

# Johannes Brinz

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## Employment

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**University of Osnabrück**

*Research Assistant*

**Osnabrück, Germany**

*10/2022-present*

## Education

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**Technical University of Dresden**

*MA Philosophy, grade: 1.1*

**Dresden, Germany**

*08/2022*

**Technical University of Dresden**

*BSc Physics*

**Dresden, Germany**

*08/2021*

**Technical University of Dresden**

*BA Philosophy*

**Dresden, Germany**

*07/2020*

**University of Lisbon**

*Exchange Student, Physics*

**Lisbon, Portugal**

*09/2019 – 03/2020*

**Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich**

*Student of Philosophy and Literature*

**Munich, Germany**

*10/2016 – 09/2017*

**Technical University of Munich**

*BSc Mechanical Engineering*

**Munich, Germany**

*06/2016*

**PUC Minas**

*Exchange Student, Mechanical Engineering*

**Belo Horizonte, Brazil**

*09/2015 – 12/2015*

## Areas of Specialisation

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Philosophy of Neuroscience, Philosophy of Computation, Neuromorphic Computation

## Areas of Competence

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Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of AI, Cognition

## Publications

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Brinz, J. (2026). From Simulating to Duplicating the Brain: *Synthese* 207:110.

Brinz, J. (2024). Are Artificial Neurons Neurons?: *Proceedings of the 45th Wittgenstein Symposium*.

## Preprints

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Brinz, J. (2025). The Flashcard Sorter - Applicability of the Chinese Room Argument to Large Language Models: *PhilArchive Preprint*. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.14980541.

## Talks and Posters

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### Invited Talks:

*Three Versions of Functionalism*: Workshop on the Unfolding Argument, FU Berlin, Germany (2026).

### Contributed Talks:

*Marr's Fourth Level*: Philosophical Issues in Neural Computation, Ruhr-Uni Bochum, Germany (2026).

*Functionalism and Neural Realization*: 6ICPH, University of Porto, Portugal (2026).

*Marr's Fourth Level*: PPIG, University of Edinburgh, UK (2026).

*Functionalism and Neural Realization*: WiP Seminar, University of Edinburgh, UK (2026).

*Marr's Fourth Level*: MindMU, University of Missouri, USA (2025).

*The Flashcard Sorter - Applicability of the Chinese Room Argument to Large Language Models*: GAP.12, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany (2025).

*Can Artificial Neurons Perform the Functions of Biological Neurons?*: SOPhiA Conference, University of Salzburg, Austria (2025).

*From Simulating to Duplicating the Brain*: IACAP/AISB-25, University of Twente, Netherlands (2025).

*The Flashcard Sorter*: LLMs and Their Intuitions Workshop, University of Bucharest, Romania (2025).

*The Flashcard Sorter*: PinT, University of Wrocław, Poland (2025).

*Can Artificial Neurons Perform the Functions of Biological Neurons?*: MindMU, University of Missouri, USA (2025).

*Attention Isn't All You Need - The Applicability of the Chinese Room Argument to Large Language Models*: ISPSM, online (2024).

*Are Artificial Neurons Neurons?*: Models of Consciousness, Bamberg, Germany (2024).

*Attention Isn't All You Need - The Applicability of the Chinese Room Argument to Large Language Models*: Deutscher Kongress für Philosophie, Münster, Germany (2024).

*Neuromorphic AI: From Simulating Toward Duplicating the Brain*: Forum on Philosophy, Engineering, and Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany (2024).

*Are Artificial Neurons Neurons?*: 45th Wittgenstein Symposium, Kirchberg am Wechsel, Austria (2024).

*From Simulating Towards Replicating the Brain*, Philosophy of Neuromorphic AI, online (2024): Video YouTube.

*Virtuality and Reality – The Simulation – Realization Distinction and its Implications for AI*: Global Justice, Technology and Integrated Research, online (2024): Video YouTube.

*Neuromorphic AI*: Philosophy in Technology (PinT 2024), Wrocław, Poland (2024).

### Poster Presentations:

*Can Artificial Neurons Perform the Functions of Biological Neurons?*, Spring School Research Training Group Situated Cognition, Bochum, Germany (2025).

*Neuromorphic AI – From Simulating Towards Replicating the Brain*. Conference on Philosophy of AI (PhilAI), Erlangen, Germany (2023).

*Virtuality and Reality – The Simulation – Realization Distinction and its Implications for AI*, Summer School Philosophy and Computer Science, Bayreuth, Germany (2023).

## Edited Volumes and Special Issues

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**Philosophy of Neuromorphic AI (forthcoming):** Co-Editor (with Gualtiero Piccinini), Special issue in *Philosophy of AI*.

## Teaching

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### **Introduction to Non-Classical Logic**

*Summer Semester 2026*

### **Chirimuuta - The Brain Abstracted**

*Winter Semester 25/26, Taught in English*

### **Philosophy Colloquium**

*Winter Semester 25/26*

### **Theseus, Trans\*, and Teleportation - Topics in Personal Identity (From Locke to Nozick)**

*Fall Semester 25, University of Bern, SEMP exchange*

### **Kant - Prolegomena**

*Summer Semester 2025*

### **Philosophy of Cosmology**

*Winter Semester 24/25*

### **Wittgenstein - Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus**

*Summer Semester 2024*

### **Theseus, Trans\*, and Teleportation - Topics in Personal Identity (From Locke to Nozick)**

*Winter Semester 23/24*

### **Introduction to the Philosophy of AI**

*Summer Semester 2023*

## Professional Services

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**Reviewing** for Journals: *Synthese, Philosophy and Psychology, Minds and Machines*

**Reviewing** for Conferences: *International Association for Computing and Philosophy (IACAP) Conference*

### **Committee Work:**

Deputy Member of the Executive Board, Institute for Philosophy, Osnabrück (2022–present)

Deputy Member of the Study Commission, Institute for Philosophy, Osnabrück (2022–present)

### **Organized Workshops, Conferences and Reading Groups:**

Workshop on Philosophical Issues in Neural Computation, Bochum, Germany (2026).

Symposium on Philosophy of Neuromorphic AI, ISPSM online conference (2025).

Workshop and Reading Group on Integrated Information Theory, Osnabrück, Germany (2025).

Workshop on Philosophy of Neuromorphic AI, online (2024): YouTube.

### **Supervision Bachelor Thesis:**

Calvin Grünebaum - *Semantic Understanding in Large Language Models* (2025)

### **Public Outreach:**

Online lecture series on *Wittgenstein - Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*: YouTube.

## Scholarships, Grants, and Prizes

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### **Honourable Mention at ECAP12**

*Madrid, 2026*

European Congress of Analytic Philosophy

### **Doctoral Scholarship by the German Academic Exchange Agency (DAAD)**

**4000 EUR**

*02-03/2026*

University of Edinburgh, Host: Mazviita Chirimuuta

### **Guest Lecturer Grant by the Swiss-European Mobility Programme**

**1870 CHF**

*09-10/2025*

University of Bern