

Aaron M. Griffith
Curriculum Vitae
Winter 2024

Department of Philosophy
College of William & Mary
138 James Blair Hall
Williamsburg, VA 23187

Email: amgriffith [at] wm [dot] edu
Website:
<https://aaronmgriffith.wixsite.com/mysite>

AREAS OF

SPECIALIZATION Metaphysics (truth, truthmaking, grounding, social ontology, time), Philosophy of Race, Kant (esp. metaphysics and epistemology)

AREAS OF

COMPETENCE 19th Century Philosophy, Ethics, Feminism, Philosophy of Mind

EMPLOYMENT

College of William & Mary, Associate Professor (2021-present)
College of William & Mary, Assistant Professor (2015-2021)
Central Michigan University, Lecturer (2013-2015)
California State University, Long Beach, Lecturer (Fall 2011)
University of California, Irvine, Teaching Associate (2010-2012)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, Spring 2013, University of California, Irvine
Ways of Truthmaking: A Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking
Committee: Sven Bernecker (Chair), David W. Smith, M. Oreste Fiocco, Gila Sher.
M.A., (with distinction) Philosophy, Winter 2009 University of California, Irvine
B.A., Philosophy and Religion, Spring 2004, Calvin College

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Truth and Social Reality: A Metaphysical Inquiry. (forthcoming). Oxford University Press.

Articles

- (22) "Social Construction." *Routledge Handbook of Essence in Philosophy*, Kathrin Koslicki and Mike Raven (eds.). Routledge, forthcoming.
- (21) "What is Systemic Racism?" (forthcoming). *Think: Philosophy for Everyone*.
- (20) "Basic Racial Realism, Social Constructionism, and the Ordinary Concept of Race." (2023). *Journal of Social Philosophy*. 54(2): 236-247.
- (19) "True by Default." (2022). *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*. 8(1): 92-109.
- (18) "Presentism, Truthmaking, and the Nature of Truth." (2021). *Analytic Philosophy*. 63(4): 259-267.
- (17) "The Dependence of Truth on Being in Asay's *A Theory of Truthmaking*." (2021). *Asian Journal of Philosophy*. 1(2): 1 – 6.
- (16) "Randomness and God's Providence: Defining the Problem(s)" (2021) with Arash Naraghi. *Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence*, Kelly James Clark and Jeffrey Koperski (eds.). Palgrave: 29-53.

- (15) “Individualistic and Structural Explanations in Ásta’s *Categories We Live By*.” (2020). *Journal of Social Ontology*. 5(2): 251 – 260.
- (14) “Realizing Race.” (2020). *Philosophical Studies*. 177(7): 1919 – 1934.
- (13) “Review of *The Metaphysics of Truth* by Douglas Edwards.” (2019). *Analysis* 79(4): 805-809.
- (12) “Metaphysics and Social Justice.” (2019) *Philosophy Compass* 14: e12594. <https://doi.org/10.1111/phc3.12594>
- (11) “Truthmaking.” (2019) *Oxford Bibliographies* in “Philosophy.” Ed. Duncan Pritchard. New York: Oxford University Press, <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195396577/obo-9780195396577-0058.xml?rskey=Nwq1sP&result=1&q=truthmaking#firstMatch>
- (10) “Intergenerational Rights and the Problem of Cross-Temporal Relations.” (2018) *Erkenntnis*. 83(4): 693-710.
- (9) “Social Construction: Big-G Grounding, Small-g Realization.” (2018) *Philosophical Studies*. 175(1): 241-260.
- (8) “Social Construction and Grounding.” (2018) *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 97(2): 393-409.
- (7) “The Rights of Future Persons and the Ontology of Time.” (2017) *Journal of Social Philosophy*. 48(1): 58-70.
- (6) “Towards a Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking.” (2015) *Erkenntnis*. 80(6): 1157-1173.
- (5) “Do Ontological Categories Exist?” (2015) *Metaphysica*. 16(1): 25-36.
- (4) “How Negative Truths are Made True.” (2015) *Synthese*. 192 (1): 317-335.
- (3) “Truthmaking and Grounding.” (2014) *Inquiry*. 57(2): 196-215.
- (2) “On Some Alleged Truthmakers for Negatives.” (2013) *Thought*. 1(4): 301-308.
- (1) “Perception and the Categories: A Conceptualist Reading of Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason*.” (2012) *European Journal of Philosophy*. 20(2): 193-222.

