

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### **Justin Earl Kuster**

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities  
Department of Philosophy  
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### **Areas of Specialization**

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Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language

### **Areas of Competence**

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Epistemology, Modal Logic, Logic, Philosophy of Logic, Ethics, Medical Ethics

### **Academic Employment**

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**University of Minnesota – Twin Cities** (08/2012 – present)  
– Graduate Instructor / Teaching Assistant

**Carleton College** (03/2017 – 06/2017)  
– Visiting Instructor for the 2017 Spring Trimester

### **Education**

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**University of Minnesota – Twin Cities** (08/2012 – present)  
– Ph.D., Philosophy (Expected Conferral Date: May 2018)  
– M.A., Philosophy (Conferral Date: December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014)

#### **Awards and Fellowships**

- Minnesota Center for the Philosophy of Science Graduate Student Fellow (Fall 2014 – present)
- Swenson/Kierkegaard Graduate Student Fellowship (Spring 2017)
- Department Research Partnership Program Fellowship (Summer 2016)
- CLA Graduate Research Partnership Program Fellowship (Summer 2015)
- Department Research Partnership Program Fellowship (Summer 2014)
- Department Research Partnership Program Fellowship (Summer 2013)

**University of Colorado – Boulder** (01/2008 – 05/2011)

– B.A., Philosophy, *summa cum laude* in Philosophy, with distinction  
(Conferral date: May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011)

- Dean's List student
- Graduated with distinction for maintaining a grade point average of 3.86 or higher in all collegiate work
- Member of Phi Beta Kappa

**Metropolitan State University of Denver** (01/2006 – 12/2007)

- President's Honor Roll student

## **Dissertation: *Metaphysical Foundations of Modality: The Source of Necessity***

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The primary aim of this research project is to discover the source of the necessity that makes necessary truths necessarily true. I begin by examining and critiquing accounts of the source of necessity that claim we, humans, are in some way or other responsible for making necessary truths necessarily true (i.e. dependent accounts of the source of necessity). I then advance my own non-dependent account of the source of necessity – i.e. an account that does not claim we, humans, are responsible for making necessary truths necessarily true – that I am calling the “Actual-world Grounding Account.”

## **Publications**

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### **Manuscripts Under Consideration**

Kuster, J. (2017) “Necessity by Convention: A Critique of the Neo-conventionalist Account of the Source of Necessity.” – *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

Kuster, J. (2017) “A Critique of Sider’s Humeanism.”

Kuster, J. (2017) “Analysis of §10 of Frege’s Grundgesetze.”

Kuster, J. (2017) “Conventionalism and the Source of Necessity.”

Kuster, J. (2017) “Dependent Accounts of the Source of Necessity and the Phenomenon of Global Modal Error.”

## **Presentations**

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### **Professional Meetings**

*Neo-conventionalism and Global Modal Error*, American Philosophical Association – Central Division Meeting, Chicago (February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018).

*The Source of Necessity: A Critique of the Neo-conventionalist Thesis*, American Philosophical Association – Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, BC (April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015).

### **University of Minnesota Department of Philosophy**

*The Source of Necessity and Modal Error* (December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015).

*Rigidified Descriptions and Propositional Attitudes* (October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014).

*Source of Necessity: A Critique of Neo-conventionalism* (September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013).

## **Academic Teaching Experience**

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### **Instructor of Record**

PHIL 1001: Introduction to Logic, Fall 2017, UMN

PHIL 118: God, Mind, and the Human Condition, Spring 2017, Carleton College

PHIL 1002W: Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2016, UMN

PHIL 3305: Medical Ethics, Summer 2016, UMN

### **Teaching Assistant**

PHIL 3005W: General History of Western Philosophy: Modern Period,  
Spring 2015, Spring 2016, UMN

PHIL 1003W: Introduction to Ethics, Fall 2015, UMN

PHIL 1005: Scientific Reasoning, Fall 2014, UMN

## **Academic Teaching Experience (continued)**

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### **Teaching Assistant**

PHIL 1002W: Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2014, UMN

PHIL 1001: Introduction to Logic, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, UMN

PHIL 3001W: General History of Western Philosophy: Ancient Period, Fall 2012, UMN

### **Grader**

PHIL 1026W: Philosophy and Cultural Diversity, Summer 2014, UMN

## **Academic Service Work**

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### **North American Kant Society Midwest Study Group (NAKS MSG)**

Chair for Session I of the 2017 NAKS MSG Conference at the University of Minnesota  
(October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

### **Minnesota Center for the Philosophy of Science**

(01/2016 – 10/2016) Assistant to Alan Love, Chair of the Poster Forum Committee for the  
Philosophy of Science Association's 2016 Biennial Meeting

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Create / maintain submission page on Openconf for poster abstracts.
- Managing submissions – sending out notifications.
- Collecting and compiling demographic data.
- Responding to author enquiries concerning his or her submission.

### **University of Minnesota Department of Philosophy**

Departmental Council Representative (2017-present, 2016-17, 2013-14)

Placement Committee (2017-present, 2016-17)

Graduate Student Mentor (2013-present)

Committee on Committees (2016-17)

Admissions and Aid Committee (2015-16)

Curriculum Committee (2014-15)

Graduate Student Lounge Committee (2013-14)

Reception Committee (2012-13)

## **References**

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**Peter Hanks** (advisor), John M. Dolan Professor of Philosophy, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities,  
Department of Philosophy (pwhanks@umn.edu)

**Roy Cook**, Professor of Philosophy, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, Department of Philosophy  
(roycookparadox@gmail.com)

**Jason Decker**, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Chair of Philosophy,  
Carleton College, Department of Philosophy (jdecker@carleton.edu)

**Joseph Owens**, Professor of Philosophy, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities,  
Department of Philosophy (owens002@umn.edu)