Matthew A. Benton

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Curriculum Vitae

Appointments

Seattle Pacific University

2021–   Associate Professor of Philosophy (with tenure)

2016–21   Assistant Professor of Philosophy

University of Notre Dame

2015–16   Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Philosophy
(Hope and Optimism: Conceptual and Empirical Investigations project)

University of Oxford

2012–15   Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Philosophy
(New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology project)

2012–15   Junior Research Fellow, Somerville College

2012–13   College Lecturer in Philosophy, Trinity College

Education

Rutgers University

2012   Ph.D., Philosophy   Dissertation: *Knowledge Norms*. Ernest Sosa (chair), Jason Stanley,
Keith DeRose, John Turri

Yale University, Divinity School

2005   M.A., Philosophy of Religion *&* Philosophical Theology, *magna cum laude*

Fuller Theological Seminary

2002   M.A., Theology

University of California, Santa Barbara

1999   B.A., History, English

Areas of Specialization

Epistemology, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Religion

Areas of Competence

Logic, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Early Modern Philosophy, Ethics

Research (* = peer-reviewed, † = invited)

BOOKS

*Religious Disagreement and Pluralism. Edited with Jonathan L. Kvanvig. Oxford University Press, 2021.

*Knowledge, Belief, and God: New Insights in Religious Epistemology. Edited with John Hawthorne & Dani Rabinowitz. Oxford University Press, 2018.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

*"Assertion Remains Strong" (with Peter van Elswyk), *Philosophical Studies* 180 (2023): 27–50.

*"Knowledge, Hope, and Fallibilism," *Synthese* 198 (2021): 1673–1689.

*"Lying, Accuracy, and Credence," *Analysis* 78 (2018): 195–198.

*"God and Interpersonal Knowledge," *Res Philosophica* 95 (2018): 421–447.

*"Epistemology Personalized," *The Philosophical Quarterly* 67 (2017): 813–834.

*"Gricean Quality," *Noûs* 50 (2016): 689–703.

*"Expert Opinion and Second-Hand Knowledge," *Philosophy & Phenomenological Research* 92 (2016): 492–508.

†"Knowledge and Evidence You Should Have Had," *Episteme* 13 (2016): 471–479.

*†"Evil and Evidence" (with John Hawthorne & Yoaav Isaacs), *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*, ed. Jonathan Kvanvig. Vol. 7 (2016): 1–31.

†"Defeatism Defeated" (with Max Baker-Hytch), *Philosophical Perspectives* 29 (2015): 40–66.

*"Iffy Predictions and Proper Expectations" (with John Turri), *Synthese* 191 (2014): 1857–1866.

*†"Believing on Authority," *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 6 (2014): 133–144.

*"Dubious Objections from Iterated Conjunctions," *Philosophical Studies* 162 (2013): 355–358.

*"Assertion, Knowledge, and Predictions," *Analysis* 72 (2012): 102–105.

*"Two More for the Knowledge Account of Assertion," *Analysis* 71 (2011): 684–687.

*"The Modal Gap: the Objective Problem of Lessing's Ditch(es) and Kierkegaard's Subjective Reply," *Religious Studies* 42 (2006): 27–44.

ARTICLES IN BOOKS

†"Knowledge is the Norm of Assertion," in *Contemporary Debates in Epistemology*, 3rd edn. M. Steup, B. Roeber, J. Turri, & E. Sosa, eds. Wiley-Blackwell, 2024.

†"Disagreement and Religion," in *Religious Disagreement and Pluralism*. Benton & Kvanvig, eds., 1–40. Oxford University Press, 2021.

†"Hedged Assertion" (with Peter van Elswyk), in *The Oxford Handbook of Assertion*. Sanford Goldberg, ed., 245–263. Oxford University Press, 2020.

(CONT'D)　†"Epistemological Aspects of Hope," in *The Moral Psychology of Hope*. Claudia Blöser and Titus Stahl, eds., 135–151. Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

*†"Lying, Belief, and Knowledge," in *The Oxford Handbook of Lying*. Jörg Meibauer, ed., 120–133. Oxford Handbooks in Linguistics. Oxford University Press, 2019.

†"Religious Diversity and Disagreement," in *The Routledge Handbook of Social Epistemology*. M. Fricker, P. Graham, D. Henderson, and N.J.J.Pedersen, eds., 185–195. Routledge, 2019.

*†"Pragmatic Encroachment and Theistic Knowledge," in *Knowledge, Belief, and God*. Benton, Hawthorne, & Rabinowitz, eds., 267–287. Oxford University Press, 2018.

†"Introduction" (with co-editors John Hawthorne and Dani Rabinowitz), in *Knowledge, Belief, and God*, 1–10. Oxford University Press, 2018.

