

KALI KILLINGSWORTH

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

CONTACT

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👤 Additional references
available upon request

CANDIDATE OVERVIEW

I am on track to graduate with honors in May 2026 with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Arizona State University. With a focus in analytic philosophy, I aim to specialize in metaphysics—particularly the philosophy of time and the philosophy of science. I also maintain a strong interest in the philosophy of mind alongside a minor in Psychology. My research interests include reconciling A-theories of time with relativity, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, grounding, consciousness, quantum ontology, determinism, relativity, and the epistemological implications of Gödelian incompleteness and semantic paradoxes.

EDUCATION

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy | Psychology, Minor

GPA: 3.92 / 4.0

Dean's List

- Fall 2021
- Fall 2022
- Spring 2024
- Fall 2024
- Fall 2025

2021 — Present

*Expected Graduation:
Summa Cum Laude
May 2026*

Barrett, The Honors College

Program for Academically Exceptional ASU students

AVEDA INSTITUTE—TALLAHASSEE

Cosmetology | 1500 hour licensure program

Student of the Month, November 2017

MANHATTAN HIGH SCHOOL

2100 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS, 66502

Diploma | Early Graduate | Honors Distinction

2023 — Present

2018

2015

RESEARCH INTERESTS

PHILOSOPHICAL FOCUS

Analytic Philosophy
Philosophy of Time
Metaphysics, Meta-logic
Ontology, Epistemology, Alethiology
Grounding, Fundamentality, Causation

SECONDARY FOCUS

Philosophy of Science, Physics
Philosophy of Mind
Phenomenology
Philosophy of Religion
Existentialism

ADJACENT INTERESTS

Special & General Relativity
Quantum Mechanics
Gödel's theorems, Russellian set theory
Liar's Paradoxes
Consciousness, Death

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

PHILOSOPHICAL FOCUS

PHI 420: Meta-Metaphysics
PHI 420: Philosophy of Time
PHI 420: Alethiology: Truth vs. the Liar
PHI 338: Metaethics
PHI 333: Symbolic Logic
PHI 332: Metaphysics
PHI 332: Philosophy of Mind
PHI 318: Philosophy of Religion
PHI 329: History of Modern Philosophy
PHI 314: Philosophy of Science
PHI 304: Existentialism

SECONDARY FOCUS,

ADJACENT INTERESTS &

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

ASB 353: Death & Dying: A Cross-Cultural Perspective
PHY 101: Introduction to Physics
PSY 324: Memory & Cognition
PSY 360: Cognitive Science
PSY 315: Personality Theory & Research
HON 370: History of Ideas
HON 380: Aesthetics & Society
HON 394: Success, Purpose, and Happiness

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Barrett, The Honors College | The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Barrett Honors Thesis Project:

Successfully Defended: Nov. 24th, 2025

In the Wake of the Moving-Spotlight: Surfing the Passage of Time with a Wave-Theoretic Hybrid Metaphysics

Committee Director: Dr. David McElhoses | Second Committee Member: Dr. Jeffrey Watson

- My thesis centers on cutting-edge metaphysics in the philosophy of time, analyzing Nikk Effingham and Kristie Miller's wave-theoretic alternatives to MST. I examine whether Miller's cresting wave of causal efficacy is compatible with Effingham's relativized ontic wave of constitution. I argue that while both views improve upon the obscurity of MST's spotlight, they face a battery of other objections which motivates my own wave-theory: the *Manifest-Constitutional Wave*, integrating Miller and Effingham's frameworks while avoiding their respective liabilities.

Barrett Honors Enrichment Contracts:

Philosophy Research Assistant | Project on Fact Ontology

Spring 2025

Research Oversight Director: Dr. David McElhoses

- This project focused on language-dependent factual realism and deflationist factual nominalism. My responsibilities included sifting through recent philosophical literature and compiling works relevant to Dr. McElhoses' research. In this position, I gathered bibliographic information and recorded details to be incorporated as footnotes in the paper.

Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem: Non-Classical Logic for a Fundamental Metaphysics

Fall 2024

Research Oversight Director: Dr David McElhoses

- This project involved delivering a lecture demonstrating how to construct a formal Gödelian proof, illustrating how it leads to the contradiction implied by Gödel's Theorem. I concluded with an analysis of the theorem's epistemological implications within the domains of the philosophy of religion, artificial intelligence, and consciousness studies.

The Escapable Defeat of God's Beliefs: Hendricks & Anderson's EAAN Parity Argument

Fall 2024

Research Oversight Director: Dr Thad Botham

- This project reviewed Anderson & Hendrick's response to Plantinga's Evolutionary Argument Against Naturalism.