WORK IN PROGRESS

A book project on truth, race, and reparations

AWARDS

College of William & Mary Faculty Summer Research Grant 2016: \$3000
 College of William & Mary Faculty Summer Research Grant 2017: \$3000
 UC Irvine Dean’s Graduate Dissertation Fellowship, Winter 2013
 Oxford Bibliographies Online: Philosophy Graduate Student Prize 2012 (\$350 Honorarium)
 Matchette Foundation Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in Philosophy 2009 (interdepartmental award)
 Graduate Essay Award, UC Irvine 2008 (interdepartmental award)
 Regents Fellowship, School of Humanities UC Irvine 2006

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Projects

Research Fellow for the *Randomness and Providence: An Abrahamic Inquiry*. John Templeton Foundation funded project. Project Advisor: Kelly James Clark. Run through the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, Grand Valley State University. \$1 million grant. Attended four meetings (Kalamazoo, MI (2017), Orid

Macedonia (2018), Casablanca Morocco and Amman Jordan (2019) and wrote a paper for a collected volume.

The University Teaching and Learning Project, College of William & Mary 2019-2020.

Talks (= Invited)*

- 2023 “Truth, Power, and Justice,” Alabama Philosophical Society meeting, Pensacola, FL.
- 2023 * “Truthmaking and Social Ontology,” VCU, March 17.
- 2022 “A Truthmaking Account of Social Construction,” Social Metaphysics Workshop, Duke University.
- 2021 “Correspondence Truth and Social Reality,” International Social Ontology Society Meeting, online.
- 2021 * “Essence and Social Construction,” Conference for Routledge Handbook of Essence, online.
- 2020 * “Correspondence Truth and Social Reality,” Early Career Social Metaphysics Workshop, online.
- 2020 “True by Default,” *American Philosophical Association* (Eastern Division), Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 * “Randomness and God’s Providence: Defining the Problem(s),” with Arash Naraghi, *Randomness and Providence* Project, Amman, Jordan.
- 2019 * “Randomness and God’s Providence: Defining the Problem(s),” with Arash Naraghi, *Randomness and Providence* Project, Casablanca, Morocco.
- 2018 “Anchoring Human Social Kinds,” Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
- 2018 “Anchoring Human Social Kinds,” International Social Ontology Society Meeting, Tufts University. Boston, MA.
- 2018 * “Randomness and God’s Providence: Defining the Problem(s),” with Arash Naraghi, *Randomness and Providence* Project, Ohrid, Macedonia.
- 2018 * “Social Construction and the Aims of Justice,” City College of New York, NY.
- 2018 “Realizing Race,” *American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division), San Diego, CA.
- 2017 “Realizing Race,” Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
- 2017 * “Realizing Race,” Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, VA.
- 2016 “The Rights of Future Persons and the Ontology of Time,” Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
- 2016 * “The Rights of Future Persons and the Ontology of Time,” Ohio State University Social Metaphysics Workshop. Columbus, OH.
- 2016 * “Obligations to Future Generations and the Metaphysics of Time,” *American Philosophical Association* (Eastern Division), Society of Christian Philosophers: Metaphysics Symposium. Washington D.C.
- 2015 “The Metaphysics of Social Construction: a ‘Grounding’ Account,” Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
- 2015 * “The Metaphysics of Social Construction: a ‘Grounding’ Account,” Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2015 “The Metaphysics of Social Construction: a ‘Grounding’ Account,” *American Philosophical Association* (Central Division), St. Louis, MO.

- 2014 *"Truthmaking Pluralism: How Positive and Negative Truths Depend on Being," *American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division), San Diego, CA
- 2014 *"Presentism, Truthmaking, and Truth," Philosophy Department Colloquium, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI.
- 2013 "A Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking," *American Philosophical Association* (Eastern Division), Baltimore, MD.
- 2013 "Presentism, Truthmaking, and Truth," *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium*, Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2012 "A Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking," Main Paper *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium*, Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2012 "Truthmakers and 'Suspicious' Properties," *North Carolina Philosophical Society and South Carolina Society for Philosophy Joint Meeting*, Elon University, Elon, NC.
- 2011 "Truthmakers for Negative Propositions," *Northwest Philosophy Conference*, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR.
- 2008 "A Conceptualist Reading of Kant," *Pacific Group Meeting North American Kant Society*, University of California, Irvine, CA.

