

Jessie Munton

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Employment

Philosophy Department, University of Cambridge

Associate Professor

Assistant Professor

2018-

2021-

2018-2021

St John's College, University of Cambridge

College Lecturer

Junior Research Fellow

2022-

2018-2019

Department of Philosophy, New York University

Bersoff Faculty Fellow, affiliated with the Center for Mind, Brain and Consciousness

2017-2018

Publications

Philosophy

Book

Under contract with Oxford University Press: *Priority and Prejudice: The Epistemology of Salience and Attention*

Journals (by date in order of acceptance)

Forthcoming. All the things I do not know and refuse to learn. *Oxford Studies in Epistemology*.

2023. Lost in (modal) space: demographic base-rate neglect in the service of modal knowledge. *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 123.1 73-96

2022. Answering machines: how to (epistemically) evaluate a search engine. *Inquiry*. 00, 1-29

2022. How to See Invisible Objects. *Noûs* 56: 343– 365

2021. Prejudice as the Misattribution of Salience. *Analytic Philosophy* 64.1, 1– 19 [Winner of the Sanders Prize for Philosophy of Mind]

2021. Visual Indeterminacy and the Puzzle of the Speckled Hen. *Mind and Language* 36: 643– 663

2019. Beyond Accuracy: Epistemic Flaws with Statistical Generalizations *Philosophical Issues* 29 (1): 228-240

2019 (accepted 2017). Perceptual Skill and Social Structure, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 99(1): 131-161

2018. The Eye's Mind: Perceptual Process and Epistemic Norms, *Philosophical Perspectives* 31 (1):317-347

2016. Visual Confidences and Direct Perceptual Justification, *Philosophical Topics* 44 (2): 301-326

2017 (accepted 2016). Frege, Fiction and Force, *Synthese* vol 194.9: 3669-3992

Book Chapters

2022. Bias in a Biased System: Visual Perceptual Prejudice, in N. Ballentyne and D. Dunning (eds.) *Bias, Reason and Enquiry: New Perspectives from the Crossroads of Epistemology and Psychology* Oxford University Press

2013. The End of the End: Understanding the Paradox of Capital Sentencing in Liberia, in P. Hodgkinson (ed.) *Capital Punishment: New Perspectives*, Ashgate

Grants, Prizes and Honours

2023	Philip Leverhulme Prize (£100, 000)
2022-2023	Leverhulme Research Fellowship <i>Understanding Prejudice Through Salience</i> (£59,546)
2021 Autumn	Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Early Career Fellowship
Nov 2020	Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Mind for the paper <i>Prejudice as the Misattribution of Salience</i> (\$5000)
2015-2016	Fredric Woodrow Knapp Fellowship in Philosophy Yale University
2015 May	Conference Travel Fellowship, Yale University
2014-2015	Isabela and George Martin Duncan Fellowship Yale University
2013-2014	Isabela and George Martin Duncan Fellowship Yale University
2012 Summer	Lindsay Fellowship for Research in Africa, Yale University
2008 Summer	Centre for Capital Punishment Internship Grant for research on the death penalty in Uganda
2007 July	Sutro Prize, for outstanding performance in Literae Humaniores Final Examinations
2007 July	Sterling Boyd Prize for contribution to the life of Trinity College, Oxford University
2006 May	Blakiston Scholarship in Classics, Trinity College, Oxford University (awarded for academic excellence)
2005 May	Blakiston Exhibition in Classics, Trinity College, Oxford University (awarded on the basis of outstanding performance in university examinations.)

