
SCOTT DIXON

Curriculum Vitae

February 2023

Lawrence University

Department of Philosophy

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Metaphysics, Philosophical Logic

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Epistemology, Philosophies of Language, Mathematics, Mind, Religion, and Science

APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Lawrence University, September 2021–present

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Ashoka University, August 2015–August 2021

Kit Fine Fellow, Institute of Philosophy, Universität Hamburg, October 2018–June 2020

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis, Philosophy, Ph.D., awarded September 2015

Dissertation: *Grounding, Regresses, and Universals*

The Australian National University, Canberra, School of Philosophy, Visiting Ph.D. Student,

June 1–August 1, 2014

University of Wyoming, Philosophy, M.A., awarded May 2008

Thesis: *Problems for Presentism*

University of Montana, Missoula, B.A., Philosophy and German, awarded May 2005

PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Forthcoming. ‘Metaphysical Foundherentism’, *Synthese*.

Forthcoming. ‘Directionalism and Relations of Arbitrary Symmetry’, *dialectica*.

2020. ‘Infinite Descent’, in M. Raven (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding*. London: Routledge, 244–58.

2020. ‘Between Atomism and Superatomism’, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, 49, 1215–41.

2019. ‘Relative Positionalism and Variable Arity Relations’, *Metaphysics*, 2, 55–72.

2018. ‘Plural Slot Theory’, in K. Bennett and D. W. Zimmerman (eds), *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, Vol. 11. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 193–223. (Recipient of the 2017 Marc Sanders Prize in Metaphysics)

2018. ‘Upward Grounding’, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 97, 48–78.

2016. ‘What Is the Well-Foundedness of Grounding?’, *Mind*, 125, 439–68.

2016. ‘Speaks’s Reduction of Propositions to Properties: A Benacerraf Problem’, with Cody Gilmore, *Thought*, 5, 275–84.

PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS (cont.)

2016. ‘Grounding and Supplementation’, *Erkenntnis*, 81, 375–89.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2021. Review of Theodore Sider’s *The Tools of Metaphysics and the Metaphysics of Science*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, www.ndpr.nd.edu.

2020. ‘David Lewis’, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, www.iep.utm.edu.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

Two papers on the nature of relations (drafts of each available, one under review)

Three papers on grounding and fundamentality (drafts of two available)

A paper on the philosophy of religion (draft available)

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (†refereed; *invited)

‘Metaphysical Foundherentism’

- American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division, Denver Feb. 2023

A paper on the nature of relations

- Western Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, Winnipeg Oct. 2022

A paper on the nature of relations

- Recent Work on the Metaphysics of Relations, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division, New Orleans* (online) Feb. 2021

A paper on grounding and fundamentality

- Department of Philosophy, Lawrence University, Appleton* (online) Feb. 2021

Biased Relations

- Properties, Relations, and Relational States, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland* (online) Oct. 2020

‘Uniqueness and Collective Essence’

- Symposium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division San Francisco† (cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic) Apr. 2020

‘Relative Positionalism Revisited’

- Colloquium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division, Denver† Feb. 2019
- Central States Philosophical Association Meeting, University at Buffalo† Oct. 2018
- Language and Essence: 2nd Annual Conference of the Canadian Metaphysics Collaborative, University of Victoria† Oct. 2018

‘Infinite Descent’

- HH Workshop Metaphysical Grounding, Department of Philosophy, Universität Hamburg* May 2018

‘The Prior Obligations Regress’

- Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Wyoming, Laramie* Jan. 2018

‘Plural Slot Theory’

- Symposium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Eastern Division, Savannah† Jan. 2018
- Society for Exact Philosophy Meeting, University of Calgary† May 2017

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (cont.) (†refereed; *invited)

- ‘Plural Slot Theory’
- Symposium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Eastern Division, Savannah† Jan. 2018
 - Society for Exact Philosophy Meeting, University of Calgary† May 2017
- ‘Truth Is Just Instantiation’
- Society for Exact Philosophy Meeting, University of Miami, Coral Gables† May 2016
 - Workshop on Normativity, Department of Philosophy, New York University, Abu Dhabi* Feb. 2016
- ‘Real vs. Fictional Maps of Fictional Terrains’
- Fictional Maps International Conference, Uniwersytet Śląski, Katowice, Poland† Jan. 2016
- ‘Upward Grounding’
- Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi* Nov. 2015
 - Colloquium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Eastern Division, Atlanta† Dec. 2012
- ‘Grounding, Determinables, and Supplementation’
- Colloquium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division, St. Louis† Feb. 2015
 - Australasian Association of Philosophy, The Australian National University Jul. 2014
- ‘What Is the Well-Foundedness of Grounding?’
- Colloquium, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division, San Diego† Apr. 2014
 - 7th Annual Centre for Metaphysics and Mind Graduate Conference, University of Leeds† Oct. 2013
- ‘Concrete Modal Structuralism’
- Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Mathematics, Concordia University, Montreal† May 2010
- ‘Mental Statism and the Problem of False Pleasures’
- Graduate Student Symposium, University of Wyoming, Laramie Mar. 2008
 - Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Calgary† Oct. 2007
- ‘Dreier’s Notion of Acceptance’
- Graduate Student Symposium, University of Wyoming, Laramie Mar. 2007
- ‘Abraham’s Moral Dilemma’
- Western Regional Honors Conference, Arizona State University, Tempe† Mar. 2002

