

Will Fleisher

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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Department of Philosophy
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Employment

Assistant Professor of Philosophy , Dept. of Philosophy Research Professor , Center for Digital Ethics Georgetown University	Aug. 2022 – Present
Postdoctoral Research Fellow , Khoury College of Computer Sciences Northeastern University	Jul. 2020 – Jun. 2022
McDonnell Postdoctoral Fellow , Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology Program Washington University in St. Louis	Sep. 2018 – Jun. 2020

Education

PhD Rutgers University, Philosophy Dissertation: <i>Endorsement and Inquiry</i> . Supervised by Ernest Sosa (chair), Branden Fitelson (chair), Susanna Schellenberg, Andy Egan, Adam Elga	Oct. 2018
MA Virginia Tech, Philosophy	May 2011
BA Miami University, Philosophy and History	May 2006

Research Areas

Areas of Specialization Epistemology, Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

Areas of Competence Ethics, General Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language

Publications (Peer-Reviewed)

- Fleisher, W. (forth.). "Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons," *Philosophical Studies*.
- Fleisher, W. (forth.). "Fragmentation and Old Evidence," *Episteme*.
- Fleisher, W. & Šešelja, D. (2023). "Responsibility for Collective Epistemic Harms," *Philosophy of Science*, 90(1): 1–20.
- Fleisher, W. (2022). "Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI," *Episteme*, 19 (4): 534–560.
- Fleisher, W. (2022). "Pursuit and Inquisitive Reasons," *Studies in Hist. and Phil. of Science, Pt. A* 94: 17–30.
- Fleisher, W. (2021). "What's Fair about Individual Fairness?" *Proceedings of the AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES '21)*, 480–490.
- Liu, D., Fleisher, W., Shafi, Z., Eliassi-Rad, T., & Alfeld, S. (2021). "RAWLSNET: Altering Bayesian Networks to Encode Rawlsian Fair Equality of Opportunity," *Proceedings of the AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES '21)*, 745–755.
- Fleisher, W. (2021). "Endorsement and Assertion," *Noûs* 55(2): 363–384.
- Fleisher, W. (2021). "How to Endorse Conciliationism," *Synthese* 198(10): 9912–9939.
- Fleisher, W. (2020). "Publishing without (some) belief," *Thought*, 9(4): 237–246.
- Fleisher, W. (2019). "Method Coherence and Epistemic Circularity," *Erkenntnis*, 84 (2): 455–480.
- Fleisher, W. (2018). "Rational Endorsement," *Philosophical Studies*, 175(10): 2649–2675.
- Fleisher, W. (2017). "Virtuous Distinctions," *Synthese*, 194 (8): 2973–3003.

Conference Presentations (Peer-Reviewed)

“Evidence of Fairness: On the uses and limitations of statistical fairness criteria,” Symposium, Pacific APA	Apr. 2023
“Understanding, Idealization, and the Disagreement Problem for XAI” Symposium, Philosophy of Science Association Conference	Nov. 2022
“Evidence of Fairness: On the uses and limitations of statistical fairness criteria,” AAAI 2022 Spring Symposium: Approaches to Ethical Computing Metrics for Measuring AI’s Proficiency and Competency for Ethical Reasoning.	Mar. 2022
“Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons” Symposium, Central APA	Feb. 2022
“Inquisitive Reasons and Intellectual Courage” Social (distance) Epistemology talk series (remote)	Apr. 2020
“How to Endorse Conciliationism” Colloquium, Pacific APA	Apr. 2019
“Rational Endorsement” Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference	Aug. 2017
“Rational Endorsement” Decisions, Games, and Logic Conference, University of Michigan	Jul. 2016
“Rational Endorsement” Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Workshop	Jul. 2016
“Virtuous Distinctions” Northern Graduate Philosophy Conference, NIU	Nov. 2014
“Virtuous Distinctions” Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, Oxford University	Nov. 2014
“Epistemic Circularity and Mechanism Coherence” Edinburgh Epistemology Conference, University of Edinburgh	Nov. 2011
“Epistemic Circularity and Mechanism Coherence” Phi Sigma Tau Student Philosophy Symposium, UNT	Nov. 2010

Invited Presentations

“Responsible Fact-Checking in Science” (with Dunja Šešelja and Dan Friedman) Inquiry Network WIP Series (remote)	Dec. 2022
“Understanding, Explainability, and Accountability,” Sonoma State University Center for Ethics, Law, and Society Lecture Series	Nov. 2022
“Responsible Fact-Checking in Science” (with Dunja Šešelja and Dan Friedman) Symposium talk, German Society for Analytic Philosophy Conference	Sep. 2022
“Responsibility for Collective Epistemic Harms” (with Dunja Šešelja) Symposium talk, German Society for Analytic Philosophy Conference	Sep. 2022
“Evidence of Fairness” Milan Workshop on Fairness and ML in Health	Jun. 2022
“Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI” European Workshop on Algorithmic Fairness (Lightning talk)	Jun. 2022
“Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons” Philosophy with Attitude Conference, New Mexico State University	Mar. 2022
“Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI” University of Eindhoven (virtual)	Nov. 2021
“Intellectual Courage and Inquisitive Reasons” Northeastern Epistemology Workshop, Northeastern University	Nov. 2021
“Understanding, Idealization, and Explainable AI” Episteme Conference, Negril, Jamaica	Aug. 2021
“Pursuit and Inquisitive Reasons”	Apr. 2021

