

KELLY TROGDON

Curriculum Vitae of May 1, 2025

RESEARCH AREAS

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

EMPLOYMENT

Virginia Tech, USA: Assistant Professor: 2013–2019; Associate Professor: 201–present
Lingnan University, Hong Kong, Assistant Professor: 2009–2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2009: “Phenomenal Acquaintance,” with Joseph Levine (chair), Louise Antony, Lynne Rudder Baker
M.A. in Philosophy, University of Florida, 2002.
B.A. in Philosophy, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 1999.

VISITING POSITIONS

University of Gothenburg, Sweden: Fall 2018

TEXTS

ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

1. “Incompletable Grounding and Ontological Economy,” *Analysis* (forthcoming)
2. “Transparency and the Explanatory Gap.” In G. Rabin (ed.) *Grounding and Consciousness*. Oxford University Press (forthcoming).
3. “Complete Artworks without Authors,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 53/7-8 (2023): 666-677
4. “Should Explanation Be a Guide to Ground?” with A. Skiles, *Philosophical Studies* 178/12 (2021): 4083-4098.
5. “Full and Partial Grounding,” with D. G. Witmer, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 7/2 (2021): 252-271.
6. “Grounding,” with A. Skiles. In R. Bliss & J. Miller (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics* (2020): 199-210.
7. “Truthmaking.” In M. Raven (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding* (2020): 396-407.
8. “Prioritizing Platonism,” with S. Cowling, *Philosophical Studies* 176/8 (2019): 2029-2042.
9. “Grounding-Mechanical Explanation,” *Philosophical Studies* 175/6 (2018): 1289-1309.
10. “Inheritance Arguments for Fundamentality.” In R. Bliss and G. Priest (eds.), *Reality and its Structure: Essays in Fundamentality*. Oxford University Press (2018): 182-198.
11. “Revelation and Physicalism,” *Synthese* 194 (2017): 2345-2366.
12. “Priority Monism,” *Philosophy Compass* 12 (2017): 1-10.
13. “Placement, Grounding, and Mental Content.” In C. Daly (ed.), *The Palgrave Handbook on Philosophical Methods*. Palgrave (2015): 481-496.
14. “The Complete Work,” with P. Livingston, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 72/3 (2014): 225-233.

15. "Grounding: Necessary or Contingent?" *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 94/4 (2013): 465-485.
16. "An Introduction to Grounding." In M. Hoeltje et al. (eds.), *Varieties of Dependence*. Philosophia Verlag (2013): 97-122.
17. "The Modal Status of Materialism," with J. Levine, *Philosophical Studies* 145/3 (2009): 351-362.
18. "Physicalism and Sparse Ontology," *Philosophical Studies* 143/2 (2009): 147-165.
19. "Monism and Intrinsicity," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 87/1 (2009): 127-148.
20. "Intrinsicity without Naturalness," with D. G. Witmer and B. Butchard, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 70/2 (2005): 326-350.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES, RESPONSES, REVIEWS

1. "Metaphysical Grounding," with R. Bliss. In E. Zalta (ed.), *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2014; revised 2021).
2. "Maurin on Grounding and Explanation," with A. Skiles. In T. Wahlberg & R. Stenwall (eds.), *Maurinian Truths*. Lund University (2019): 159-172.
3. Review of K. McDaniel, *The Fragmentation of Being* (OUP, 2017), *Philosophical Review* 129/1 (2020): 149-153.
4. "Artwork Completion: A Response to Gover," with P. Livingston, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 73/4 (2015): 460-462.
5. "Grounding." In R. Audi (ed.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, 3rd edition (2015).
6. Review of G. Coggins, *Could There Have Been Nothing? Against Metaphysical Nihilism* (Palgrave, 2010), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2011).
7. "Intrinsicity for Monists (and Pluralists)," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 88/3 (2010): 555-558.
8. 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

