Will Fleisher

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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Department of Philosophy
215 New North
Georgetown University
3700 O St. NW
Washington DC 20057

Employment

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Dept. of Philosophy   Aug. 2022 – Present
Research Assistant Professor, Center for Digital Ethics
Georgetown University

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Khoury College of Computer Sciences   Jul. 2020 – Jun. 2022
Northeastern University

McDonnell Postdoctoral Fellow, Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology Program   Sep. 2018 – Jun. 2020
Washington University in St. Louis

Education

PhD   Rutgers University, Philosophy   Oct. 2018
Dissertation: *Endorsement and Inquiry*. Supervised by Ernest Sosa (chair),
Branden Fitelson (chair), Susanna Schellenberg, Andy Egan, Adam Elga

MA   Virginia Tech, Philosophy   May 2011

BA   Miami University, Philosophy and History   May 2006

Research Areas

Areas of Specialization Epistemology, Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

Areas of Competence Ethics, General Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language

Publications (Peer-Reviewed)

1. Fleisher, W. (forth.). "Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons," *Philosophical Studies*.
2. Fleisher, W. & Šešelja, D. (2023). "Responsibility for Collective Epistemic Harms," *Philosophy of Science,* 90(1): 1–20.
3. Fleisher, W. (2023). "Fragmentation and Old Evidence," *Episteme*, 20 (3): 542–567.
4. Fleisher, W. (2022). "Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI," *Episteme,* 19 (4): 534–560.
5. Fleisher, W. (2022). "Pursuit and Inquisitive Reasons," *Studies in Hist. and Phil. of Science, Pt. A* 94: 17–30.
6. Fleisher, W. (2021). "What's Fair about Individual Fairness?" *Proceedings of the AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society* (*AIES '21*), 480–490.
7. Liu, D., Fleisher, W., Shafi, Z., Eliassi-Rad, T., & Alfeld, S. (2021). "RAWLSNET: Altering Bayesian Networks to Encode Rawlsian Fair Equality of Opportunity," *Proceedings of the AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES '21)*, 745–755.
8. Fleisher, W. (2021). "Endorsement and Assertion," *Noûs* 55(2): 363–384.
9. Fleisher, W. (2021). "How to Endorse Conciliationism," *Synthese* 198(10): 9912–9939.
10. Fleisher, W. (2020). "Publishing without (some) belief," *Thought*, 9(4): 237–246.
11. Fleisher, W. (2019). "Method Coherence and Epistemic Circularity," *Erkenntnis*, 84 (2): 455–480.
12. Fleisher, W. (2018). "Rational Endorsement," *Philosophical Studies*, 175(10): 2649–2675.
13. Fleisher, W. (2017). "Virtuous Distinctions," *Synthese*, 194 (8): 2973–3003.

Conference Presentations (Peer-Reviewed)

"Evidence of Fairness: On the uses and limitations of statistical fairness criteria,"   Apr. 2023
     Symposium, Pacific APA

"Resisting Algorithmic Homogenization" (with Sina Fazelpour)   Jan. 2023
     Philosophy, AI, and Society Workshop, Stanford University

"Understanding, Idealization, and the Disagreement Problem for XAI"   Nov. 2022
     Symposium, Philosophy of Science Association Conference

"Evidence of Fairness: On the uses and limitations of statistical fairness criteria,"   Mar. 2022
     AAAI 2022 Spring Symposium: Approaches to Ethical Computing Metrics for
     Measuring AI's Proficiency and Competency for Ethical Reasoning.

"Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons"   Feb. 2022
     Symposium, Central APA

"Inquisitive Reasons and Intellectual Courage"   Apr. 2020
     Social (distance) Epistemology talk series (remote)

"How to Endorse Conciliationism"   Apr. 2019
     Colloquium, Pacific APA

"Rational Endorsement"   Aug. 2017
     Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference

"Rational Endorsement"   Jul. 2016
     Decisions, Games, and Logic Conference, University of Michigan

"Rational Endorsement"   Jul. 2016
     Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Workshop

"Virtuous Distinctions"   Nov. 2014
     Northern Graduate Philosophy Conference, NIU

"Virtuous Distinctions"   Nov. 2014
     Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, Oxford University

"Epistemic Circularity and Mechanism Coherence"   Nov. 2011
     Edinburgh Epistemology Conference, University of Edinburgh

Invited Presentations

"Understanding, Explainability, and Legitimacy"   Jul. 2023
     Northeastern University, IDEAS Program

"Explainable AI, Disagreement, and Idealization"   Jul. 2023
     Northeastern University, IDEAS Program and AIDE Program

"Epistemic Practices: A unified account of epistemic and zetetic normativity"   Jul. 2023
     UNED, Madrid, Inquiry and its Norms Workshop

"Explainable AI, Disagreement, and Idealization"   Apr. 2023
     University of Maryland, College Park

"Explainable AI, Disagreement, and Idealization"   Apr. 2023
     University of Rochester, Central NY Humanities Corridor Talk series

"Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI"   Mar. 2023
     Georgetown University, Computer Science Department

"Responsible Fact-Checking in Science" (with Dunja Šešelja and Dan Friedman)   Dec. 2022
     Inquiry Network WIP Series (remote)

"Understanding, Explainability, and Accountability,"   Nov. 2022
     Sonoma State University Center for Ethics, Law, and Society Lecture Series

"Responsible Fact-Checking in Science" (with Dunja Šešelja and Dan Friedman)   Sep. 2022
     Symposium talk, German Society for Analytic Philosophy Conference

