

# Hüseyin Güngör

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## AREAS OF INTEREST

AOS Philosophy of Language (broadly construed) · History of Islamic philosophy  
AOC Applied ethics · Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence

## EDUCATION

2018-2024 (Expected) PH.D. in Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD, USA)  
Dissertation: *Essays on truthmaker semantics*  
Advisors: [Justin Bledin](#) (Primary), [Ben Holguín](#), [Matthew Mandelkern](#), [Stephen Yablo](#)

2018-2020 M.A. in Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)

2015-2017 M.A. in Philosophy, Boğaziçi University (İstanbul, Turkey)

2011-2015 B.A. in Translation Studies, Boğaziçi University (İstanbul, Turkey)

## RESEARCH

### PUBLICATIONS

2023 [Razian prophecy rationalized](#)  
*British Journal for the History of Philosophy*. Online first.

2023 [Counterfactuals, hyperintensionality and Hurford disjunctions](#)  
*Linguistics and Philosophy*. 46(1):169-195.

2022 [That solution to Prior's puzzle](#)  
*Philosophical Studies*. 179(9):2765-2785.

## TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

April 2024	HOW STRONG IS EPISTEMIC MUST? <i>Epistemology workshop organized by Branden Fitelson</i>	Northeastern University
July 2023	FINE-GRAINING MODALITY WITH MODAL STATES <i>Truthmaker Semantics and Related Approaches</i>	New York University Florence
October 2022	[A PAPER ABOUT TRUTHMAKERS AND EPISTEMIC NECESSITY] <i>Introduction to Truthmaker Semantics (Kit Fine)</i>	New York University
September 2022	COUNTERFACTUALS, HYPERINTENSIONALITY AND HURFORD DISJUNCTIONS <i>Prometheus Undergraduate Society</i>	Johns Hopkins University
May 2021	COUNTERFACTUALS, HYPERINTENSIONALITY AND HURFORD DISJUNCTIONS <i>SemanticsBabble colloquium</i>	University of California, San Diego
May 2021	COUNTERFACTUALS, HYPERINTENSIONALITY AND HURFORD DISJUNCTIONS <i>Philosophy of Language Seminar (Matt Mandelkern)</i>	New York University
March 2021	COUNTERFACTUALS, HYPERINTENSIONALITY AND HURFORD DISJUNCTIONS <i>Semantics Research Seminar (Yasu Sudo, Paul Marty, Jacopo Romoli)</i>	University College London
July 2019	TRUTHMAKER SEMANTICS FOR INDICATIVE CONDITIONALS <i>Truthmaker Semantics: Applications in Philosophy and Linguistics</i>	Hamburg University

## TEACHING

### PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

Summer 2024	<i>Philosophical issues in Artificial Intelligence</i> at JHU	
Fall 2023	<i>An Iconoclast in Islamic Philosophy: Abu Bakr al-Razi</i> at JHU	<a href="#">Ratings</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>

### ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR AT JHU

Spring 2023	<i>Ethics of Making Babies</i> for Prof. Travis Rieder	<a href="#">Ratings</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>
Fall 2022	<i>Life and Death</i> for Prof. Ben Holguín	<a href="#">Ratings 1/2</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>
Spring 2022	<i>Philosophy of Gender</i> for Prof. Elanor Taylor	<a href="#">Ratings</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>
Fall 2021	<i>Ethics and Animals</i> for Prof. Hilary Bok	<a href="#">Ratings</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>
Spring 2021	<i>Philosophical Problems</i> for Prof. Steven Gross	<a href="#">Ratings 1/2</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>
Fall 2020	<i>Formal Methods of Philosophy</i> for Prof. Robert Rynasiewicz	<a href="#">Ratings</a>   <a href="#">Student comments</a>

### GUEST LECTURES

February 2024	Razian prophecy rationalized for <i>Intro. to Islamic Philosophy</i> at JHU	<a href="#">Slides</a>
April 2023	Ectogenesis for <i>Ethics of Making Babies</i> at JHU	<a href="#">Slides</a>
March 2023	Designer babies for <i>Ethics of Making Babies</i> at JHU	<a href="#">Slides</a>
March 2022	Haslanger's "Race and Gender" for <i>Philosophy of Gender</i> at JHU	<a href="#">Slides</a>
May 2017	Descriptivism in <i>Naming and Necessity</i> at Boğaziçi University	<a href="#">Handout</a>

