

Jonathan R. Barker

University of Central Florida
Department of Philosophy
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Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics, Epistemology

Areas of Competence

Logic, Applied Ethics, Ancient Philosophy, History of Early
Analytic Philosophy, Social Ontology

Academic Positions

University of Central Florida	Lecturer (permanent non-TT)	2022—present
Wake Forest University	Visiting Assistant Professor	2019—2022

Education

University of Virginia	PhD in Philosophy	2019
Wake Forest University	BA in Philosophy with Honors in Philosophy	2013

Publications

Edited Volume

1. *Perspectives in Metaphysics: An Introductory Coursebook*
Routledge (under contract) Expected: 2026

Articles

2. “Ordinary Objects,” co-authored with Daniel Z. Korman
Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy 2025
3. “Genealogical Defeat and Ontological Sparsity”
Midwest Studies in Philosophy (47): 1—23 2023
4. “Against Purity”
Ergo: An Open Access Journal of Philosophy (9) 2023
5. “Grounding and the Myth of Ontological Innocence”
Australasian Journal of Philosophy 99 (2): 303—318. 2021
6. “Debunking Arguments and Metaphysical Laws”
Philosophical Studies 177 (7): 1829—1855. 2020

Works-in-Progress

- Commissioned: chapter on material objects for *Perspectives in Metaphysics*
- In-progress: a paper defending a truthmaker account of genealogical defeat
- Under review: a paper on moral naturalist replies to evolutionary debunking arguments
- In-progress: a response to Werner's "In Defense of Ontological Innocence: Reply to Barker"
- In-progress: a series of papers on calling for metaphysical explanation

Paper Presentations (†= invited)

"Genealogical Defeat and Ontological Sparsity"

- 2022 North Carolina Philosophical Society Meeting
Converse, SC
Best Untenured Faculty Essay Prize (Winner) 3/2022
- Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference
Logan, UT 10/2021

"Essence and Debunking"

- VCU Philosophy of Religion Workshop†
Richmond, VA 11/2021

"Calling for Metaphysical Explanation"

- APA Eastern 2020, Society of Christian Philosophers†
Philadelphia, PA 1/2020
- As a Matter of Form Workshop†
Rostock, Germany 7/2019

"Grounding and the Myth of Ontological Innocence"

- Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference
Denver, CO 10/2018
- Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University†
Rutgers, NJ 8/2016

"Debunking Arguments and Metaphysical Laws"

- 2017 APA Central Division
Kansas City, MO 3/2017
- Virginia Philosophical Association Meeting
Lynchburg, VA 10/2016

"Social Construction and Ontology"

- 2016 APA Central Division
Chicago, IL 3/2016

"What is a Sorites Series?"

- Metaphysics of Indeterminacy Workshop
Brno, Czech Republic 10/2018
- APA Central Division 2015
St. Louis, MO 2/2015

Comments

- On “Humean Rationalism,” by David Builes
APA Eastern 2024 Symposium Session
- On “Does Reflective Knowledge Prevent Epistemic Luck?” by Blakely Phillips
APA Central 2022 Colloquium Session
- On “Omissive Epistemic Akrasia” by David Alexander
APA Eastern 2021 Colloquium Session
- On “Macroidealism & the Explanatory Gap” by Robert Smithson
APA Central 2020 Colloquium Session
- On “The Epistemic Objection to Non-Presentist A-Theories” by Ryan Olsen
APA Eastern 2020 Colloquium Session
- On “A Puzzle about Places” by Daniel Z. Korman
APA Central 2018 Symposium Session
- On “Debunking and Universalism” by David M. Kovacs
APA Eastern 2017 Colloquium Session

Courses Taught as Sole Instructor

University of Central Florida

- PHI 4500—Metaphysics Fall 25
- PHI 3600—Contemporary Philosophy Spring 25, Spring 23
- PHI 2011—Philosophical Reasoning Spring 25, Spring 24, Spring 23
- PHI 4912—Intendent Study (on the metaphysics of gender) Fall 2024
- PHI 4552—Social Reality Fall 24, Fall 23
- PHI 4300—Theories of Knowledge Spring 24
- PHI 2010H—Honors Intro to Philosophy Fall 24
- PHI 2010—Intro to Philosophy
 - 300-seat lecture hall Fall 24, Fall 23, Fall 22
 - 150-seat lecture hall Spring 25, Summer 24, Spring 24, Summer 23, Spring 23
 - 65-seat classroom Fall 23, Summer 23, Fall 22 (x2)

Wake Forest University

- PHI 221—Symbolic Logic Spring 21, Spring 22
- PHI 377—Metaphysics Fall 21
- PHI 280—Ancient Ethics Fall 20, Spring 20
- PHI 220—Logic Spring 20 (x2)
- PHI 111—Basic Problems of Philosophy Fall 20—Spring 22 (x2), Fall 19 (x3)

University of Notre Dame

- PHI 240—Minds, Brains, and Persons Spring 19 (x2)
- PHI 206—Medical Ethics Fall 18 (x2)

University of Virginia

- PHI 1610—Philosophy of Religion Summer 16

Awards

- Best Untenured Faculty Essay Prize, North Carolina Philosophical Society (2022)
- Visiting Graduate Fellowship, University of Notre Dame (2017—2018)
- All-University Graduate Teaching Award (nominee), University of Virginia (2017)

Service

To the UCF College of Arts & Sciences

- 2024-2025 Excellence Awards Committee

To the UCF Philosophy Department

- Philosophy Curriculum Committee (2022—present)
- Undergraduate thesis committee member
 - Honors thesis on Avicenna's metaphysics (defended Spring 23)
 - Honors thesis on social ontology and meta-ontology (defended Spring 24)
- Student engagement
 - Faculty advisor for the UCF Philosophy Club (Spring 2024—present)
 - Guest lecture—UCF Cognitive Sciences Club (Fall 2024). Title: TBD
 - Guest lecturer—UCF Cognitive Sciences Club (Fall 2023). Title: "Does Evolutionary Psychology Undermine Moral Knowledge?"

To the Profession

- Referee:
 - Book Publisher: *Oxford University Press*, *Routledge*
 - Journals: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (x2), *Philosophical Studies* (x4), *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Synthese* (x4), *Ergo*, *Inquiry* (x2), *Philosophical Papers*, *Metaphilosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Dialectica*, *Acta Analytica*, *Erkenntnis*
 - Conferences: *North Carolina Philosophical Society* (2023, 2024)
- *PhilPapers* section editor: Genealogical Debunking, Debunking Arguments in Metaphysics, and Coincident Objects

General References

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Teaching References

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