"Responsibility for Collective Epistemic Harms" (with Dunja Šešelja)   Sep. 2022
     Symposium talk, German Society for Analytic Philosophy Conference

"Evidence of Fairness"	Jun. 2022
Milan Workshop on Fairness and ML in Health	
"Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI"	Jun. 2022
European Workshop on Algorithmic Fairness (Lightning talk)	
"Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons"	Mar. 2022
Philosophy with Attitude Conference, New Mexico State University	
"Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI"	Nov. 2021
University of Eindhoven (virtual)	
"Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons"	Nov. 2021
Northeastern Epistemology Workshop, Northeastern University	
"Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI"	Aug. 2021
Episteme Conference, Negril, Jamaica	
"Pursuit and Inquisitive Reasons"	Apr. 2021
Colloquium (remote), University of Missouri, St. Louis	
"Pursuit and Inquisitive Reasons"	Mar. 2021
Keynote Talk, Pursuit 2021 Workshop (remote)	
"Inquisitive Reasons and Intellectual Courage"	Apr. 2020
St. Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association (remote)	
"Collective Epistemic Responsibility" (with Dunja Šešelja)	Mar. 2020
Nature of Inquiry Conference, Agnes Scott College	

Teaching Experience

Courses as Instructor

Ethics of Technology

Phil 8117: Epistemology of AI and the Internet (grad seminar)	Fa. 2023
Georgetown University	
Phil 117: Introduction to Tech, Ethics, and Society	Fa. 2022 & Spr. 2023
Georgetown University	

Epistemology and Philosophy of Mind:

Phil 6100: LEMMS graduate proseminar (2/3 of a semester)	Fa. 2023
Georgetown University	
PNP/Phil. 315: Philosophy of Mind	Fall 2019
Washington University in St. Louis	
PNP/Phil. 496: PNP Seminar: Representation	Spring 2019
Washington University in St. Louis	
PNP 200: Introduction to Cognitive Science	Fall 2018
Washington University in St. Louis	
Phil. 221: Theory of Knowledge	Spring 2017
Rutgers University	

Language, Logic, and Critical Thinking:

PNP/Phil. 4061: Topics in Philosophy of Language: Assertion	Fall 2019
Washington University in St. Louis	
Phil. 109: Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making	Summer 2018
Rutgers University, Online	
Phil. 109: Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making	Fall 2017
Rutgers University	
Phil. 109: Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making	Fall 2016
Rutgers University	
Phil. 201: Introduction to Logic	Summer 2012
Rutgers University	

| Phil. 1504: Language and Logic | Summer 2011 |
| Virginia Tech | |

Courses as TA

Ethics Courses:

| Phil. 252: Eating Right: The Ethics of Food | Fall 2013 |
| Rutgers University, Head Teaching Assistant for Andy Egan | |

Phil. 252: Eating Right: The Ethics of Food	Fall 2011
Rutgers University, Instructor: Andy Egan	
Phil. 1304: Morality and Justice	Spring 2010
Virginia Tech, Instructor: Steven Daskal	
Phil. 1304: Morality and Justice	Fall 2009
Virginia Tech, Instructor: William FitzPatrick	

Logic, Cognitive Science, and History:

Phil. 253: Human Nature and Human Diversity	Spring 2018
Rutgers University, Instructor: Stephen Stich	
Phil. 201: Introduction to Logic	Spring 2012
Rutgers University, Instructor: Frances Egan	
Phil. 1504: Language and Logic	Spring 2011
Virginia Tech, Instructor: Daniel Parker	
Phil. 2115: Ancient Philosophy	Fall 2010
Virginia Tech, Instructor: James Klagge	

Mentoring Experience

APA Mentoring the Mentors Workshop	2017
Panel Speaker, Central APA	
Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy	2014–2016, 2018
Graduate Mentor	
Rutgers Philosophy Undergraduate Mentoring Program	2013–2016
Graduate Mentor	

Professional Service

Conferences Organized

Penn-Georgetown Digital Ethics Workshop	2023
Organized with Brian Berkey	
Bayesianism and its Rivals	2022
Organized with Branden Fitelson, Ned Hall, and David Thorstad	
Bridges II: Conference on Logic and Epistemology	2015
Organized with Branden Fitelson	
Princeton-Rutgers Graduate Philosophy Conference	2014
Organizing Committee, Referee	
Virginia Tech Graduate Philosophy Conference	2010
Organizing Committee, Referee	
Virginia Tech Graduate Philosophy Conference	2009
Organizing Committee, Referee	

Referee for:

- *Mind*

- *Noûs*
- *Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
- *Philosophical Studies*
- *Analysis*
- *Synthese*
- *Episteme*
- *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*
- *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Ergo*
- *Dialectica*
- *Ratio*
- *Cambridge University Press*
- *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*
- *Philosophia*

Departmental Service

Assistant Placement Director	2023–2024
Georgetown University	
Merit Committee	2022–2024
Georgetown University	
Graduate Representative to the Faculty	2012–2015
Rutgers University	
Prospective Student Liaison and Prospective Week Organizer	2014
Rutgers University	
President	2009–2011
Virginia Tech Graduate Philosophy Society	
Investigative and Judicial Panelist	2009–2011
Virginia Tech Honor System	

Other Experience

Graduate Assistant to Ernest Sosa	2014–2015
Proofreader	
Research and Editorial Assistant	2015–2016
For *Food Ethics and Society*, Barnhill, Budolfson, and Doggett (Oxford University Press, 2017)	