

Luca Ferrero

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Philosophy
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Employment

2016– **University of California-Riverside**, Philosophy, *Professor*
2009–16 **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**, Philosophy, *Associate Professor*
2002–09 **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**, Philosophy, *Assistant Professor*
2005–07 **Stanford**, Philosophy, *Visiting Assistant Professor*

Education

2002 **Harvard**, PhD in Philosophy
1998 **Harvard**, AM in Philosophy
1992 University of Florence, Italy, LAUREA summa cum laude in Philosophy

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Agency • Practical Reasoning • Moral Psychology • Personal Identity

Areas of Competence

Metaethics • Philosophy of Mind • Philosophy of Biology

Publications

BOOKS

2022 (ed.) *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Agency*. Routledge
2022 *Intendere, Agire, e Fare*, Edizioni ETS, Pisa (Italy).

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

2026 “Fouls, Fumbles, and the Fate of Agents— Constitutivism for Imperfect Players.” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming.
2023 “The Present Functions and the Future Persistence of Planning Agency.” *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 41.1: 30–40.
2022 “The Structures of Temporally Extended Agents.” In C. Bagnoli (ed.), *Time in Action: The Temporal Structure of Rational Agency and Practical Thought*. Routledge: 108–132.

- 2022 “Diachronic Agency.” In L. Ferrero (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Agency*. Routledge, Ch.30: 336–347
- 2022 “An Introduction to the Philosophy of Agency.” In L. Ferrero (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Agency*. Routledge, Ch.1: 1–18
- 2021 “Games and the Fluidity of Layered Agency.” *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport*, 48.3: 344–355
- 2020 “Constitutivism, Moral.” In H. LaFollette (ed.), *International Encyclopedia of Ethics*, Wiley & Sons
- 2019 “The Simple Constitutivist Move,” *Philosophical Explorations*, 22(2): 146–162
- 2018 “Inescapability Revisited,” *Manuscrito*, 41:113–158
- 2017 “Intending, Acting, and Doing,” *Philosophical Explorations*, 20(sup2): 13–39
- 2016 “Pro-Tempore Disjunctive Intentions,” in R. Altshuler and M. J. Sigrist (eds.), *Time and the Philosophy of Action*, Routledge: 108–123
- 2015 “Agency, Scarcity, and Mortality,” *The Journal of Ethics*, 19.3: 349–378
- 2015 “Ludwig on Conditional Intentions,” *Methodes*, 4.6: 61–74
- 2014 “Diachronic Structural Rationality,” *Inquiry*, 57.3: 311–336
- 2013 “Can I Only Intend My Own Actions?” *Oxford Studies in Agency and Responsibility*, 1: 70–94
- 2013 “Intention,” in E. Lepore and K. Ludwig (eds.), *A Companion to Donald Davidson*, Wiley-Blackwell, Ch.5: 75–89
- 2012 “Diachronic Constraints of Practical Rationality,” *Philosophical Issues*, 22.1: 144–164
- 2012 “*Willing, Wanting, Waiting*: Review Article,” *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, 9.3: 1–15
- 2010 “Decisions, Diachronic Autonomy, and the Division of Deliberative Labor,” *Philosophers’ Imprint*, 10.2: 1–23
- 2009 “Conditional Intentions,” *Noûs*, 43.9: 700–741
- 2009 “What Good is a Diachronic Will?” *Philosophical Studies*, 144.3: 403–430
- 2009 “Constitutivism and the Inescapability of Agency,” *Oxford Studies in Metaethics*, 4: 303–333
- 2009 “Action,” in J. Shand (ed.), *Central Issues of Philosophy*, Wiley-Blackwell, Ch.10: 137–151
- 2006 “Three Ways of Spilling Ink Tomorrow,” in E. Baccarini and S. Prijic-Samarzija (eds.), *Rationality in Belief and Action*, Rijeka: 95–127
- 2005 “The Will: Interpersonal Bargaining vs. Intrapersonal Prediction,” *Brain and Behavioral Sciences*, 28.5: 654–655
- 2003 “An Elusive Challenge to the Authorship Account of First-Person Authority,” *Philosophical Psychology*, 16.4: 565–577
- 1995 “Il Principio di Differenza: Incentivi o Uguaglianza?” *Filosofia e Questioni Pubbliche*, 1: 47–63
- 1993 “La Teoria dell’Identità Personale di Derek Parfit e l’Utilitarismo”, *Annali del Dipartimento di Filosofia di Firenze*, 9: 161–196

