

RENA BEATRICE GOLDSTEIN

Curriculum vitae

University of California Irvine
Department of Philosophy
85 Humanities Instructional Building
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[UCI Faculty Homepage](#)

EMPLOYMENT

University of California, Irvine, Mellon Faculty Fellow	2022-present
University of California, Irvine, Research Assistant	2020-2021
California State University, Dominguez Hills, Adjunct	2017
Los Angeles City College, Adjunct	2016
California State University, Los Angeles, Lecturer	2014-2016

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of California, Irvine	2022
M.A., Philosophy, California State University, Los Angeles, <i>with honors</i>	2016
M.A., Education, California State University, Los Angeles, <i>with honors</i>	2015
B.A., Philosophy and Humanities, University of Colorado at Boulder	2011

AREAS OF RESEARCH SPECIALIZATION

Epistemology (in particular Social and Applied Epistemology)

AREAS OF TEACHING COMPETENCE

Feminist Philosophy; History of Analytic Philosophy; Philosophy of Education; Ethics

DISSERTATION

Title: "On (Mal) Functioning Belief Systems"

Supervisors: Professors Annalisa Coliva and Duncan Pritchard

Committee: Professors Anna Boncompagni, Sven Bernecker, and Julia Lupton

Summary: This dissertation explores harms that can arise from warranted thinking routines, specifically those that occur in contexts like medicine and education. I first develop the concept of epistemic disadvantage to capture contexts in which there is epistemic harm due to the asymmetrical relationship between knowers, yet that asymmetry is pertinent to the practice of knowledge. This inquiry leads to considering *how* beliefs systematically function in evidential reasoning practices. I argue that two prominent doxastic frameworks—a Quinian and a Wittgensteinian framework—support a version of confirmation holism, the view that justification for empirical beliefs entails appreciation of the full system of beliefs. One upshot of incorporating the epistemological systems of Quine and Wittgenstein is that these frameworks can give a convincing account for how

thinking routines influence evidential reasoning. I develop such an account in the third chapter of the dissertation by employing a Wittgensteinian framework to show how a heuristic like stereotyping plays a normative role in cognitive processes. I conclude that heuristics like stereotyping are justified except in contexts where harm occurs.

PUBLICATIONS

Goldstein, R. "Epistemic Disadvantage." *Philosophia*, January 6, 2022.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11406-021-00465-w>.

Sarnecka, Silva, Vickers, Coon, **Goldstein**, & Rouder (2022). "Doctoral writing workshops: A pre-registered, randomized controlled trial." *Innovative Higher Education*. DOI: [10.35542/osf.io/b37eh](https://doi.org/10.35542/osf.io/b37eh).

INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

Goldstein, R. (2021). "Reconceptualizing Civic Competence in the Digital Age," in Snow, N.E., & Vaccarezza, M.S. (Eds.). *Virtues, Democracy, and Online Media: Ethical and Epistemic Issues* (1st ed.). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003083108>.

Goldstein R. (2020). "You are Only as Good as You are Behind Closed Doors." *Precollege Philosophy and Public Practice*, vol. 2, no. 1. DOI: [10.5840/p42020348](https://doi.org/10.5840/p42020348).

BOOK REVIEWS

Goldstein, R. (2019). *Patriotic Education in a Global Age* by Randall Curren & Charles Dorn, in *Educational Theory*, vol. 69, no. 5.. <https://doi.org/10.1111/edth.12393>.

MAGAZINES and BLOGS

Goldstein, R. and Vickers, D. (forthcoming). Narrowing the Philosophy Gender Gap by Building Skills and Community. *Blog of the APA*.

Goldstein, R. (2022). "Jewish Injustice: on the role of women witnesses." *Tikkun*
<https://www.tikkun.org/jewish-injustice/>.

PODCASTS and INTERVIEWS

Episode 12 of *UCI Podcast* entitled "Ask a Philosopher Booth". Available here:
<https://on.soundcloud.com/dHa1>

"Philosophy for the masses: Ph.D. student runs engaging kiosk at cafés and farmers market,"
UCI News, October 28, 2019. Available here:
<https://news.uci.edu/2019/10/28/philosophy-for-the-masses/>

Interviewed for Spectrum 1 News. Available here:
<https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-west/news/2019/08/29/philosophers-set-up-a-boot-h-in-public-to-answer-anyone-s-questions>

IN PROGRESS

Drafts available upon request

“The Aim to Transmit Knowledge: a commitment to epistemic uniformity”

“Distinguishing Two Epistemic Frameworks: Comparing Quine to Wittgenstein”

“A Stereotypical Hinge Framework”

PRESENTATIONS *(*denotes refereed)*

A Stereotypical Hinge Framework

3rd Hinge Epistemology Conference: Hinge Epistemology and Religious Belief, NOVA University of Lisbon – School of Social Sciences and Humanities – IFILNOVA, June 2022.

