

Harvey Lederman

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Philosophy University of Texas, Austin Austin, TX 78712	Website harvey.lederman@utexas.edu
AREAS OF INTEREST	AOS: Philosophical Logic, Wang Yangming, Epistemology, Philosophy of Language AOC: Chinese Philosophy, Aristotle, Game Theory, Decision Theory	
EMPLOYMENT	New York University Visiting Professor: 2026- University of Texas at Austin Professor: 2023 - Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities: 2023- Princeton University Professor (with tenure): 2022 - 2023 Assistant Professor: 2017 - 2022 Jonathan Edwards Bicentennial Preceptor 2020-2022 University of Pittsburgh Assistant Professor: 2016 - 2017 New York University Bersoff Assistant Professor / Faculty Fellow: 2014-2016	
EDUCATION	University of Oxford DPhil, Philosophy, Awarded: November 2014 BPhil, Philosophy, with distinction, July 2012 <i>Ryle Prize for best overall performance</i> University of Cambridge BA, Starred First, Classics, June 2010 Princeton University AB, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> , Classics, June 2008	

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. On the Value of Irreplaceable Objects (with Robbie Kubala and Adam Lovett). *The Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming.
2. A Dominance Argument against Incompleteness (with Christian Tarsney and Dean Spears). *The Philosophical Review*, forthcoming.
3. Trying without Fail (with Ben Holguín). *Philosophical Studies*, 2024.
4. Remarks on Method for Chinese Philosophy. Chinese translation by Chi-keung Chan 陳志强, *Newsletter of Chinese Literature and Philosophy* 中國文哲研究通訊, 2024.
5. Are Language Models More like Libraries or like Librarians? Bibliotechnism, the Novel Reference Problem, and the Attitudes of LLMs (with Kyle Mahowald). *Transactions of the Association of Computational Linguistics*, 2024.
6. Of marbles and matchsticks. *Oxford Studies in Epistemology*, forthcoming. (Winner, 2023 Marc Sanders Prize in Epistemology)
7. “一念，便即是行了”—王明心理行為論簡義. 哲學分析 *Philosophical Analysis*. 2023 (English title: “If a single concern arises, it is already action”: A note on Wang Yangming on mental action.)
8. Conceptions of genuine knowledge in Wang Yangming. *Oxford Studies in Epistemology*, 2023.
9. Fregeanism, sententialism, and scope. *Linguistics & Philosophy*, 2022.
10. What is the “unity” in the “unity of knowledge and action”? *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy*, 2022. (Winner, 2022 Dao Best Essay Prize)
11. The Introspective Model of Genuine Knowledge in Wang Yangming. *The Philosophical Review*, 2022.
12. Closed Structure (with Peter Fritz and Gabriel Uzquiano). *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, 2021.
13. Fine-grained semantics for attitude reports. *Semantics and Pragmatics*, 2021.
14. Revisionist Reporting (with Kyle Blumberg). *Philosophical Studies*, 2021.
15. Perspectivism (with Jeremy Goodman). *Noûs*, 2021.
16. Classical Opacity (with Michael Caie and Jeremy Goodman). *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2020.
17. Sense, Reference and Substitution (with Jeremy Goodman). *Philosophical Studies*, 2020.
18. Uncommon Knowledge. *Mind*, 2018.
19. Two Paradoxes of Common Knowledge. *Noûs*, 2018.
20. Can Modalities Save Naive Set Theory? (with Peter Fritz, Tiankai Liu and Dana Scott). *The Review of Symbolic Logic*, 2018.
21. Extended Preferences and Interpersonal Utility Comparisons (with Hilary Greaves). *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2018.

22. Aggregating Extended Preferences (with Hilary Greaves). *Philosophical Studies*, 2017.
23. Prospects for a Naive Theory of Classes (with Hartry Field and Tore Fjetland Øgaard). *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, 2017.
24. People with Common Priors Can Agree to Disagree. *The Review of Symbolic Logic*, 2015.
25. ὁ ποτε ὄν ἐστι and Coupled Entities: A Form of Explanation in Aristotle's Natural Philosophy. *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, Summer 2014.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings:

26. Standard State Space Models of Unawareness (with Peter Fritz). *Proceedings of TARK XV: Fifteenth Conference on Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge*, 163-172.

