

Rory Harder

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Address Philosophy Department, 170 St. George St., Toronto, ON, Canada M5R 2M8

AOS Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind
AOC Epistemology, Logic, Probability and Decision Theory

Academic Positions

2019–2020 Part Time Lecturer, Rutgers University
2016–2018 Philosophy Don (Tutor and Residence Assistant), Trinity College, University of Toronto

Education

2015–Present PhD in Philosophy, University of Toronto, ABD
Committee: Imogen Dickie (co-supervisor), Nate Charlow (co-supervisor), Philip Kremer
2019 VISITING STUDENT in Linguistics, Rutgers University
Host Supervisor: Simon Charlow
2012–2015 BA (HONS) with High Distinction in Philosophy (Specialist) and History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (Minor), University of Toronto

Dissertation

Title *Joint Action and Communication, With a Focus on Demonstratives*
Summary An important aspect of human nature is our engagement with one another. We do things *together*. My dissertation aims to shed light on our social nature by addressing joint attention and linguistic communication, which are two special form of our joint engagement. I begin at a general level by explaining their normative profile in a way that is heavily informed by empirical work. With a general framework in place, I turn to demonstrative communication, which is a fundamental form of linguistic communication that occurs via demonstrative expressions—words such as “this” and “that”.

Presentations (†: paper peer-reviewed ‡: abstract peer-reviewed)

PHILOSOPHY

2021 *Joint Attention*[†]
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting (Symposium)
2020 *The Grammar of Reference*
New York Philosophy of Language Workshop
2019 *Clearing up Clouds: Nonspecificity and Goal-Sensitivity in Demonstrative Communication*[†]
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting (Colloquium)
2017 *Inferences and Neutrality of the Deliberative Ought*[†]
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting (Colloquium); Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting

INTERDISCIPLINARY

- 2021 *Joint Attention and Communication*[‡]
MK40/41: Common Knowledge, Common Ground, and Context in Communication
A Puzzle about Demonstrative Understanding[‡]
PhiLang2021
- 2020 *Perspectives in Demonstrative Semantics*[‡]
WeSLLI Student Session; Szklarska Poreba Workshop
- 2019 *The Affiliative Conception of Sense*[‡]
Expression, Communication, and Origins of Meaning Research Group Workshop
- 2018 *Clearing up Clouds: Nonspecificity and Goal-Sensitivity in Demonstrative Communication*[‡]
Context, Cognition, and Communication Conference

Teaching

COURSE INSTRUCTORSHIPS

- 2020 *Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision Making* (1st year, Online, Rutgers University)
Special Topics in Philosophy: Frege's Puzzle (3rd year, Online, University of Toronto)
- 2019 *Introduction to Formal Reasoning and Decision Making* (1st year, Rutgers University)
Issues in Philosophy of Mind: Perception and Conception (3rd year, University of Toronto)

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS (AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)

- 2018 *Ancient Philosophy* (2nd year), *17th- and 18th-Century Philosophy* (2nd year)
- 2016 *Knowledge and Reality* (2nd year), *Probability and Inductive Logic* (2nd year)
- 2013–2014 *Introduction to Philosophy* (1st year)

Professional Activity

- 2020 GRADUATE STUDENT COORDINATOR for Institutional Strategic Initiative in Language and Cognition, University of Toronto
- 2017 ATTENDEE at 29th European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information
- 2016 ATTENDEE at Seventh North American Summer School on Logic, Language, and Information
REFEREE and COMMENTATER for Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, University of Toronto

Graduate Coursework

- LEMM Perception and Epistemology; Vagueness; Mind or World; Semantics for Philosophy; Formal Epistemology; Metasemantics; Frege; Deductive and Inductive Logic
- History Seminar in Plato; Consciousness Then and Now
- Ethics Controlling Attitudes; Valuing, Narrative, and What Matters in Life
- Linguistics Topics in Event Semantics; Introduction to Syntactic Theory

Scholarships & Awards

GRADUATE

- 2020–2021 Doctoral Completion Award (\$14,859)
Merit-based award for University of Toronto graduate students in the first year beyond their funded cohort.

- 2019–2020 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000)
Merit-based scholarship encouraging excellence in graduate studies at public universities in Ontario.
- 2019 SSHRC CGS Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (\$6,000)
Supports high-calibre Canadian students in research abroad. A total of 125 are awarded nationally each year for the social sciences and humanities.
- 2016–2019 SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship (\$105,000)
Supports high-calibre students engaged in doctoral programs in the social sciences and humanities. Awarded to about 22% of applicants.

UNDERGRADUATE

- 2015 The George Kennedy Scholarship, University of Toronto Department of Philosophy
Awarded annually to an outstanding graduating student with at least 3 full courses in philosophy.
- 2012 Socrates Award, Trent University Department of Philosophy
Awarded annually to an outstanding undergraduate in Philosophy in each of the second and third years. The prizes commemorate Socrates' description of himself as one who rouses and reproves the society in which he lives just as a gadfly awakens a sluggish horse.