Narrowing the Philosophy Gender Gap by Building Skills and Community

American Philosophical Association Central Division, Chicago, Illinois, February 2022.

*North American Association for Philosophy & Education, Mundelein, Illinois, October 2021.

Responsibility and Luck

A Socially Distant Value Theory Conference, Online, June 2020

On Quine and Wittgenstein

Titled: Charting the Depths of Waters, Heights of Land: a topographical picture of two systems. International Ludwig Wittgenstein Symposium, Online, Zagreb, Croatia, December 2021.

Epistemic Disadvantage

Titled: The Curare Case and Testimonial Injustice. Feminist-Pragmatist Colloquium 2019: Looking Back to Move Forward, Rochester, NY, November 2019.

Titled: The Curare Case and Testimonial Injustice. Feminist Salon, Los Angeles, CA, October 2019.

Titled: Novice in an Expert's World: Epistemic Exclusion in the Medical Field. Stanford-Berkeley-Davis Conference, University of California, Berkeley, May 2019.

Titled: The Problem of Contingency in Testimonial Exchanges Northwest Philosophy Conference, Gonzaga University, Spokane W.A., October 2016.

On Virtues

Titled: Unification of Epistemic Virtues Virtues, Media, and Democracy, Genoa, Italy, September 2019.

Titled: Overcoming Suffering: Nietzsche and the Virtues. Suffering and Virtue, Michael S. Brady, UC Irvine, September 2019.

Titled: Civic Intelligence as an Epistemic Virtue. Philosophy in Schools and the Public Realm: A Research Workshop. Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, the Janet Prindle Institute for Ethics, and the Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization, May 2019.

On Philosophy of Education

**Titled: Epistemic Uniformity.* The 2019 Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Meeting, New Orleans, March 2019.

**Titled: An Underlying Aim, an Underlying Problem: the Commitment to Epistemic Uniformity.* North American Association for Philosophy and Education Conference, University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL., October 2018.

**Titled: Epistemic Uniformity.* AGS Graduate Research Symposium, Irvine, CA, March 2018.

COMMENTARIES

On Lidal Dror's "Social Location as Justification: Examining the Socially Marginalized's Claim to Epistemic Advantage". The 2019 Bay Area Feminism and Philosophy (BayFAP) Workshop, University of San Francisco, May 2019.

On Randall Curren's & Charles Dorn's *Patriotic Education in a Global Age*. Philosophy of Education Society, Richmond, Virginia, March 2019.

On "Omissions, the Act Requirement, and Criminal Liability." Stanford-Berkeley-Davis Conference, Stanford University, California, May 2018.

FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS

Humanities Commons awarded for "Epistemic Injustice in the Medical Context" Conference, 2021

Center for Medical Humanities, co-sponsorship grant, Awarded for "Epistemic Injustice in the Medical Context" Conference, 2021

Inclusive Excellence Award for "Equity in STEM" project, 2021

Kavka Endowed Prize, *University of California, Irvine*, 2019

George Kabango Memorial Fellowship, *North American Association for Philosophy & Education*, 2018

UC Irvine Diversity Recruitment Fellowship, 2017

Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel Scholarship, 2014- 2016

Graduate Equity Fellowship, *California State University, Los Angeles*, 2014- 2016

CCOE Endowed Fellowship, *Charter College of Education*, 2015- 2017

AWARDS and HONORS

Svetlana Bershadsky Graduate Student Community Award, 2020-2021

Graduate Student/Faculty Mentor for Exceptional Scholarship, CSULA, 2015-2017

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate Student Research Assistant, Professor *Anna Boncompagni* Winter 2021

Graduate Student Researcher, *School of Physical Sciences* 2020-2021

Anteater Virtues, *Professor Duncan Pritchard* 2018-Present

Sarnecka Writing Lab, *Professor Barbara Sarnecka* Summer 2019

LEAD INSTRUCTOR COURSES

Responsible for designing course syllabus, lectures, and graded material, giving lectures, meeting with students during office hours, and grading materials

Medical Humanities 1. Health, Wellness, and Conception of the Body Spring 2023

Contemporary Moral Problems, UCI Spring 2023

Puzzles and Paradoxes, UCI Winter 2023

Composition, UCI Fall 2022

Anteater Virtues, Lecturer, UCI Fall 2020

Medical Epistemology, Lecturer, UCI Summer 2020

Graduate Writing Workshop, Facilitator 2020-2022

Critical Thinking, Adjunct, CSUDH 2017

Introduction to Philosophy, Adjunct, LACC 2016

First Year Writing, Instructor, CSULA 2015
English 100, Facilitator, CSULA 2014-2016

TEACHING-ASSISTANTSHIPS, UCI Philosophy Department

Responsible for section syllabus, lectures, grading materials, meeting with students during office hours, giving feedback on student drafts

