

Kelly Trogdon

Department of Philosophy, Virginia Tech
229B Major Williams Hall, 220 Stanger Street
Blacksburg, VA 24061
trogdon@vt.edu

Research areas

- Specialization: metaphysics, philosophy of mind.
- Competences: philosophy of art, philosophy of language.

Employment

- Virginia Tech, USA: Assistant Professor: 2013–2019; Associate Professor: 2019–present.
- University of Gothenburg, Sweden: Visitor, Fall 2018.
- Lingnan University, Hong Kong, Assistant Professor: 2009–2013.

Education

- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2009: Ph.D. in Philosophy.
- University of Florida, 2002: M.A. in Philosophy.
- University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 1999: B.A. in Philosophy.

Scholarly work

Research journal articles

- “Should Explanation Be a Guide to Ground?” with A. Skiles, *Philosophical Studies* 178/12 (2021): 4083–4098.
- “Full and Partial Grounding,” with D. G. Witmer, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 7/2 (2021): 252–271.
- “Prioritizing Platonism,” with S. Cowling, *Philosophical Studies* 176/8 (2019): 2029–2042.
- “Grounding-Mechanical Explanation,” *Philosophical Studies* 175/6 (2018): 1289–1309.
- “Revelation and Physicalism,” *Synthese* 194 (2017): 2345–2366.
- “The Complete Work,” with P. Livingston, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 72/3 (2014): 225–233.
- “Grounding: Necessary or Contingent?” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 94/4 (2013): 465–485.
- “The Modal Status of Materialism,” with J. Levine, *Philosophical Studies* 145/3 (2009): 351–362.
- “Physicalism and Sparse Ontology,” *Philosophical Studies* 143/2 (2009): 147–165.

- “Monism and Intrinsicity,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 87/1 (2009): 127–148.
- “Intrinsicity without Naturalness,” with D. G. Witmer and B. Butchard, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 70/2 (2005): 326–350.

Research book chapters

- “The Abductive Dimension to Explanatory Transparency.” In G. Rabin (ed.) *Grounding and Consciousness*. Oxford University Press (commissioned).
- “Inheritance Arguments for Fundamentality.” In R. Bliss and G. Priest (eds.), *Reality and its Structure: Essays in Fundamentality*. Oxford University Press (2018): 182–198.
- “Placement, Grounding, and Mental Content.” In C. Daly (ed.), *The Palgrave Handbook on Philosophical Methods*. Palgrave (2015): 481–496.

Reference articles, chapters, and entries

- “Grounding,” with A. Skiles. In R. Bliss & J. Miller (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics* (2020): 199–210.
- “Truthmaking.” In M. Raven (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding* (2020): 396–407.
- “Priority Monism,” *Philosophy Compass* 12 (2017): 1–10.
- “Grounding.” In R. Audi (ed.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, 3rd edition (2015).
- “Metaphysical Grounding,” with R. Bliss. In E. Zalta (ed.), *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2014).
- “An Introduction to Grounding.” In M. Hoeltje et al (eds.), *Varieties of Dependence*. Philosophia Verlag (2013): 97–122.

Short responses

- “Maurin on Grounding and Explanation,” with A. Skiles. In T. Wahlberg & R. Stenwall (eds.), *Maurinian Truths*. Lund University (2019): 159–172.
- “Artwork Completion: A Response to Gover,” with P. Livingston, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 73/4 (2015): 460–462.
- “Intrinsicity for Monists (and Pluralists),” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 88/3 (2010): 555–558.

Reviews

- Review of K. McDaniel, *The Fragmentation of Being* (OUP, 2017), *Philosophical Review* 129/1 (2020): 149–153.
- Review of G. Coggins, *Could There Have Been Nothing? Against Metaphysical Nihilism* (Palgrave, 2010), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2011).
- Review of D. Stoljar, *Ignorance and Imagination: The Epistemic Origin of the Problem of Consciousness* (OUP, 2006), *Philosophical Review* 118/2 (2009): 269–272.

Talks

- “Should Explanation be a Guide to Ground?” with A. Skiles.
 - American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, invited symposium (April 2021).
 - Derivativeness and Priority Workshop, Lugano, Switzerland (September 2019).
 - Rutgers-Bristol Workshop on the Metaphysical Unity of Science, Rutgers University, Newark (June 2019).
- “A Hybrid Account of Transparency”
 - University of Birmingham (October 2020, via Zoom)
 - University of Gothenburg (November 2018).
- “Full and Partial Grounding,” with D. G. Witmer
 - Eidos Workshop, University of Geneva (October 2018).
 - Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, Lund University (August 2018).
- “Truthmaking,” Grounding Conference, University of Hamburg (May 2018).
- “Against the Standard Definition of Partial Grounding,” with D.G. Witmer
 - Fundamentality in Physics and Metaphysics Workshop, University of Geneva (May 2018).
 - Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, University of Gothenburg (February 2018).
 - UMass Philosophy Homecoming, UMass Amherst (October 2017).
- “Grounding-Mechanical Explanation”
 - The Ontology of Compositional Explanation Workshop, Rutgers University, Newark (May 2017).
 - Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, University of Gothenburg (September 2016).
 - Grounding and Explanation Workshop, University of Agder (March 2016).
- “The Modal Status of Monism,” Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech (April 2017).
- “Prioritizing Platonism,” with S. Cowling
 - Monism Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick (November 2016).
 - Monism Conference, Jean Nicod Institute (May 2016).
- “Inheritance Arguments for Fundamentality”
 - William & Mary Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, Keynote Address (March 2016).
 - Denison University (February 2016).
 - Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress (June 2015).
- “Grounding and Program Explanation”
 - Truth and Grounds, Ascona, Switzerland (May 2015).
 - First Veritas Philosophy Conference, Yonsei University (June 2014).
 - The University of Florida (April 2014).

- American Philosophical Association, Central Division, invited symposium (February 2014).
- Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Western Michigan University (November 2013).
- “Revelation and Physicalism”
 - Philosophy of Mind Workshop, Virginia Tech (April 2015).
 - Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (April 2015).
 - Victoria University of Wellington (May 2013, via Skype).
- “Placement, Grounding, and Mental Content”
 - Scientific Explanation and Methodology of Science Conference, Shanxi University (September 2012).
 - 8th Annual Chinese Conference on Analytic Philosophy, Shandong University (August 2012).
 - Workshop on Metaphysics and the Philosophy of Mind, University of Oslo (July 2012).
 - Mind and Consciousness Conference, University of Western Australia (February 2012).
 - Australian National University (October 2011).
- “Grounding: Necessary or Contingent?”
 - PERSP Metaphysics Seminar, University of Barcelona (April 2012).
 - American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division (December 2011).
 - Grounding and Determination Workshop, University of Geneva (March 2011).
- “An Introduction to Grounding,” University of Hong Kong (May 2011).
- “The Non-Transitivity of Metaphysical Explanation,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (April 2011).
- “Grounding: Explanation and Dependence”
 - Because II Conference, Humboldt University (September 2010).
 - Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference (July 2010).
- “Grounding, Border-Sensitivity, and Intrinsicity”
 - American Philosophical Association, Central Division (February 2010).
 - Parts and Places: A Workshop in Metaphysics, Australian National University (November 2009).
- “Experiential Acquaintance and Demonstrative Thought,” Society for Philosophy and Psychology (June 2008).
- “Physicalism and Sparse Ontology,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division (April 2008).
- “Monism and Intrinsicity,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division (April 2007).
- “Consciousness and Direct Apprehension,” Society for Exact Philosophy (May 2005).
- “Moral Imaginative Resistance,” Society for Exact Philosophy (May 2004).

- “Dualism, Mental Causation, and Counterfactuals”
 - American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (February 2002).
 - Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (March 2002).