Reviewing and Podcasts

2023, May	"Slaves to love: the mother-child dialectic" <i>The Point Magazine</i>
2023, Feb.	"I don't like Tuesdays" Review of <i>Bias: A Philosophical Study</i> by Thomas Kelly. <i>The Times Literary Supplement</i> 6256
2022	"Prejudice: A study in Non-ideal Epistemology by Endre Begby" <i>The Philosophical Quarterly</i>
2021, Nov.	"Somewhere over the borderline: Representation, consciousness and cake" Review of books by David Papineau and Michael Tye <i>The Times Literary Supplement</i> . 6191

- 2021, Feb. "The mother as myth" Review of *Belabored: A Vindication of the Rights of Pregnant Women* by Liz Lenz. *The Times Literary Supplement* 6149
- 2019, Nov. "Parents are people too". Review of *The Book You Wish Your Parents had Read* by Philippa Perry and *Cribsheet* by Emily Oster. *The Times Literary Supplement* 6083
- 2018, March. "White noise, white space". Review of *Twin Peaks: The Return* (Dir. David Lynch). *The Oxonian Review* 36.5

Podcasts

- 2020, August "Jessie Munton on Prejudice, Perception and Search Engines" *Hear This Idea* Episode 15. 07/08/2020

Education

PhD Philosophy, Yale University

2011-2017

Dissertation: *On Believing our Eyes*

Committee: Jason Stanley (chair), Daniel Greco, Tamar Gendler, Susanna Siegel (Harvard)

BPhil Philosophy, Oxford University

2009-2011

Thesis (with distinction): *Minding the Gap: Language, Theory of Mind and Autism*, supervised by Daniel Rothschild

Examination topics: Philosophy of Mind, Ethics, Political Philosophy of Hegel and Marx

Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP School of Law, London

2007-2008

Commendation

BA Literae Humaniores (Classics and Philosophy), Oxford University

2003-2007

First class honors

Teaching

At Cambridge I supervise for Part II Paper 2 Philosophy of Mind, Part IB Paper 1 Knowledge Language and the World, and Part IA Paper 1 Metaphysics. I supervise MPhil students in philosophy on a broad range of topics in philosophy of mind, philosophy of psychology and cognitive science more broadly, and epistemology. I also supervise students on the MPhil in History and Philosophy of Science.

Lecturing for the Cambridge Undergraduate Tripos

- MT 2023 LT 2022 IA.1: Dualism and Functionalism
 II.2: Intentionality and Mental Representation
 II.2: Consciousness
- LT 2022 IA.1: Dualism and Functionalism
 IB.1: Nature of Knowledge
 IB.1: Primary and Secondary Qualities
 II.2: Intentionality and Mental Representation
- LT 2021 II.2: Intentionality and Mental Representation: Perception and Belief (seminar series)
 II.2: Epistemology Mind

	IA.1.: Dualism and Functionalism
MT 2020	II.2: Intentionality and Mental Representation: Theories of Content (seminar series)
	II.2: Consciousness
	IB.1: Nature of Knowledge
	IB.1: Primary and Secondary Qualities
LT 2020	II.2: Epistemology of Mind
	II.2: Mind-reading
	IB.1: Nature of Knowledge
MT 2019	IB.1: Primary and Secondary Qualities
	II.2: Intentionality and Mental Representation
	II.2: Consciousness
	IA.1: Dualism and Functionalism

Teaching at **Recovery College East**

In July 2021 I co-taught a short course on Philosophy of Mental Health, specifically designed for mental health service users and delivered via Recovery College East, part of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS foundation trust.

Teaching at **New York University**

Spring 2018	Central Problems in Philosophy (instructor)
Fall 2017	Philosophy of Mind (instructor)

Teaching at **Yale University**

2017 Spring	Propaganda, Ideology and Democracy (Teaching Fellow)
2015 Spring	Perspectives on Human Nature (Teaching Fellow)
2014 Fall	Faith and Reason (Teaching Fellow)
2014 Spring	Philosophy of Science (Teaching Fellow)
2013 Fall	Logic (Teaching Fellow)

Presentations

Invited

2024, Feb.	<i>Collective Forgetting</i> Philosophy department Colloquium, University of Glasgow
2023, Sept.	<i>Rational Inquiry</i> Empirical Epistemology Workshop, University of Glasgow
2023, August	<i>Rational Inquiry</i> NYC Philosophy of Mind Workshop
2023, June	<i>Negative Delusions</i> Workshop on Philosophy of Psychopathology, University of Cambridge
2023, June	<i>Hermeneutic Competition and Psychiatric Diagnosis</i>

