

Paul L. Franco

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Washington-Seattle, Department of Philosophy

2021– Associate Teaching Professor
Graduate Program Coordinator (Director of Graduate Studies) since 2022

2016–2021 Assistant Teaching Professor (Title was Lecturer before 2020 change)

2012–2016 Acting Assistant Professor–Temporary

Haverford College, Department of Philosophy

2011–2012 Visiting Assistant Professor

2010–2011 Instructor

EDUCATION

2011 Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania (M.A. in 2006)
Dissertation title: *The Constitutive A Priori and the Structure of Physical Knowledge*
Committee: Paul Guyer (chair), Elisabeth Camp, Michael Weisberg

2004 B.A., Philosophy, Colorado State University (Honors; Magna Cum Laude)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

History of Analytic Philosophy; History of Philosophy of Science; Values in Science

AREAS OF COMPETENCE (COURSES TAUGHT ON P. 7)

Philosophy of Language; History of Modern Philosophy; Kant; Ethics, including Applied Ethics

PUBLICATIONS (* = PEER-REVIEWED)

2025 “Mary Hesse’s Early Work on Scientific Language and the Open Texture of Models.”
Gori, Pietro (ed). *Mary B. Hesse (1924-2016): Metaphors, Models, and the Growth of Scientific Knowledge*. Women in the History of Philosophy and Sciences. Springer.
(Invited; ~9k words)

2025* “A History of Metaethics and Values in Science.” Tsou, J., Shaw, J., and Fehr, C. (eds.),
Values, Pluralism, and Pragmatism: Themes from the Work of Matthew J. Brown.
Boston Studies in the Philosophy and History of Science, v. 347. Springer. (~8k words)

2024* “Susan Stebbing on Logical Positivism and Communication.” *Ergo an Open Access Journal of Philosophy* 10: 48: 1378–1402 ([Link](#))

- 2023* “Behavior, Valuation, and Pragmatism in C.I. Lewis and W.V. Quine.” *Asian Journal of Philosophy*. 2 Article number: 27. Symposium on Robert Sinclair’s *Quine, Conceptual Pragmatism, and the Analytic/Synthetic Distinction*: 1–10 ([Link](#))
- 2021* “Ordinary Language Philosophy, Explanation, and the Historical Turn in Philosophy of Science.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Part A*: 90: 77–85. ([Link](#))
- 2020* “Hans Reichenbach’s and C.I. Lewis’s Kantian Philosophies of Science.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Part A* 80: 62–71. ([Link](#))
- 2019* “Speech Act Theory and the Multiple Aims of Science.” *Philosophy of Science* 86 (5): 1005–1015. ([Link](#))
- 2018* “Ordinary Language Criticisms of Logical Positivism.” *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 8, no. 1: 157–190. ([Link](#))
- 2017* “Assertion, Nonepistemic Values, and Scientific Practice.” *Philosophy of Science* 84 (1): 160–180. ([Link](#))
- 2012* “Are Kant’s Concepts and Methodology Inconsistent with Scientific Change? Constitutivity and the Synthetic Method in Kant.” *HOPOS* 2, no. 2: 321–353. ([Link](#))

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2023 *Science and Moral Imagination: A New Ideal for Values in Science* by Matt Brown. *Philosophy of Science*. Vol. 90, no. 2: 479–483.
- 2018 *Pragmatism in Transition: Contemporary Perspectives on C.I. Lewis*, eds. Peter Olen and Carl Sachs. *Transactions of the C.S. Peirce Society* 54, no. 2: 273–280.
- 2016 *Kantian Conceptual Geography* by N. Goldberg. [Virtual Critique](#). Online; ~8k words.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY: MODERATING, EDITING, WRITING, INTERVIEW