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2024 Review of C. Andreou, *Choosing Well: The Good, The Bad, and the Trivial*, *Ethics*, 134.2: 268–73
- 2015 Review of P. Katsafanas, *Constitutivism and the Foundations of Ethics*, *Ethics*, 125.3: 883–8
- 2006 Review of T. Pievani *Introduzione alla Filosofia della Biologia*, 2R, 2: 1–11

Talks & Presentations

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 *Fouls, Fumbles, and the Fate of Agents— Constitutivism for Imperfect Players*, University of Utah
- 2025 *Constitutivism and the Bad-x problem*, SLACRR, St.Louis, Keynote
- 2025 *On The Speculative Beginnings of Diachronic Agency*, Tulane University
- 2025 *Agency, Time, and Absurdity: Telic Pursuits, Atelic Activities, and the Crisis of Meaning*, Franklin & Marshall

- 2024 *Constitutivism and the Bad-x Problem*, Erlangen University
- 2023 *Agency, Time, and Absurdity: Telic Pursuits, Atelic Activities, and the Crisis of Meaning* Moral Philosophy Seminar, Oxford University
- 2023 *Temporal Selves?* University of Helsinki
- 2023 *Striving, Achievement, and Layered Agency* Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies
- 2021 *Telic Actions, Atelic Activities, and Meaningful Lives* SIFA (Italian Society Analytic Philosophy) Keynote—Philosophy of Action
- 2020 *Temporal Selves?* UC-Santa Barbara
- 2017 *Constitutivism and Inescapability Revisited*, U of Bologna, Italy
- 2017 *Agency and the Temporal Structures of Lives*, École Normale Supérieure Lyon, France
- 2016 *Intending, Acting, and Doing*, UC-Riverside
- 2015 *Agency, Finitude, and Mortality*, U of Modena, Italy
- 2015 *Mortality and the Vulnerabilities of Agency*, U of Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 *Intending, Acting, and Doing*, U of Bologna, Italy
- 2015 *Mortality and the Vulnerabilities of Agency*, U of Milan, Italy
- 2014 *What is So Special about Agency?* U of Modena, Italy
- 2014 *What is So Special about Agency?* Marquette U
- 2014 *What is So Special about Agency?* U of Puget Sound
- 2013 *Intending, Acting, and Doing*, UW-Madison
- 2012 *The Stability of Intentions*, APA Pacific
- 2010 *Disjunctive Intentions*, U-Toronto
- 2010 *Disjunctive Intentions*, Queen's U, Kingston
- 2009 *Intending, Acting, and Doing*, Northern Illinois U
- 2009 *Practical Reason and the Possibility of Failure*, APA Central
- 2007 *Conditional Intentions*, UC-Irvine
- 2007 *Conditional Intentions*, UC-Riverside
- 2007 *Conditional Intentions*, Stanford
- 2004 *Three Ways of Spilling Ink Tomorrow*, UCLA
- 2003 *The Ontological View of Intentions*, Stanford
- 2000 *The Dispensability of Commitments*, UW-Milwaukee
- 1999 *The Place of Intentions in the Mind*, University of Rome, Italy

