

Sam Cowling

Department of Philosophy, Denison University, Granville, OH 43023, USA
740-587-6387 | sam.cowling@denison.edu | <http://personal.denison.edu/~cowlings/>

Employment

Associate Professor, Denison University, 2018-present

Assistant Professor, Denison University, 2013-2018

Visiting Assistant Professor, Western Michigan University, 2011-2013

Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2011

Dissertation: *Identity and the Limits of Possibility*

Advisor: Phillip Bricker

M.A., Philosophy, University of Manitoba, 2005

Thesis: *Neither Simples nor Gunk*

Advisor: Ben Caplan

B.A., Philosophy, University of Victoria, 2004

Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Science

Areas of Competence

History of Analytic Philosophy, Logic, Philosophy of Comics

Book

Abstract Entities (2017) Routledge, *New Problems in Philosophy* series.

Articles

"Prioritizing Platonism" with Kelly Trogdon (forthcoming) *Philosophical Studies*.

"Conceivability Arguments for Haecceitism" (2017) *Synthese* 194: 4171-4190

"How to be Omnipresent" with Wesley Cray (2017) *American Philosophical Quarterly* 154: 223-234.

"Intrinsic Properties of Properties" (2017) *Philosophical Quarterly* 67: 241-262.

"Resemblance" (2017) *Philosophy Compass* 12.4: 1-11.

"Advice for Eleatics" (2015) *Palgrave Handbook of Philosophical Methods* (ed. Christopher Daly)
Palgrave MacMillan: 306-330.

"Non-Qualitative Properties" (2015) *Erkenntnis* 80: 275-301.

"Haecceitism" (2015) *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

"No Simples, No Gunk, No Nothing" (2014) *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 95: 246-260.

"The Way of Actuality" (2014) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 92: 231-247.

"Instantiation as Location" (2014) *Philosophical Studies* 167: 667-682.

"The Modal View of Essence" (2013) *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 43: 248-266.

"Ideological Parsimony" (2013) *Synthese* 190: 889-908.

"Haecceitism for Modal Realists" (2012) *Erkenntnis* 77: 399-417.

"The Limits of Modality" (2011) *Philosophical Quarterly* 61: 473-495.

"Kantian Humility and Ontological Categories" (2010) *Analysis* 70: 659-665.

Works in Progress

"Goodman, Lewis, and Nominalism"

"Fictional Realism in the Funny Pages"

Philosophy of Comics: An Introduction (with Wesley Cray) (under contract with Bloomsbury)

Book Reviews and Shorter Pieces

"Ideology and Ontology" (forthcoming) *Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics*.

"Universals" (forthcoming) *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics by Thomas Hofweber, *Philosophical Quarterly* (2018) 68.271: 403-406.

Time: A Philosophical Introduction by James Harrington, *Teaching Philosophy* (2016) 39: 536-540.

God and Necessity by Brian Leftow, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2013) 91: 610-613.

The Reburial of Nonexistents by Carolyn Swanson, *Philosophy in Review* (2012) 32: 431-4.

New Essays on Singular Thought by Robin Jeshion, *Philosophy in Review* (2011) 36: 434-7.

New Essays on the Knowability Paradox by Joe Salerno, *Philosophy in Review* (2010) 30: 220-2.

Possibility by Michael Jubien, *Philosophy in Review* (2010) 30: 47-49.

The Metaphysics of Hyperspace by Hud Hudson, *Philosophy in Review* (2009) 29: 41-3.

"Could Batman Have Been the Joker?" with Chris Ragg (2008) *Batman and Philosophy* (eds. Mark D. White and Robert Arp) Wiley-Blackwell: 142-155.

Presentations

Author meets Critics Session on *Abstract Entities*, Pacific APA, 2019

"Fictional Realism in the Funny Pages" Texas Christian University, 2018

"Fictional Realism in the Funny Pages" Denison University, 2018

"What Makes Platonists Tick?" with Seth Chin-Parker and May Mei, Middlebury College, *Explanation Across the Disciplines*, 2018