- 2024 *Ergo Blog* about my 2024 *Ergo* article on Susan Stebbing (~1k words; [Link](#))
- 2020 Moderator, Humanities Washington Think & Drink. “Is the Internet Making us Miserable?” Co-sponsor: UW iSchool. Town Hall, Seattle, WA. [Write-up and podcast](#)
- 2020 Interview for &HPS8. *The Circle: Philosophy, Science, and History*: [Youtube](#)
- 2017 Presenter, “Hate Speech and Slurs.” #philosophy responds: Conversations After the Election, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2016–19 Editorial Committee, [ARCADE](#), a Seattle art and architecture non-profit
- 2015 Feature Editor and Introduction, “Authenticity: Navigating the Real in Cities, Design, & Art.” *ARCADE* 33, no. 2: 27–49. Print: 4000 issues; [Online](#).
- 2015 “Are You There Immanuel Kant? It’s Me, Bertha.” *The Stranger*, Feb. 18: 19. [Online](#).
- 2011 Book chapter co-authored with Doug Paletta, “No Touching! George Sr.’s Brush with Treason.” *Arrested Development and Philosophy*, John Wiley & Sons.

INVITED TALKS AND COMMENTS

- 2024 “Herbert Feigl, Metaethics, and the History of Science and Values.” Workshop on Scientism. U. of Chicago, Case Western, and The Scientism Project. Chicago, IL
- 2024 Comments on Joyce Havstad’s “Evolutionary Thinking for Community Reform of the Attitudinal Norms of Science.” Pacific-APA, Portland, OR
- 2023 “A History of Metaethics and Values in Science.” Keynote for Philosophy Day! Cal State Long Beach, Long Beach, CA
- 2023 “Mary Hesse, Scientific Language, and the Historical Turn in Philosophy of Science.” Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy Group Session at Pacific-APA, San Francisco, CA
- 2021 “Values in Scientific Communication.” Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology / Socially Relevant Philosophy of Science and Engineering Joint Symposium
- 2019 “Longino on Feminist and Traditional Values: Lessons for and in history of modern philosophy.” Society for Study of Early Modern Women, at Pacific-APA, Vancouver
- 2015 “Ordinary Language Criticisms of Logical Positivism” (Shortened title). Pacific Northwest History and Philosophy of Science Workshop. Seattle, WA
- 2013 “Interpreting Kant’s analytic and synthetic methods (and why the distinction matters).” University of Washington, Colloquium Series, Seattle, WA

SELECTED TALKS (* = REFEREED; † = PEDAGOGY)

- 2024* “A Historical Perspective on Value Judgments, Value-Neutrality, and Values in Science.” Phil. of Science Association Biennial Meeting (PSA) 2024, New Orleans, LA
- 2024* “Herbert Feigl and the History of Science and Values.” Philosophy of Science: Past, Present and Future, Minneapolis, MN (Poster)
- 2024* “Mary Hesse on Open Texture and Interpretation.” HOPOS 2024, Vienna, Austria
- 2022*† “Aims, Challenges, and Topics for Teaching Philosophy of Science in Introduction to Philosophy.” PSA 2022, American Association of Philosophy Teachers Cognate Society Teaching Hub Session, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2022* “A History of Metaethics and Values in Science.” PSA 2022, Pittsburgh, PA (Poster)
- 2022* “Susan Stebbing on Logical Positivism.” HOPOS 2022, UC-Irvine, CA
- 2022* “Scientific Communication in Democratic Societies.” Values in Science and Political Philosophy, Claremont McKenna, Claremont, CA (Lightning talk)
- 2020* “Susan Stebbing on Logical Positivism: Communication, Historical Statements, & Solipsism.” Tilburg History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop (Online)

