

# DANIEL W. HARRIS

## EMPLOYMENT

AUGUST 2022–PRESENT

**Associate Professor of Philosophy**  
The Graduate Center and Hunter College,  
CUNY

AUGUST 2014–AUGUST 2022

**Assistant Professor of Philosophy**  
Hunter College, CUNY

## EDUCATION

JUNE 2014

**PhD in Philosophy; Interdisciplinary  
Concentration in Cognitive Science**  
Graduate Center, City University of New York

**DISSERTATION:** Speech Act Theoretic Semantics  
**ADVISOR:** Stephen Neale

MAY 2007

**BA, Philosophy (Honors)**  
Simon Fraser University, Vancouver BC

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind,  
Philosophy of Cognitive Science, History of  
Analytic Philosophy

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics and Epistemology, Logic

danielwharris@gmail.com

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Department of Philosophy  
Hunter College  
695 Park Ave.  
New York, NY  
10065 USA

## BOOKS

**IN PREP** *Human Communication* (tentative title)  
Monograph under contract with Oxford University Press.

**2018** *New Work on Speech Acts*  
Co-edited with Daniel Fogal and Matt Moss. Oxford University Press.

## ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

**IN PRESS** *Gricean Communication, Natural Language, and Human Evolution*  
*Evolutionary Pragmatics*, edited by Bart Geurts and Richard Moore, Oxford  
University Press

**IN PRESS** *Intentionalism and Bald-Faced Lies*  
*Inquiry* (currently published online, awaiting print publication)

**2022** *Problems and Mysteries of the Many Languages of Thought*  
Co-authored with Eric Mandelbaum (first author), Yarrow Dunham, Roman  
Feiman, Chaz Firestone, E. J. Green, Melissa M. Kibbe, Benedek Kurdi, Myrto  
Mylopolous, Joshua Shepherd, Alexis Wellwood, Nicolas Porot, and Jake  
Quilty-Dunn. *Cognitive Science* 46: e13225

**2022** *Semantics without Semantic Content*  
*Mind & Language* 37: 304–328

**2022** *Imperative Inference and Practical Rationality*  
*Philosophical Studies* 179: 1065–1090

**2021** *How the Philosophy of Language Grew Out of Analytic Philosophy*  
*The Cambridge Handbook of the Philosophy of Language*, edited by Piotr  
Stalmaszczyk, Cambridge University Press.

**2021** *Speech-Act Theory: Social and Political Applications*  
Co-authored with Rachel McKinney. *The Routledge Handbook of Social and  
Political Philosophy of Language*, edited by Rachel Sterken and Justin Khoo,  
Routledge.

**2020** *We Talk to People, not Contexts*  
*Philosophical Studies* 177: 2713–2733

**2019** *Intention Recognition as the Mechanism of Human Communication*  
Forthcoming in *Sensations, Thoughts, Language: Essays in Honor of Brian Loar*,  
edited by Arthur Sullivan.

**2019** *Intention and Commitment in Speech Acts*  
*Theoretical Linguistics* 45 (1–2): 53–67

**2018** *Speech Acts: The Contemporary Theoretical Landscape*  
Coauthored with Daniel Fogal and Matt Moss. In *New Work on Speech Acts*.  
Oxford University Press

**2017** *Speaker Reference and Cognitive Architecture*  
*Croatian Journal of Philosophy* 17 (3), 2017, pp.319–349

**2017** *Wittgenstein's Influence on Austin's Philosophy of Language*  
Co-authored with Elmar Unnsteinsson. *British Journal for the History of  
Philosophy* 26 (2), 2017, pp.371–95

2017 **A Puzzle about Context and Communicative Acts**  
*Protosociology 34: Meaning and Publicity* (2017), pp.119–143

2017 **The History and Prehistory of Natural Language Semantics**  
*Innovations in the History of Analytic Philosophy*, edited by Christopher Pincock and Sandra Lapointe. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.

2016 **Intentionalism vs. The New Conventionalism**  
*Croatian Journal of Philosophy* 16 (2), 2016, 173–201.

## REVIEWS

2024 **Context and Coherence: The Logic and Grammar of Prominence**, by Una Stojnić.  
*Philosophical Review* 126 (4), 2017, 554–558.