Articles in Edited Volumes:

27. Response to Commentaries by Liu Liangjian, Stephen Angle, and Trenton Wilson on the Dao Best Essay for 2022. *Dao*, 2024.
28. Higher-order metaphysics and propositional attitudes. In Peter Fritz and Nicholas K. Jones eds. *Higher-order Metaphysics*. OUP. 2022.
29. Common Knowledge. In Marija Jankovic and Kirk Ludwig eds. *Handbook of Social Intentionality*. Routledge. 2018

Older Work:

30. H. Lederman, J. Macdonald, D. Stefanovic, and M. N. Stojanovic, Deoxyribozyme-Based Three-Input Logic Gates and Construction of a Molecular Full Adder. *Biochemistry*, 45, 4 (2006) 1194 - 1199.
31. J. Macdonald, Y. Li, M. Sutovic, **H. Lederman**, K. Pendri, W. Lu, B. L. Andrews, D Stefanovic and M. N. Stojanovic. Medium Scale Integration of Molecular Logic Gates in an Automaton. *Nano Letters* (Letter); 6, 11 (2006) 2598-2603.

ACADEMIC
FELLOWSHIPS /
ACADEMIC VISITS

Visiting Scholar, Global Priorities Institute (Remote: Trinity 2021; In person: Trinity 2022)
Marc Sanders Foundation, Philosophers in the Media Fellowship, Longform Writing (June 2022)

SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS

Comments on *Overfitting and Heuristics*
- Eastern APA, January 2026
ChatGPT and the Meaning of Life
- Night Owls, University of Chicago, October 2025
Pareto for the People
- University of Wisconsin, Colloquium, April 2025
- Stanford University, Colloquium, April 2025

- University of California, Berkeley, Logic and Methodology of Science, April 2025
- University of California, Irvine, Colloquium, March 2025
- Brown University, Colloquium, March 2025

The Wonders of the World

- University of Hamburg, July 2025
- University of Vermont, March 2025
- Academia Sinica, September 2024
- Chinese University of Hong Kong, September 2024

Are LLMs More Like Libraries or Librarians? (With Kyle Mahowald)

- Workshop on Externalism in the Philosophy of Language and AI, Institute of Philosophy, London, June 2025
- Workshop on Language and Cognition in AI, Hong Kong University, December 2024
- EMNLP, Miami, November 2024
- Workshop on Language and Ethics in AI, UT Austin, October 2024

Wang Yangming's Conception of 意

- Academia Sinica, September 2024 (in Chinese)

Examining Wang Yangming's Conscience

- Workshop on Wang Yangming's Philosophy and Philosophical Methodology, National Taiwan University, September 2024 (in Chinese)
- World Congress of Philosophy, Rome, August 2024
- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Panel on Mind and Language in Chinese Thought, Birmingham AL, March 2022

Infinity and incompleteness (with Jeremy Goodman)

- Lingnan University, Center for Catastrophic Risk, September 2024
- National Chung Cheng University, September 2024
- Global Priorities Workshop, Oxford, June 2024.

Wang Yangming on Principles and Things

- Keynote, Midwest Chinese Philosophy Conference, Bloomington, April 2024
- Eastern APA, ACPA Panel, New York, January 2024
- Concordia University Colloquium, November 2023
- Academia Sinica, Language and Mind in Chinese Thought, September 2023
- Notre Dame, Colloquium, April 2023
- EAS Colloquium, Princeton, February 2022

Of marbles and matchsticks

- New York University, April 2024.
- University of Melbourne, February 2024
- TARK Poster Presentation, Oxford, June 2023
- Global Priorities Workshop, Oxford, June 2023

Trying without Fail (joint work with Ben Holguín)

- UT Austin Graduate Conference, April 2023
- Ranch Metaphysics Conference, January 2023
- Action and Intentions in Language, January 2023
- UMass Amherst Colloquium, March 2023
- CUNY Grad Center Colloquium, March 2023