- "What Do Speech Balloons Depict?" Language, Culture, and Mind Conference, 2018
- "How to Benacerraf a Goodman-Lewis" Tilburg University, History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop, 2018
- "Fictional Realism in the Funny Pages" CPA, 2018
- "Some Problems with Pythagoreanism" Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, William & Mary, 2018
- "Recombining Non-Qualitative Reality" Lingnan University, Hong Kong, 2017
- "Recombining Non-Qualitative Reality" Hong Kong University, Hong Kong, 2017
- "Recombining Non-Qualitative Reality" Midwestern Annual Workshop in Metaphysics, Wisconsin-Madison, 2017
- "Some Problems with Pythagoreanism" Lawrence University, 2017
- "How to Benacerraf a Goodman-Lewis" SPAWN, Syracuse, 2017
- "How to Benacerraf a Goodman-Lewis" Eastern APA, 2017
- "How to Benacerraf a Goodman-Lewis" Virginia Tech, 2016
- "Recombining Non-Qualitative Reality" Haecceitism and Individuals, Neuchatel, 2016
- "Prioritizing Platonism" (with Kelly Trogdon) CPA, 2016
- "Prioritizing Platonism" (with Kelly Trogdon) Monism, Jean Nicod, Paris, 2016
- "Intrinsic Properties of Properties" Ohio State, 2016
- "How to Benacerraf a Goodman-Lewis" Ohio Philosophical Association, 2016
- "On Abstract Entities" Texas Christian University, Junior Metaphysics Workshop, 2016
- "Intrinsic Properties of Properties" Central APA, 2016
- "Conceivability Arguments for Haecceitism" Issues on the Impossible III, Bratislava, 2015
- "Nominalist Possibilism" CPA, 2015
- "Intrinsic Properties of Properties" Metaphysics of Quantity, NYU, 2015
- "Intrinsic Properties of Properties" SEP Meeting, 2015
- "Advice for Eleatics" Central APA, 2015
- "Intrinsic Properties of Properties" Metaphysics and Philosophy of Physics, Rochester, 2014
- "Conceivability Arguments for Haecceitism" CPA, 2014
- "Recombination under the Spotlight" Washington & Jefferson University, 2014
- "Eternalist Recurrence" Ohio Philosophical Association, 2014
- "Eternalist Recurrence" Pacific APA, 2014
- "The Way of Actuality" Central APA, 2014
- "Conceivability Arguments for Haecceitism" Western Michigan, Junior Metaphysics Workshop, 2013

“Advice for Eleatics” UMass Homecoming Conference, 2013
 “Eternalist Recurrence” Washington & Jefferson University, Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium, 2013
 “Instantiation as Location” Western Michigan 2013
 “No Simples, No Gunk, No Nothing” CPA, 2013
 “The Way of Actuality” CPA, 2013
 “Instantiation as Location” Kansas University, 2013
 “Instantiation as Location” Denison University, 2013
 “Instantiation as Location” Central APA, 2012
 “Nominalist Possibilism” Western Michigan University, 2012
 “Instantiation as Location” SEP Meeting, 2012
 “Pathology and Possibility” Siena Heights University, 2012
 “Instantiation as Location” Syracuse Graduate Conference, 2011
 “Instantiation as Location” CPA, 2011
 “A Puzzle about Plenitude” Western Michigan University, 2011
 “Kantian Humility and Ontological Categories” Syracuse Graduate Conference, 2010
 “Kant on Simple Substance” CPA, 2010
 “The Limits of Modality” CPA, 2007
 “The Limits of Modality” Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference, 2007
 “Hypergunk and Inaccessible Fictionalism” CPA, 2006
 “No Simples, No Gunk, No Nothing” Brown Graduate Conference, 2006
 “Hypergunk and Inaccessible Fictionalism” WCPA, 2005
 “Platonism and Aristotelianism in the Philosophy of Mathematics” WCPA, 2004

Comments

Segal’s “Pythagoreanism: A Number of Theories” SMS, 2018
 Leonard’s “What is it to be Located?” Central APA, 2018
 Gibbs’ “Advanced Modalizing for the Modal Realist” Pacific APA, 2017
 Dershowitz’s “Nihilism and Gunk” CPA, 2016
 Gibilisco’s “No Paradox for Multi-Located Universals” Pacific APA, 2016
 Glick’s “Spatiotemporal Entanglement” Junior Metaphysics Workshop, 2015
 Eddon’s “Parthood and Naturalness” BSPC, 2014
 Dumsday’s “A Cosmological Argument for Moderate Realism” CPA, 2014

