

Quentin Ruyant

Postdoctoral Researcher in Philosophy of Science
Universidade de Sevilla.

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Area of specialisation: Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Physics.

Area of competence: Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Theory of Argumentation, Logic.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

From 2025 Researcher (Ramón y Cajal),
Universidad de Sevilla.

2024 – 2025 Postdoctoral Researcher (FCT),
LanCog group, Universidade de Lisboa.

2021 – 2023 Postdoctoral Researcher (Marie Skłodowska-Curie),
Universidad Complutense de Madrid (supervisor: Mauricio Suárez)

2019 – 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher (UNAM),
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (supervisor: Elias Okon)

2017 – 2019 Lecturer, UCLouvain

2013 – 2016 Lecturer, Université de Rennes 1

2002 – 2012 Software Engineer, Cap Gemini (Rennes), Alten (Lannion), Netevent (Paris), Must National (Bangkok)

EDUCATION

2013 – 2017 Ph.D. in Philosophy, Université de Rennes 1 / UCLouvain
“L’empirisme modal”, defended on 29th September 2017. Jury:

- Pierre Joray (Advisor, Professor, Université de Rennes 1)
- Alexandre Guay (Co-advisor, Professor, UCLouvain)
- Anouk Barberousse (Professor, Université Paris-Sorbonne)
- Otávio Bueno (Professor, University of Miami)
- Filipe Drapeau-Vieira-Contim (Lecturer, Université de Rennes 1)
- Peter Verdée (Lecturer, UCLouvain)

2012 – 2013 Master 2 Philosophie des normes, Université de Rennes 1.
Rank: 2nd. Master’s thesis on structural realism (18/20).

1996 – 2002 Engineering School, Institut Supérieur d’Électronique du Nord (ISEN).
Includes two-year preparatory classes for higher education in science.
Specialisation units: molecular electronics, astrophysics, artificial intelligence, advanced algorithmics, image processing, infographics.

VISITORSHIPS, RESEARCH GROUPS AND EXTRA-TRAINING

2025–today Member of research group “The philosophy of Statistical Modelling”, PID2024-159749NB-I00 (Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación, España) Principal investigator: Mauricio Suárez.

Member of research group “Lógica del razonamiento médico”, PID2024-157876NA-I00 (Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación, España) Principal investigator: Elena Popa.

2024 Invited Researcher at Universidad Complutense de Madrid (6 months)
Collaboration with Mauricio Suárez on epistemology of probabilities

2022–2024 Member of research group “The philosophy of Statistical Modelling”, PID2021-126416NB-I00 (Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación, España) Principal investigator: Mauricio Suárez.

2023 Invited Researcher at CEFISES, UCLouvain (1 week)
Collaboration with Peter Verdée on possible situation semantics

2017–today Associated member of CEFISES, UCLouvain

2017 Invited Researcher at Descartes Centre, Utrecht University (3 months)
Research on relational and perspectival interpretations of quantum mechanics, in interaction with Denis Dieks, Guido Bacciagaluppi and Fred Muller.

2013 Summer school SoPhA: “Methodes et fondements des sciences”

PUBLICATIONS

Book

- Ruyant, Q. (2021). *Modal Empiricism: Interpreting Science Without Scientific Realism*. Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-72349-1> (8 citations¹)

Book Chapter

- Ruyant, Q. (2025). Language and Representation in Science. In *Reference Module in Social Sciences* (p. B9780323955041012199). Elsevier. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-95504-1.01219-9>
- Ruyant, Q. (forthcoming). Idealisations and the No-Miracle Argument. In M. del R. Martínez-Ordaz & O. Bueno (Eds.), *From Contradiction to Defectiveness to Pluralism in Science: Philosophical and Formal Analyses*. (1 citation)

