

Jacob Browning

Curriculum Vitae

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Areas of Specialization

Modern (esp. Kant), Philosophy of Mind, Artificial Intelligence

Areas of Competence

AI Ethics, Cognitive Science, History of Philosophy

Positions

Post-Doctoral Associate, New York University Computer Science Department	2021-3
Post-Doctoral Associate, New York University Center for Data Science	2019-21
Berggruen/Templeton World Charity Fellow	
Visiting Researcher, MIT Brain and Cognitive Science	2019
Berggruen/Templeton World Charity Fellow	

Education

PhD, Philosophy	2018
The New School for Social Research	
Dissertation: “Inventing Perceptual Content: The Given from Kant to McDowell”	
M.A., Philosophy	2011
The New School for Social Research	
B.A., Religion	2003
Pepperdine University	

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Language, Common Sense, and the Winograd Schema Challenge”	2023
Co-authored with Yann LeCun. <i>Artificial Intelligence Journal</i>	
“Personhood and AI: Why Large Language Models Don’t Understand Us”	2023
<i>Artificial Intelligence and Society</i>	
“The History of Qualia and C.I. Lewis’s Role in It”	2023
<i>British Journal for the History of Philosophy</i>	
“Putting Explainable AI in Context”	2022
Co-authored with Mark Theunissen. <i>Ethics of Information Technology</i>	
“C.I. Lewis: Pragmatist or Reductivist?”	2022
<i>International Journal of Philosophical Studies</i>	
“Kant and the Determinacy of Intuition”	2022
<i>European Journal of Philosophy</i>	
“The Pittsburgh Kantians: Brandom, Conant, Haugeland and McDowell on Kant”	2021
<i>History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis</i>	
“Meier, Reimar, and Kant on Animal Minds”	2021
<i>Kantian Review</i>	
“How Color Qualia Became a Problem”	2020
Co-authored with Zed Adams. <i>Journal of Consciousness Studies</i>	
“McDowell and the Contents of Intuition”	2019
<i>dialectica: A Journal of Analytic Philosophy</i>	

Invited Publications

“Intentionality All-Stars Redux: Do language models understand what they’re talking about?”	2024
<i>Communicating with AI</i> . Oxford University Press	
Review of Carlos Montemayor’s <i>The Prospects of a Humanitarian AI</i>	2023
<i>AI & Society</i>	

- “Kant’s Canon: ‘The Philosopher Must Not Increase the Principles of Cognition without Cause’”** 2022
Rethinking Kant. Cambridge University Press
- Review of Daniel Baumeister’s *Kant on the Rational Animal: Anthropology, Ethics, Race*** 2022
Kantian Review
- “Philosophy and Science of Color in the 20th Century”** 2021
 Co-authored with Zed Adams. In *A Cultural History of Color in the Modern Age*. Bloomsbury
- “Introduction to *Giving a Damn*”** 2017
 Co-authored with Zed Adams. In *Giving a Damn: Essays in Dialogue with John Haugeland*.

Edited Volumes

- Giving a Damn: Essays in Dialogue with John Haugeland*.** 2017
 Co-edited with Zed Adams. MIT Press

Popular Press Publications

- “AI Chatbots Don’t Care About Your Social Norms”** 2023
 Co-authored with Yann LeCun. *Noema Magazine*
- “AI And the Limits of Language”** 2022
 Co-authored with Yann LeCun. *Noema Magazine*
- “What AI Can Tell Us About Intelligence”** 2022
 Co-authored with Yann LeCun. *Noema Magazine*
- “A Whiggish History of Computer Vision”** 2021
 Co-Developed with Philipp Schmitt.
- “Making Common Sense”** 2021
Noema Magazine
- “What Computers can Explain about how Humans Learn”** 2021
Public Seminar
- “Learning without Thought”** 2020
Noema Magazine
- “Timeline of AI”** 2020
 Co-Developed with Philipp Schmitt. *Uncanny Valley: AI Art*. De Young Gallery Press

Presentations (Selected)

- “The Right Response, Not Just the Most Likely: The Limits of Minimizing Error Prediction for Training Large Language Models”** 2023
 International Conference on Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry at Illinois Tech
- “Yes, Language Models Need Sensory Grounding”** 2023
 Philosophy of Deep Learning Workshop at New York University
- “Two Models of Understanding—and Two Ways of Representing the World”** 2023
 “AI and the Barriers to Meaning Working Group” at Santa Fe Institute
- “Intentionality All-Stars Redux: Do language models understand what they’re talking about?”** 2023
 AI and Humanity Lab, University of Hong Kong
- “Is Twitter a Game? Gamification and Social Media”** 2023
 Co-authored with Zed Adams. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology
- “Objectivity in Practice: Disenchanting AI”** 2022
 Co-authored with Mark Theunissen. East European Network for Philosophy of Science
- “Wittgenstein’s Woodsellers and Apparently Irrational AI”** 2022
 Co-authored with Mark Theunissen. Wittgenstein and AI Conference at New College of the Humanities

Courses Taught (Selected)

Introduction to Philosophy	Great Books I & II
Critical Thinking	Social and Political Philosophy
Ethics	Ancient Philosophy
Ethics of Information Technology	Modern Philosophy
Medical Ethics	Philosophy of Law

Fellowships and Awards

Berggruen/Templeton World Charity Research Fellowship MIT University and New York University	2019-21
List Holocaust Memorial Dissertation Fellowship New School for Social Research	2016-7
Teaching Fellowship New School for Public Engagement	2017
Research Assistantship New School for Social Research	2011-16
Tuition Scholarship New School for Social Research	2007-11

Languages

German – Proficient Reading Knowledge
Ancient Greek – Competent Reading Knowledge

Academic References

Zed Adams, Associate Professor — The New School for Social Research
AdamsZ@newschool.edu (212) 229-5707 x3020

Jay M. Bernstein, University Distinguished Professor — The New School for Social Research
Bernstej@newschool.edu (212) 229-5707 x3072

Yann LeCun, Silver Professor — New York University
Yann@cs.nyu.edu (212) 998-3283

Teaching References

Ruth Maher, Adjunct Associate Professor — William Paterson University
maherr2@wpunj.edu (973) 720-3912