- University of Toronto, Colloquium, October 2022
- Asian Epistemology Network [Remote], August 2022
- Workshop on Action, Intention and Language, ACU (Zoom), May 2022
- MIT, Logic, Language and Mind, December 2021
- University of Arkansas, Colloquium, October 2021

Higher-order logics and their applications to propositional attitudes, NASSLLI Bootcamp (with Cian Dorr), June 2022

The Introspective Model of Genuine Knowledge in Wang Yangming

- Wang Yangming and Ming Dynasty Thought, March 2022
- University of Texas at Austin, January 2022
- University of Chicago, January 2022
- Johns Hopkins, Colloquium, September 2021
- Columbia NeoConfucianism Seminar, September 2021
- Berkeley Cosmopolitan Philosophy Society, April 2021
- Columbia Seminar for Comparative Philosophy, March 2021, comments by Steve Angle, Warren Frisina, Yang Xiaomei
- McGill University Colloquium, November 2020
- Nanjing University, September 2020
- Eastern APA, Philadelphia, January 2020
- Bay Area Conference on Chinese Thought, October 2017
- University of Pittsburgh, February 2017
- University of Southern California, February 2017
- Columbia Seminar for Comparative Philosophy, April 2016, comments by Steve Angle

Publicity and Precursive Faith

- TimFest, Oxford, June 2023
- MK40 (Conference to celebrate 40th anniversary of the original 1980 “Mutual Knowledge” conference), London, June 2021
- Workshop on Common Ground, Princeton, June 2021
- Leeds, October 2019

Closed Structure (with Peter Fritz and Gabriel Uzquiano)

- USC Grain Science Seminar, April 2020

Revisionist Reporting (with Kyle Blumberg)

- Mind and Language in Los Angeles Summer Zoom, May 2020
- Cornell Semantics Group, April 2020

Fregeanism, Sententialism, and Scope

- MIT LingLunch, April 2022
- NYPLW, November 2019
- Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistic Philosophy (PhLiP) Dec 2018

Fine-grained Semantics for Attitude Reports

- ILLC, Amsterdam, Discourse Seminar, May 2022
- USC Mind Seminar, April 2021
- NYU Semantics Group, May 2020
- Princeton Talks in Epistemology and Metaphysics (TEAM), May 2019

Classical Opacity (with Michael Caie and Jeremy Goodman)

- Hans Kamp Seminar on Language and Logic, UT Austin, February 2018
- Workshop on Metaphysics in Higher-Order Languages, NYU, May 2017

- California Philosophy Workshop, Malibu, May 2017

Perspectivism (with Jeremy Goodman)

- NYU Graduate Seminar in Context-Sensitivity
(Stephen Schiffer, Stephen Neale), November 2019
- Recent Work in Epistemology, Columbia, March 2018
- Hans Kamp Seminar on Language and Logic, UT Austin, February 2018
- CMU, November 2016
- University of Pittsburgh, January 2016
- University of California, San Diego, February 2016
- Formal Epistemology Workshop, St. Louis, May 2015
- UCL, May 2015
- New Directions in Religious Epistemology, Oxford, May 2015

TEACHING

New York University

- The Metaphysics of Content (with Hartry Field) Fall 2026
- Mind and Language: Philosophy of AI (with David Chalmers) Spring 2027

UT Austin

- Higher-order Metaphysics (with Jon Litland) Fall 2025
- Foundations of Politics, Philosophy and Economics Fall 2026
- Awareness and Logical Omniscience (Graduate) Spring 2024
- Chinese Philosophy Fall 2023, Spring 2026
- Topics in Decision Theory and Formal Epistemology (Graduate) Spring 2023

Princeton University

- Action Theory (Graduate Seminar, with Ben Holguín) Spring 2022
- Introduction to Chinese Philosophy Spring 2022
- Introduction to Epistemology and Metaphysics Fall 2021
- Introduction to Neo-Confucianism (Graduate Seminar) Spring 2020
- Philosophical Logic Spring 2020
- Introduction to Epistemology and Metaphysics Fall 2019
- Introduction to Chinese Philosophy Spring 2018
- Opacity (Graduate Seminar) Fall 2017