¹Excluding self-citations. Source: scholars.google.com

Published Peer-Reviewed Research Articles

- Ruyant, Q. (2026). What do large language models represent? *Synthese*, 207(1), 17. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-025-05416-6>
- Ruyant, Q. (2025). Extraire nos engagements ontologiques de la pratique expérimentale. *Revue de Métaphysique Et de Morale*, N° 252(2), 203–221. <https://doi.org/10.3917/rmm.252.0203>
- Ruyant, Q. (2025). Extracting Ontological Commitments from Experimental Practice. *Revue de Métaphysique Et de Morale*, N° 125(2), 203–221. <https://doi.org/10.3917/e.rmm.252.0203>
- Ruyant, Q. (2025). Perspectivism, Concrete and Abstract. *Foundations of Physics*, 55(4), 65. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10701-025-00878-7>
- Ruyant, Q., & Suárez, M. (2025). Probabilistic empiricism. *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, 15(2), 23. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-025-00653-5>
- Ruyant, Q. (2025). Indexicality, Bayesian background and self-location in fine-tuning arguments for the multiverse. *Noûs*, 59(1), 140–159. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nous.12502>
- Ruyant, Q. (2025). Two senses of representation in science. *THEORIA. An International Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science*, 39(3), 353–371. <https://doi.org/10.1387/theoria.26040>
- Ruyant, Q., & Guay, A. (2024). Lagrangian possibilities. *Synthese*, 203(4), 125. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-024-04550-x> (1 citation)
- Ruyant, Q. (2023). Les valeurs dans la représentation scientifique. *Lato Sensu*, 10, 24–38. <https://doi.org/10.20416/LSRSPS.V10I1.3>
- Ruyant, Q. (2023). Consistent histories through pragmatist lenses. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 98, 40–48. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2023.01.001> (1 citation)
- Ruyant, Q. (2022). On the Relationship Between Modelling Practices and Interpretive Stances in Quantum Mechanics. *Foundations of Science*, 27(2), 387–405. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10699-020-09774-x>
- Ruyant, Q. (2021). True Griceanism: Filling the Gaps in Callender and Cohen’s Account of Scientific Representation. *Philosophy of Science*, 88(3), 533–553. <https://doi.org/10.1086/712882> (8 citations)
- Ruyant, Q. (2021). Symmetries, Indexicality and the Perspectivist Stance. *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*, 34(1), 21–39. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02698595.2021.2001723> (1 citation)
- Ruyant, Q. (2021). Semantic realism in the semantic conception of theories. *Synthese*, 198(8), 7965–7983. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-020-02557-8> (6 citations)
- Ruyant, Q. (2020). The Inductive Route Towards Necessity. *Acta Analytica*, 35(2), 147–163. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12136-019-00402-3> (3 citations)
- Ruyant, Q. (2020). Perspectival Realism and Norms of Scientific Representation. *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, 10(2), 20. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-020-00285-x> (5 citations)

- Ruyant, Q. (2019). Structural Realism or Modal Empiricism? *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 70(4), 1051–1072. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axy025> (5 citations)
- Ruyant, Q. (2018). Can We Make Sense of Relational Quantum Mechanics? *Foundations of Physics*, 48(4), 440–455. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10701-018-0156-1> (21 citations)
- Ruyant, Q. (2016). Le réalisme structural face au problème de la mesure. *Lato Sensu, Revue de La Société de Philosophie Des Sciences*, 3(1), 43–51. <https://doi.org/10.20416/lrsrps.v3i1.233> (1 citation)
- Ruyant, Q. (2011). The Subjective Interpretation of Quantum Physics. *Neuroquantology*, 9(4), 621–635. (2 citations)

Book Reviews

- Ruyant, Q. (2021). A big picture perspective on the philosophy of chemistry: Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent and Richard-Emmanuel Eastes (Eds.): *Philosophie de la chimie*. Deboeck supérieur, 2020, 368 pp, 39€. *Metascience*, 30(2), 293–296. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11016-021-00636-1>
- Ruyant, Q. (2018). Compte rendu de L’observation scientifique, aspects philosophiques et pratiques de Vincent Israel-Jost. *Lato Sensu: Revue de La Société de Philosophie Des Sciences*, 5(2), 41–43. <https://doi.org/10.20416/LSRSPS.V5I2.6>

Articles Under Review

- “What’s Wrong With the Semantic Conception of Scientific Theories?”

