

Zach Blaesi

Curriculum Vitae

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Department of Philosophy
The University of Texas at Austin
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Academic Appointments

2021–present **Postdoctoral Researcher**, The University of Texas at Austin

Education

Aug. 2021 **PhD in Philosophy**, The University of Texas at Austin

DISSERTATION: *Grounding the Mind–Body Problem*

COMMITTEE: Michael Tye (Chair), Josh Dever, Jon Litland, Mark Sainsbury,
Adam Pautz (Brown University)

May 2014 **BFA in Philosophy / Film and TV**, New York University

Research Interests

AOS Philosophy of mind, metaphysics

AOC Ethics, aesthetics

Publications

2021 “[The Moral Parody Argument Against Panpsychism](#),” *Philosophical Studies*

Papers Under Review

“Grounding a Definition of Physicalism” (Under Review)

“Grounding, Physicalism, and the Explanatory Gap” (Under Review)

Presentations

“Grounding a Definition of Physicalism”

Feb. 2022 American Philosophical Association (Symposium, Central Division), Chicago, IL

“The Moral Parody Argument Against Panpsychism”

Jan. 2019 American Philosophical Association (Symposium, Eastern Division), New York, NY

Apr. 2018 UConn Graduate Conference, University of Connecticut

“Grounding, Physicalism, and the Explanatory Gap”

Jan. 2018 American Philosophical Association (Symposium, Eastern Division), Savannah, GA

Jul. 2017 Masterclass in Theoretical Philosophy, University of Tübingen

Apr. 2017 Columbia–NYU Graduate Conference in Philosophy, New York University

“The Phenomenal Concept Strategy Revisited”

Apr. 2018 Southeast Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Florida

Oct. 2016 The Central States Philosophy Association, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

“Some Puzzles About Reasons”

- May 2016 Reasons and Agency Graduate Conference, University of Toronto
 Nov. 2015 Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Philosophy Conference, Brown University

“Myths of Morality”

- Mar. 2014 The Princeton–Rutgers Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, Princeton University

Comments**On Haoying Liu’s “The Combination Problem and the Phenomenal Bond”**

- Oct. 2016 The Central States Philosophy Association, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

On Axel Arturo Barceló Aspeitia’s “Constituents and their Role in Propositions”

- Oct. 2016 UT/UNAM Workshop, The University of Texas at Austin

On Gabriel Larivière’s “On Knowledge, Assertion, and Other Speech Acts in Language Games”

- Apr. 2016 UT Austin Philosophy Graduate Conference, The University of Texas at Austin

On Zhengzhi “Jane” Chen’s “Perceptual Justification and Blindsight”

- Mar. 2015 MLK Conference, The University of Texas at Austin

Workshops**Metaphysical Mayhem**

- May 2018 Department of Philosophy, Rutgers University

Jessica Wilson on Metaphysical Dependence

- Jul. 2017 Hamburg Summer School in Philosophy, University of Hamburg

Fellowships, Scholarships, and Awards**Dissertation Writing Fellowship**

- Spring 2020 Graduate School, The University of Texas at Austin

Graduate School Continuing Fellowship

- Spring 2019 Graduate School, The University of Texas at Austin

Graduate Student Travel Stipend Winner (2×)

- 2018–19 American Philosophical Association

Professional Development Travel Award (8×)

- 2015–18 Graduate School, The University of Texas at Austin

Summer Scholarship (2×)

- 2017–18 Graduate School, The University of Texas at Austin

Recruiting Fellowship

- Apr. 2014 Graduate School, The University of Texas at Austin

Teaching

Course Designer and Instructor

The University of Texas at Austin

- Fall 2020 Philosophy and Film (web-based)
- Fall 2018 Contemporary Moral Problems
- Spring 2018 Introduction to the Philosophy of the Arts
- Fall 2017 Introduction to the Philosophy of the Arts

Teaching Assistant and Grader

The University of Texas at Austin

- Spring 2021 Introduction to Ethics (web-based) (TA for Nicole Smith)
- Fall 2019 Problems of Knowledge and Valuation (TA for Ian Proops)
- Spring 2017 Philosophy of Mind (Grader for Michael Tye)
- Fall 2016 Problems of Knowledge and Valuation (TA for John Deigh)
- Spring 2016 Mind and Body (TA for Michael Tye)
- Fall 2015 Science and the Modern World (TA for Cory Juhl)
- Spring 2015 Introduction to the Philosophy of the Arts (TA for Katherine Piatti)
- Fall 2014 Medicine, Ethics, and Society (TA for Jeff Leon)

