

Lyu Zhou

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Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of mind, Metaphysics, Philosophy of religion

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of action, epistemology, Kant, Early modern philosophy, Ancient philosophy, Chinese philosophy

Employment

08/2025–current. Visiting Lecturer in Philosophy, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

07/2024–06/2025. *Philosophical Review* Postdoctoral Associate, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

07/2023–06/2024. Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY.

Education

09/2016–08/2023. Ph.D. in Philosophy, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Dissertation Title: *Phenomenal Time and the Metaphysics of the Mind*. Advisor: Derk Pereboom.

09/2012–05/2016. B.A. *Summa cum laude* in Philosophy and Classics, Columbia University, New York City, NY.

06/2014–07/2014. Summer Session, American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece.

06/2013–08/2013. *Summa cum laude*, Summer Intensive Greek Program, Latin/Greek Institute, Graduate Center, City University of New York, New York City, NY.

Publications

(Forthcoming) “Representational Adequacy, Natural Selection, and Quantum Ontology: Against a 3-Dimensionally Spatial Reality,” *Journal of Consciousness Studies*.

(2026) “Specious Present and Its Place in Spacetime: Towards a Non-Spatiotemporalist Account for Human Consciousness,” *Synthese*, **207**, No. 59.

(2024) “Time, Atemporal Existence, and Divine Temporal Consciousness: A Bimodalist Account for Divine Consciousness,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, **95**, No. 3, pp. 285-305.

(2023) “Specious Present, Phenomenal Extension, and Mereological Inversion: A Problem for Physicalism about the Mind,” *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, **30**, No. 3-4, pp. 155-180.

Papers under Review or in Progress

- “Reconciling Strong Divine Providence and Human Libertarian Free Will: A New Account” (under review).
- “Phenomenal Time and the Constitutive Structure of Consciousness: A Constitution Account for Phenomenal Temporality” (draft completed).
- “Introspective Pessimism, Strong Illusionism, and the Reliability of Introspection: Towards a Plausible Principle of Reliable Introspection” (draft completed).
- “Phenomenal Time and Objective Time” (work in progress).
- “Phenomenal Time, Unity of Consciousness, and Personal Identity” (work in progress).
- “Phenomenal Time and Knowledge of Causation” (work in progress).
- “A (John Duns) Scotian Modal Argument for God’s Existence” (work in progress).

Scholarships and Awards

- Hsien Wu and Daisy Yen Wu Scholarship, Cornell University, 2023.
- Summer Stipend, Philosophy Department, Cornell University, 2021, 2022, 2023.
- Sage Fellowship, Cornell University, 2017, 2019.
- Departmental Honors, Philosophy Department, Columbia University, 2016.
- James Gutmann Prize in Philosophy, Philosophy Department, Columbia University, 2016.
- Junior Inductee to the Phi Beta Kappa Society, Columbia College Chapter, 2015.
- James P. Shenton Prize in Contemporary Civilization, Columbia College, Columbia University, 2015. Prize-winning essay title: *Power, Progress, and Practicality: Critique of Mill’s Critique of the “Tyranny of the Majority”*.
- Garrett Albert Fund for Summer Study, Classics Department, Columbia University and Barnard College, 2014.
- Floyd L. Moreland Scholarship, Latin/Greek Institute, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2013.
- Dean’s List, Columbia University, 2012–2013, 2013–2014, 2014–2015, 2015–2016.
- John Jay Scholar, Undergraduate Scholar Program, Columbia University, 2012.
- First Prizes, 7th, 8th, and 9th Classical Chinese Literature Reading Contest for High School Students, Shanghai, 2008, 2009, 2010.

Presentations

- “Specious Present and Its Place in Spacetime: Towards a Non-Spatiotemporalist Account for Human Consciousness,” Philosophy Department, Colgate University, March 2024.
- “Phenomenal Time and the Constitutive Structure of Consciousness,” Philosophy Department, Colgate University, April 2023.
- “Phenomenal Time and the Constitutive Structure of Consciousness,” Philosophy Department, Bowdoin College, February 2023.
- “Phenomenal Time and the Constitutive Structure of Consciousness,” Philosophy Department, Cornell University, January 2023.
- “On the Non-Causal Basis of Phenomenal Temporality,” Philosophy Department, Cornell University, September 2021.
- “Awareness of the Present and the Non-Physicality of the Mind,” Philosophy Department, Cornell University, March 2019.