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Conferences and Workshops

- 2025** Structures in Science: Ontology, Epistemology, and Representation
UNAM (June)
“Moving Past the Semantic Conception of Theories”
- 2024** Metaphysical Perspectives on Contemporary Physics
Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal (October)
“Perspectivism, Concrete and Abstract”
- 2023** The Necessity of Metaphysics
Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain (October)
“What Could a Pragmatist Metaphysics Be?”
- 2022** Workshop: Modalities in Scientific Representation
Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain (May)
“Possible Situation Semantics for Scientific Theories”

- 2022** VIII International Workshop on Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Information
Online / Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil (April)
“Modal Empiricism and Quantum Mechanics”
- 2020** Segundo Coloquio Ciencia, Filosofía y Sociedad
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico (November)
“Pluralismo epistémico y realismo semantico”
- 2019** Annual Philosophy of Science Conference
Inter-university Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia (April)
“An inductivist response to the no-miracle argument”

Peer-reviewed Conferences and Workshops

- 2025** XI SEFA Conference,
Universidad de Sevilla, Spain (October)
“Probabilistic Empiricism”, symposium “Clues to Causality”
- 2025** The 10th biennial meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association
Groningen, Netherland (August)
“What do Large Language Models Represent?”
- 2024** XI Congreso de la SLMFCE,
Universidad de Oviedo, Spain (July)
“A Probabilistic Extension to Modal Empiricism”, with Mauricio Suárez
- 2023** International Ontology Congress
San Sebastián, Spain (October)
“Consistent Histories Through Pragmatic Lenses”
- 2023** The 9th biennial meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association
Belgrade, Serbia (September)
“Situated Possibilities”, symposium “Modalities in Scientific Representation”
- 2023** Conference: Inductive Metaphysics: Insights, Challenges and Prospects
HHU Düsseldorf, Germany (August)
“Possible Situations and Induction Towards Necessity”
- 2023** Conference: The Value of Scientific Representation
NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal (June)
“Values and Levels of Abstraction in Scientific Representation”
- 2023** Conference: Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible (I)X
Slovak Metaphysical Society, Bratislava, Slovakia (June)
“Induction Towards Necessity”
- 2023** 4th Workshop of the OLOFOS group: From Science to Metaphysics?
UCLouvain, Belgium (May)
“What Kind of Existence does Entity Realism Commits Us to?”
- 2022** Congrès triennal de la SoPhA: Les valeurs du savoir
Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland (July)
“Une sémantique des situations possibles pour les théories scientifiques”
- 2021** Congrès de la SPS: Sciences et scientificité

- Université de Mons, Belgium (September)
 “Two Senses of Representation”
- 2021** Zoom Conference: Realisation and Composition Across the Sciences
 Online / University of Bristol, United Kingdom (June)
 “What Kind of Explanations are Reductive Explanations?”
- 2020** Terceras Jornadas Posdoctorales
 Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico (February)
 “El papel de las modalidades en la representación científica”
- 2019** Conference: Quantum Mechanics: Paradigm or Ontology of Nature?
 Stony Brook University, United States of America (September)
 “On the Relationship between Stances and Formulations in Quantum Mechanics”
- 2019** Conference: Understanding Defectiveness in Science
 Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico (June)
 “Idealisations and the no-miracle argument”
- 2018** Congrès triennal de la SoPhA: Le continu et le discret
 UCLouvain, Belgium (July)
 “Against semantic realism: the pragmatics of scientific theories”
- 2017** Conference: Direct empirical status and the ontology of symmetries in physics
 UCLouvain, Belgium (July)
 “Symmetries and indexicals”
- 2016** Congrès de la SPS: Le changement dans les sciences
 Lausanne, Switzerland (June)
 “L’empirisme modal”
- 2015** 4ème rencontres doctorales internationales en philosophie des sciences
 Université de Lorraine, France (October)
 “Le contenu empirique d’une théorie est-il modal ?”
- 2015** Congrès triennal de la SoPhA: La philosophie analytique au 21ème siècle
 UQAM et Université de Montréal, Canada (June)
 “Pourquoi nous n’avons pas besoin d’ontologie primitive”
- 2014** Congrès de la SPS: Métaphysique des sciences
 Universités de Lille 1 et Lille 3, France (June)
 “Le réalisme structural face au problème de la mesure”
- 2013** Workshop: Philosophie des sciences
 Université de Rennes 1, France (May)
 “Réalisme structural et modalités”

