

MATTHEW J. RELLIHAN, Ph.D.

Department of Philosophy
Seattle University
901 12th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122-1090
relliham@seattleu.edu
(206) 296-5472

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Seattle University, Seattle WA (2014 – present)

Assistant Professor, Seattle University, Seattle, WA (2007 – 2014)

Lecturer, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (2003 – 2006)

EDUCATION

Georgetown University: Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2007

St. John's College (1999 – 2000): Master of Arts in Liberal Arts

Mount St. Mary's College (1995 – 1999): B.A. in Philosophy

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Mind
Philosophy of Psychology

Philosophy of Language

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

History of Analytic Philosophy
Philosophy of Science
Ethics

Logic
Moral Psychology
Marx

SCHOLARSHIP

Book Chapters and Journal Articles

“Causes, Counterfactuals, and Counterfactual History,” forthcoming at *Journal of the Philosophy of History*.

[“Functionalism, Interventionism, and Higher-Order Causation.”](#) (2024) *Synthese* 203(3): 1-22.

[“The Causal Structure of Frankfurt- and PAP-Style Cases,”](#) (2023) *Analytic Philosophy*, published online, forthcoming in print.

[“On ChatGPT and the Forces and Relations of Production,”](#) (2023) *Critical Humanities* 2, 1. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33470/2836-3140.1034>.

[“A Familiar Dilemma for the Subset Theory of Realization,”](#) (2023) *Analytic Philosophy* 64(1): 68-90.

[“An Equivocation in the Simple Argument for Downward Causation,”](#) (2021) *Thought* 10(4): 249-256.

[“Strengthening the Exclusion Argument,”](#) (2021) *Synthese* 198(7): 6631-6659.

[“Functional Properties are Epiphenomenal,”](#) (2020) *Philosophia* 48(3): 1171-1195.

[“Can Phenomenology Ground Moral Normativity?”](#) (2017) *Comparative and Continental Philosophy*, 9.1.

[“Content, Consciousness, and Cambridge Change,”](#) (2015) *Acta Analytica* 30: 325-345.

[“Informational Semantics and Frege Cases,”](#) (2013) *Acta Analytica* 28: 267-294.

[“Confirmation and the Theory-Ladenness of Perception,”](#) In P. Hanna (Ed.) *An Anthology of Philosophical Studies*, Volume Six (Athens: ATINER, 2012), pp. 143-156.

[“Adaptationism and Adaptive Thinking in Evolutionary Psychology,”](#) (2012) *Philosophical Psychology*, 25: 245-277.

[“Fodor’s Riddle of Abduction,”](#) *Philosophical Studies*, (2009) 144: 313-338.

[“Incommensurability, Relativism, Scepticism: Reflections on Acquiring a Concept,”](#) (2008) *Ratio*, 21:147-167.

[“Epistemic Boundedness and the Universality of Thought,”](#) (2005) *Philosophical Studies* 125: 219-250.

Reviews

Review of Kim Sterelny’s *The Evolved Apprentice: How Evolution Made Humans Unique* in *Philosophy in Review*, 33 (2013): 158-160.

Review of John Haught’s *Making Sense of Evolution: Darwin, God, and the Drama of Life* in *Philosophy in Review*, 31 (2011): 42-45.

Review of Ernest Lepore and Kirk Ludwig’s *Donald Davidson’s Truth Theoretic Semantics* in *Philosophy in Review*, 29 (2009): 360-362.

Review of Robert C. Richardson's *Evolutionary Psychology as Maladapted Psychology* in *Philosophy in Review*, 29 (2009): 64-66.

Review of Graham Macdonald and David Papineau's *Teleosemantics* in *Philosophy in Review*, 28 (2008): 348-351.

Review of Michael Gelven's *What Happens to Us When We Think: Transformation and Reality* in *The Review of Metaphysics* 58 (2005): 659-660.