- 2023, May Centre for Philosophical Psychology, University of Antwerp
Saliency and Inquiry
- 2023, March Philosophy Department, University of Hong Kong (via zoom)
The Epistemic Evaluation of Saliency and Attention
- 2023, March Departmental Colloquium, MIT
Saliency and Resilient Ignorance
- 2022, Nov. Spring Colloquium, University of Michigan
Lost in (Modal) Space: Demographic Base Rate Neglect in the Service of Modal Knowledge
- 2022, Nov. Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Senate House, London
Resilient Ignorance, or All The Things I Do Not Know And Refuse To Learn
- 2022, Oct. “Current Themes in Epistemology” Arché research seminar, St Andrews (via zoom)
Seeing Things As They Are Is Seeing Things As They Could Be
- 2022, Oct. Philosophy, Psychology and Informatics Group, Edinburgh
Seeing Things As They Are Is Seeing Things As They Could Be
- 2022, Sept. Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Nottingham
Who Cares About How Things Actually Are?
- 2022, June Workshop on Philosophy of Statistics for the UK Statistics Regulator
Saliency, Active Ignorance, and Negative Delusions
- 2022, April Deluded By Experience Workshop, University of Birmingham
Seeing Things As They Are Is Seeing Things As They Could Be
- 2022, March Departmental Colloquium, Rutgers University
The Nature of Bias (panel, co-convener with Gabrielle Johnson)
- 2021, Dec. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology
Base-rate Neglect in the Service of Modal Knowledge
- 2021, Nov. Philosophy Research Seminar, Manchester University
Seeing Things As They Are Is Seeing Things As They Could Be
- 2021, Nov. Kings College London, Department Research Seminar
Epistemic Norms for Search Engines
- 2021, Sept. Moral Sciences Club, Cambridge University
Seeing Things As They Are Is Seeing Things As They Could Be
- 2021, May City University of New York, Cognitive Science Group
What Can We See?
- 2021, April Vision Sciences Society Annual Meeting, Philosophy of Vision Science Satellite Event
Perceptual Epistemology without Perceptual Atomism
- 2021, April University of Washington in St Louis, Mind and Perception Group
Seeing Things As They Are Is Seeing Things As They Could Be
- 2021, March Perceiving Properties Workshop, University of Oxford
Search Engines, Saliency and Inquiry
- 2021, February Philosophy Department Research Seminar, University of Bristol
Base-rate Neglect in the Service of Modal Knowledge
- 2020, October LSE Choice Group Seminar
Perceptual Epistemology without Perceptual Atomism

- Simon Fraser University, philosophy department colloquium (via zoom)
 2020, October *Epistemic Norms for Search Engines*
 University of York, philosophy department research seminar (via zoom)
 2020, August *When Google Goes Bad: How to Evaluate a Search Engine*
 Oxford University, Epistemology Group
 2020, July *Epistemic Norms for Search Engines*
Keynote: New Methods in Applied Ethics Summer School at Tubingen University (via Microsoft Teams)
 2020, May *Saliency and Prejudice*
 Harvard University, Saliency Workshop (via Zoom)
 2020, March *Perceptual Epistemology without Perceptual Atoms*
 Central European University Departmental Colloquium (via Microsoft Teams)
 2020, Jan *How to See Invisible Objects*
 Conference on Philosophy of Perception and Philosophy of Colour, University of Glasgow
 2019, June *Saliency, Prejudice, and the Limits of Epistemic Evaluation*
 Ethics and Belief Workshop, Cologne University
 2019, June *Saliency, Prejudice, and the Limits of Epistemic Evaluation*
 Bled Philosophical Conferences, Slovenia
 2019, Jan *Seeing the Past, Remembering the Present*
 Oxford University, Jowett Society
 2018, Feb *How Long is "a" Visual Experience?*
 CUNY Cognitive Science Speaker Series
 2017, Dec *The Structure of Perceptual Uncertainty*
 NYU Brown Bag Lunch Talks
 2017, March *Starting from Uncertainty: How Seeing is Like Guessing*
 University of California, Berkeley, "Probability and Perception" Workshop
 2016, July *Perceptual Experiences as Hypotheses: Epistemic Upshots*
 NEH Summer Institute: Presupposition and Perception
 2015, July *Bayesian Perception and Social Structures*
 Bayesian Theories of Perception and Epistemology Workshop, Cornell, Ithaca, NY
 2015, June *Reliability, Confidence and Perceptual Justification*
 Bled Philosophical Conference "The Interaction of Epistemology and Philosophy of Mind" Bled, Slovenia
 2013, Nov. *Who's Afraid of Cognitive Penetration? Resisting Intuitions about Epistemological Downgrade*
 Workshop on the Epistemology of Cognitive Penetration, Harvard, Cambridge MA
- Submitted**
- 2018, July *Seeing the past, remembering the present: dynamic object perception and the memory / perception boundary*
 SPP annual meeting, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
 2018, April *The Epistemic Flaw with Statistically Accurate Generalizations*
 APA Western Division, San Diego
 2017, Sept. *Inverting the Speckled Hen*
 Glasgow University, "The Particularity of Perception" Workshop
 2017, March *Inverting the Speckled Hen*
 APA Central Division, Kansas
 2016, June *Seeing Truly: Visual Perception and the Perpetuation of Prejudice*