Colloquium (remote), University of Missouri, St. Louis "Pursuit and Inquisitive Reasons"	Mar. 2021
Keynote Talk, Pursuit 2021 Workshop (remote) "Inquisitive Reasons and Intellectual Courage"	Apr. 2020
St. Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association (remote) "Collective Epistemic Responsibility" (with Dunja Šešelja)	Mar. 2020
Nature of Inquiry Conference, Agnes Scott College	

Teaching Experience

Courses as Instructor

Ethics of Technology

Phil 117: Introduction to Tech, Ethics, and Society Georgetown University	Fa. 2022 & Spr. 2023
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Epistemology and Philosophy of Mind:

PNP/Phil. 315: Philosophy of Mind Washington University in St. Louis	Fall 2019
PNP/Phil. 496: PNP Seminar: Representation Washington University in St. Louis	Spring 2019
PNP 200: Introduction to Cognitive Science Washington University in St. Louis	Fall 2018
Phil. 221: Theory of Knowledge Rutgers University	Spring 2017

Language, Logic, and Critical Thinking:

PNP/Phil. 4061: Topics in Philosophy of Language: Assertion Washington University in St. Louis	Fall 2019
Phil. 109: Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making Rutgers University, Online	Summer 2018
Phil. 109: Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making Rutgers University	Fall 2017
Phil. 109: Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making Rutgers University	Fall 2016
Phil. 201: Introduction to Logic Rutgers University	Summer 2012
Phil. 1504: Language and Logic Virginia Tech	Summer 2011

Courses as TA

Ethics Courses:

Phil. 252: Eating Right: The Ethics of Food Rutgers University, Head Teaching Assistant for Andy Egan	Fall 2013
Phil. 252: Eating Right: The Ethics of Food Rutgers University, Instructor: Andy Egan	Fall 2011
Phil. 1304: Morality and Justice Virginia Tech, Instructor: Steven Daskal	Spring 2010
Phil. 1304: Morality and Justice Virginia Tech, Instructor: William FitzPatrick	Fall 2009

Logic, Cognitive Science, and History:

Phil. 253: Human Nature and Human Diversity Rutgers University, Instructor: Stephen Stich	Spring 2018
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Phil. 201: Introduction to Logic Rutgers University, Instructor: Frances Egan	Spring 2012
Phil. 1504: Language and Logic Virginia Tech, Instructor: Daniel Parker	Spring 2011
Phil. 2115: Ancient Philosophy Virginia Tech, Instructor: James Klagge	Fall 2010

Mentoring Experience

APA Mentoring the Mentors Workshop Panel Speaker, Central APA	2017
Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy Graduate Mentor	2014–2016, 2018
Rutgers Philosophy Undergraduate Mentoring Program Graduate Mentor	2013–2016

Honors and Awards

Mellon Summer Study Grant Rutgers University	2015, 2017
Graduate School Pre-Dissertation Travel Award Rutgers University	2014
Mellon Supplemental Fellowship Rutgers University	2012–16
Marjorie Grene Memorial Prize for Outstanding Graduate Student Virginia Tech	2011

Other Experience

Graduate Assistant to Ernest Sosa Proofreader	2014–2015
Research and Editorial Assistant For <i>Food Ethics and Society</i> , Barnhill, Budolfson, and Doggett (Oxford University Press, 2017)	2015–2016

Professional Service

Conferences Organized

Bayesianism and its Rivals Organized with Branden Fitelson, Ned Hall, and David Thorstad	2022
Bridges II: Conference on Logic and Epistemology Organized with Branden Fitelson	2015
Princeton-Rutgers Graduate Philosophy Conference Organizing Committee, Referee	2014
Virginia Tech Graduate Philosophy Conference Organizing Committee, Referee	2010
Virginia Tech Graduate Philosophy Conference Organizing Committee, Referee	2009

Referee for:

- *Mind*
- *Noûs*

- *Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
- *Philosophical Studies*
- *Analysis*
- *Synthese*
- *Episteme*
- *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*
- *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Ergo*
- *Dialectica*
- *Ratio*
- *Cambridge University Press*
- *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)*

Departmental Service

Merit Committee Georgetown University	2022–2023
Graduate Representative to the Faculty Rutgers University	2012–2015
Prospective Student Liaison and Prospective Week Organizer Rutgers University	2014
President Virginia Tech Graduate Philosophy Society	2009–2011
Investigative and Judicial Panelist Virginia Tech Honor System	2009–2011