2017 **Imagination and Convention: Distinguishing Grammar & Inference in Language**, by Ernie Lepore and Matthew Stone.  
*Philosophical Review* 126 (4), 2017, 554–558.

2017 **Metasemantics: New Essays on the Foundations of Meaning**, edited by Alexis Burgess and Brett Sherman  
*Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 95 (1), 2017, 190–3.

2015 **Meaning: A Short Introduction**, by Paul Elbourne  
*Mind* 124 (495), July 2015, 908–11.

## SELECTED TALKS

### Genre and Conversation (with Elmar Unnsteinsson)

- PhLiP 9, Tarrytown, November 2024
- Philosophy of Language Association, UMass Amherst, 21 September 2024
- Northwestern Philosophy Colloquium, 1 March 2024
- Iceland Meaning Workshop, June 2023
- CUNY Meaning Workshop, November 2022

### Demonstratives with Weighted Parameters (with Paula Rubio-Fernandez)

- Iceland Meaning Workshop, June 2024
- Max Plank Institute for Psycholinguistics, January 2024
- Meaning Sciences Group, University of Edinburgh, December 2023

### Common Ground as an Idealized Model

- ILLC, University of Amsterdam, January 2024

### Why Communicative Intentions?

- SPAGAD Online Speaker Series, Zentrum Für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, Berlin, 26 May 2022
- UT Austin Philosophy Department, 17 February 2022
- MIT Philosophy Department Colloquium, 15 October 2022

### Non-factive Theory of Mind in Human Communication

- Invited talk, American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, Denver, 23 February 2022

### When Reference Goes Wrong

- Invited talk as part of an Author-meets-critics panel on *Talking About* by Elmar Unnsteinsson, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, Montreal, January 2022

### Designing Communicative Acts for Multiple Addressees

- Invited talk at Conference on “Multiple Addressing in Public Discourse,” University of Tübingen, 15 July 2022

### Comments on “A Compositional Take on directive microvariation” by Magdalena Kaufmann

- Invited Comments for the online Speech Acts in Grammar and Discourse (SPAGAD) Lecture Series, Leibniz-Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS), Berlin, 1 July 2022

### Semantics as the Study of a Modular System

- Solo-taught 5-day Course, North American Summer School for Language, Logic, and Information (NASSLLI), University of Southern California, June 2022

### Designing Referring Expressions

- The Iceland Reference Workshop, University of Iceland, 3 June 2022

### Designing Communicative Acts

- New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, 4 April 2022
- ArgLab Research Group, University of Lisbon NOVA,
- York University Philosophy Department, 8 February 2022

### Does the Grammar Have to Do Everything Around Here?

- Invited talk as part of an author-meets-critics panel on Context and Coherence by Una Stojnic, American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, Chicago, 25 February 2022

### Practical Reasoning in Human Communication

- The Evolutionary Pragmatics Forum, Online Lecture Series, 28 January 2022

### Assertions vs. Directives

- Invited talk in Nate Charlow’s Graduate Seminar, The University of Toronto, 23 March 2021
- Invited talk at San Raffaele University Philosophy Department, Milan, 10 March 2021
- EXPRESS Workshop on non-assertoric speech, University of Amsterdam, 28 January 2021

### Toward an *Extremely* Mentalistic Semantics

- American Philosophical Association, Central Division, 26 February 2021

### What Makes Human Communication Special?

- Invited talk at Temple University Philosophy Department, 5 Nov. 2020

- Two guest sessions of Eric Mandelbaum's Graduate Seminar discussing two chapters of the manuscript for *Human Communication*, CUNY Graduate Center

### **Language, Mindreading, and Planning**

- Philosophy of Language Models Workshop, online conference organized by NYU Philosophy and OpenAI

### **Imperative Inference and Practical Rationality**

- Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop, UNC, 7 Mar. 2020
- Institute of Philosophy, U. of London, 19 Oct. 2017
- Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistic Philosophy, Tarrytown, NY, 15 Oct. 2017
- The Nova Scotia Meaning Workshop, Shobac, Nova Scotia, 26 July 2017
- New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, NYU, 30 Jan. 2017

