Yasha Sapir

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Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Language · Epistemology · Ethics

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Law · Philosophy, Politics, and Economics · Logic

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?" March 2024
Pacific APA

Scott Dixon, "Metaphysical Foundherentism" February 2023
Central APA

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

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

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

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, *Inquiry*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*

Graduate Coursework

(* = 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: April 24, 2024