†"Lotteries and Prefaces," *The Routledge Handbook of Epistemic Contextualism*. Edited by Jonathan Jenkins Ichikawa, 168–176. Routledge, 2017.

ENTRIES,　*†"Paul Grice," in *Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy*. Edited by Duncan Pritchard.
SURVEYS　　Oxford University Press, 2015. Revised 2020.

*†"Knowledge Norms," *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2014): ISSN 2161-0002.

BOOK　　John Pittard, *Disagreement, Deference, and Religious Commitment* (Oxford University
REVIEWS　Press, 2020), in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, Sept. 2020 (online, open-access).

Hud Hudson, *A Grotesque in the Garden* (Xerxes Press, 2017; 2nd edn., Eerdmans, 2020), in *Faith & Philosophy* 36 (2019): 271–275.

Timothy Williamson, *Tetralogue: I'm Right, You're Wrong* (Oxford University Press, 2015), in *Marginalia Review of Books*, March 17, 2015.

Clare Carlisle, *Kierkegaard's Philosophy of Becoming* (SUNY Press, 2005), in *Religious Studies* 42 (2006): 488–492.

Presentations (selected)

TALKS　　"Faith and Interpersonal Knowledge"

British Society for Philosophy of Religion conference, Oxford, Sept. 2022

Logos Institute, University of St Andrews, May 2022

Princeton University, Joint Colloquium, Princeton Project in Philosophy and Religion and the Rutgers Center for Philosophy of Religion, April 2022

Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame, April 2022

"The Epistemology of Interpersonal Relations"

University of Glasgow, Cogito Knowledge & Normativity workshop, May 2022

Invited Symposium, Epistemology: Central APA (Chicago), February 2020

Reed College, Philosophy Colloquium, November 2019

"Interpersonal Hiddenness," Divine Hiddenness workshop, Baylor University, November 2021

"Knowing Persons, Knowing God," The Christian West and Islamic East workshop, University of Missouri, St. Louis, August 2019

"God, Knowledge, and Persons," Pacific APA (San Diego), Group Program, Society of Christian Philosophers, March 28, 2018

"Knowledge, Hope, and Fallibilism," Northwestern University, Epistemology Brown Bag Series, November 2015

"Horrendous Evils and Optimism," Brackenridge Philosophy Symposium, University of Texas at San Antonio, October 2015

"Divine Epistemology Personalized," University of York, England, May 26, 2015; Baylor University, April 11, 2014

"Epistemology Personalized," University of Edinburgh, March 12, 2014; University of Innsbruck, Austria, April 10, 2013

"Pragmatic Encroachment and Theistic Knowledge," Rutgers University, May 2014; Oxford University, March 13, 2013

"Parenthetically Speaking," University of Geneva, Switzerland, May 31, 2013

"Doxastic Expression and Self-Ascription," Northwestern University, Epistemology Brown Bag Series, March 14, 2012

"Knowledge Norms in Conflict," Central APA (Chicago), Feb. 17, 2012

COMMENTS   Commentator-at-large, *Epistemic Explanations:* Investigations into the Epistemology of Ernest Sosa. University of Miami, Nov. 2022

On Matthew Braddock, "The Common Consent Argument and the Cognitive Science of Religion," Cognitive Science of Religion and Philosophy: an Interdisciplinary Workshop, Rutgers University, March 2022

Panel on "The Future of Philosophy of Religion," AAR/SBL joint meeting, San Diego, November 2019

On Sanford Goldberg, *Assertion: On the Philosophical Significance of Assertoric Speech* (OUP 2015), Author-meets-Critics, Pacific APA (San Francisco), April 2016

On Sanford Goldberg, "On the Epistemic Significance of Evidence You Should Have Had," 11th *Episteme* Conference, Phuket, Thailand, June 2015

On Helen DeCruz, "Etiological Challenges to Religious Practices," Etiology, Debunking, and Religious Epistemology workshop, Oxford University, March 2015

On Paul Silva Jr., "Justification and Composite Normative Concepts," Pacific APA (San Diego), April 2014

On Joshua L. Golding's "The Rational Defensibility of Being a Traditional Religious Jew," *Religious Studies* 35 (1999), for *The Association for the Philosophy of Judaism*, online symposium, January 2014

On Charity Anderson, "On the Intimate Relation of Knowledge and Action," Eastern APA (Washington, DC), December 2011

On Adam Pelser, "Emotion and the Value of Understanding," Pacific APA (San Francisco), April 2010

On Ishani Maitra and Brian Weatherson, "Assertion, Knowledge, and Action," 2009 Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University

Teaching

Seattle Pacific University (2/3/2 load, quarters)

Phi 1001: Logic and Critical Thinking. Fall: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023