Comments

- D. Goswick, ‘Properties: Universals, Topes, or Troversals?,’ American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division (January 2022).
- M. Bertrand, “Two Concepts of Metaphysical Grounding,” American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division (January 2020).
- M. Hicks, “Three Roads for Humeanism,” Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Lehigh University (April 2019).
- S. Cowling, *Abstract Objects* (book symposium), American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (April 2019).
- E. Shumener, “Explaining Identity and Distinctness,” Workshop on the Principle of Sufficient Reason, Simon Fraser University (April 2018).
- F. Amijee, “Grounding Perspectival Facts,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (April 2017).
- A. Thomasson, “Metaphysical Disputes and Metalinguistic Negotiation,” American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division (January 2017).
- J. Kroll, “Defending the Easy Road to Nominalism,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division (March 2016).
- J. Vertanen, “Grounding is not Ontological Dependence,” American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division (January 2016).
- J. Shields and K. Blanchette, “Clearing the Way: Against Hofweber’s Objections to Substantive Metaphysics,” The Society for the Metaphysics of Science (September 2015).
- R. Bliss, “What Dependent Entities Explain,” Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Grand Valley State University (April 2015).
- D.M. Kovacs, “Metaphysical Explanation without Grounding,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division (February 2015).
- T. Robertson, “Things Undreamt of: Chandler’s Paradox, Modal Properties, and Plenitude,” Metaphysics on the Mountain, Sun Valley, Idaho (March 2014).
- E. Conee, “Against Debasing Skepticism,” UMass Philosophy Homecoming, UMass Amherst (October 2013).
- E. Brady, “Aesthetics and Climate Change,” Environmental Aesthetics Conference, Lingnan University (November 2011).
- J. Neisser, “Meeting Jackson’s Constraint: On Subjectivity, Neurobiology, and the Explanatory Gap,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (April 2009).
- R. Schroer, “Where’s the Beef? How the Content of Phenomenal Concepts Can Be Substantial Even If They Contain Demonstrative Elements,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (March 2008).

Grants

- 2018: The Aesthetics of Contemporary Science Research: An Exhibition, ICAT Research Initiation Grant (Virginia Tech), Co-PI.
- 2018: Research Grant (Department of Philosophy, Linguistics, and Theory of Science, University of Gothenburg).
- 2017–2019: Metaphysical Explanation (Riksbankens Jubileumsfond), Advisory Board Member.

Service

Professional

- Associate Editor: Australasian Journal of Philosophy: 2012–present.
- Section Editor: grounding and monism sections of PhilPapers: 2012–present.
- Program Committee: Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress: 2015, 2016.
- Conferences: Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech (April 7–8, 2017); Philosophy of Mind Workshop, Virginia Tech (April 24–25, 2015); Art and Metaphysics Conference (May 16–18, 2012), Lingnan University; Properties and Dependence, Lingnan University (Nov. 20–21, 2010).
- Journal Referee: American Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Ergo, Erkenntnis, Dialectica, Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Journal of Philosophy, Metaphysics, Mind, Mind and Language, Noûs, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophia, Philosophical Papers, Philosophical Psychology, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophy of Science, Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Res Philosophica, Studia Philosophica Estonica, Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Synthese, Thought.
- Conference Referee: Canadian Philosophical Association, Canadian Metaphysics Collaborative, Florida Philosophical Association, Society for Exact Philosophy, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Collection and Book Proposal Referee: Oxford University Press, Routledge.
- Book Referee: MIT Press, Oxford University Press.
- Grant Referee: Israel Science Foundation, National Science Center Poland, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Swiss National Science Foundation.

Department, College, and University

- Department: Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee: 2013–2014; Department: Calendar Administrator: 2013–2017; Graduate Committee: 2013–2021; External Department Head Search Committee: 2014–2015; Teaching Committee: 2014–2020; Assistant Professor Search Committee: 2015–2016; Colloquia Organizer: 2016–2018;

Assistant Professor Search Committee: 2017–2018; Assistant Professor Search Committee (chair): 2019–2020; Ad-Hoc Committee to Revise By-Laws and P&T Guidelines (chair): 2019–2020; Tenure and Promotion Committee/Faculty Annual Report Committee: 2019–present; Director of Graduate Studies: 2020–2021; Non-Permanent Faculty Member Working Group (2020–present); Department Chair (2021–present).

- College: College of Liberal arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS) Library Committee: 2013–2016; CLAHS Diversity Committee: 2013–2017; CLAHS Faculty Council: 2016–2018; CLAHS Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: 2017–2018; CLAHS Language Sciences Working Group: 2020–present; ASPECT Stakeholders Committee (2021–present).
- University: Faculty Senate: 2016–2018.

Teaching

Courses taught

- MA seminars: phenomenal concepts, philosophy and literature
- Undergraduate courses (* = cross-listed for undergrads and MA students): metaphysics*, philosophy of mind*, the problem of consciousness*, philosophy of language*, aesthetics and the philosophy of art, logic, introduction to philosophy
- Independent studies: phenomenology, neo-Aristotelian metaphysics, Quine, aesthetics and the philosophy of art, the self