Seminar Presentations

- 2025** Seminar: “Work in Progress”, Universidade de Lisboa (May)
 “Moving Past the Semantic Conception of Theories”
- 2024** Seminar: “Metametaphysics and the sciences”, UCLouvain (June)
 “Probabilistic Empiricism”
- 2024** Seminar Series in Analytic Philosophy, Universidade de Lisboa (May)

- “Aboutness and Scientific Modelling”
- 2022** Seminar “Epistémologie des Sciences du Langage”, CNRS/Paris Nanterre (October)
“Modèles contre théories, entre pluralisme et unité de la science”
- 2022** Seminar: “Taller Complutense de Filosofía Analítica”, UCM (April)
“A Possible Situation Semantics for Scientific Theories”
- 2021** Seminar: “Work in progress”, UCLouvain (April)
“On the Relation Between Stances and Modelling Practices in Quantum Mechanics”
- 2020** Seminario de investigadores, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (February)
“True Griceanism about Scientific Representation”
- 2020** Seminar: “Work in progress”, UCLouvain (January)
“True Griceanism about Scientific Representation”
- 2019** Seminario de investigadores, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (May)
“Three levels of modalities in scientific representation”
- 2018** Seminar: “Work in progress”, UCLouvain (September)
“An inductive response to the no-miracle argument”
- 2018** Seminar: “Work in progress”, UCLouvain (April)
“Theories as languages”
- 2016** Séminaire des doctorants, Université de Saint-Louis (October)
“L’induction sur les modèles d’une théorie comme inférence vers la nécessité”
- 2016** Seminar: “Work in progress”, UCLouvain (October)
“L’induction sur les modèles d’une théorie comme inférence vers la nécessité”
- 2016** Seminar: “Work in progress”, UCLouvain (March)
“Les modalités naturelles sont-elles sous-déterminées par l’expérience ?”
- 2015** Lagon seminar, Université de Rennes 1 (September)
“Qu’est-ce qu’interpréter une théorie scientifique ?”
- 2015** Lagon seminar, Université de Rennes 1 (March)
“Peut-on être réaliste et empiriste ?”
- 2014** Lagon seminar, Université de Rennes 1 (October)
“La mécanique quantique, un défi pour la métaphysique ?”

PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES

- 2023** FCT Individual Call to Scientific Employment Stimulus (Assistant Researcher)
ranked 1/29, note: 10/10
Project: “A Possible Situations Semantics for Scientific Theories”
- 2019, 2020** Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Seal of Excellence
Project: “The Roles of Modalities in Scientific Representation”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Universidad de Sevilla

- Philosophy of Mind (2025, Spanish) Undergraduate philosophy and law students (60h, ~40 students)
- Theory of Argumentation (2025, Spanish) Undergraduate philosophy students (40h, ~80 students)

Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM)

- *Scientific Realism* (2022, Spanish)
Undergraduate philosophy students (52h, ~20 students)

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

- *Explanations in Science* (2020, online, Spanish)
Graduate philosophy of science students (48h, ~5 students)
- *Scientific Representation* (2019, English)
Graduate philosophy of science students (48h, ~5 students).

UCLouvain

- *Introduction to Philosophy* (2018 – 2019, French)
Undergraduate science students (30h, ~200 students)
- *Co-organiser of a Humanities Seminar* (2018 – 2019, French)
Undergraduate medicine students (30h, ~200 students).
- *History of Analytic Philosophy* (2017 – 2018, French)
Undergraduate philosophy students (30h, ~10 students).