Presentations

"The Ethics of AI," presented at Dr. Pejman Khadivi's graduate computer science course on Artificial Intelligence, Seattle University, 2024.

"Generative AI and its Impact on Society," (with Homchick Crow, J., Han, Y., Bae, W.) Seattle University, 2024.

"Integrating Content Related to Technology and its Impact on Society into Your Program," (with Homchick Crow, J., Han, Y., Bae, W.) Seattle University, 2023.

Technology and Society Presentation to Full Board of Trustees, (with Homchick Crow, J., Han, Y., Severson, E., Tung, C.) Seattle University, 2023.

Technology and Society Presentation to Board of Trustees Subcommittee on Strategy, Innovation, and Technology, (with Homchick Crow, J., Han, Y., Severson, E., Tung, C.) Seattle University, 2023.

"Marx," presented to the Seattle University Philosophy Club, Spring, 2023.

"Rapid Technological Change and its Societal and Economic Impacts," (with Homchick Crow, J., Han, Y., Bae, W., Whitlock, M.) Seattle University, 2022.

"Strengthening the Exclusion Argument," Presented at the 2018 Joint Sessions of the Aristotelian and Mind Society, University of Oxford, June 2018

"Searle on Perceptual Intentionality," presented at the 67th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference, North Idaho College, October 2015

"Searle on Perceptual Intentionality," Philosophy Department Endowed Lecture, Seattle University, April 2015

"Content, Consciousness, and Cambridge Change," presented at Seattle Pacific University Winter Philosophy Colloquium, December 2014

- “Content, Consciousness, and Cambridge Change,” presented at the 88th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association, University of Cambridge, June, 2014
- “Content, Consciousness, and Cambridge Change,” presented at The 65th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference, Pacifica University, October 2013
- “A Dilemma for Double-Aspect Theories of Consciousness,” presented at the 8th meeting of The Society for Analytic Philosophy, Konstanz, Germany, September, 2012, poster presentation
- “A Dilemma for Double-Aspect Theories of Consciousness,” SAGE Lecture, Gonzaga University, April 2012
- “Can Phenomenology Ground Moral Normativity?,” Book Symposium on Smith’s *The Phenomenology of Moral Normativity*, Seattle University, February 2012
- “Information, Confirmation, and the Theory-Ladenness of Perception,” presented at the 6th Annual ATINER Conference on Philosophy, June 2011
- “Evolutionary Psychology,” Seattle University Philosophy Club, November 2011
- “Adaptationism and Adaptive Thinking in Evolutionary Psychology,” presented at the 2010 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, June 2010, poster presentation
- “Against Evolutionary Psychology,” Fall Quarter Philosophy Department Lecture, Seattle University, December 2009
- Comments on Kenneth Himma’s “Analyticity without Meaning or Synonymy,” presented at The 59th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference, Lewis and Clark College, October 2007
- “The Computational-Associative Theory of Mind,” presented at Central Washington University, January 2007
- “Fodor’s Riddle of Abduction,” presented at Seattle University, January 2007
- “Fodor’s Riddle of Abduction,” presented at Georgetown University, January 2007
- “The Medium is Not the Message,” presented at the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, March 2006
- “Fodor’s Riddle of Abduction,” presented at the 7th Annual Princeton-Rutgers Graduate

Student Philosophy Conference, March 2006

“There’s No Escaping It: Incommensurability and Concept Acquisition” (with Nathaniel Goldberg), presented at the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, March 2005

“There’s No Escaping It: Incommensurability and Concept Acquisition” (with Nathaniel Goldberg), presented at the meeting of the Alabama Philosophical Society, Mobile, Alabama, October 2004

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Provost’s Grant for RRC Course Development, Seattle University, Summer 2024

- For the development of a course on the philosophy of artificial intelligence

Provost Fellowship 2022-2024

- Member of RRC working group on Society and Technology

Philosophy Department Endowed Chair, Seattle University, 2022-2023

Philosophy Department Endowed Fellowship, Seattle University, 2017-2018

Philosophy Department Endowed Chair, Seattle University, 2013-2014

Grant from The Endowed Mission Fund for Faculty and Staff Development, Seattle University, 2008

- Organizing Summit on the Role of Philosophy in the Jesuit University of the 21st Century, May 2008

Awarded Ph.D. with distinction, December 2006

Introduction to Logic course selected as one of 11 recommended courses by *The Hoya*, Georgetown University’s campus newspaper—the only philosophy course to be selected, April 2006

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 2006

Mark of Distinction, PhD Comprehensive Examination in Metaphysics, May 2002

Mark of Distinction, PhD Comprehensive Examination in Ethics, December 2001

Delta Epsilon Sigma, National Scholar Award, 2001

Barrett Prize for Best Honors Thesis, Spring 1999

Bishop Allen Prize for Graduating First in Undergraduate Class, Spring 1999

Redmond Prize for Highest GPA in Philosophy, Spring 1999

Tierney Prize for Highest GPA, Spring 1998

Phi Sigma Tau Philosophy Honor Society, 1998-1999

Delta Epsilon Sigma National Honor Society, 1998-1999

George H. Miles Honor Society, 1995-1999

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Seattle University

Full Courses:

PHIL-4850: Major Figures in the Tradition, Karl Marx

Spring 2023

PHIL-4300: Advanced Logic

Winter 2021; Spring 2019; Fall 2011

PHIL-4370: Philosophy of Mind

Spring, 2024; Winter 2022; Winter 2020; Fall 2017; Winter 2011; Winter 2009

PHIL-4220: Moral Psychology

Winter 2024; Spring 2021; Fall 2015; Fall 2012; Fall 2010

PHIL 4380: Philosophy of Language

Fall 2018; Winter 2017

PHIL 3300: Philosophy of Science

Spring 2020; Fall 2021

PHIL 3030: Modern Philosophy

Spring 2024

PHIL-345: Ethics

Spring 2012; Summer 2011; Summer 2010; Spring 2009

UCOR-2900: Ethical Reasoning

Winter/Fall 2024; Fall 2023; Winter 2021; Winter 2018; Spring 2017; Winter 2016; Winter 2015

PHIL-338: Analytic Philosophy

Spring 2015; Winter 2012; Fall 2009; Winter 2008

PHIL-336: The Philosophical Impact of Evolutionary Theory

Fall 2008

PHIL-2600: Introduction to Logic

Spring 2023; Winter 2022; Fall 2021; Spring 2021; Spring 2020; Fall 2017; Spring 2016; Spring 2015; Fall 2012; Fall 2011; Winter 2011; Fall 2009; Fall 2008; Fall 2007

HONR-2010: Early Modern Philosophy

Spring 2016

HONR-2020: Modern Age of Philosophy

Fall 2017; Fall 2018; Spring 2019

PHIL-220: Philosophy of the Human Person

Winter 2012; Winter 2010; Fall 2010; Spring 2008

PHIL-110: Introduction to Philosophy and Critical Thinking

Winter 2010; Spring 2009; Winter 2009; Winter 2008; Fall 2007

PHIL-1000: Introduction to Philosophy

Winter 2020; Spring 2017

Independent Studies and Departmental Honors:

Departmental Honors Thesis, Causation & Causal Modeling

Winter 2024; Fall 2024

Causal Modeling, for Departmental Honors in Mathematics

Winter 2022

Departmental Honors Thesis, Moral Psychology

Fall 2021; Winter 2022

Modal Logic

Spring 2021

Advanced Modal Logic

Winter 2021

Departmental Honors Thesis, Adam Smith

Fall 2018; Winter 2019; Spring 2019

Philosophy of Science

Spring 2015

Departmental Honors Thesis, Donald Davidson

Winter/Spring 2012

Departmental Honors Thesis, Philosophy of Language

Winter/Spring 2012

Advanced Logic

Winter 2011

Departmental Honors Thesis, Virtue and Moral Psychology

Winter/Spring 2011

Functionalism

Spring 2010

Truth-Theoretic Semantics

Winter 2009

Philosophy of Action

Fall 2008

Introduction to Logic

Fall 2008; Winter 2009

Georgetown University

Introduction to Logic, Formal/Informal

Spring 2006; Fall 2006

Moral Psychology: The Emotions

Fall 2005

Introduction to Ethics

Summer 2005

The Mind/Body Problem

Spring 2005

Introduction to Philosophy

Summer 2004

Critical Thinking (Community Scholars Program)

Summer 2004

Introduction to Logic, Formal

Summer 2003

SERVICE

Provost Fellow, 2022 – 2024

Dean's Choice Tenure Reviewer, Creighton University, 2024

External Reviewer for *Synthese*, 2024

External Reviewer for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 2024

Member, Pigott-McCone Selection Committee, 2024

Philosophy Department Endowed Chair Selection Committee, 2023

Promotion Review Committee, 2023

Provost Fellow Working Group Coordinator, 2023

Member of Sullivan Leadership Scholarship Committee, 2017 – 2022

Member of Departmental Hiring Committee, 2016; 2021; 2022; 2023

Faculty Teaching Reviewer, 2016; 2017; 2018; 2020; 2021; 2022; 2023; 2024

Director, Logic, Science, and Analytic Specialization in the Philosophy Major, 2008 – 2020

Chair of Philosophy Department Major Revision Committee, 2018 – 2019

Member of Philosophy Department Assessment Committee, 2019 – 2020

Co-Contributor to Departmental Review, 2019

Member of Ethics Minor Proposal Committee, 2017— 2018

Member of Philosophy Department Contract Faculty Hiring Committee, 2012, 2016, 2017

Faculty Mentor to Philosophy Department Contract Faculty, 2016 – 2017

Member of Pre-Tenure Review Committee, 2016

Member of Departmental Ethics Syllabus Review Committee, 2016

Coordinator for University Core Assessment Committee Ethics Assessment Project, 2011 – 2012

Member of the Seattle University Core Assessment Committee, 2010 – 2012

Faculty Co-Coordinator for the Seattle University Philosophy Club, 2010 – 2012

External Reviewer for *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*

External Reviewer for *Philosophical Psychology*, 2013

External Reviewer for *Acta Analytica*, 2013, 2022

Member of Philosophy Department Subcommittee Responsible for Reviewing Phase Two Ethics Syllabi, 2012

Member of Philosophy Department Subcommittee Responsible for Developing Phase One Generic Syllabi, 2011-2021

Member of Teagle Writing in the Majors Project Committee, 2010-2012

Member of Core Honors Admissions Committee, 2011, 2012

External Reviewer for *Comparative and Continental Philosophy*, 2012

Participant in University Core Assessment Committee Social & Environmental Justice Project, 2010 – 2011

Participant in University Core Assessment Committee Reflective Writing Project, 2011 – 2012

Participant in University Core Revision Committee Workshops, 2011

Participant in University Core Implementation Committee Workshops, 2011

External Reviewer, *Zygon*, 2010

Leader of the Learning Strategy Workshop on Critical Thinking, 2010

Member of Departmental Hiring Committee, 2009 – 2010

CAPE Exam Coordinator, 2010

Moderator for Summit on the Role of Philosophy in Jesuit Colleges & Universities, 2009

Organizer of Summit on the Role of Philosophy in Jesuit Colleges & Universities, 2009

Philosophy Department Hiring Committee, 2008 – 2009

Philosophy Department's Core Curriculum Revision Committee, 2008

Philosophy Department Committee on Revising the Philosophy Major, 2007 – 2008

Philosophy Department Subcommittee on Logic, Science, and Analytic Concentration for the Philosophy Major, 2007 – 2008