Undergraduate Research Experience Scholar (URE):

>>In Progress, Spring 2026

Philosophy Research Assistant | Project on Consciousness and Artificial Intelligence

Research Oversight Director: Dr. Jeffrey Watson

- This project reviews recent literature to understand how the success of LLMs and Generative AI shift debates about the nature of consciousness, including the plausibility of reductionism, functionalism, emergentism, and panpsychism, and considering adjacent topics like the nature of representation and compatibilism about free will. This project entails experience with the pedagogical side of academia, as the output of this research will revise the next iteration of the philosophy of mind course at ASU.

SELECTED TALKS, COMMENTATING, & PUBLICATIONS

MISSISSIPPI ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Annual Meeting of the History and Philosophy of Science Division

>>Future Event
Mar. 2026

- Submission selected for presentation

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Conference in Philosophy

Nov. 2025

- 20-minute presentation on my paper, *Hyperdimensional Neutral Monism & the Proto-Panpsychist Collapse*. I critically analyze Jason Frenkel's account of consciousness as a spatio-temporal protrusion into a proposed 5th "consciousness" dimension. Ultimately, I argue the view's dependency relations entail a form of proto-panpsychism.
- Commentator for "Oral History in Scientific Communities" by Ava Ryan-Young (2025)

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Graduate School Applicants in Philosophy: Writing Sample Workshop

Oct. 2025

- Conducted a 10 minute powerpoint presentation, with 5 minute Q&A on my HNM & Proto-Panpsychism paper.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Normal Noise Magazine | 'In The Grey' Poetry Submission for 'Liminality' Issue

Issue Publication: Fall 2025

ASU Philosophy Club

Ontological Commitments of NHI and Bayseian Analysis of UAP

Feb. 2025

- Guided a discussion of radical ontological speculation through a rigorous philosophical framework

The Epistemology of Gödel and the Problem of Self-Reference

Oct. 2024

The Expanding Block Universe

Sept. 2024

Freewill and Overdetermination

Mar. 2024

Philosophical Implications of Quantum Mechanics

Nov. 2023

- Guided a discussion on the philosophy of quantum mechanics and ontological implications of wave-function realism.

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

GLOBAL INTENSIVE EXPERIENCE | STUDY ABROAD

Barrett in Berlin: History, Politics, and Art
**Companion 3-Credit Course during Spring Semester

>>Future Event
May 17-28th, 2026

MISSISSIPPI ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

History and Philosophy of Science Division | Annual Conference

>>Future Event
Presenter
Mar. 19-20th, 2026

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION

Central Division | Annual Conference
**Travel Funding Awarded through ASU Grant Application

>>Future Event
Feb. 18-21st, 2026

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Conference in Philosophy (UCiP)

Presenter & Commentator
Nov. 9th, 2025

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

Annual Conference
**Travel Funding Awarded through ASU Grant Application

Nov. 6-8th, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Midwest Epistemology Conference
Writing Sample Workshop for Philosophy Graduate Applicants
**Travel Funding Awarded through ASU Grant Application

Presenter
Oct. 10-11th, 2025
Oct. 12th, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS

Metaphysical Indeterminacy | Conference

Jun. 17-18th, 2025

PERIMETER INSTITUTE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Lee's Fest: Quantum Gravity and the Nature of Time | Conference
**Application Required for Conference Attendance Consideration

Jun. 2-6th, 2025

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Dartmouth Online | edX
Question Reality! Science, Philosophy, and the Search for Meaning

Mar. 2025

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Center for Philosophy of Science | Lecture Series
Fundamentality of Physics Without Completeness | Alyssa Ney
Against Optimization | Sven Neth
The 21st Century Mind/Body Problem | Carrie Figdor

Feb. 2025
Feb. 2025
Jan. 2025

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Stanford Online | edX
The Semantics of First-Order Logic
**Certificate of Passing Completion ID:409ff723db2249f4ae3e8527f021915e

Dec. 2024

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

BARRETT GOLD STANDARD AWARD

Barrett, The Honors College | ASU
Recognized for Scholastic Achievement and Community Involvement

2025 Nominee
1st Place Awarded

FELLOWSHIPS

Work-Study Research Fellowship

Fall 2026 Award: \$1,125

Bidstrup Foundation

- Support awarded for pedagogical research into artificial intelligence and philosophy of mind.

Barrett Fellow

'25-'26 Award: \$2,000

Pathways to Honors Education Cohort

- As a Barrett Pathways to Honors Education Fellow, I'm part of a project development cohort that meets regularly to research and discuss ways to make honors education more accessible and equitable.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Research Fellow

Fall 2025 Award: \$1,000

Online Undergraduate Research Scholar (OURS)

- Support awarded for outstanding undergraduate honors thesis research prospectus.