Phi 2001: Advanced Logic. Winter: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Honors 2100: Ethics and Critical Reasoning (UScholars). Winter 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2021; Winter 2023, 2024

Phi 3700/Lin 3700: Philosophy of Language. Winter 2019; Fall 2020, 2022

Phi 4653: Contemporary Epistemology. Fall 2017; Winter 2020, Fall 2021, 2023

Phi 4897: Philosophy of Religion: Contemporary Topics. Spring: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021; Winter 2022, Spring 2023, 2024

UCore 3000: Faith, Philosophy, and Science. 3x annually, 2016–2020; Fall 2023, Spring 2024

Phi 4898: Existence of God. Winter 2017

Lecturer in Philosophy, Trinity College and Somerville College, Oxford

Tutorials: Moral Philosophy, Mods & Prelims (first-years), Trinity term 2013

Tutorials: Early Modern Philosophy (Phil 101), Hilary term 2013

Tutorials: Philosophy of Religion (Phil 107), Michaelmas term 2012

Oxford Programme for Undergraduate Studies (OPUS), exchange program, 2012–2013

Tutorials: Descartes & Epistemology; Mind & Free Will; Philosophy of Language (assertion, pragmatics); Philosophy of Language (metaphor, sarcasm)

Instructor (professor of record), Philosophy Department, Rutgers University

Phil 205: Early Modern Philosophy. Fall 2011

Phil 320: Knowledge and Assertion. Fall 2010

Phil 220: Theory of Knowledge. Fall 2008

Phil 265: Introduction to Philosophy of Religion. Spring 2008

Phil 103: Introduction to Philosophy. Fall 2007

Awards and Grants

Philosophy of Honesty subgrant (PI), the Honesty Project, Wake Forest University ($40,000),
funded by the John Templeton Foundation, 2022–2023

Scholar of the Year Award, Seattle Pacific University, 2020

Knowledge and God research grant (PI), the John Templeton Foundation ($99,774), 2019–2022

Faculty Research & Scholarship Grants, Seattle Pacific University, Summer 2017 ($5,000);
Summer 2018 ($3,000)

Mellon Graduate Fellowship in the Humanities, Summer Research Grants ($5,000),
Rutgers University, 2009 and 2011

Dissertation Teaching Award honorable mention, for PHIL 320: *Knowledge and Assertion*,
Rutgers University, 2010

Mellon Dissertation Research/Travel Grants, Rutgers University, Summer 2010 and 2011

Teaching Award nominee: Distinguished Contributor to Undergraduate Education,
School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University, 2009

Service and Other Experience

Service to the Profession:

Referee: Oxford University Press*, Cambridge University Press*, Routledge, *Analysis**,
Mind*, *Journal of Philosophy**, *Philosophical Quarterly**, *Philosophy & Phenomenological
Research**, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy**, *American Philosophical Quarterly*,
Philosophical Studies, *Cognition*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Ergo*, *Episteme**, *Synthese**,
Journal of the American Philosophical Association, *Philosophy Compass*, *Philosophia*,
Linguistics & Philosophy, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Faith & Philosophy**, *Religious Studies*
(* = more than once)

Category Editor, PhilPapers.org: Defeat, Primitivism about Knowledge, Norms of Assertion,
Epistemology of Religion

Subject Editor for Philosophy reviews, *The Marginalia Review of Books*, 2013–2016

Service to and within the University:

General Education Revision Committee, Seattle Pacific University, 2023–

Admissions, Advising, and Retention Committee, Seattle Pacific University, 2020–2023

Selection Committee, Scholar of the Year Award, Seattle Pacific University, 2022

Faculty Salary Equity Task Force, Seattle Pacific University, 2021–2022

Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Philosophy Department,
Seattle Pacific University, 2019–2020

Faith and Pedagogy Faculty Task Force, Seattle Pacific University, 2018–2019

Oxford Undergraduate Admissions Interviewing
 Jesus College, 2013; Trinity and Somerville Colleges, 2012

Other Experience:

Conference Planning/Managing:

 Psychological and Philosophical Perspectives on Faith and Belief workshop (with Philip Baker), Seattle Pacific University, May 2023

 Hope and Optimism workshop (with Anne Jeffrey), Notre Dame, April 2016

 New Insights in Religious Epistemology international conference, June 2015, St. Anne's College, Oxford

 2012 Metaphysical Mayhem, at Rutgers University

 2009 and 2011 Rutgers Epistemology Conferences

Managing Editor, *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, 2008–2012

References

John Hawthorne	University of Southern California
Ernest Sosa	Rutgers University
Timothy Williamson	University of Oxford
Dean Zimmerman	Rutgers University
Rebekah Rice	Seattle Pacific University