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- 2026 *TBD*, Conference on Normative Powers, UC-San Diego
- 2025 *Constitutivism and the Bad-x problem* Constitutivism in Ethics and Epistemology, University of Lisbon
- 2025 *Lives and Time: Conjectures on the Beginning of Diachronic Agency*, Action Network, Leipzig, Germany
- 2022 *Games, Striving, and Agency—AMC on Nguyen's Games: The Art of Agency*, Central APA, Chicago
- 2020 *The Structures of Temporal Agency*, MAPPSS, UC-San Diego
- 2020 *Planning Agency*, LATAM Free Will, Agency, Responsibility, Bogotá, Colombia
- 2018 *The Many Faces of Constitutivism*, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany
- 2018 *The Many Faces of Constitutivism*, SIFA Novara, Italy
- 2018 *Diachronic Agency and Temporal Existence*, University of Oslo, Norway
- 2018 *Diachronic Agency and Temporal Existence*, DFG Network, Leipzig
- 2018 *The Many Faces of Constitutivism*, University of Campinas, Brazil
- 2016 *Inescapability Revisited*, Dartmouth
- 2016 *The Temporal Structure of Actions, Ends, and Lives*, Time in Action, Oslo, Norway
- 2015 *Intending, Acting, and Doing*, Agency and Responsibility, Bogotá, Colombia
- 2015 *Agency, Finitude, and Mortality*, The Immortality Project Conference, UC-Riverside
- 2014 *What is So Special about Agency?* DFG Network, Leipzig

- 2014 *Intending, Acting, and Doing*, The Moral Significance of Intentions Conference, Leeds
- 2014 *What is So Special about Agency?* Practical Reason Workshop, UChicago
- 2013 *Personal Identity and Rationality over Time*, Diachronic Rationality Conference, Oslo, Norway
- 2013 *Agency and Normativity*, Yale-NUS Workshop, Singapore
- 2011 *Intention and the First Person*, NoWAR - Workshop on Agency and Responsibility, New Orleans
- 2011 *Diachronic Rational Constraints*, SLACRR, St.Louis
- 2010 *Disjunctive Intentions*, USC
- 2010 *'I Will If You Will'—Conditional Intentions and Joint Agency*, Collective Intentionality Conference, Basel, Switzerland
- 2010 *'I Will If You Will'—Conditional Intentions and Joint Agency*, BAFFLE Berkeley
- 2010 *Diachronic Rational Constraints*, SOFIA, Huatulco, Mexico
- 2009 *Self-Knowledge and Agency in O'Brien's Self-Knowing Agents*, APA Pacific
- 2007 *Intending and Doing*, BAFFLE UC-Berkeley
- 2007 *Does the Philosophy of Action Matter for Metaethics?* UW-Madison
- 2007 *Identification: Hierarchy vs. Reflection*, Nijmegen
- 2006 *Intending and Doing*, Stanford
- 2006 *Identification, Reflection, and Agency*, Valencia
- 2005 *Personal Identity and Diachronic Agency*, Zurich
- 2005 *Conditional Requirements and Detachment*, APA Central
- 2005 *Authoritative Judgments and the Balance of Reasons*, U-Maryland
- 2004 *Railton on Constitutive Arguments*, Università di Roma
- 2004 *Normative Requirements*, Conference on Reasons and Rationality, Rjeka
- 2004 *The Ontological View of Intentions*, Conference on Values, UW-Stevens Point
- 2003 *The Ineffectiveness of Future-Directed Intentions*, APA Eastern
- 2003 *Action and Perception*, Conference on Perception, Pavia
- 2002 *Naturalism and Teleology*, Conference on Naturalism, Siena
- 2002 *Perversion and the Constitutive Aim of Action*, Milan
- 2001 *Commitments and the Stability of Reasons*, Conference on Normativity, Rjeka
- 2000 *Rawls' Difference Principle*, Workshop in Ethics, Harvard
- 2000 *The Lure of Particularism*, Conference on Justification and Meaning
- 2000 *Intentions and Realism*, Workshop on Ethical Realism, Rome
- 1997 *Making Brandom Explicit*, Workshop in Metaphysics and Epistemology, Harvard
- 1995 *Rationality, Prudence, and Personal Identity*, SIFA Conference, Rome