SCHOLARSHIPS OF MERIT

The Philosophy Department, ASU | *Douglas G. Arner Scholarship*

Spring 2026 Award: \$1,500

Global Education Office, ASU | *Go Global Grant*

Spring 2026 Award: \$2,500

Barrett, The Honors College | *Barrett Alumni Opportunity*

Spring 2026 Award: \$2,000

Barrett Summer Course Scholarship

'25-'26 Award: \$2,000

Ted Humphrey Scholarship Endowment

2025 Award: \$500

Honors Project and Travel Funding

Fall 2025 Award: \$1,125

Undergraduate Student Government | *Professional Development Grant*

Spring 2026 Award: \$1,000

Organization for Autism Research | *Schwallye Family Scholarship*

Fall 2025 Award: \$475

'24-'25 Award: \$3,000

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CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Philosophical Association	Oct. 2025
National Collegiate Honors Council	Oct. 2025
Philosophy of Memory Organization	May 2025
Philosophy of Time Society	Mar. 2025
Irish Society for the Philosophy of Time	Mar. 2025
University College Dublin x University of Chicago Philosophy of Physics & Time Reading Group Member	
Society for the Metaphysics of Science	May 2025
International Society for the History and Philosophy of Science	Jun. 2025
American Association for the Advancement of Science	Mar. 2025
Philosophy Club ASU	2023—Present
Significant leadership and presentation contribution in monthly meetings	
The Forge at Barrett Barrett, The Honors College	2023—Present
Academic Society for Advancement in Contemporary Philosophy ASU	2024—Present
The Philosopher's Guild ASU	2024—Present
The Understanding of Philosophy and Psychology ASU	2024—Present
Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena Interest Group Club ASU	Sept. 2025

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

American Alchemy LLC

- Community Moderator and Creative Team Member 2025—Present
- Responsibilities ranging from governance of community discourse according to the ethics and values of the company, to assistance with creative direction and merchandising.

Pineapple Cove Classical Academy

- Head Jr. High Cheerleading Coach and 3rd-5th Grade Asst. Dance Coach 2024—Present
- Responsible for orchestrating a squad of 10 jr. high cheerleaders, and 15 elementary age children. Overseeing all parent communication, developing choreography, creating performance schedules, directing uniform payments and vendor oversight, devising fundraisers and managing athletic budget.

Beauty Industry Professional

- Cosmetologist and Receptionist | Salon Ami 2020—2023
- Scheduling and appointment management of up to 40 employees at 3 bustling locations. Developed marketing strategies for the growth of my personal clientele as a stylist.
- Beauty Industry Educator and Product Sales Expert | Cosmoprof 2019—2020
- Hairstylist | Wanderlust Salon 2018—2019

Service Industry Professional

- Barista Shift Supervisor | Starbucks Coffeehouse Company 2015—2017
- Fine-Dining & Cocktail Waitress | FSU Stadium Box Seats at Osceola Grille Fall-Winter 2016
- Carhop | Sonic Drive-In 2013—2015

PROFESSIONAL ACCOLADES, PHILANTHROPY, & MEDIA APPEARANCES

PHILANTHROPY

- "Night to Shine"* | Tim Tebow Foundation
- 2018 Hair & Makeup Artist at a Prom for Special Needs Children
- Hospice Volunteer* | Hand and Shoulder Masseur
- FSU Student Film Volunteer* | Makeup Artist
- "Catwalk for Water"* | Hair & Makeup Artist
- 2017 Fundraiser Fashion Show for Clean Water Initiatives
- Breast Cancer Research Foundation* | Hairstylist
- 2017 Fundraiser Fashion Show for a Cure

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- BBC Radio* | Crowd Science "Are Near-Death Experiences Real?" November 7th, 2025
- Interviewed by producers about my 2020 Near-Death Experience (NDE), as a first-hand account to corroborate the research of doctors and scientists who work in the field investigating the phenomena.

GaiaTV | "The Consciousness Connection"

- Participated in a documentary film interview about my 2020 Near-Death Experience (NDE)

>>Release: Spring 2026
Filmed Sept. 27-29th 2025

Voyage KC Magazine | "Kansas City's Rising Stars: Meet Kali Killingsworth"

October 9th, 2023

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Coach of The Year | Pineapple Cove Classical Academy

- 2024-2025 Awarded my very first year as a coach.

Beacon Awardee | Professional Beauty Association

- 2018 Recognized as "one of the most promising students in the nation"

Edwin Neil Selected Makeup Artist | Aveda Competition

April Student of the Month | Aveda Institute Tallahassee

Artistic Team Member | Aveda Institute Tallahassee

Employee of the Quarter | Starbucks

- 2016 Nominated by popular vote two quarters in a row