OTHER PRESENTATIONS (invited)

- Revisiting ‘Upward Grounding’
- Guest appearance in Daniel Nolan’s and Christopher Shields’s graduate seminar on universals, Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame (online) Oct. 2020
- ‘The Possibility of Time Travel’
- Ranjan Roy Memorial Lecture, Department of Physics, St. Stephens College, New Delhi Oct. 2016
- ‘Falsifiability and Alternative Hypotheses’
- O. P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana, India Oct. 2015

OTHER PRESENTATIONS (cont.) (invited)

- ‘What Is Grounding?’
• Ashoka University, Sonipat, Haryana, India Apr. 2015

COMMENTARIES (invited)

- Comments on Thiago De Melo, ‘Naïve Positionalism and Relative Discernibility’
• American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division, Vancouver Apr. 2022
- Comments on Ricki Bliss, ‘Turtles Everywhere: The Regress Problem’
• Metaphysics and Its History: Regress Arguments, Simon Fraser University,
Held at Harbour Centre, Vancouver May 2019
- Comments on Ricki Bliss, ‘Turtles Everywhere: The Regress Problem’
• Metaphysics and Its History: Regress Arguments, Simon Fraser University,
Held at Harbour Centre, Vancouver May 2019
- Comments on Adam Waggoner, ‘Modal Realism and Two Arguments from Concern’
• Central States Philosophical Association Meeting, University at Buffalo Oct. 2018
- Comments on Silver Bronzo, ‘Frege and Propositional Unity’
• American Philosophical Association Meeting, Eastern Division, Washington,
D.C. Jan. 2016
- Comments on Vadim Keyser, ‘Reliability in Measurement’
• 2011 Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Conference, University of California, Davis Apr. 2011

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

- Internal grant for two Lawrence University Undergraduate Research Fellowships, “Redundancy at the Fundamental Level”, with fellows Shae Erlandson and Otto Portzline Jun.–Aug. 2022
- Marc Sanders Prize in Metaphysics 2017
- Graduate Student Travel Award, University of California, Davis 2014–15
- Michael V. Wedin Teaching Award, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Davis 2014
- Provost’s Dissertation Year Fellowship in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, University of California, Davis 2013–14
- Humanities Graduate Research Award, University of California, Davis 2013–14
- Graduate Student Travel Stipend Award, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Eastern Division, Atlanta 2012

SERVICE, MEMBERSHIPS, AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Member, Honors Committee, Lawrence University Fall 2022–present
- Session Chair, Western Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, Winnipeg Oct. 2022
- Invited Participant, Metaphysics WIP, organized by Dana Goswick 2022
- Board of Studies Advisor, Philosophy Department, Ashoka University Aug. 2021–present
- Member, American Philosophical Association 2012–present
- Member, Society for Exact Philosophy 2011–present

SERVICE, MEMBERSHIPS, AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY (cont.)

Substitute Session Chair, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division, Vancouver	Apr. 2022
Member, Academic Council, Ashoka University	Jan. 2017–Aug. 2018 & Oct. 2020–Aug. 2021
Teaching Fellow Application Coordinator, Philosophy Department, Ashoka University	Aug. 2018–Aug. 2021
Session Chair, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division, New Orleans (online)	Feb. 2021
Member, Board of Management, Ashoka University	May 2017–Aug. 2018
Administrator, Philosophy Department Webpage, Ashoka University	Aug. 2016–Aug. 2018
Member, Library Committee, Ashoka University	Nov. 2015–Aug. 2018
Member, Information Technology Committee, Ashoka University	Oct. 2015–Aug. 2018
Member, Curriculum Development Committee, Philosophy Department, Ashoka University	Aug. 2015–Aug. 2018
Member, Steering Committee for Foundation Courses, Ashoka University	Sep. 2017–Jan. 2018
Programme Coordinator, Philosophy Programme, Ashoka University	Jul. 2017–Dec. 2017
Invited Participant, 2017 Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference: Metaphysics on the Mountain 2, Sun Valley, Idaho	Mar. 2017
Member, Academic Policy Committee, Ashoka University	Nov. 2016–Mar. 2017
Member, Infrastructure Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Davis	2012–15
Session Chair, American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division, San Francisco, California	Mar. 2013
Invited Participant, Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University	May 2012
Member, Canadian Philosophical Association	2010–11
Member, Training and Information of Pedagogical Salience (TIPS) Committee, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Davis	2009–11
Session Chair, 2009 Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Graduate Conference, Stanford University	Apr. 2009
Invited Participant, Geneva Summer School in the Philosophy of Physics, University of Geneva	Jul.–Aug. 2008