### **Anaphora without Discourse Contexts**

- American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, IL

### **Calling Bullshit: A Debate on Philosophical Method (with David Egan)**

- Hunter College, 19 Nov 2019

### **How Should we Taxonomize Speech Acts?**

- Concept Lab, University of Oslo, June 2019

### **Semantics without Semantic Content**

- Guest session in Stephen Neale's graduate seminar, CUNY Graduate Center, April 2019
- Guest session in Josh Dever and Ray Buchanan's graduate seminar, University of Texas, Austin, April 2019
- Guest Class of Justin Khoo's Grad. Seminar on Philosophy of Language, MIT, 13 Dec. 2016
- American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2016

### **Intention Recognition as the Mechanism of Human Communication**

- CUNY Graduate Center Colloquium, April 2019
- International Linguistics Association Monthly Meeting, April 2019

### **Semantics, Pragmatics, and Theoretical Motivation**

- Philosophy of Language and Linguistics Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia, September 2018

### **Comments on 'Agential Free Choice' by Melissa Fusco**

- Iceland Meaning Workshop, Skálholt, Iceland, August 2018

### **The Cooperative Principle and Non-Assertoric Speech Acts**

- Workshop on Lying and Dishonesty, University College, Dublin, June 2018

### **We Talk to People, Not Contexts**

- Conference on Defective Communication, U of Oslo, 16 June 2017
- Guest session of Elisabeth Camp's graduate seminar, Rutgers University, 22 March 2017

- American Pragmatics Association. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. 4-6 November 2016

### **Prior Theories, Passing Theories, and Compositional Semantics**

- Conference on Davidson's 'A Nice Derangement of Epitaphs', U of South Florida. 19 Nov. 2016

### **Reference, Utterance Design, and Cognitive Architecture**

- Philosophy of Language and Linguistics Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia, September 2016

### **Wittgenstein, Austin, and the Origins of Speech-Act Theory (with Elmar Unnsteinsson)**

- Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy, Denver, CO., 18 June 2016

### **Meaning Intentions and Compositional Semantics (with Stephen Neale)**

- Pragmasophia Conference, Palermo, Sicily, 19 May 2016
- Mayfest/PHLING Conference on Context, University of Maryland, 7 May 2016

### **Requests, Commands, and Threats (with Rachel McKinney)**

- MIT Philosophy Working Papers Group, 28 April 2016.

### **Respect the Black Box: A Commentary on Lepore & Stone's *Imagination and Convention***

- Philosophy of Language and Linguistics Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia, September 2015

### **The History and Prehistory of Natural Language Semantics**

- McMaster University. Hamilton, Ontario, January 2015
- Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy. Indiana University, May 2013

### **Compositional Semantics and the Black Box**

- CUNY Pragmatics Workshop. CUNY Graduate Center. New York, October 2014

### **Semantics without Semantic Content**

- Western Canadian Philosophical Association. University of British Columbia, October 2014
- Western University PhilMiLCog Graduate Conference. London, Ontario, May 2013

### **Imperatives in Speech-Act-Theoretic Semantics**

- New York University, May 2014
- Hunter College, January 2014
- University of Pennsylvania, January 2014
- New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, January 2014

### **Extracted Speech in Defective Contexts (with Rachel McKinney)**

- American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego, April 2014

### **Grice on the Composition of Timeless Meaning**

- American Philosophical Association Pacific Division. San Francisco, March 2013.

## Grice as an Act-Theoretic Semanticist

- New York Philosophy of Language Workshop. March 2013

## Lewis and Grice on What Constitutes Linguistic Meaning

- Western Canadian Philosophical Association. Victoria, BC, October 2012

## Act-Theoretic Semantics and the Syntax/Semantics Interface

- Summer School in Cognitive Science and Semantics. Riga, Latvia, July 2012

## Rediscovering Grice on Timeless Meaning

- Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy. McMaster University, May 2012

## Why Semanticists Should Care about Metasemantics

- CUNY Cognitive Science Speaker Series, March 2012

## In Virtue of What Does a Sentence have Meaning in a Group of Speakers?

- American Philosophical Association Pacific Division. Seattle, April 2012  
- New York Philosophy of Language Workshop. September 2011

