

T.J. Perkins, Ph.D.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

History and Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Science and Values, Philosophy of Biology,
Science and Technology Studies

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Technology, Bioethics, Research Ethics

EDUCATION

- 2019–2025 **PhD, Philosophy, University of Utah**
Dissertation: “Cultural Readiness and Theory Uptake in the Historical Sciences”
Committee: Joyce Havstad (chair), Melinda Fagan, Matt Haber, Carlos Santana, & Derek Turner
- 2017–2019 **MA, Philosophy, University of Calgary**
Thesis: “Tracing Pathways and Deconstructing Mechanisms in Ecology”
Committee: C. Kenneth Waters (chair), Marc Ereshefsky, & Megan Delehanty
- 2013–2017 **BA (Honours), Philosophy, University of Calgary**
- 2010–2017 **BA, History, University of Calgary**

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

- Perkins, T.J. (forthcoming). “Reactionary Dissident Science.” *Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology*.
- Perkins, T.J. 2026. “Mound builders, mound blunders: mythmaking in nineteenth century American archaeology.” *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, 48(1).
- Santana, Gray, Kathryn Petrozzo, & **TJ Perkins**. 2024. “Whose Anthropocene?: a data-driven look at the prospects for collaboration between natural science, social science, and the humanities,” *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*, 39(2): 723–735.
- Perkins, T.J. 2023. “Culture’s Impact on the Historical Sciences,” *Journal of the Philosophy of History*, 17(1): 31–52.
- Trappes, Rose, Daniel Cohnitz, Viorel Pâslaru, **TJ Perkins**, & Ali Teymoori. 2020. “The Online Alternative: Sustainability, Justice, and Conferencing in Philosophy” *The European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, 16(2): 145–172.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

- TJ Perkins. “Ripe Science, Hype Science, Meteor Sideswipe Science.” *Extinct Blog*, July 26, 2023. <http://www.extinctblog.org/extinct/2023/7/26/ripe-science-hype-science-nb9zr>
- Rose Trappes & **TJ Perkins**. “Continuing the Case for Online Conferences.” *The Brains Blog*. March 8, 2021. <https://philosophyofbrains.com/2021/03/08/continuing-the-case-for-online-conferences.aspx>

Rose Trappes, Daniel Cohnitz, Viorel Pâslaru, **TJ Perkins**, & Ali Teymoori. “Online Conferences: The New Default.” *Daily Nous*, January 11, 2021. <https://dailynous.com/2021/01/11/online-conferences-new-default-guest-post/>

PRESENTATIONS

“De Laubenfels Untested: Testability and the End-Cretaceous Mass Extinction,” in the Biennial Meeting of the *International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology* (ISHPSSB), Porto Portugal, July 2025.

“Readying Alvarez,” UCSD Science Studies Colloquium Series, San Diego CA, October 21, 2024 (Invited).

“Aims, Domains and Models in Science,” in the Biennial Meeting of the *Philosophy of Science Association*, New Orleans LA, November 14-17, 2024.

“Mound Builders, Mound Blunders: Mythmaking in 19th Century American Archaeology and the Image of Science,”

- *Philosophy, Politics, and Economics* (PPE), New Orleans LA, upcoming in November 2024.
- *Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice* (SPSP), Columbia SC, May 2024.
- Utah Graduate WIP Series, Salt Lake City UT, May 2024.

“The Exemplar-Curated Strategy and Conceptual Models in Ecology,” *Philosophy of Biology Shop Talk* (PaBST), Greensboro NC, June 2023.

“Cycles of Inquiry, Cultural Readiness, and Moral Imagination,” 11th *Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology* (ViMST), Dallas TX, May 2023.

“Two Cases of Cultural Readiness,” Utah Graduate WIP Series, Salt Lake City UT, April 2023.

“Cultural Readiness and Scientific Change.” Flash Talk. *Philosophy of Biology at the Mountains Appalachia* (POBAMA), Greensboro NC, August 2022.

“Constitutive or Contextual? Societal Values in Ecological Management.” Lightning Talk. *Values in Medicine Science and Technology Annual Conference* (ViMST). Dallas TX, May 2022.

“The Cultural Readiness of Paleontological Discoveries.” Lightning Talk, *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology* (ISHPSSB) Biennial Meeting. Online, July 2021.

Commentary on Caleb Hazelwood’s “Navigating a plurality of ontological thresholds in practice-based theories of natural kinds”, University of Calgary Graduate Conference (Philosophy of Biology), Calgary AB, May 2018.

“Are Pathways Really Just Mechanisms?”

- *Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science* (CSHPS). Regina SK, May 2018.
- University of Calgary Graduate Colloquium. Calgary AB, October 2017.

POSTERS

“Cultural Readiness and Scientific Change.” Poster, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting. Pittsburgh PA, November 2022.

“Conceptual Models in Ecology” Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Online Feb 2021 & Baltimore, MD Nov 2021.

“Pragmatic and Ontological Considerations Against Reducing Explanatory Concepts” Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting. Seattle WA, November 2018.

AWARDS

Best Graduate Student Paper Award 2022, “Culture’s Impact on the Historical Sciences,”
University of Utah’s Department of Philosophy (\$100).
The ESRR Humanities/Arts Endowment Fellowship 2023 (\$5000)
The ESRR Humanities/Arts Endowment Fellowship 2021 (\$5000)
Queen Elizabeth II Graduate (Master's) Research Scholarship 2018 (\$10,800)
Queen Elizabeth II Graduate (Master’s) Research Scholarship 2017 (\$7200)

TEACHING

EXPERIENCE AS INSTRUCTOR (* indicates online asynchronous)

University of Utah

Ethics in Videogames		GAMES 3020	Spring 2025 & Spring 2023
History and Philosophy of Science		PHIL 3350	Spring 2024 & Fall 2023
Bioethics		PHIL 3520	Spring 2022
Science & Society		PHIL 3310	Fall 2021
History and Philosophy of Science*	with Levi Lowe	PHIL 3350	Summer 2024 & Summer 2023
Intro to Philosophy*	with Derek Halm	PHIL 1000	Summer 2022
History and Philosophy of Science*	with Hannah Allen	PHIL 3350	Summer 2021
Science and Society*	with Hannah Allen	PHIL 3310	Summer 2020

EXPERIENCE AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

University of Utah

Business and Philosophy*	Prof. Landon McBrayer	BUS 3960	Fall 2024
Ethics in Video Games	Profs. Jose Zagal & Eliya Cohen	EAE 3020	Fall 2022
History and Philosophy of Science	Prof. Stephen Downes	PHIL 3350	Spring 2021
Research Ethics	Prof. Joyce Havstad	PHIL 3570	Fall 2020

University of Calgary

Mind, Matter, and God	Prof. C. Kenneth Waters	PHIL 201	Spring 2019
Logic 1	Prof. Yoshiki Kobasigawa	PHIL 279	Fall 2018
Logic 1	Prof. Ali Kazmi	PHIL 279	Spring 2018

SERVICE

LEADERSHIP

- Founding Member, Minorities and Philosophy (MAP), University of Utah Chapter, 2019–2025.
- Member, University of Utah Philosophy Graduate Student Committee (PGSC), 2022–2025.
- Chair, Student Advisory Committee (SAC), University of Utah, Fall 2023.

- Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Student Association, University of Calgary, 2018–2019.

MENTORSHIP

- Guest Speaker, Philosophy 320: Philosophy of Science, invited by Prof. Aja Watkins, January 2026.
- Evaluator, Undergraduate Research Spring Symposium Poster Session, University of Utah, April 2024.
- “Mystery Guest,” University of Calgary Proseminar, invited by Prof. C. Kenneth Waters, October 2022.

ORGANIZING

- Editorial Board, SPSP Newsletter, Summer 2025.
- Organizer, Philosophy of Biology at the Mountains (POBAM), University of Utah, July 17–19, 2024.
- Coordinator, Philosophy of Science Reading Group (PSRG), University of Utah, Spring 2023.
- Co-Organizer, Gather Town Social Setting and Scavenger Hunt, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB) Biennial Meeting. Online, July 2021.
- Main Organizer, Philosophy of Biology at the Mountains (on Zoom) (POBAMz) Online Workshop, University of Utah, June 23, 25, & 29, 2020.
- Coordinator, Graduate Colloquium, University of Calgary, Sept 2018–May 2019.

REFEREEING

Journal for the Philosophy of History
Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology
Perspectives on Science
Global Philosophy