REFEREE WORK

<i>Analysis</i> ×5 (4 papers)	<i>Analytic Philosophy</i> ×1
<i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> ×8 (6)	<i>Canadian Journal of Philosophy</i> ×2 (2)
<i>Dialectica</i> ×6 (4)	<i>Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review</i> ×1
<i>Ergo</i> ×4 (2)	<i>Erkenntnis</i> ×7 (4)
<i>Journal of the American Phil. Assoc.</i> ×1	<i>Journal of Philosophical Logic</i> ×2 (2)
<i>Journal of Philosophy</i> ×3 (3)	<i>Mind</i> ×2 (2)
<i>Noûs</i> ×1	Oxford University Press ×1
<i>Pacific Philosophical Quarterly</i> ×1	<i>Philosophia</i> ×1

REFeree WORK (cont.)

<i>Philosophical Studies</i> ×7 (3)	<i>The Philosophical Quarterly</i> ×5 (5)
<i>The Philosophical Review</i> ×1	<i>Philosophy and Phenom. Research</i> ×1
<i>Principia: An Int'l. Journal of Epistemology</i> ×1	<i>Ratio</i> ×1
Swiss National Science Foundation ×1	<i>Synthese</i> ×13 (7)
<i>Theoria</i> ×1	<i>Thought</i> ×2 (2)

COURSES TAUGHT

As Assistant Professor at Lawrence University

God and the Afterlife	Winter 2023
Introduction to Philosophy	Spring 2022, Winter 2023
Advanced Metaphysics: Mereology and Location	Fall 2022
First-Year Studies	Fall 2021, 2022
Ind. Study: History of Logic	Fall 2022
Ind. Study: Philosophy of Space and Time	Spring 2022
Modal Logic	Spring 2022
Metaphysics	Winter 2022
Symbolic Logic (Propositional and First-Order)	Winter 2022

As Assistant Professor at Ashoka University

Ind. Study: Modality: Language, Logic, & Metaphysics	Spring 2021
Philosophy of Science	Spring 2021
Topics in Metaphysics: Grounding and Essence	Spring 2021
Mind and Behaviour	Monsoon 2015–17, 2020, Spring 2017
Metaphysics	Spring 2016, Monsoon 2020
Symbolic Logic (Propositional and First-Order)	Monsoon 2015–17
Epistemology	Spring 2017
Ind. Study: Parfit's <i>Reasons and Persons</i>	Spring 2017
Philosophy of Language	Spring 2016
Ind. Study: Philosophy of Death	Monsoon 2015

As Instructor at the University of California, Davis

Introduction to the Philosophy of Biology	Spring 2015
Metaphysics	Winter 2015
Appraising Scientific Reasoning	Summer 2013
Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Propositional)	Summer 2010–12
Critical Reasoning	Winter 2011
Introduction to Philosophy	Summer 2009

As Instructor at the University of Wyoming

Environmental Ethics... <i>in Space!</i>	Summer 2009
Time Travel and Other Puzzles about the Past and Future	Summer 2008

THESIS EXAMINATION

External examiner for Tarun Thapar, Thesis for M.Phil. in Philosophy, University of Delhi, 2021.

Supervisor for Rhea Narayan Kuthoore, Thesis for Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research in Philosophy, Ashoka University, 2019. (B.A., Ashoka University, 2018.)

THESIS EXAMINATION (cont.)

Supervisor for Megha Devraj, Thesis for Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research in Philosophy, Ashoka University, 2018. (B.Sc., Ashoka University, 2017.)

Supervisor for Mathura Samaram, Thesis for Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research in Philosophy, Ashoka University, 2018. (B.A., Ashoka University, 2017.)

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Cody Gilmore (Dissertation Supervisor)
Email: gilmore@ucdavis.edu
Phone: +1 530 554 4924

Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of California, Davis

Daniel Nolan (Research Reference)
Email: dnolan2@nd.edu
Phone: +1 574 631 7299

McMahon-Hank Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Notre Dame

Ted Sider (Research Reference)
Email: sider@rutgers.edu
Phone: +1 848 932 9861

Andrew W. Mellon Chair of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
Rutgers University

Alex Watson (Teaching and Service Reference)
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