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS — DISCUSSANT

- 2023 *Workshop on Normativity and Reasoning*, NYU Abu Dhabi
- 2018 *Tenenbaum on Extended Activities*, University of Bayreuth, Germany
- 2015 *Belief, Action, and Rationality over Time*, UW-Madison
- 2015 *Workshop on Practical Reason*, NYU Abu Dhabi
- 2013 *DFG Workshop on Practical Thought and Good Action III*, Stuttgart
- 2012 *DFG Workshop on Practical Thought and Good Action I*, Madgeburg
- 2012 *Comment to A. Roth 'Team Reasoning'*, SLACRR, St.Louis
- 2011 *Symposium on Bratman's "Shared Agency"*, Yale
- 2011 *Conference on 'Virtue, Action, and Reason'*, UChicago
- 2011 *Comments to S. Husi 'Inescapability and Authority'*, APA Pacific, San Diego
- 2009 *On Tenenbaum's Intention and Commitment*, RoME, UC-Boulder
- 2002 *Comments to Schoettle's 'A Problem for Perry'*, APA Pacific

Honors & Prizes

- 2013 Graduate School/UWM Foundation Research Award
- 2002 G.P. Adams Prize for Outstanding Dissertation, Philosophy, Harvard

Grants & Fellowships

- 2024–25 Murphy Institute, Center for Ethics, Tulane University
- 2023–24 UCR, Center for Ideas and Society
- multiple UCR, Omnibus Research and Travel Award
- 2017 ENS - École Normale Supérieure - Lyon, France, Visiting Scholar
- 2014–15 ‘Immortality, Vulnerability, and Agency,’ The Immortality Project, UC-Riverside & Templeton
- 2014 Faculty of Arts and Humanities Travel Award
- 2012 Faculty of Arts and Humanities Travel Award
- 2011 NEH Summer Seminar, Princeton
- 2010 CIE UWM Travel Grant
- 2010 Faculty of Arts and Humanities Travel Award
- 2009–10 Graduate School Research Committee Award, UW-Milwaukee
- 2008–09 Center for 21st Century Studies, UW-Milwaukee
- 2005–07 Stanford Humanities Fellow, Stanford
- 2005–06 Center for 21st Century Studies, UW-Milwaukee (declined)
- 2004–05 Graduate School Research Committee Award, UW-Milwaukee
- 2003–04 MURST (Minister of Scientific Research, Italy), ‘Mind and Ethics’
- 2000–01 Packard Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard
- 1999–00 Richard M. Martin Fellowship, Harvard
- 1995–99 Harvard Scholarship, Harvard
- 1997 Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship, Harvard
- 1993 Research Fellowship, Philosophy, Rutgers
- 1992 Fellowship in Ethics, University of Naples, Italy
- 1989–90 Erasmus Fellowship, European Community

Teaching

- 2016– **UC-Riverside**
 - Introduction to Philosophy
 - Personhood and Personal Identity
 - Philosophy of Agency
- GRADUATE SEMINARS**
 - Diachronic Agency
 - The Practical and the Theoretical
 - Constitutivism
 - Agency and Life

- 2001–16 **UW-Milwaukee**

Introduction to Philosophy
Personal Identity
Shared Agency
Philosophy of Action
Action, Will, & Freedom
Moral Dilemmas (online)
Philosophy of Mind
Philosophy of Biology
Personal Identity & the Self (online)

GRADUATE SEMINARS

The Will
Action Theory
Diachronic Agency
Constitutivism
Agency & Normativity
Self, Time, & Narrative
Theories of the Self
Writing Workshop

2005–07 **Stanford**

Free Will
Personal Identity

1996–00 **Harvard** — Philosophy Majors Seminars

Philosophy of Action
The Body & The Mind
Action & Agency

Philosophy of Biology
Reasons & Causes
Intentions, Commitments, & Promises

Supervisory Activity

PHD STUDENTS

UC-Riverside: 14 Dissertations (of which 5 as Chair)
External Reader: University of Utah, University of Pittsburgh
Committee Member for Doctoral Dissertation Prospectus Exams: 19 exams

