

KYLE DARBY O'DWYER

📍 Pacific Lutheran University
Department of Philosophy

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EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Assistant Professor , Philosophy, Pacific Lutheran University	2025-
Predoctoral Instructor , Philosophy, University of Washington-Seattle	2022-2025
Adjunct Instructor , Philosophy, Chemeketa Community College	2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D. , Philosophy (expected 2025), University of Washington-Seattle Dissertation: <i>Essentialist Knowledge & the Contours of Thought</i> Committee: Colin Marshall (Chair), Michael J. Raven (Co-Chair), Sosseh Assaturian, Paul Franco	—
M.A. , Philosophy, University of Washington-Seattle	2022
Grad Student , Philosophy, University of California-Santa Barbara	2017-2018
M.A. , Philosophy, Brandeis University Thesis: <i>Metaphysical Modality Undiminished: A Critique of Modal Normativism</i> , Advisor: Eli Hirsch	2016
B.A. , Philosophy, Biola University	2014

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

AOS: Epistemology, Metaphysics

AOC: Philosophy of Language, Ethics

PUBLICATIONS

Explanatory Challenges and Neo-Aristotelian Essentialism, (2025) *Synthese*, 205, 130, [10.1007/s11229-025-04925-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-025-04925-8)

WORK IN PROGRESS (drafts available upon request)

“Reasoning with Finite Persons” (draft)

“Modality Undiminished: A Critique of Modal Normativism” (draft)

“Naive Realist Access Denied: A Critique of Bengson’s Third Realm Access” (draft)

“The Contours of Thought: Surmounting the Explanatory Challenge for Essentialism” (draft)

PAPERS PRESENTED

Reasoning with Finite Persons: Non-Paternalistic Distrust in Rational Persuasion

University of Washington WIP Series 02/2024

An Explanatory Challenge for Neo-Aristotelian Essentialism

74th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference 11/ 2023

Epistemology of Essence Workshop 07/ 2023

Metaphysical Modality Undiminished: A Critique of Modal Normativism

Brandeis Graduate Speaker Series 11/ 2015

COMMENTS

“Examining the Stability of Disjoint Worlds” Comments on Raja Rosenhagen’s “Dual Character Concepts: Related But Independent?”

74th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference 11/2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (‡ = upper division)

Sole Instructor

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

The Examined Life (J-term 2025)

Business Ethics (Spring 2025 x2)

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON-SEATTLE

Introduction to Philosophy (Summer 2022, Summer 2023)

Introduction to Epistemology‡ (Winter 2024)

Introduction to Ethics (Summer 2024, Fall 2024)

CHEMEKETA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Introduction to Philosophy (Winter 2019 x2, Spring 2019)

Bioethics (Spring 2019)

Teaching Assistant

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON-SEATTLE

Introduction to Ethics (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

Ethics of Persuasion (Spring 2023)

Existentialism and Film (Winter 2023, Fall 2021, Fall 2020)

Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Winter 2022, Winter 2021, Winter 2020)

Philosophy of Science (Spring 2021, Fall 2019)

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Business Ethics (Fall 2015)

Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2015)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Philosophy (Summer 2015)

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Topics in Teaching Philosophy II (10-week seminar)

Winter 2022

University of Washington, Department of Philosophy

Topics in Teaching Philosophy I (10-week seminar)

Fall 2019

University of Washington, Department of Philosophy

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Philosophy Writing Center Supervisor

Fall 2024-Spring 2025

University of Washington-Seattle

Research Associate for Colin Marshall

Summer 2024

Session Chair, "Contingentist Qualitativism and Primitive Pluralities," Jonas Werner, Pacific APA, Portland, OR

Spring 2024

Co-Organizer, University of Washington Graduate Conference on Philosophy of Race, (online)

Spring 2021

AWARDS

Graduate School Top Scholar Award

2019-2020

University of Washington-Seattle

Graduate Fellowship

2017-2018

University of California-Santa Barbara

Merit Scholarship

2014-2016

Brandies University

Dean's List

2011

Biola University

REFERENCES

[Colin Marshall](#)

Associate Professor

University of Washington

crmarsh@uw.edu

[Michael J. Raven](#)

Professor of Philosophy

University of Victoria

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[Eli Hirsch](#)

Charles Goldman Professor of Philosophy

Brandeis University

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[Anthony Fisher](#)

Lecturer

Gonzaga University

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