Service and Outreach

Volunteer Discussion Leader

- Spring 2021 Compass: An Undergraduate Philosophy Workshop, The University of Texas at Austin

Volunteer Instructor

- Spring 2017 [Corrupt the Youth](#), Eastside Memorial High School
 - Helped outreach program bring philosophy to underprivileged high school students to strengthen their critical thinking skills and civic engagement
 - Distilled college-level readings of 19+ pages into 3-page high-school-level excerpts to provide access to philosophical content
 - Created targeted lesson plans, worksheets, and quizzes to promote learning outcomes

Pedagogical Training

Inclusive Classrooms Leadership Certificate

- Spring 2021 Division of Diversity and Community Engagement / Graduate School, The University of Texas at Austin

Muslim-Inclusive Pedagogy Workshop

- Spring 2020 Department of Religious Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

Advanced Teaching Preparation Certificate

- Dec. 2018 Faculty Innovation Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Supervising Teaching in Philosophy

- Fall 2016 Department of Philosophy, The University of Texas at Austin

Workshop on Teaching and Learning

Sept. 2015 American Association of Philosophy Teachers, North Texas University

Research Experience**Research Assistant to Mark Sainsbury for *Thinking About Things***

2016 The University of Texas at Austin

- Reviewed referee reports to ensure that criticisms were addressed in revised manuscript
- Wrote critical summaries of articles in philosophy and linguistics to assist with revisions
- Provided substantive feedback on manuscript

Research Assistant to Tara Smith

2015–16 The University of Texas at Austin

- Wrote critical summaries of articles in philosophy and law to assist in research and teaching preparation
- Sourced research materials to increase overall research efficiency

Service**Co-organizer**

2016–17 Graduate Colloquium Series, The University of Texas at Austin

2015–16 UT Austin Philosophy Graduate Conference, The University of Texas at Austin

Panelist

Fall 2016 Undergraduate Panel on Philosophy, UT Austin's Minorities and Philosophy chapter

Referee

2019, 2015 Austin Graduate Ethics and Normativity Talks, The University of Texas at Austin

2021, 2018, 2014–15 UT Austin Philosophy Graduate Conference, The University of Texas at Austin

Graduate Coursework (audited courses marked with “*”)**The University of Texas at Austin**

Spring 2019 Perception & Evolution of Consciousness* (Michael Tye & Mark Sainsbury)

Fall 2018 Ground, Grain, and Generality (Jon Erling Litland)

Spring 2018 Physicalism, Apriority, and Concepts (Mark Sainsbury & Michael Tye)

Spring 2018 How Things Hang Together* (Galen Strawson & Cory Juhl)

Fall 2017 Metaphysics of Modality (Jon Erling Litland)

Spring 2017 Consciousness & Intentionality (Michael Tye & Mark Sainsbury)

Spring 2017 Explanatory Role of Content* (Cory Juhl & Ray Buchanan)

Fall 2016 The Linguistic Turn (Josh Dever & David Sosa)

Spring 2016 Metaethics in the 20th Century (Jonathan Dancy)

Spring 2016 Mind–Body Problem (Mark Sainsbury & Michael Tye)

Spring 2016 Philosophy of Language (Ray Buchanan)

Fall 2015 Metaphysics and Mind (Galen Strawson)

Fall 2015 Nietzsche on Ethics & Morality (Kathleen Higgins)
 Spring 2015 Intentionality (Mark Sainsbury & Michael Tye)
 Spring 2015 Practical Reasons and Reasoning (Jonathan Dancy)
 Spring 2015 Core Logic (Josh Dever)
 Fall 2014 Does It Matter What It's Like? (David Sosa)
 Fall 2014 First-Year Seminar (Katherine Dunlop & Adam Pautz)
 Fall 2014 History of Analytic Ethics (John Deigh)

New York University

Fall 2013 Aesthetics (Robert Hopkins)
 Fall 2012 Ethics: Selected Topics (Derek Parfit)

References

Michael Tye

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 Department of Philosophy
 The University of Texas at Austin
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Adam Pautz

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 Department of Philosophy
 Brown University
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Daniel Bonevac (Teaching Reference)

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 The University of Texas at Austin
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Jon Litland

Assistant Professor
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 The University of Texas at Austin
jon.litland@austin.utexas.edu

Mark Sainsbury

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Ian Proops (Teaching Reference)

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