PRESENTATIONS

1. "Incompletable Grounding and Sparse Ontology," Workshop on Louis DeRosset's *Fundamental Things*, University of L'Aquila, Jun. 2025
2. "Self-Intimating Explanation," American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Jan. 2025; UMass Philosophy Homecoming, UMass Amherst, Oct. 2024
3. "Artwork Completion and Related Notions," PHIL COMIC CON: A Conference on the Philosophy of Comics, Denison University, Aug. 2023
4. "Grounding Totality Facts," Grounding and Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, University of Southampton, Jun. 2023
5. "Should Explanation be a Guide to Ground?" with A. Skiles, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Apr. 2021; Derivativeness and Priority Workshop, Università della Svizzera italiana, Sept. 2019; Rutgers-Bristol Workshop on the Metaphysical Unity of Science, Rutgers University, Newark, Jun. 2019
6. "Transparency and the Explanatory Gap," University of Birmingham, Oct. 2020; University of Gothenburg, Nov. 2018
7. "Full and Partial Grounding," with D. G. Witmer, Eidos Workshop, University of Geneva, Oct. 2018; Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, Lund University, Aug. 2018
8. "Truthmaking," Grounding Conference, University of Hamburg, May 2018
9. "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, Feb. 2018; UMass Philosophy Homecoming, UMass Amherst, Oct. 2017

10. "Grounding-Mechanical Explanation," The Ontology of Compositional Explanation Workshop, Rutgers University, Newark, May 2017; Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, University of Gothenburg, Sept. 2016; Grounding and Explanation Workshop, University of Agder, Mar. 2016
11. "The Modal Status of Monism," Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech, Apr. 2017
12. "Prioritizing Platonism," with S. Cowling, Monism Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Nov. 2016; Monism Conference, Jean Nicod Institute, May 2016
13. "Inheritance Arguments for Fundamentality," William & Mary Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, Keynote Address, Mar. 2016; Denison University, February 2016; Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Jun. 2015
14. "Grounding and Program Explanation," Truth and Grounds, Ascona, Switzerland, May 2015; First Veritas Philosophy Conference, Yonsei University, Jun. 2014; The University of Florida, Apr. 2014; American Philosophical Association, Central Division, invited symposium, Feb. 2014; Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Western Michigan University, Nov. 2013
15. "Revelation and Physicalism," Philosophy of Mind Workshop, Virginia Tech, Apr. 2015; Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Apr. 2015; Victoria University of Wellington, May 2013
16. "Placement, Grounding, and Mental Content," Scientific Explanation and Methodology of Science Conference, Shanxi University, Sept. 2012; 8th Annual Chinese Conference on Analytic Philosophy, Shandong University, Aug. 2012; Workshop on Metaphysics and the Philosophy of Mind, University of Oslo, Jul. 2012; Mind and Consciousness Conference, University of Western Australia, Feb. 2012; Australian National University, Oct. 2011
17. "Grounding: Necessary or Contingent?" PERSP Metaphysics Seminar, University of Barcelona, Apr. 2012; American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Dec. 2011; Grounding and Determination Workshop, University of Geneva, Mar. 2011
18. "An Introduction to Grounding," University of Hong Kong, May 2011
19. "The Non-Transitivity of Metaphysical Explanation," American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Apr. 2011
20. "Grounding: Explanation and Dependence," Because II Conference, Humboldt University, Sept. 2010; Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference, Jul. 2010
21. "Grounding, Border-Sensitivity, and Intrinsicity," American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Feb. 2010; Parts and Places: A Workshop in Metaphysics, Australian National University, Nov. 2009
22. "Experiential Acquaintance and Demonstrative Thought," Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Pennsylvania, Jun. 2008
23. "Physicalism and Sparse Ontology," American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Apr. 2008
24. "Monism and Intrinsicity," American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Apr. 2007

COMMENTARY

1. M. Glazier, "Perspectival Objects," American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Jan. 2023
2. D. Goswick, "Properties: Universals, Topes, or Troversals?" American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Jan. 2022
3. M. Bertrand, "Two Concepts of Metaphysical Grounding," American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Jan. 2020
4. M. Hicks, "Three Roads for Humeanism," Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Lehigh University, Apr. 2019
5. S. Cowling, *Abstract Objects* (book symposium), American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Apr. 2019
6. E. Shumener, "Explaining Identity and Distinctness," Workshop on the Principle of Sufficient Reason, Simon Fraser University, Apr. 2018