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

### SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer	<i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> (×2) · <i>Erkenntnis</i> · <i>Inquiry</i> · <i>Journal of Philosophical Logic</i> (×2) · <i>Topoi</i>
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### SERVICE AT JHU

2021-2022	JHU Department Colloquium Organizer
2020-2021	JHU Graduate Student Recruitment Committee

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Spring 2024	Sachs Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University
Summer 2023	Research grant in Islamic studies, Johns Hopkins University
2023	<a href="#">Miller Prize</a> (for <a href="#">Counterfactuals and hyperintensionality</a> ), Johns Hopkins University
Fall 2023	Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University
2022	<a href="#">Miller Prize</a> (for <a href="#">That solution to Prior's puzzle</a> ), Johns Hopkins University
Summer 2019	Conference grant for truthmaker semantics, Hamburg University
2018-2020	Philosophy Department Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University
2016-2017	Vehbi Koç Foundation Scholarship, Boğaziçi University
2010-2015	Mehmet Zorlu Foundation Scholarship, Boğaziçi University

## REFERENCES

**Justin Bledin**

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Johns Hopkins University  
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**Ben Holguín**

Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
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**Stephen Yablo**

David W. Skinner Professor of Philosophy  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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**Hanna Pickard** (Teaching)

Bloomberg Professor of Philosophy and Bioethics  
Johns Hopkins University  
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**Matthew Mandelkern**

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**Kit Fine**

Silver Professor of Philosophy and Mathematics  
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**Peter Adamson**

Professor of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy  
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## RESEARCH SUMMARY

I have three main lines of research at the moment. The first concerns the exploration of a novel framework to understanding natural languages. I have been pursuing a truthmaker approach to conditionals and modals in the style of Kit Fine's truthmaker framework. This work has culminated in several papers. In "Counterfactuals, hyperintensionality and Hurford disjunctions" (published in *Linguistics and Philosophy*) I have displayed certain patterns of judgments about counterfactuals cannot be accommodated in the influential possible worlds approach mainly developed by David Lewis and Robert Stalnaker, while these judgments can easily be accommodated in the truthmaker framework. Similarly, various patterns in epistemic and deontic modals also undermine a possible worlds approach to modality. I have demonstrated this and further provided a novel approach to reasoning about modality in my [a paper about epistemic must] and [a paper about truthmakers and modality]. My work merely scratched the surface of the issues awaiting to be illuminated by a truthmaker approach. I aim to pursue this research further.

My second area of research focuses the nature of what is called *propositional attitudes*, though I have argued in "That solution to Prior's puzzle" (published in *Philosophical Studies*) that is really a bad name for it. There I argue that the way the contents of the attitudes vary relative to the attitude in question makes it very hard to assume that such attitudes are really attitudes towards *propositions*. Attitudes and their reports are very flexible and give rise to many issues whose understanding is crucial to understanding our cognitive architecture. I aim to work further on attitudes both from a philosophy of language and from a philosophy of mind perspective.

I am also working on early Islamic philosophy, which mainly concerns the era between 9th to 10th century. Having been brought up as a Muslim, I always wondered about, but never had an opportunity to inquire into the intellectual underpinnings of Islam. The philosophy of early Islamic era hosts a great deal of engagement with some of these pervasive issues in philosophy of religion such as problem of evil under the assumption of a benevolent god or relation between the fairness of god and a chosen prophet. At the moment I focus on a 10th century figure, Abū Bakr al-Rāzī, who provided very original solutions to the issues mentioned. I have recently published a paper on Razi and prophecy in *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* and currently writing a paper on Razi and epistemology. I taught an upper-level undergraduate seminar surveying al-Rāzī's thought in Fall 2023 at Johns Hopkins University along with a wealth of secondary literature. I plan to continue my research on Islamic philosophy in the future.