Académie de Lille

- *Structural realism: between realism and empiricism* (April 2018, French)
Training session for secondary-school philosophy teachers (3h)

Université de Rennes 1

- *Scientific Realism and Empiricism* (2013 – 2016, French)
Undergraduate philosophy students (26hx2 years, ~30 students)
- *The Metaphysics of Science* (2013 – 2016, French)
Undergraduate students (26hx2 years, ~30 students).
- *Tutorial Classes in Predicate Logic* (2013 – 2016, French)
Undergraduate students (26hx2 years, ~30 students).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Student Supervision

- Supervisor of undergraduate thesis (UNAM).
- Member of doctoral thesis committee (UNAM).

Referee

- Article evaluation for: British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Science, Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, European Journal for Philosophy of Science, Erkenntnis, Synthese, Theoria, Journal for General Philosophy of Science, Foundations of Physics, Foundations of Science, Analytic Philosophy, Acta Analytica, Res Philosophica, Critica, Ratio, Entropy, Philosophies, Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce (Philosophical Problems in Science), Filozofia Nauki (the philosophy of science), Universe, Asian Journal of Philosophy, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, Lato Sensus, l'Encyclopédie philosophique, Implications philosophiques, Organon F, SPS Prix JCJC
- Project evaluation for: Narodowe Centrum Nauki (Polish national science center).

Conference and Seminar Organisation

- Launching and Organisation of “Work in Progress” Seminar, LanCog group, University of Lisbon (2025)
- Visit of Richard Healey for 2 seminars in collaboration with Physics Faculty, UCM (2023)
- Hybrid Symposium “Modalities in Representation”. Michela Massimi, Tarja Knuuttila and Andrea Loettgers, Mauricio Suárez, Quentin Ruyant. EPSA Congress (2023)
- Hybrid Workshop “Modalities and Representation”. Timothy Williamson, Roman Frigg, Mauricio Suárez, Tarja Knuuttila and Andrea Loettgers, Ylwa Sjöling, Jaakko Kuorikoski, Quentin Ruyant. UCM (2022)
- Lagon, monthly seminar at Université de Rennes 1 (2014 – 2015)

Scientific Edition

- IT Assistant for Philosophy Journal Lato Sensus (2016 – 2017)

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Since 2014 Popularization and Research Blogs

<http://philosophiedessciences.blogspot.com>

<http://modalempiricism.blogspot.com>

<http://modalitiesrepresentation.blogspot.com>

<http://pragmatictheories.blogspot.com>

2027 (planned) Philosophical dictionary entries

(“Expérimentation et observation”, “Inégalités de Bell”, “Lois de la nature”, “Modèle scientifique”, “Mécanique quantique”, “Réalisme scientifique”, “Sous-détermination de la théorie par l’expérience”)

2025 “De la neutralité scientifique en terrain risqué”, *Science et pseudosciences* 351

2024 “The multiverse is metaphysics, not science”, *Institute of Art and Ideas* (web magazine)

<https://iai.tv/articles/the-multiverse-is-metaphysics-not-science-auid-2988>

2022 “Les multiples nuances du courant réaliste”, *La recherche* 571 (magazine)

2014, 2016, 2020 Invited speaker on the podcast “scepticisme scientifique”

2016 Online encyclopedia entry: “Le réalisme structural”, *L’encyclopédie philosophique*

<http://www.encyclo-philos.fr/realisme-structural-a/> (academic entry)

<http://www.encyclo-philos.fr/realisme-structural-gp/> (wider audience entry)

2016 “Le réalisme scientifique à l’épreuve de la mécanique quantique”,

Les yeux brouillés 1 (magazine)

2016 Brussels Skeptics in the Pub (general audience conference), Brussels (October)

“La philosophie est-elle utile ?”

OTHER SKILLS

Languages

- French: Mother tongue
- English: Fluent, TOEIC, Cambridge English: Advanced Certificate (CAE)
- Spanish: Fluent (home tongue), intensive courses at UNAM and UCM. SIELE Certificate.
- Notions of Portuguese, Dutch, German and Thai.

I.T. Skills

- Programming (Latex, Java, C, Flex, PHP, Web/JavaScript, C, etc.)
- Graphic design / logo design (Illustrator, Photoshop)