Referee

Articles: *Acta Analytica*, *American Philosophical Quarterly* (x2), *Analysis*, *Asian Journal of Philosophy*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (x7), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (x3), *Dialectica*, *Disputatio*, *Ergo* (x7), *Erkenntnis* (x7), *Feminist Philosophy Quarterly*, *Inquiry* (x5), *Journal of Social Ontology* (x2), *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior*, *Kantian Review* (x2), *Kant Studies Online*, *Logique et Analyse*, *Metaphysics* (x2), *Mind* (x3), *Philosopher's Imprint* (x2), *Philosophia* (x3), *Philosophical Quarterly* (x3), *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (x3), *Philosophical Studies* (x7), *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Synthese* (x11), *Ratio*, *Theoria*, *Thought*, *Topoi* (x3)

Books: *Oxford University Press* (x2), *W.W. Norton & Co*, *Routledge*

Australasian Philosophical Review 7.4 (2023) Curatorial Team for "The 'Post-Truth' Crisis, and Value of Truth, and the Substantivist-Deflationist Debate" by Gila Sher.

Comments

- 2023 Comments on "Staging the Social" by Jonathan Schaffer, at the *Social Metaphysics Workshop* at Duke University, Durham, NC.
- 2023 Comments on "The Modal Argument Against Social Grounding," by Samuele Chilovi at the *Pacific American Philosophical Association*, San Francisco, CA.
- 2021 Author Meets Critics for Jamin Asay's *A Theory of Truthmaking: Metaphysics, Ontology, and Reality* at Truth 2021, online.
- 2021 Comments on "Social Kinds* and Social Groups," by Rachel Cooper at the Re-Thinking Social Essences Workshop, online.
- 2019 Comments on "Norms and Object: A Normative Hylomorphic Theory of Social Objects," by Asya Passinsky at the Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA.
- 2017 Comments on "About Propositions and their Component Facts," by Aviv Hoffmann at the *American Philosophical Association* (Eastern Division), Baltimore, MD.

- 2013 Comments on “A Propositional Semantics for Substitutional Quantification,” by Geoff Georgi at the *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Conference*, Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2012 Chairperson for Metaphysics and Epistemology session at *North Carolina Philosophical Society and South Carolina Society for Philosophy Joint Meeting*, Elon University, Elon, NC.
- 2011 Comments on “Anything is Possible? Explaining False Beliefs about Possibility,” by Leigh Duffy at the *Northwest Philosophy Conference*, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR.

Service

- William & Mary Pre-major Advising (2015 – present)
- William & Mary University Library Committee (2018 – present)
- William & Mary Faculty Research Committee (2019 – 2021)
- William & Mary Diverse Philosophies Club Faculty Coordinator (2015 – present)
- William & Mary Philosophy Department Diversity Advocate (2017 – present)
- Organizer for the 2018 Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, College of William & Mary
- Organizer for the 2016 - 2019 Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, College of William & Mary
- Organizer for the 2020 Ethics and Metaphysics Workshop, College of William & Mary.
- William & Mary Philosophy Department Faculty Affairs Committee (2022 – present)
- William & Mary Gender, Sexuality, and Women Studies Department Personnel Committee (2022 – present)
- Dissertation Committee for Emilie Pagano (University of Texas, Austin) 2023.

TEACHING

College of William & Mary

Metaphysics
Philosophy of Race
Truth and Time Seminar
Gender Identity (independent study)
Social Ontology Seminar
Feminist Metaphysics
Truthmakers (independent study)
The Metaphysics of Race (independent study)
Kant and Arendt (independent study)
Kant and his Successors
Knowledge and Reality
Truth: What is it? Why Care about it?

Honors Theses: Kristen Ekstrom (committee 2016-2017), Riley Covert (advisor 2019), Bryce Herndon (committee 2018-2019), Luke Erdhal (advisor fall 2019), Jake Beardsley (advisor 2020-2021), Neal Going (advisor 2020-2021).

Central Michigan University:

Truth and Time
Introduction to Philosophy
Contemporary Moral Problems

Business Ethics (online)

California State University, Long Beach:
Introduction to Ethics

University of California, Irvine:
Philosophy of Mind