7. F. Amijee, "Grounding Perspectival Facts," American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Apr. 2017
8. A. Thomasson, "Metaphysical Disputes and Metalinguistic Negotiation," American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Jan. 2017
9. J. Kroll, "Defending the Easy Road to Nominalism," American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Mar. 2016
10. J. Vertanen, "Grounding is not Ontological Dependence," American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Jan. 2016
11. J. Shields and K. Blanchette, "Against Hofweber's Objections to Substantive Metaphysics," The Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Sept. 2015
12. R. Bliss, "What Dependent Entities Explain," Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Grand Valley State University, Apr. 2015
13. D.M. Kovacs, "Metaphysical Explanation without Grounding," American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Feb. 2015
14. T. Robertson, "Things Undreamt of: Chandler's Paradox, Modal Properties, and Plenitude," Metaphysics on the Mountain, Sun Valley, Idaho, Mar. 2014
15. E. Conee, "Against Debasing Skepticism," UMass Philosophy Homecoming, UMass Amherst, Oct. 2013
16. E. Brady, "Aesthetics and Climate Change," Environmental Aesthetics Conference, Lingnan University, Nov. 2011
17. J. Neisser, "Meeting Jackson's Constraint: On Subjectivity, Neurobiology, and the Explanatory Gap," Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Apr. 2009
18. 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, Mar. 2008

TEACHING

MA THESIS ADVISING (VIRGINIA TECH)

(* = primary advisor)

2025: Nathan Allen (aesthetics)

2024: Dexin Li* (metaphysics)

2023: Rodrigo Garro (language)

2021: Justyn Smith* (mind); Ethan Higginbotham (language)

2019: Jacob Holstein* (metaphysics); Alexander Tolbert (science)

2018: Dillon Bak* (mind); Jay Burkett (metaethics); Audra Jenson (feminist philosophy), Matthew Whitlock* (mind); JC Wright (mind)

2017: Morgan Davies* (metaphysics); Cruz Davis* (metaphysics); Brayton Hall (phil. of science); Kaetlin Taylor (science); William Wilson (Kant)

2016: Andrés Abugattas (mind); Eve Galvani* (mind); Richard Lamb* (metaphysics); Preston Lennon* (mind)

2015: Shannon Abelson (epistemology); Steven Mischler (epistemology); Michael Trapp (medieval); John Waters (math)

PHD THESIS ADVISING (COMMITTEE MEMBER)

2025: Meisam Mirzaee Ataabadi (University of Guelph)

COURSES (VIRGINIA TECH)

Aesthetics (UG): Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2024

Knowledge and Reality (UG, large lecture): Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2020
Knowledge and Reality (UG): Fall 2015, Spring 2019, Fall 2019
Metaphysics (UG / Graduate): Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2020
Modern Logic and its Development (UG): Spring 2013, Fall 2014
Philosophy of Language (UG / Graduate): Fall 2016
Philosophy of Mind (UG / Graduate): Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2019,
Spring 2020, Spring 2021
Seminar: Phenomenal Concepts (Graduate): Fall 2013
The Problem of Consciousness (UG / Graduate): Fall 2019
Aristotelian Metaphysics, with Sukaina Hirji (UG / Graduate): Spring 2018

SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL (VIRGINIA TECH AND LINGNAN UNIVERSITY)

Associate Editor: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2012-2023)
Section Editor: *PhilPapers* (grounding and monism) (2012-present)
Conference Organizer: Metaphysics in the Blue Ridge, Virginia Tech (June 5-7, 2025); Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech (April 7-8, 2017); Philosophy of Mind Workshop, Virginia Tech (April 24-25, 2015); Art and Metaphysics, Lingnan University (May 16-18, 2012); Properties and Dependence, Lingnan University (Nov. 20-21, 2010)
Program Committee: Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress (2015, 2016); American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division (2024, 2025)

DEPARTMENTAL (VIRGINIA TECH)

Department Chair: 2021-present
Director of Graduate Studies: 2020-2021
Colloquia Organizer: 2016-2018
Graduate Admissions Committee: 2013-2021
Faculty Search Committee: 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2017-2018, 2019-2020 (chair)
Teaching Committee: 2014-2020
Tenure and Promotion Committee/Faculty Annual Report Committee: 2019-2021

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY (VIRGINIA TECH)

Academic Program Review Committee: 2023
Administrative Review of College Personnel: 2022 (chair), 2023, 2025
Alliance for Social, Political, and Ethical Thought (ASPECT) Stakeholders Committee: 2021-present
Search Committee for Director of ASPECT: 2021-22
Search Committee for Director of the Center for Humanities (chair): 2024
Kellogg Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) Stakeholders Committee: 2021-present
CLAHS (College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences) Diversity Committee: 2013-2017
CLAHS Executive Council: 2021-present
CLAHS Faculty Council: 2016-2018
CLAHS Humanities Week Committee: 2021
CLAHS Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: 2017-2018
Faculty Senate: 2016-2018