

Brief Curriculum Vitae

Bryan R. S. Frances

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Primary Employment

United Arab Emirates University, the UAE (2021-2023)

University of Tartu, Estonia (2018-2020)

Lingnan University, Hong Kong (2016-2017)

Fordham University, New York (2005-2015)

University of Leeds, England (2000-2005)

Education

PhD in Philosophy, University of Minnesota (1999)

MA in Philosophy, University of Minnesota (1993)

MA in Theoretical Physics, University of Southern California (1990)

BS in Engineering Physics, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana (1987)

Major Research Grant

I was awarded a €512,660 grant to head a research project on “[Expertise and Fundamental Controversy in Philosophy and Science](#)” at the University of Tartu, in Estonia. I had the highest ranking grant application, out of 27 total.

Books

Forthcoming: [Naming the All-Time Greats: A Philosophical Analysis of \(Mostly Baseball\) Rankings](#), McFarland and Company, Inc.

2023: [Can We Know Anything?](#), co-authored with Michael Huemer, Routledge Press.

2022: [The Epistemic Consequences of Paradox](#), Cambridge University Press.

2021: [An Agnostic Defends God](#), Palgrave Macmillan.

2014: [Disagreement](#), Polity Press.

2013: [Gratuitous Suffering and the Problem of Evil](#), Routledge Press.

2005: [Scepticism Comes Alive](#), Oxford University Press.

Articles

Forthcoming: “[How Bizarre Philosophy Can Get](#)”, *Philosophy Now*.

Forthcoming: “[Thoughts on External World Skepticism](#)”, in a book to be published in Russia.

Forthcoming: “[Knowing that: Your Lottery Ticket is a Loser, the Lottery Is Fixed, or Something Superhuman Happened](#)”, *Think*.

- 2026: "[Knockdown Arguments in Philosophy](#)", in János Tőzsér and László Kocsis (eds.) *Equilibrism in Metaphilosophy*, Routledge Studies in Contemporary Philosophy.
- 2026: "[Philosophy as Fact-Based Discipline: 200 Philosophical Facts](#)", *Philosophical Studies* 183 (2), 551-581.
- 2026: "[Belief While Disagreeing: Our Mistakes and Their Frequency](#)", *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* v. 15 (8) (2026), 80-89.
- 2025: "[Everything You Think about Equivocation Is False](#)", *Revista Portuguesa de Filosofia, Special Issue: Philosophy of Language: New Frontiers in Meaning and Use*, v. 81 (4), 1251-72.
- 2025: "[The Unfortunate Consequences of Progress in Philosophy](#)", in Maria Baghramian, J. Adam Carter and Rach Cosker-Rowland (eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Disagreement*, Routledge.
- 2024: "[How Much Horrific Suffering Is Enough?](#)", *Religious Studies* 60 (2024), 290-301.
- 2021: "[Metaphysics, Bullshit, and the Analysis of Philosophical Problems](#)", *Synthese* 199, 11541–11554.
- 2021: "[Epistemically Different Epistemic Peers](#)", co-authored with Mariangela Zoe Cocchario, *Topoi* 40 (5), 1063-73.
- 2021: "[How to Fit Ordinary Objects into Reality](#)", in Tyron Goldschmidt and Sara Bernstein (eds.) *Non-Being: New Essays on the Metaphysics of Nonexistence*, Oxford University Press.
- 2021: "[Religious Disagreement](#)", in Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro (eds.) *Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*, Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2021: "[Philosophical Proofs Against Common Sense](#)", *Analysis* 81, 18-26.
- 2020: "[The Epistemology of Theistic Philosophers' Reactions to the Problem of Evil](#)", *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 94 (4), 547-72.
- 2020: "[Is It Rational to Reject Expert Consensus?](#)" *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 10, 325-45
- 2020: "[The Epistemology of Disagreement](#)", in *Encyclopaedia of Educational Theory and Philosophy*, Gerry Dunne (ed.) Springer.
- 2019: "[The Philosopher's Doom: Unreliable at Truth or Unreliable at Logic](#)", in Ted Poston and Kevin McCain (eds.) *The Mystery of Skepticism*, Leiden: Brill, 187-199.
- 2019: "[Justifying a Large Part of Philosophy](#)", *Think* 18 (51), 93-99.
- 2018: "[Why the Vagueness Paradox is Amazing](#)", *Think* 17 (50), 27-38.
- 2018: "[Why Afterimages Are Metaphysically Mysterious](#)", *Think* 17 (49), 33-44.
- 2018: "[The Atheistic Argument from Outrageousness](#)", *Think* 17 (48), 107-116.
- 2018: "[Philosophical Expertise](#)", in James Chase and David Cody (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Applied Epistemology*, Routledge, 297-306.
- 2018: "[The Epistemology of Real-World Religious Disagreement Without Peers](#)", *Philosophia Christi* 20 (1), 291-99.
- 2018: "[Disagreement](#)", co-authored with Jonathan Matheson, in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Edward Zalta, ed.
- 2018: "[Skepticism and Disagreement](#)", in Diego Machuca and Baron Reed (eds.), *Skepticism: From Antiquity to the Present*, Continuum Press.

- 2017: "[The Ontology of Some Afterimages](#)", in Manuel Curado and Steven Gouveia (eds.) *Philosophy of Mind: Contemporary Perspectives*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 118-144.
- 2017: "[Extensive Philosophical Progress and Agreement](#)", *Metaphilosophy* 48 (1-2), 47-57.
- 2016: "[The Irrationality of Religious Belief](#)", *Think* 15 (42), 15-33.
- 2016: "[Worrisome Skepticism about Philosophy](#)", *Episteme* 13, 289-303.
- 2016: "[Presentism: Foreigner-Friendly or Xenophobic?](#)", *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 94, 479-488.
- 2016: "[Ontology, Composition, Quantification, and Action](#)", *Analysis* 76, 137-142.
- 2016: "[The Dual Concepts Objection to Content Externalism](#)", *American Philosophical Quarterly* 53, 123-138.
- 2016: "[Rationally Held 'P, but I Fully Believe ~P and I am Not Equivocating'](#)", *Philosophical Studies* 173, 309-313.
- 2015: "[The Rationality of Religious Belief](#)", *Think* 14 (40), 109-117.
- 2015: "[Religious Disagreement](#)", in Graham Oppy (ed.) *Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy of Religion*, Acumen Press, 180-192.
- 2013: "[Knowledge](#)" (with Allan Hazlett), in Howard Robinson and Barry Dainton (eds.), *The Bloomsbury Companion to Analytic Philosophy*, Bloomsbury Press, 432-52.
- 2013: [Review of Robert Audi](#), *Rationality and Religious Commitment*, Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews.
- 2013: "[Philosophical Renegades](#)", in Jennifer Lackey and David Christensen (eds.) *The Epistemology of Disagreement: New Essays*, Oxford University Press, 121-66.
- 2012: "[Discovering Disagreeing Epistemic Peers and Superiors](#)", *International Journal of Philosophical Studies* 20, 1-21.
- 2011: "[Kripke](#)", in *Key Thinkers in the Philosophy of Language*, Barry Lee, ed., Continuum, 249-67.
- 2010: "[Disagreement](#)", in Duncan Pritchard and Sven Bernecker (eds.) *Routledge Companion to Epistemology*, 68-74.
- 2010: "[The Reflective Epistemic Renegade](#)", *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 8, 419-63.
- 2008: "[Live Skeptical Hypotheses](#)", John Greco (ed.) *Oxford Handbook of Skepticism*, 225-245.
- 2008: "[Spirituality, Expertise, and Philosophers](#)", in Jon Kvanvig (ed.) *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*, v. 1, Oxford University Press, 44-81.
- 2007: "[Externalism, Physicalism, Statues, and Hunks](#)", *Philosophical Studies* 133, 199-232.
- 2007: [Review](#) of Cynthia MacDonald's *Varieties of Things: Foundations of Contemporary Metaphysics*, *Philosophical Quarterly* 47, 380-382.
- 2006: "[The New Leibniz's Law Arguments for Pluralism](#)", *Mind* 115, 1007-1022.
- 2005: "[When a Skeptical Hypothesis is Live](#)", *Noûs* 39, 559-95.
- 2002: "[A Test for Theories of Belief Ascription](#)", *Analysis* 62, 116-25.
- 2000: "[Disquotation and Substitutivity](#)", *Mind* 109, 519-25.
- 1999: "[Defending the Defense](#)", *Mind* 108, 563-566.
- 1999: "[On the Explanatory Deficiencies of Linguistic Content](#)", *Philosophical Studies* 93, 45-75.

- 1999: "[Contradictory Belief and Epistemic Closure Principles](#)", *Mind and Language* 14, 203-226.
- 1998: "[The Twin-Earth Thought Experiments](#)", in *A Field Guide to the Philosophy of Mind*, an official electronic publication of the University of Rome III.
- 1998: "[Defending Millian Theories](#)", *Mind* 107, 703-727. Reprinted in *The General Philosophy of John Stuart Mill*, Victor Sanchez Valencia, ed., Ashgate Publishers, 2002.
- 1998: "[Arguing for Frege's Fundamental Principle](#)", *Mind and Language* 13, 341-346.
- 1996: "[Plato's Response to the Third Man Argument in the Paradoxical Exercise of the *Parmenides*](#)", *Ancient Philosophy* 16, 47-64.