Philosophy Department, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, May 3, 2013.
2012. “Toward a First-Order Comprehensional Semantics” at conference on Inferentialism in the Philosophy of Language, Mind, and Action at the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Madrid, October 3-5, 2012.
2012. “Peirce and Sellars on the Cognitive Significance of Sensation” at Sellars Centenary Conference and Workshop, University College, Dublin, June 4-8, 2012.
2012. “Syllogistic Inference at the Birth of Analytic Philosophy” at Society for the Study of the History of Analytic Philosophy, McMaster University, May 24-6 2012.
2011. “Being as we Ought: Rule Following, Language Use, and Persons” at Prague International Colloquium on the Normativity of Meaning: Sellarsian Perspectives, Department of Logic, Institute of Philosophy, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague, May 25-27 2011.

## **PRESENTATIONS, CONT.**

2010. "On the Prospect of a New Enlightenment" at 2010 Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium, Washington and Jefferson College, September 11, 2010.

2007. "Pragmatism and the Normative Theory of Rationality" at the Western Canadian Philosophical Association's 44th Annual Meeting, University of Saskatchewan, October 2007.

## **CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP COORDINATION**

"Why and How We Give and Ask for Reasons: Philosophical and Scientific Perspectives", University of Hradec Králové, October 19-22, 2021

"Foundations of Sociality: Collective Intentionality, Inferentialism, and the Like", at the University of Hradec Králové, November 2-3, 2018

"External Determinations of Meaning," University of Pittsburgh, April 15-6, 2013

"Philosophy in the 21st Century," University of Pittsburgh, May 18-20, 2012

Pitt-CMU Graduate Student Conference, 2008-9 and 2009-10

University of Pittsburgh Philosophy student-faculty lunch and colloquium, 2008-9

## **PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE WORK**

Principal organizer and instructor for Philosophy for Children at: Woolslair Elementary and the Ellis School (Pittsburgh, PA), spring and summer 2017; Emily Dickinson Elementary and Chief Joseph Middle School (Bozeman, MT), spring 2018; JK Tyla Gymnasium (Hradec Králové, Czech Republic), 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years

Principal organizer and volunteer instructor at the Allegheny County Jail, teaching a course on Aristotelian virtue ethics, Kantian notions of autonomy, and cognitive behavioral therapy, fall 2016-summer 2017

Served on various graduate and departmental committees while at the University of Pittsburgh, including: president of the Pitt philosophy graduate student body, 2013-14; philosophy representative for University of Pittsburgh graduate student organization, 2013-14; member of the Pitt philosophy junior search committee, 2011-12; and organizer for an undergraduate reading group on American culture and identity, Spring 2014-Spring 2016

Intern with the Executive Office of the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, composing data analysis on rental policy changes, Summer 2009

## **INDEPENDENT TEACHING**

- Metaphysics and Epistemology (University of Hradec Králové, Spring 2022)
- Philosophy of Religion (Park University, online, Spring 2022)
- Shared Intentionality: Philosophical And Scientific Perspectives (University of Hradec Králové, Fall 2021)
- Some Themes in German Idealism and American Pragmatism (University of Wrocław, May 2021)
- Metaphysics from a Pragmatic Point of View (University of Oslo, May 2019)
- German Idealism and American Pragmatism (University of Hradec Králové, Fall 2018, Spring 2022)
- Logic (Montana State University, online, Fall 2016-Spring 2019)
- Biomedical Ethics (La Roche University, online, Fall 2017)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Philosophy (St. Vincent College, Spring 2017)
- Critical Thinking and Reasoning (UNLV, online, Spring 2017)
- Theories of Knowledge and Reality (Pitt, Spring 2016)
- Introduction to Philosophical Problems (Pitt, Spring 2016)
- Concepts of Human Nature (Pitt, Summer 2014 and Fall 2015)
- Introduction to Logic (Pitt, Fall 2013)
- Introduction to Symbolic Logic (UNLV, online, Fall 2016-current)
- Business Ethics (Park University, online, Spring 2019-Current)
- Introduction to Ethics (Park University, online, Spring 2019-Current)
- Fundamentals of Logic (Park University, online, Spring 2020-Current)

## **TEACHING ASSISTANT**

- Introduction to Ethics (Pitt, Spring 2014)
- Introduction to Ethics (Pitt, Spring 2012)
- Introduction to Logic (Pitt, Fall 2011)
- Social Philosophy (Pitt, Spring 2010)
- Introduction to Philosophical Problems (Pitt, Fall 2009)
- Engineering Ethics (Texas A&M, Fall 2006-Spring 2008); I worked with Professor Ed Harris of the Engineering Ethics program to develop a virtue ethics course component
- Modern Moral Problems (Montana State University, Fall 2002)

## **TEACHING OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY**

- *Thinking Critically about Socia Media*, Humanities Montana project with high schools in Montana, October 2021-June 2022
- Introduction to the Philosophy of Science, Ganden Tibetan Buddhist Monastery in exile in India, Summer 2019

## TEACHING OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY, CONT.

- Principal organizer and instructor for Philosophy for Children at: Woolslair Elementary and the Ellis School (Pittsburgh, PA), spring and summer 2017; Emily Dickinson Elementary and Chief Joseph Middle School (Bozeman, MT), spring 2018; JK Tyla Gymnasium (Hradec Králové, Czech Republic), 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years
- Principal organizer and instructor at the Allegheny County Jail, teaching a course on Aristotelian virtue ethics, Kantian notions of autonomy, and cognitive behavioral therapy, fall 2016-summer 2017
- 1 year of experience with elementary students in the U.S. at a YMCA north of Pittsburgh, and four years of experience at a forest kindergarten in the Czech Republic (we basically play in the woods all day)

## REFERENCES: FOR LETTERS PLEASE CONTACT DIANA VOLKAR AT [DLV23@PITT.EDU](mailto:DLV23@PITT.EDU)

ROBERT BRANDOM  
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy  
University of Pittsburgh

ANIL GUPTA (Teaching Mentor)  
Alan Ross Anderson Distinguished Professor  
of Philosophy  
University of Pittsburgh

EDOUARD MACHERY  
Distinguished Professor of History and Phi-  
losophy of Science  
University of Pittsburgh

JOHN MCDOWELL  
Distinguished University Professor of Phi-  
losophy  
University of Pittsburgh

JAMES O'SHEA  
Associate Professor  
University College Dublin

AMIE THOMASSON  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Miami