Teaching Experience

- As primary instructor:
Puzzles and Paradoxes, Cornell University, Spring 2026.

Introduction to Metaphysics, Cornell University, Spring 2026.
Early Modern Philosophy, Cornell University, Fall 2025.
Epistemology, Cornell University, Fall 2025.
Introduction to Ancient Chinese Philosophy and Literature, Cornell University, Spring 2025; Colgate University, Spring 2024.
Freshman Writing Seminar: Introduction to Philosophical Problems, Cornell University, Fall 2024.
Introduction to Philosophical Problems, Colgate University, Fall 2023 and Spring 2024.
Freshman Writing Seminar: Free Will and Moral Responsibility, Cornell University, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021.
Summer Humanities Reading Group for Shanghai High School Graduates, Shanghai High School, Summer 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.

As teaching assistant (all at Cornell University):

Early Modern Philosophy, Spring 2023.
Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2022.
Ethics, Spring 2022.
Greek and Roman Philosophy, Fall 2021.
Puzzles and Paradoxes, Spring 2019.
Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2018.
Early Modern Philosophy, Spring 2018.
Moral Dilemmas in the Law, Fall 2017.

Coursework

Philosophy of Mind. Derk Pereboom.
Philosophy of Mind. Nicholas Silins. (Audit.)
Metaphysics. Karen Bennett.
Epistemology. Carlotta Pavese. (Audit.)
Philosophy of Law. Julia Markovits.
Deductive Logic. Harold Hodes.
Plato. Tad Brennan. (Audit.)
Free Will in Ancient Philosophy. Derk Pereboom and Rachana Kamtekar.
Memory in Ancient Philosophy. Charles Brittain.
Hellenistic Philosophy. Tad Brennan. (Audit.)
Augustine. Scott MacDonald.
The Rationalists. Daniel Smyth. (Audit.)
Kant. Derk Pereboom.
Nineteenth Century Philosophy. Michelle Kosch.
Frege. Harold Hodes.
German Philosophical Text: Kant's Groundwork (read in German). Michelle Kosch.
Greek Philosophical Text: Plato's Euthydemus (read in Greek). Tad Brennan.
Greek Philosophical Text: Plato's Sophist (read in Greek). Tad Brennan.
Greek Philosophical Text: Plato's Parmenides (read in Greek). Tad Brennan.
Greek Philosophical Text: Plato's Theaetetus (read in Greek). Rachana Kamtekar.
Greek Philosophical Text: Aristotle's De Motu Animalium (read in Greek). Rachana Kamtekar.
Greek Philosophical Text: Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics (read in Greek). Tad Brennan.

Greek Philosophical Text: Athenagoras' On Resurrection (read in Greek). Tad Brennan.
Latin Philosophical Text: Anselm's Monologion (read in Latin). Scott MacDonald.

Extracurricular Activities

Teacher of 2013 and 2014 Pegasus after-school program at the School at Columbia University.
Taught after-school classes about Greek and Roman civilizations for elementary school students.

Co-founder of Geng Society (Classical Chinese Literature Reading Group). Read and compose poetry and prose in Classical Chinese. A collection of my original Classical Chinese poems can be found at my blog: <<https://jingxuanzhai.wordpress.com>>.

Languages

Chinese (native), English (fluent), German (reading), Classical Greek (reading), Latin (reading), Classical Chinese (reading and writing).

References

Derk Pereboom
Susan Linn Sage Professor of Philosophy and Ethics
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Carlotta Pavese
Fulford Clarendon Professor of Philosophy and Cognitive Science
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Manor Rd, Oxford OX1 3UJ
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University of Oxford
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Rachana Kamtekar
Bryce and Edith M. Bowmar Professor in Humanistic Studies
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Nico Silins
Professor of Philosophy

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Maura Tumulty
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