University of Pittsburgh

- Philosophy of Mind (with Dmitri Gallow) Spring 2017
- Some Puzzles about Belief (Graduate Seminar) Fall 2016

New York University

- Some Puzzles about Belief (Graduate Seminar) Spring 2016
- Set Theory Fall 2015
- Great Works in Philosophy Spring 2015
- Modal Logic Fall 2014

Graduate Students

- Snow Zhang (second adviser), PhD 2021 (NYU Bersoff; TT, UC Berkeley)
- Claudia Yau (thesis examiner), PhD 2021 (TT, University of Houston)
- Ellie Cohen (first adviser), PhD expected 2021 (TT, University of Utah)
- Kyle Landrum (third adviser), PhD 2022
- Alice van't Hoff (first adviser) PhD expected 2024

AWARDS

Awards

- Marc Sanders Prize in Epistemology 2023
- Dao Best Essay Prize 2023
- Ryle Prize Oxford, 2012
- Henry Arthur Thomas Travel Award Cambridge, 2010
For performance in Part II of the Classics Tripos

- Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence Princeton, 2006
- Haarlow Prize for Best Essay in Humanistic Studies Princeton, 2005

Scholarships

- Clarendon Scholar 2010 – 2012, 2012 – 2014
- Keasbey Scholar 2008 – 2010

SERVICE TO THE
PROFESSION

Associate Editor: *Philosophers' Imprint* (2024-), *Ergo* (2026-)

Editorial Board: *Semantics & Pragmatics*.

Conference Organizer: Princeton Talks in Epistemology and Metaphysics, 2018-2020; Wang Yangming and Ming Dynasty Thought, 2022; Completeness and Incompleteness, 2024, Formal Approaches to Rationality and Meaning (2026).

Article Referee: *Nature*, *Philosophical Review* (3); *Mind* (9); *Noûs* (2); *Journal of Philosophy* (4); *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (2); *Ethics* (2); *Philosophers' Imprint* (6); *Analysis* (3); *Semantics & Pragmatics* (3); *Linguistics and Philosophy* (5); *Philosophical Quarterly* (3); *Journal of Confucian Philosophy and Culture*; *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (3); *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*; *Philosophical Studies* (11); *Journal of Economic Theory*; *Games and Economic Behavior*; *Review of Symbolic Logic* (4); *Dao: A Journal of Chinese Philosophy*; *Journal of Philosophical Logic* (3); *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy*; *Ergo* (3); *Mind and Language* (2); *Review of Politics*; *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (3); *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics*; *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*; *Computational Linguistics*; *Philosophy East and West*; *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*; *Economics and Philosophy*; *Erkenntnis*; *Philosophy, Politics and Economics*; *Journal of Logic and Computation*; *Topoi* (2); *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*; *South African Journal of Philosophy*; *Synthese* (11); *Dialectica*; *Metaphysics*.

Book Referee: Columbia University Press, Hackett, Brill.

Program Committee: Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistic Philosophy (PhLiP) 2019; Logic and the Foundations of Decision Theory (LOFT) XII, 2016, LOFT XIII, 2018, LOFT XIV 2020; Mutual Knowledge 40 (MK40) UCL 2020; Formal Epistemology Workshop (FEW) 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022; Sinn und Bedeutung 28 (2023); Amsterdam Colloquium (2024), Formal Approaches to Rationality and Meaning (2025).

SERVICE AT
PRINCETON

College Adviser, (Freshman and Sophomore Course Selection), Whitman College, 2019-2022

Committee on Conference and Faculty Appeal, 2019-2022

SERVICE AT UT

Faculty Grievance Committee: 2023-2026. Departmental Research Committee (2023-2026).

LANGUAGES

Mandarin (competent speaking and reading), Classical Chinese (reading), Ancient Greek (reading), Latin (reading), French (reading)