- 2020* “Frameworks from Philosophy of Language for Thinking about Scientific Communication.” PSA 2020, Virtual Poster Forum (Online; Poster)
- 2020* “Ordinary Language Philosophy and the Historical Turn in Philosophy of Science.” &HPS8: From Unification to Pluralism. (Online)
- 2020*** “Some Communicative Responsibilities of Scientists.” Mid/South Phil. of Science Conference VA Tech, Blacksburg, VA; Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology, UT-Dallas, Dallas, TX; SPSP, MSU, East Lansing, MI (all cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2019* Paper on media coverage of scientific dissent. Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology Conference, UT-Dallas, Dallas, TX
- 2019* “Ordinary Language Philosophy and the Historical Turn in Philosophy of Science.” Greater Cascadia History and Philosophy of Science Workshop, Vancouver, BC
- 2018* “Speech Act Theory and the Multiple Aims of Science.” Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Seattle, WA
- 2018* “Kantian Philosophies of Science in the Twentieth Century.” North American Kant Society, Vancouver, BC, Canada (Comments by Lydia Patton)
- 2017* “The Scientist is a Moralizer: Interpreting the Side-Effect Effect.” Philosophy of Social Science Roundtable, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2016* “Nonepistemic Values, Scientific Practice, and Political Legitimacy.” Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Atlanta, GA
- 2016** “Ordinary Language Criticisms of Logical Positivism.” Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy, Denver, CO; HOPOS 2016, Minneapolis, MN
- 2011 “Naturalizing Epistemology.” NEH Summer Seminar: 20th Century American Philosophy: Quine and Davidson, Princeton, NJ
- 2009** “Hans Reichenbach’s Transcendental Method and the Constitutive A Priori.” 1st Colombian Conference in Logic, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Science, Bogotá; 25th Boulder Conference on History and Philosophy of Science, CU–Boulder
- 2009 “C.I. Lewis’s Conceptual Pragmatism.” Vienna Summer University: The Culture of Science and its Philosophy, Vienna, Austria
- 2007* “Reframing the Quine/Carnap Debate.” First biennial EPSA, Madrid, Spain

GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

- 2025– Kai Milanovich; General exam committee; Topic: Feminist philosophy of social science
- 2023– Kyle O’Dwyer; Dissertation and general exam committee; Topic: Epistemology of essence
- 2023– Aaron Barker; Dissertation and general exam committee; Topic: Schopenhauer’s moral philosophy

- 2023– Bri High; Dissertation and general exam committee; Topic: Reduction and emergence
- 2022–24 Anna Bates; Dissertation and general exam committee; Dissertation title: “A Study of Plato's Treatment of Injustice in the Republic” (Defended October 2024)
- 2021–23 Kayla Mehl; Dissertation committee; Dissertation title: “Fat – Therefore, Unhealthy? Oppressing Fat People in the Name of Health” (Defended Summer 2023)
- 2019 Joyce Diaz; Law, Societies, Justice undergraduate honors thesis second reader; Title: “Affective Injustice in Policy and Political Philosophy”
- 2012 Elizabeth Wingfield, Undergraduate senior thesis second reader; Title: “A Defense of Nonconceptual Contents” (Haverford)
- 2011 Peter Block, Undergraduate senior thesis second reader; Title: “Three Types of Scientific Revolution: A Kuhnian Analysis of Evolutionary Biology” (Haverford)

PEDAGOGY ACTIVITIES AT UW

- 2021–22 “Universal Design for Learning Against a Background of Injustice.” Three workshops by the UW Philosophy Climate and Diversity Committee
- 2020 Evidence-Based Teaching Implementation Group, Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2019 Evidence-Based Teaching Exploration Group, Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2018 Evidence-Based Teaching Group Member, Department of Philosophy

SERVICE AT UW

- 2024–25 Search Committee for Philosophy of Science, Department of Philosophy
- 2023–24 Graduate Program Review Committee, Department of Philosophy
- 2023–24 Department Town Hall Planning Committee, Department of Philosophy
- 2022–23 Formal Methods Requirement Review Committee, Department of Philosophy
- 2022– Graduate Program Coordinator (Director of Grad Studies), Department of Philosophy
- 2022– Chair, Graduate Admissions, Department of Philosophy
- 2022– Curriculum Committee, Department of Philosophy
- 2021–22 Co-chair, Search Committee for History of Philosophy, Department of Philosophy
- 2019– Faculty panelist, Robinson Center for Young Scholars Orientation
- 2016–24 Climate and Diversity Committee, Department of Philosophy
- 2019–20 Graduate Admissions, Department of Philosophy
- 2018–22 Co-manager of Department of Philosophy Twitter Account
- 2018–21 Teaching Innovation Committee, Department of Philosophy