Wallace's "A Defense of Modal Parts" Pacific APA, 2014
 Garland's "Against Superinternalism" WCPA, 2013
 Jorgensen's "Chancy Counterfactuals" Indiana Philosophical Association, 2012
 MacLean's "Armstrong's Theory of Probabilistic Laws" CPA, 2011
 MacKay's "Conditionals, Mood, and Binding" CPA, 2010
 Wang's "The Dice Problem" Central APA, 2010
 Lim's "Baker, Animalism, and Mental Capacities" Lynne Baker Conference, Buffalo, 2009
 Haukioja's "Rigidity or Actuality-Dependence?" Pacific APA, 2009
 Gibberman's "Against Zero-Dimensional Objects" UMass Graduate Conference, 2009
 Samaroo's "Geometric Primitives as Implicit Definitions" CPA, 2007
 Maclean's "Mumford's Problem for Scientific Essentialism" CPA, 2006
 Conter's "An Abstract Object Located in Time" CPA, 2005
 Dieveney's "A Stronger Indispensability" WCPA, 2004

Awards & Fellowships

Co-Recipient, APA Small Grant for Junior Metaphysics Workshop Project, 2014-2015
 Arts & Sciences Discovery and Research Award, Western Michigan University, 2013
 Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2010-2011
 Travel Grant, Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University, 2010
 Robison Prize for Excellence in Teaching, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2010
 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Doctoral Fellowship, 2006-2010
 Puryear Fellowship, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2006-2007
 Cartwright Fellowship, University of Manitoba, 2004-2005

Courses Taught (* indicates graduate course)

Abstract Objects (WMU 2012)*
 American Philosophy (UMass 2009, 2010; WMU 2012)
 Biomedical Ethics (Manitoba 2006, 2007)
 Critical Thinking (Manitoba 2006, 2009; WMU 2011, 2012, 2013)
 David Lewis (Denison 2015)
 Environmental Ethics (Manitoba 2008, 2010)
 History of Analytic Philosophy (Denison 2013, 2017)
 Imagination and Impossibility (Denison 2014)

Introduction to Philosophy (Denison 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018)
 Logic (Denison 2016, 2018)
 Metaphysics (Denison 2014)
 Modality (WMU 2011)*
 Nothing (Denison 2016)
 Nietzsche (UMass 2010)
 Persons, Time, and Freedom (WMU 2012)
 Philosophy of Language (Denison 2017)
 Philosophy of Mathematics (Denison 2017, co-taught with May Mei)
 Philosophy of Mind (Denison 2016)
 Philosophy through Comics (WMU 2013, Denison 2018)
 Philosophy of Science (Denison 2015, 2016, 2018)
 Independent Studies: Persons (WMU 2012)*, Physicalism (WMU 2012)*, Death (WMU 2013)*, Set Theory (WMU 2013)*, Philosophy in Comics (Denison 2018), Philosophy of Saul Kripke (Denison 2018)

Academic Service

Academic Affairs Council, Denison University, 2017-present
 Editorial Board, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 2016-present
 Organizer, *Teaching Thinking: Logic & the Liberal Arts* Conference, Denison University, 2017
 University Honor Committee, Denison University, 2016-present
 CPA Conference Program Chair, 2015-2016
 APA Committee Member, Academic Career Opportunities and Placement, 2015-present
 CPA Conference Program Committee Member, 2013-present
PhilPapers Category Editor: Abstract Objects, Haecceitism
 General Education Competency Committee, Denison University, 2016
 Symposium Organizer: "Platonism, Physicalism, and Fundamentality" CPA, 2015
 Co-Organizer, Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Grand Valley State 2015
 Co-Organizer, Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Western Michigan, 2013
 Faculty Advisor to *Episteme* (Undergraduate Philosophy Journal), Denison 2013-present
 Organizer, *Metaphysical Virtues* Conference, Western Michigan, 2013
 Symposium Organizer: "Possibilities and Propositions" CPA, 2013
 Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Philosophy, Western Michigan, 2012-2013

Speaker Series Coordinator, Department of Philosophy, Western Michigan, 2011- 2013

Co-Organizer, *On the Plurality of Worlds* Conference, University of Massachusetts, 2011

Refereeing (** indicates multiple assignments)

*Acta Analytica, American Philosophical Quarterly**, *Analysis**, *Analytic Philosophy*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy**, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy**, *Dialectica**, *Dialogue*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis**, *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, *Grazer Philosophische Studien*, *Inquiry**, *International Studies in Philosophy of Science*, *Mind**, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association**, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Nous**, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly**, *Philosophia**, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophical Review**, *Philosophical Studies**, *Philosophical Quarterly**, *Philosophers' Imprint**, *Ratio*, *Res Philosophica*, *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Synthese**

Book Manuscripts: Cambridge University Press, Routledge

Grant Proposals: Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada