

CURRICULUM VITAE
Jeffrey N. Bagwell

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Education

University of California Santa Barbara, Ph.D., Philosophy 2022

Dissertation: “Ordinary Object Beliefs and Scientific Theory”

Committee: Dan Korman (Chair), Thomas Barrett, Kevin Falvey

University of New Orleans, B.A., Philosophy, with Honors, *cum laude* 2014

Areas of Specialization: Metaphysics, Epistemology

Areas of Competence: Ethics, Ancient Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Language

Teaching Awards:

Paul Weinpahl Award for Excellence in Teaching 2021-2022

An award given to one or two graduate students for outstanding teaching during the academic year. Competition is about 25 other graduate student teachers.

Teaching Experience

Northern Virginia Community College (2022-Present)

Instructor of Record

Biomedical Ethics

Introduction to Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy

University of California Santa Barbara (2016-2022)

Instructor of Record

Introduction to Ethics (180 students, 270 students)

Introduction to Philosophy (180 students)

Epistemology (60 students)

Teaching Assistant

Critical Thinking

Introduction to Ethics

Ethics

Introduction to Ancient Philosophy

Introduction to Philosophy

Epistemology

Metaphysics

Introduction to Philosophy of Science

Certifications

Pillars of Teaching Assistantship Certificate (UCSB)	2020
NOVA Online Teaching 101 (NOVA)	2022
Hybrid Teaching Certification (NOVA)	2022

Contributions to Diversity

Minorities and Philosophy & Pedagogy Reading group, co-leader	2019-2020
Minorities and Philosophy Member	2018-present

Publications

“Eliminativism and Evolutionary Debunking”	<i>Ergo</i> 2021
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Works in Progress

“Interface and Object: A Critique of the Interface Theory of Perception”	(under review)
“An Indispensability Argument for Ordinary Objects”	
“Externalist Responses to Object Debunking Arguments”	

Dissertation

Title: “Ordinary Object Beliefs and Scientific Theory”

Abstract: My dissertation argues in favor of abundant ontologies that accommodate ordinary objects—the things we seem to see, feel, and touch around us—and other composite objects like molecules and cells. To this end, I advance several arguments against ordinary object eliminativism. First, I argue that evolutionary debunking arguments against ordinary objects are self-defeating and cannot be rescued by employing a popular eliminativist paraphrase strategy. I then develop and evaluate several externalist strategies to resist object debunking arguments, and I argue that we should believe in ordinary objects because they are indispensable to our best scientific theories. Finally, I argue that attempts to rescue debunking arguments such as those proceeding from the Interface Theory of Perception are

doomed to fail because their appeals to universal Darwinism are insufficient to justify their empirical premises.

Presentations

- “An Indispensability Argument for Ordinary Objects” (Poster Presentation)
- Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association November 2022
- Comments on Drew Johnson’s “Evolutionary Debunking Arguments and Proper Function”
- Meeting of the Pacific APA April 2022
- Comments on Keshav Singh’s “There is No Pragmatic Encroachment”
- Meeting of the Pacific APA April 2021
- Comments on Uphar Dooling’s “Nativism and Bayesian Models”
- Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference October 2020
- “Eliminativism and Evolutionary Debunking Arguments Against Ordinary Objects”
- Johns Hopkins Philosophy Conference October 2019

Professional Service and Leadership

Graduate Student Representative, University of California Santa Barbara 2017-2019

Graduate Courses Taken and Audited

(* indicates audited course)

Pedagogy: College and University Teaching: From Theory to Practice (Berry and Kuntzmann)

Ethics/Value Theory: Moral Psychology (Zimmerman)*, Ethics of Harm & Justification (Hanser), Aesthetic Theory (McMahon), Feminist Philosophy (Mason)*

History: Hellenistic Philosophy (Tsouana), Aristotle (McKirahan)*, Plato’s *Theaetetus* (Tsouana), Plato’s *Sophist* (Tsouana)*, Frege (Salmon), Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason* (Elizondo)

Language and Logic: Symbolic Logic (Salmon), Intermediate Modern Logic (Robertson), Advanced Logic: Gödel (Anderson), Meaning and Reference (Salmon)*

Metaphysics and Epistemology: Propositions (Anderson), Identity (Salmon)*, Ordinary Objects (Korman)*, Persons (Korman)*, Debunking Arguments and Reliability Challenges (Korman), Easy Epistemology (Korman)*, Action Theory (Falvey)

Philosophy of Science: Scientific Realism and Anti-Realism (Barrett)*, Field’s *Science Without Numbers* (Barrett)*

Philosophy of Mind: Knowing our Own Minds (Falvey), Philosophical Psychology (Falvey)

Other Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

Regent’s Fellowship (UCSB) 2015-2016

Professional Memberships

American Philosophical Association

2013-Present

References

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