

Jack Spencer

Curriculum Vitae

77 Massachusetts Avenue
MIT Dept. of Ling. and Phil, 32-d929
Cambridge, MA 02139
✉ jackspen@mit.edu
🌐 www.jackspencer.org

Employment

- 2018–present **Associate Professor without Tenure, MIT**
- 2013–2018 **Assistant Professor, MIT**
- 2015 **Visitor, École Normal Supérieure, Institut Jean Nicod**

Education

- 2007–2013 **Ph.D., Princeton University, Philosophy**
- 2003–2007 **B.A., University of Colorado, Economics and Philosophy, *summa cum laude***

Areas

- AOS Metaphysics • Decision Theory
- AOC Philosophy of Language • Metaethics

Publications

- forthcoming “Rational Monism and Rational Pluralism”
Philosophical Studies
- forthcoming “An Argument Against Causal Decision Theory”
Analysis
- forthcoming “Knowledge of Objective ‘Oughts’: Monotonicity and the New Miners Puzzle”
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research
(w/ Daniel Muñoz)
- forthcoming “Objective Value is Always Newcombizable”
Mind
(w/ Arif Ahmed)
- 2020 “No Crystal Balls”
Noûs 54: 105–25
- 2019 “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Radiology: Summary of the Joint European and North American Multisociety Statement”

Radiology 294: 436–40
(w/ J. Raymond Geis, Adrian Brody, Carol C. Wu, Erik Ranschaert, Jacob L. Jaremko, Steve G. Langer, Andrea Borondy Kitts, Judy Birch, William F. Shields, Robert van den Hoven van Genderen, Elmar Kotter, Judy Wawira Gichoya, Tessa S. Cook, Matthew B. Morgan, An Tang, Nabile M. Safdar, and Marc Kohli)

Also published in:
Journal of the American College of Radiology (2019) 16: 1516-21

Also published in:
Insights into Imaging (2019) 10:101

Also published in:
Canadian Association of Radiologists Journal (2019) 70: 329-34

2019 “Why Take Both Boxes?”

Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 99: 27–48
(w/ Ian Wells)

2017 “Able to Do the Impossible”

Mind 126: 265–96

2016 “Disagreement and Attitudinal Relativism”

Mind 125: 511–39

2016 “Relativity and Degrees of Relationality”

Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 92: 432–59

Talks

2020 “Why the Present Glows”

New England Summer Metaphysics Group

2020 “Is Nonfundamental Existence Relative?”

Metaphysics on the Mountain 3

2020 “Is Nonfundamental Existence Relative?”

University of Miami
(Colloquium)

2020 “Is Nonfundamental Existence Relative?”

UMass Amherst
(Colloquium)

2020 “An Argument Against Causal Decision Theory”

Central APA, Chicago

- 2019 “How (Not) to Justify Chance-Credence Norms”
*Rutgers University
(Rutgers Workshop on the Foundations of Probability)*
- 2019 “Specialization and the Ethics of AI in Radiology”
C-MIMI
- 2019 “Rational Monism and Rational Pluralism”
Ranch Workshop
- 2018 “The Macro-Micro Gap”
*Rhode Island College
(New England Workshop on Identity and Persistence)*
- 2018 “Why Chance Constrains Credence”
*University of Colorado, Boulder
(Probability and Chance in Science)*
- 2018 “Why Chance Constrains Credence”
*Emily Noether Research Group; Bochum, Germany
(Epistemology Seminar 2018)*
- 2018 “Relative Truth, Absolute Correctness”
*Stanford University
(Stanford/CSLI Philosophy of Language and Linguistic Workshop)*
- 2018 “No Crystal Balls”
Central APA, Chicago
- 2017 “Relative Truth, Absolute Correctness”
*NYU
(New York Philosophy of Language Workshop)*
- 2017 “A Consequentialist Theory of Rational Choice”
Northeastern University
- 2017 “Must Endurance be Primitive?”
*Brown University
(New England Random Metaphysician Group)*
- 2017 “Crystal Balls and U-maximization”
UNC, Chapel Hill
- 2017 “Should Truth Relativists Also Be Correctness Relativists?”
*Cornell University
(Colloquium)*

- 2016 “Explaining Endurance”
Rutgers University
(presented by Nathaniel Baron-Schmitt)
- 2016 “Rational Monism, Rational Pluralism, and the
Metaethical Foundations of Causal Decision Theory”
Cambridge University
- 2016 “Three Forms of Physicalism”
Brown University
- 2015 “Rational Pluralism and Decision Theory”
Rutgers University
- 2015 “Rational Pluralism and Decision Theory”
École Normal Supérieure, Institut Jean Nicod
(Séminaire Naturalizing Epistemic Norms)
- 2015 “Attitudinal Relativism”
École Normal Supérieure, Institut Jean Nicod
(Séminaire Mind and Language)
- 2014 “Able to Do the Impossible”
Harvard University
(Colloquium)
- 2013 “Able to Do the Impossible”
University of Oklahoma
- 2013 “Able to Do the Impossible”
MIT
- 2013 “Able to Do the Impossible”
University of Missouri
- 2013 “Able to Do the Impossible”
UCLA
- 2013 “Able to Do the Impossible”
University of Pittsburgh
- 2011 “Simple Colors for Some”
NYU

Commentaries

- 2020 Issac Wilhelm's, "Centering the Principal Principle"
Eastern APA, Chicago
- 2018 Fatema Amijee, "Why Metaphysical Inquiry Needs the PSR"
The Principle of Sufficient Reason: Then and Now, Simon Fraser University
- 2017 Dave Ingram, "The Essence of Time"
New England Workshop on Philosophy of Time
- 2017 Rachel Sterken, "Amelioration, Meaning Change, and Defective Communication"
Ranch Workshop
- 2016 Jeremy Wyatt, "Reconceiving Faultless Disagreement"
Pacific APA, San Francisco
- 2014 Benj Hellie, "Knowing What It is Like to Converse in *L*"
Ranch Workshop
- 2012 Olla Solomyak, "Contingency and the Amodal Perspective"
Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference

Teaching

- 2020 Problems in Philosophy of Language, (taught w/ Justin Khoo), PHI 24.729
Metaphysics, PHI 24.221
- 2019 Philosophy of Religion, PHI 24.05
Theory of Knowledge, PHI 24.201
Philosophy of Religion, PHI 24.05
- 2018 Philosophy of Religion, PHI 24.05
Problems in Metaphysics (taught w/ Brad Skow), PHI 24.501
- 2017 Color and Its Place in Nature (taught w/ Alex Byrne and Adam Pautz), PHI 24.501
Proseminar in Philosophy (taught w/ Roger White), PHI 24.400
- 2016 Philosophy of Religion, PHI 24.05
Problems in Metaphysics: Nonfactualism (taught w/ Branden Fitelson)
Philosophy of Religion, PHI 24.05
- 2015 Metaphysics, PHI 24.221
Proseminar in Philosophy (taught w/ Agustín Rayo), PHI 24.400
- 2014 Topics in Metaphysics and Ethics: 'Ought' and Ought (taught w/ Justin Khoo), PHI 24.502
Proseminar in Philosophy (taught w/ Stephen Yablo), PHI 24.400

2013 Minds and Machines, PHI 24.09
Metaphysics: Materialism, PHI 24.501
Metaphysics, PHI 24.221

Grants, Honors, & Awards

2011 Jacob K. Javitz Fellow
2010 Cotzen Faculty Fellow
2007–09 Jacob K. Javitz Fellow

Service

Referee for: *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Erkenntnis*, *Ethics*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Mind*, *Noûs*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Synthese*, Marc Sanders Award for Public Policy, and Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference

Last Updated: August 2020