

October 2026

Brendan I. Fleig-Goldstein

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy, Brown University
Corliss Brackett, Room 308
45 Prospect St.
Providence, RI 02912

brendan_fleig-goldstein@brown.edu
www.brendanfleiggoldstein.com
+1 518 929-4078

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AOS Philosophy of Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence; Philosophy of Science;
 Philosophy of Mind

AOC Logic; Formal and Traditional Epistemology; History of Science; Philosophy of
 Religion; Ethics

EDUCATION

2024 Ph.D., History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh.
 Dissertation: Philosophical Foundations of Resource Rational Analysis
 Committee: Colin Allen (chair), Edouard Machery, John Norton, and Thomas
 Icard.

2024 Graduate Training Certificate, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition,
 University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University.

2018 M.S., Symbolic Systems, Stanford University.
 Master's Thesis: The Role of Optimality Claims in Cognitive Modelling (advisor:
 Thomas Icard)

2015 B.S., Philosophy; B.S., Cognitive & Brain Sciences; Minor in Religion, Tufts
 University.
 Honors Thesis: Predictive Processing and Its Philosophical Implications (advisor:
 Daniel Dennett)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025-present Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Philosophy of AI, Department of
 Philosophy, Brown University.

2024-2025 Director of Cognitive Science, Cognitive Science Program, Columbia University.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

forthcoming A Topological Learning Theoretic Analysis of Bounded Rational Analysis,
 Philosophy of Science.

2026 Isaac Newton, Interdisciplinary: Newton's Cross-Domain Evidential Reasoning,
 Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, 117: 102154.

Commentary

2026 Metabolic Considerations Are Generic Biological Details Without Resource-Rational Analysis, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 49: e460.

Manuscripts Under Review

Meta-Reflection and Accountable Artificial Intelligence

Alternatives to Hypothesis Testing: Demonstrative Induction in Cognitive Science

Closing the Loop in Cognitive Science: The Diachronic Evidential Strategy of Bounded Rational Analysis

Which Way to Meno's Diner? Complexity Theory and the Feasibility of Attaining AGI

Work In Progress

There Is No Ideal Epistemology

Intentionality Presupposes Resource Rationality

Book project: *The History of Mathematical Psychology* (with Colin Allen, Nuhu Osman Attah, Mara McGuire, and Dzintra Ullis)

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks and Workshops

October 2026 Programming Normative Commitments into Artificial Intelligence Models, Ph.D. Program in Humanities and Technology, Salve Regina University, Graduate workshop.

April 2025 Evolution and Culture as a Mental Operating System, Meade Anderson Philosophy Conference, Columbia University.

July 2021 Three Questions About Mathematical Psychology, Annual Meeting of the Society for Mathematical Psychology, Invited keynote; with Colin Allen, Nuhu Osman Attah, Mara McGuire, and Dzintra Ullis.

February 2017 The Predictive Mind: Empirical Evidence and Philosophical Import, Stanford Symbolic Systems Symposium.

Invited Commentary

October 2026 Commentary on a paper by Heather Demarest and Zachary Miller, New England Workshop on Metaphysics, Rhode Island College.

Refereed Conference Presentations

November 2026 A Topological Learning Theoretic Analysis of Bounded Rational Analysis, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Talk.

November 2024 Meta-Reflective Capacities and Normative Commitments in Artificial Intelligence, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Talk.

November 2022 The Unreasonable Ineffectiveness of Mathematics in Psychology, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Poster with Colin Allen, Nuhu Osman Attah, Mara McGuire, and Dzintra Ullis.

November 2018 The Role of Optimality Claims in Cognitive Modeling, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Poster.

Campus and Departmental Talks

- November 2025 Alternatives to Hypothesis Testing: Deductive Inference in Cognitive Science, Philosophy Colloquium, Brown University.
- April 2025 Human Rationality and the Study of the Mind, Cognitive Science Symposium, Columbia University and Barnard College.
- March 2021 Black Boxes, Evidence, and the Isolation of Inductive Risk, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition Brain Bag Series.
- April 2017 Assessing Resource Rational Analysis Approaches, Stanford Symbolic Systems Forum.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Brown University

- Science and Knowledge (Spring 2027, scheduled; graduate seminar)
- Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence (Fall 2026, Spring 2026)
- Philosophical Foundations of Cognitive Science (Fall 2025)

Columbia University

- Introduction to Cognitive Science (Spring 2025; co-taught with C. Randy Gallistel)
- Topics in Cognitive Science and Philosophy: Artificial Intelligence and the Nativism-Empiricism Debate (Spring 2025)
- Cognitive Science and Philosophy (Fall 2024)

University of Pittsburgh

- Philosophical Foundations of Cognitive Science (Spring 2024)
- Myth and Science (Fall 2023, Spring 2022)
- Morality and Medicine (Fall 2021)

Tufts University

- Robots, Space, and Civilizations of the Future (Experimental College, Fall 2013; co-taught with Michael Schneider)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2014-2015 Research Assistant, Human-Robot Interaction Laboratory, Tufts University.
Principal investigators: Matthias Scheutz and Megan Strait.

ADVISING

- 2024-present Research and Thesis Supervision.
Current: Ethan Mistry and Charles Luke (Brown University; Philosophy Capstone).
Former: Max Medvedev and Rachel Rumstein (Columbia University; Cognitive Science Senior Theses); Bonnie Yang (Barnard College; Cognitive Science Senior Thesis); Daniel Mun (Bergen Technical High School; Independent Research Internship).
- 2024-2025 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Cognitive Science, Columbia University.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- 2026 Moderator, Artificial Intelligence & Art Panel, Humanities & AI Series, Brown University.
- 2022-2023 Departmental Graduate Representative, History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh.
- 2020, 2023-2024 Graduate Volunteer, Pittsburgh Summer Program for Underrepresented Groups in Philosophy of Science (PSP4).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2023-present Coordinator, ALIUS International Research Group.

Refereeing

The Journal of Philosophy; European Journal for Philosophy of Science; Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences; Philosophical Psychology

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Society for Mathematical Psychology
Philosophy of Science Association
Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition at Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon
ALIUS Research Group
American Philosophical Association
European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism

REFERENCES

Colin Allen

Distinguished Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Santa Barbara
colinallen@ucsb.edu

Edouard Machery

Distinguished Professor of HPS
University of Pittsburgh
machery@pitt.edu

Thomas Icard

C. I. Lewis Professor of Philosophy
Stanford University
icard@stanford.edu

Christopher Peacocke

Johnsonian Professor of Philosophy
Columbia University
cp2161@columbia.edu

C. Randy Gallistel (Teaching)

Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychology
Rutgers University
randy.gallistel@gmail.com