

Boning (“Bo”) Yu

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Department of Philosophy, University of Maryland

4300 Chapel Drive, College Park, MD, 20742

Research interests

AOS: Epistemology (esp. Bayesian and Social), Decision Theory

AOC: Logic, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of AI

Education

- 2020 – 2026 **University of Maryland** – College Park, MD
PhD in Philosophy
Dissertation: *Deliberation, Learning Conditional Probability, and Risk: Three Essays*
Committee: Eric Pacuit (Chair), Fabrizio Cariani, Paolo Santorio, Harjit Boghal
- 2017 – 2019 **Texas Tech University** – Lubbock, TX
MA in Philosophy
Thesis: *A Defense of Expected Utility Theory*
Committee: Joel Velasco (Chair), Jeremy Schwartz
- 2015 – 2017 **University of Wisconsin** – Madison, WI
MS in Economics
Master’s Project: *The Provincial Spatial Dependence of Startups in China*
- 2011 – 2015 **Wuhan University** – Wuhan, China
BA in Economics, Philosophy

Awards and Honors

- 2022, 2023, 2024 ARHU Summer Fellowship (University of Maryland)
- 2023 Graduate School Summer Research Fellowships (University of Maryland)
- 2021 Brian Hull Award (University of Maryland)
faculty voted the best first-year PhD student
- 2014 3rd Class Student Excellence Scholarship (Wuhan University)
- 2013 2nd Class Student Excellence Scholarship (Wuhan University)

Publications

- 2026 **A Calibration Theorem for Risk-Weighted Expected Utility Theory**
Philosophical Studies, 183, pp. 2143-2165, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-026-02520-2>
- 2026 **Deliberation Under Dynamic Discovery of Evidence**
Erkenntnis, online first <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-026-01082-3>
- 2025 **Maximum Entropy and Bayesian Conditioning Under Extended Space**
Proceedings of the Twentieth Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge (TARK)
- Revise and **A Bayesian Reflection on the Judy Benjamin Problem**
Resubmit *Erkenntnis*
- Revise and **Agents' Priors and Dynamic Network: Two Approaches in Enhancing Group**
Resubmit **Learning**
Social Epistemology

Work in Progress

Conciliation in Social Inquiry: Belief Pooling and Action Choice in Networks
(draft available)

Degeneracy in Aligning Bayesian Conditioning and Minimizing f-Divergence

Conference Presentation

- Agents' Priors and Dynamic Network: Two Approaches in Enhancing Group Learning**
- Nov. 2025 The 4th International Workshop on Logic and Philosophy – Tsinghua University, China
- Arranging Network by Agents' Prior**
- Oct. 2025 The 10th International Conference on Logic, Rationality and Interaction (LORI) – Xi'an Jiaotong University, China
- Bayesian Conditioning and Maximum Entropy Under Extended Space**
- Jul. 2025 The 20th Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge (TARK) – Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany
- A Criticism of Risk-Weighted Expected Utility Theory**
- Jul. 2025 Beijing International Summer Workshop on Formal Philosophy (BISFORM) – Peking University, China
- Jul. 2022 The 14th Conference on Logic and the Foundations of Game and Decision Theory (LOFT) – University of Groningen, the Netherlands

Communication and Biased Evidence

Jun. 2024 The 15th Conference on Logic and the Foundations of Game and Decision Theory (LOFT) – University of Bayreuth, Germany

Teaching experience

UMD	Teaching Assistant
2023, 2026	Individual and Group Decision-Making
2020, 2021, 2024, 2025	The Rights and Wrongs of Killing People
2025	Social Philosophy and Political Economy
2023	Contemporary Moral Issues
2022	Political & Social Philosophy
2022	Free Will & Determinism
TTU	Teaching Assistant
2017, 2019	Introduction to Ethics
2018	Biomedical Ethics
2018	Philosophy of Biology

Academic Service

Reviewer Erkenntnis, Asian Journal of Philosophy

Graduate Coursework

[†] = *Audited course*

Epistemology	Social Choice Theory (Eric Pacuit, UMD), Bayesian Epistemology (Fabrizio Cariani, UMD), Computer Simulation in PPE (Eric Pacuit, UMD), Epistemology (Jonathan Drake, TTU), Foundations of Game Theory [†] (Eric Pacuit, UMD)
Logic	Incompleteness and Undecidability (Eric Pacuit, UMD), Legal Reasoning (John Horty, UMD), Logics for Defeasible Reasoning (John Horty, UMD), Modal Logic (Bruno Whittle, TTU), Philosophy of Logic (Bruno Whittle, TTU), Computational Models of Normative Reasoning [†] (John Horty, UMD), Modal Logic [†] (Eric Pacuit, UMD)
Metaphysics, Mind and Language	Metaphysics (Harjit Bhogal, UMD), The Modal Future (Fabrizio Cariani, UMD), Metaphysics, Mind, and Language (Paolo Santorio, UMD), Philosophy and Psychology (Joseph Gottlieb, TTU), Evidence and Language [†] (Fabrizio Cariani, UMD)

Science	Philosophy of Physics (Allen Stairs, UMD), Philosophy of Science (Joel Velasco, TTU)
Value Theory & History	Value Theory (Dan Moller, UMD), Political Philosophy (Justin Tosi, TTU), Ethics (Jeremy Schwartz, TTU), Philosophy of Law (Daniel Nathan, TTU), Existentialism (Howard Curzer, TTU)
Mathematics	Applied Stochastic Process (Vince Lyzinski, UMD), Graphical Models for Causal Inference (Peter Steiner, UMD), Probability Theory I[†] (Yu Gu, UMD), Information Theory[†] (Prakash Narayan, UMD), Mathematical Statistics I[†] (Jianjian Ren, UMD)
Economics	Econometrics III (Christopher Taber, UW), Econometrics II (Jack Porter, UW), Macroeconomics (Noah Williams, UW), Microeconomics II (Lones Smith, UW), Mathematics for Economists (David Hansen, UW), Econometrics I (Steven Durlauf, UW), Microeconomics I (Raymond Deneckere, UW), Behavioral Economics[†] (Emel Filiz-Ozbay, UMD)

References

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Fabrizio Cariani

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Paolo Santorio

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Dan Blair (Teaching)

Senior Lecturer of Philosophy, University of Maryland

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