## Meaning, Content, and Illocution

- Conference on Meaning, Context, and Implicit Content. Chateau C risy, France, June 2011

## Foundations for a Gricean Theory of Linguistic Meaning

- UCLA/USC Graduate Conference. February 2011

## Kripke on the Nature of Representation

Cape Breton University Colloquium. January 2011

## Some Overlooked Aspects of Linguistic Meaning

- Atlantic Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting. Kings College, October 2010

## A Logic for Talking about Things that Don't Exist

- UWO Logic, Mathematics, and Physics Graduate Philosophy Conference. April 2009

## Contextualism and Semantic Methodology

- CUNY Cognitive Science Speaker Series, July 2009

## SUMMER SCHOOLS ATTENDED

JUNE 2016

### Central European University Summer School

'Understanding Communication and Understanding Minds'. Budapest, Hungary

AUGUST 2012

### Summer School in Cognitive Science and Semantics

'Theories of Communication'. Riga, Latvia

JUNE 2010

### Central European University Summer School

'Meaning, Context, and Intention'. Budapest, Hungary

## GRADUATE SUPERVISION

### As PhD Supervisor

- Steve Hernandez (CUNY, ongoing)

### As PhD Committee Member

- Casey Hall (CUNY, ongoing)  
- Benjamin Claessens (CUNY, ongoing)  
- Elspeth Campbell (Johns Hopkins, ongoing)  
- Cal Howland (Rutgers, 2024)  
- Brendan Lawrence Learnihan-Sylvester (UT Austin, 2024)  
- Tomasz Zyglewicz (CUNY, 2024)  
- Svetlana Novikova (CUNY, 2022)  
- Peter van Elswyk (Rutgers, 2018)

## TEACHING

### SPRING 2016 Graduate Seminar on 'Intention and Acts of Meaning', CUNY Graduate Center

Seminar on topics in semantics and pragmatics. Co-taught with Stephen Neale.

### 2014-PRESENT Assistant Professor, Hunter College

Designed and taught the following courses:

#### PHILO 101: Introduction to Philosophy

Four sections, 2016-17. I have designed and taught an online version in Falls 2017+2019

#### PHILO 201: Knowledge and Reality

Introduction to 20<sup>th</sup>-Century metaphysics and epistemology. Six sections, 2014-2016

#### PHILO 250: Problems of Ethics and Society

Intermediate course on applied ethics and social and political philosophy. Spring 2019

#### PHILO 268: Mind, Language, and Cognition

Intermediate survey of the philosophy of psychology and cognitive science. Springs 2017, 2019, 2020; Fall 2020; Spring 2021; Fall 2022

#### PHILO 275: Symbolic Logic

Survey of sentential and first-order logic. Fall 2017

#### PHILO 360: Metaphysics

Advanced survey. Spring 2020

#### PHILO 364: Philosophy of Language

Advanced survey. Falls 2014, 2016; Spring 2019; Fall 2020

#### PHILO 380.81: Bertrand Russell

Advanced seminar. Spring 2015 and Spring 2017.

#### PHILO 394.84: Speech Acts

Advanced undergraduate seminar on approaches to speech-act theory. Fall 2015

#### PHILO 492.03: Independent Study Supervision

Spring 2015 (2); Fall 2015 (2); Spring 2016 (2); Fall 2016; Spring 2017; Spring 2020; Spring 2024 (2)

PHILO 494.03: Honors Thesis Supervision  
Fall 2016; Spring 2016; Spring 2017 (2); Fall 2020; Spring 2024

FALL 2013–SPRING 2014 **Adjunct Lecturer, Hunter College**  
Designed and taught sections of Philosophy 103:  
Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking and Philosophy  
101: Introduction to Philosophy

2009–2012 **Graduate Teaching Fellow, Brooklyn College**  
Designed and taught a total of fourteen sections of  
Philosophy 3210: Reasoning, Philosophy 3314: Business:  
Moral Issues, and CORC 1210: Knowledge, Reality, and  
Value

2006 **Teaching Assistant, Simon Fraser University**  
Led six discussion sections, did all grading, held office hours,  
attended lectures for Philosophy 001: Critical Thinking and  
Philosophy 110: Introduction to Logic and Reasoning