MASTER'S THESES

UC-Riverside: 5 Theses
UW-Milwaukee: 24 Theses (of which 9 as Chair)

Professional Activities

Editorial Boards

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Subject Editor: Philosophy of Action
Canadian Journal of Philosophy—Associate Editor (2016–2021)
Mente e Azione
European Journal of Analytic Philosophy (advisory board)
Philosophical Inquiries (advisory board)

Referee for Journals & Conferences

American Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Croatian Journal of Philosophy, Ergo, Erkenntnis, Ethical Theory & Moral Practice, European Journal of Philosophy, Filosofia e Questioni Pubbliche, Journal of Ethical Theory, Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy, Journal of Philosophical Research, Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Value Inquiry, Inquiry, Law & Philosophy, Legal Theory, Manuscripta, Mind, Noûs, NOWAR, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Phenomenology & the Cognitive Sciences, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophia, Philosophical Explorations, Philosophical Investigations, Philosophical Psychology, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Review, Philosophical Studies, SLACRR, SWIF 2R, SIFA2016, Social Theory & Moral Practice, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Synthese, Topoi

Referee for Publishers & Institutions

Agence Nationale de la Recherche (France), Central European University, Cambridge University Press, DFG - German Research Foundation, Harvard University Press, Oxford University Press, Polish National Science Center, Routledge, South Africa National Research Foundation, Wadsworth, Wiley-Blackwell

Professional Committees

25th World Congress of Philosophy: Philosophy of Action (Co-Chair)
American Philosophical Association, Committee on International Cooperation (2014–17)

Professional Memberships

SIFA, Società Italiana Filosofia Analitica
APA, American Philosophical Association
Society for Philosophy of Agency (founder and board member)
European Network for Practical Reason & Normative Psychology (ENPRNP)
DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft Network on 'Practical Thought and Good Action.'
The Committed Mind: Individual and Corporate Agency—University of Helsinki, Finland.

University Services

2025– UCR Rules and Regulations

The Committee for Rules and Regulations is responsible for the review, interpretation, and updating of the norms governing the academic and administrative functioning of the University. The Committee evaluates proposals for regulatory changes and ensures coherence, transparency, and compliance of procedures with University policies.

2021–22 UC Committee Privilege and Tenure—Systemwide - Chair

2020–21 UC Committee Privilege and Tenure—Systemwide - Vice Chair

2017–20 UCR Committee Privilege and Tenure—(2019-20) Chair

The Committee for Privileges and Tenure of the University of California safeguards the procedural rights of faculty in matters of appointments, evaluations, promotions, and tenure, and also handles disciplinary cases, grievances, and termination proceedings, ensuring equity, impartiality, and compliance with academic norms. This committee operates within a system comprising approximately 10,700 tenure-track faculty across the entire UC university system.

2019–20 UCR Committee Academic Freedom

The Committee for Academic Freedom oversees the protection and promotion of academic freedom in teaching, research, and intellectual expression. The Committee examines cases and policies that may bear on these freedoms and provides recommendations to ensure their full institutional compliance.

Department Services

At UCR

- 2025–26 Graduate Admission Committee
- 2023–24 Graduate Admission Committee
- 2018 Junior Search Committee—Chair
- 2017–18 Graduate Admission Committee
- 2010–16 Course and Curriculum Committee—Chair

At UWM

- 2014–16 Center for Ethics, Values, & Society, Planning Committee
- 2012–14 Planning Committee
- 2010–11 Graduate School Award Committee
- 2010–11 Recruitment Committee
- 2007–08 Personnel Committee
- 2007–08 Graduate Admission Committee
- 2004–05 Department Awards Committee
- 2004–05 Department Bibliographer
- 2002–03 Recruitment Committee
- 2001–04 Information and Technology Committee—Chair
- 2001–02 Course and Curriculum Committee
- 2001–04 Department Web Master