Introduction to Ethics, D. Pritchard Sum. 2020
Puzzles and Paradoxes, J. Fensel S. 2020
Introduction to Law and Society, J. Helmrich W. 2020
Introduction to Philosophy, D. Pritchard Sum., F. 2019
Introduction to Knowledge, A. Coliva W. 2019
Puzzles and Paradoxes, K. Banick F. 2018
Nicomachean Ethics, E. Bencivenga Sum. 2018

TEACHING-ASSISTANTSHIPS, UCI Education Department

Children, Schools, and the Cinema, E. Greeban S. 2019

CERTIFICATES

Inclusive Excellence Certificate
Humanities Pedagogical Certificate, UCI, 2018
Course Design, UCI, 2018
Canvas Certificate, California State University, Dominguez Hills, 2017

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE and MEMBERSHIP

Referee

North American Association for Philosophy and Education

Service to University of California, Irvine

Conference Organizer, "Epistemic Injustice in the Medical Context"

- Raised funding, invited speakers, recruited volunteers

THINK Coordinator, 2019-present

THINK is a program designed to introduce 5th-grade students to philosophical thought and discourse

- Liaison between University and Elementary Schools by email
- Coordinated schedules for students to participate
- Inputted data from pre/post surveys given to 5th grade students

Graduate Liaison Network, School of Humanities, Representative 2019-2020

- Forged connections between graduate students in the department of philosophy and the administration in the School of Humanities with the purpose of sharing information, altering administration to the needs of graduate students
- Developed activities and disseminated information

THINK Instructor 2017-present

- Developed curriculum for 5th grade students
- Read to students during on-site visits and encouraged philosophical discussions

Graduate Student Representative, Philosophy Department, 2018-2019

- Attended Faculty meetings for the purpose of communicating information between graduate students and the faculty

- Organized social events during the calendar year
- Welcomed prospective students in the Spring
- Held office hours for graduate students to voice concerns

Associated Graduate Student Representative, School of Humanities, 2018-2019

- Attended quarterly meetings
- Served as a go-between for graduate students in philosophy and the associated graduate student union.

Service to the Profession

North American Association for Philosophy and Education *Executive Committee*, 2022-present

Memberships

Public Philosophy Network (since 2019)

Philosophy of Education Society of North America (since 2018)

Friends of the SEP Society (since 2018)

Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society (since 2017)

Minorities in Philosophy (MAP) (since 2017)

American Philosophical Association (since 2011)

REFERENCES

Dr. Anna Boncompagni
Assistant Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Irvine
anna.boncompagni@uci.edu

Dr. Mu-Chun Chen
Associate Dean, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, School of Physical Sciences
Professor, Department of Physics & Astronomy/Theoretical High Energy Physics
University of California, Irvine
muchunc@uci.edu

Dr. Annalisa Coliva
Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Irvine
a.coliva@uci.edu

Dr. Duncan Pritchard
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy
University of California, Irvine
dhpritch@uci.edu

Dr. Barbara Sarnecka
Associate Dean of Grad Studies and Research, School of Social Sciences
Professor, Cognitive Sciences
University of California, Irvine
sarnecka@uci.edu

TEACHING REFERENCE

Dr. Larisa Tokmakoff Castillo (teaching reference)
Director of the Pedagogical Humanities
Professor, Humanities Core
University of California, Irvine
larisa.castillo@uci.edu

SELECTED GRADUATE COURSEWORK (*audited; †directed study)

History of Philosophy

Aristotle	C. Perin	UCI	2019
Wittgenstein II*	P. Maddy	UCI	2019
Wittgenstein I	P. Maddy	UCI	2018
Philosophy of Geometry	J. Heis	UCI	2018
Nietzsche†	C. Perin	UCI	2018
Plato	C. Perin	UCI	2017
Descartes	S. Greenberg	UCI	2017

Epistemology

What is this thing called Philosophy?	A. Coliva	UCI	2021
Epistemic Authority†	A. Coliva	UCI	2019
Relativism	A. Coliva	UCI	2019
Epistemology: Hinges & Justification of logical laws	A. Coliva	UCI	2019
Virtue Epistemology†	D. Pritchard	UCI	2019
Medical Epistemology	S. Bernecker A. Coliva	UCI	2018
Mathematical Cognition†	A. Coliva	UCI	2018

Ethics

	Ethics Naturalized	P. Stanford	UCI	2018
Contemporary Philosophy	Wittgenstein: Forms of Life*	A. Boncompagni	UCI	2021
	Philosophy of Social Phenomenon	M. Gilbert	UCI	2019
	Hermeneutics & Critical Theory	J. Prabhu	CSULA	2014
Philosophy of Education	Ethics and Education	H. Brighouse T. Laden	University of Illinois	2022
	History of Philosophy of Education	S. Greenberg	UCI	2017
	Educational Sociology	C. Tejeda	CSULA	2014
	Psy Foundations of Education	C. Tejeda	CSULA	2013