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

JUNE 2019 **ConceptLab Visiting Fellowship**  
University of Oslo, 15,000NOK (~US\$1700)

SPRING 2017 **Undergraduate Research Grant**  
Hunter College, held with three undergraduates, Noah van  
Genabeek, Lauren Spencer, and Emily Stone (\$5300)

2016–19 **Icelandic Research Fund Grant #163132-051**  
(Coinvestigator; PI: Elmar Unnsteinsson) Title: "Confused  
Intentions and the Prospects of a Metasemantics for  
Singular Terms".

SPRING 2016 **Undergraduate Research Grant**  
Hunter College, held with three undergraduates, Emily  
Corvi, Joanna Trimble, and Tomoko Sawada (\$5300)

SPRING 2015 **Undergraduate Research Grant**  
Hunter College, held with two undergraduates, Alexis Vigo  
and Boris Ayala (\$3650)

2013–2014 **Dissertation Fellowship**  
CUNY Graduate Center (\$22,000)

2010 AND 2012 **Doctoral Student Research Grants**  
CUNY Graduate Center (\$1500 and \$1200)

2009–2012 **SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship (#752-2009-0684)**  
Award held at CUNY Graduate Center (\$60,000)

2008–2012 **Kripke Center Research Assistantship**  
Saul Kripke Center, CUNY Graduate Center

2008–2013 **Enhanced Chancellor's Fellowship**  
Philosophy Program, CUNY Graduate Center (~\$95,000 +  
tuition)

2003–2007 **National Shrum Entrance Scholarship**  
Simon Fraser University (\$26,000)

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

2024–PRESENT **Area Editor, Philosophy of Language**  
Philosophy Compass

2011–PRESENT **Co-Founder, Co-Organizer**  
New York Philosophy of Language Workshop  
<http://nylanguageworkshop.tumblr.com>

AUGUST 2019 **Co-organizer**  
Ontario Meaning Workshop  
<http://danielwharris.com/ontario/index.html>

AUGUST 2018 **Co-organizer**  
Iceland Meaning Workshop  
<http://danielwharris.com/iceland/index.html>

JULY 2017 **Co-Organizer**  
Nova Scotia Meaning Workshop  
<http://danielwharris.com/nsconf/index.html>

SEPTEMBER 2014–2016 **Co-Organizer**  
CUNY Junior Philosophy Faculty Workshop  
(A monthly workshop at which assistant professors of  
philosophy from CUNY Colleges presented work.)

SEPTEMBER 2013 **Co-Organizer**  
New Work on Speech Acts Conference  
Columbia University

2012–2014 **Website Creator, Designer**  
Donald Davidson Website, featured in The New York Times  
<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/05/30/a-great-day-for-philosophy/>

2012–2014 **Editorial Assistant, Typesetter, Designer**  
Journal of the History of Analytical Philosophy

2011–PRESENT **Referee**

- Analysis
- Australasian Journal of Philosophy
- Cambridge University Press
- Canadian Journal of Philosophy
- Ergo
- Erkenntnis
- International Review of Pragmatics
- Legal Theory
- Linguistics & Philosophy
- Mind
- Mind & Language
- Natural Language Semantics
- Noûs
- Oxford University Press
- Pacific Philosophical Quarterly
- The Philosophical Forum
- Philosophers Imprint
- Journal of Philosophical Logic
- Journal of Philosophical Research
- Philosophical Review
- Philosophical Studies;

- Res Philosophica
- Routledge
- Journal of Semantics
- Semantics and Pragmatics
- Social Theory and Practice
- Southern Journal of Philosophy
- Synthese
- Theoria
- Thought
- Topoi

## SERVICE TO HUNTER COLLEGE

2019–PRESENT **Coordinator**

Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Program

2018–2019; 2024–PRESENT **Hunter College Senate**

JULY 2020 **Co-coordinator**

ACERT Workshop on writing-intensive online teaching

FALL 2019–PRESENT **Assessment Coordinator**

Philosophy Department

2015–2019 **Curriculum Committee**

Social Sciences and Humanities