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION AND MENTORING

- 2022– Treasurer for International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science ([Website](#))
- 2024 Mentor (x2) for HOPOS 2024 Mentoring Program for two recent PhDs
- 2022 Mentor for HOPOS 2022 Mentoring Program for a recent PhD
- 2020–21 Mentor for PSA’s Underrepresented Philosophy of Science Scholars Initiative
- 2020 Co-Organizer (w/ Ian Schnee): Teaching Philosophy Online. Two workshops. [Info](#).

REVIEWING

- Agencies** Czech Fulbright Commission; US National Endowment for the Humanities; Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council-Canada; UW Royalty Research Fund
- Publishers** Cambridge University Press; Routledge (x2); Rowman and Littlefield (blurb)
- Journals** *Philosophy of Science* (x8); *Synthese* (x5); *HOPOS* (x3); *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*; *Asian Journal of Philosophy*; *Frontiers in Communication*; *Acta Analytica*; *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*; *Vienna Circle Institute Yearbook*; *Kantian Review*; *Philosophical Problems in Science (Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce)*; *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*; *Science and Engineering Ethics*; *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*

SELECTED GRANTS, HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Pamela Saari Research and Workshop Grant for a workshop on women philosophers in early analytic philosophy; Amount: \$3000 (Not used; pandemic)
- 2019 UW Latino Center for Health, Latinx Faculty Recognition
- 2017 University of Washington, Distinguished Teaching Award Finalist
- 2013 U. of Maryland Baltimore County, Faculty Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow (Declined)
- 2011 NEH Summer Seminar for College and University Teachers, Princeton University, “20th Century American Philosophy: Quine and Davidson”
- 2009 Institut Wiener Kreis Summer School, “The Culture of Science and its Philosophy”
- 2009–10 U. Penn School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2004–09 U. Penn Fontaine Fellowship for Minority Students
- 2003 Willard O. Eddy Scholar, Colorado State University at Fort Collins

COURSES TAUGHT (* = TAUGHT AT LEAST TWICE; † = TAUGHT IN LAST FIVE YEARS)

My teaching load at UW across Fall, Winter, and Spring terms is 2-2-2. Since 2022, I've had a single course release as Graduate Program Coordinator; the teaching load has been 2-1-2. I've taught at least one course every Summer term since 2012–2013 with the exception of 2023–2024.

UW	100: Introduction to Philosophy*† (w/ TAs)
	102: Contemporary Moral Problems* (w/ TAs)
	115: Practical Reasoning*
	120: Introduction to Logic* (w/ TAs)
	240: Introduction to Ethics*† (w/ TAs)
	301: Topics in Philosophy: Science, Values, and Objectivity
	322: History of Modern Philosophy*† (w/ TA once)
	345: Moral Issues of Life and Death*†
	360: Topics in Philosophy of Science*
	o Objectivity, Values, and the Social Dimensions of Science
	o Science and Values
	401: Topics in Philosophy: Language and Science†
	401: Honors Capstone: Ethics, Language, and Analysis†
	422: Studies in Continental Rationalism: Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz
	426: Twentieth Century Philosophy*†
	453: Philosophy of Language*† (Cross-listed with Linguistics 476)
	460: Philosophy of Science*†
	484: Independent Study: Philosophy of Psychiatry†
	526: Graduate Seminar in Recent Philosophy: History of 20th C. Philosophy*
	o Conceptions of Analysis†
HAVERFORD	Philosophy and the Good Life* (w/ TAs)
	Early Modern Continental Philosophy
	Philosophy of Language
	Topics in Recent Philosophy: Science, Values, and Objectivity
	Independent Study: Leibniz (mainly <i>Theodicy</i>)
PENN	History of Modern Philosophy*
	Epistemology
	Introductory Topics: Philosophical Skepticism