- 2015, April NYC Psychology and Epistemology Conference, Fordham University
Visual Confidences and Perceptual Justification
- 2015, April CUNY “Normativity and the Human Sciences” Graduate Conference
Evidentialism, Epistemic Evaluation and Social Structures
- 2015, April University of Maryland “Social Minds” Graduate Conference
Visual Confidences and Perceptual Justification
- 2014, April SSPP, New Orleans, LA
True Colors: Psychologically Sensitive Semantics
- 2013, July CUNY Graduate Conference “The Senses”
Minding the Pragmatic / Semantic Divide: Autistic Speakers and the Border Wars
- 2013, May ESPP, Granada, Spain
Cognitive Penetration and the Epistemic Role of Visual Experience
- 2012, Dec. 9th International Symposium of Cognition, Logic and Communication, Riga, Latvia
Autistic Speakers: a Cognitive Divining Rod in the Semantic / Pragmatic Border Wars?
Mindgrad Conference, Warwick University

Comments

- 2022, Nov on Lucy McDonald “Making Sense of Emoji” Workshop on On-line speech, Senate House, University of London
- 2022, May on Sam Clarke “Aspects of a Theory of Visual Syntax” Workshop on Format of Mental Representation, York University, Canada
- 2016, August on Rima Basu “Motivating Ethical Demands on Belief” Athena in Action Mentoring and Networking Workshop, Princeton
- 2015, Sept. on Luke Roelofs “Amodal Mind Perception” Minds Online Conference, online
- 2015, April on Zoe Jenkins “Perceptual Expectations and Epistemic Downgrade” Yale Philosophy Graduate Conference
- 2015, April on Andrew Knoll ““Hypothesis” testing: Bayesian Perception without Representation” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA

Academic Service**Conferences and Workshops**

- 2023, June Organiser, Interdisciplinary Workshop on “Philosophy of Psychopathology and Psychiatric Phenomena”, St John’s College, University of Cambridge
- 2023, April Conference Co-organiser (with Prof. Gabbrielle Johnson) “The Nature of Bias”, Claremont McKenna College, CA
- 2019, August Organiser, Workshop on “Contemporary Work on Perceptual Confidence”, St John’s College, University of Cambridge

Within Cambridge University

- MT 2023 MPhil Course Director
- Sep 2020-Sep 22 Undergraduate Co-ordinator for Philosophy, University of Cambridge

- 2019- Co-organiser (with Dr. Tom McClelland), Mental Sciences group, University of Cambridge
 2019-2022 Chair, Moral Sciences Club, University of Cambridge
 MT 2020 Chair, Equality and Diversity Working Group, Philosophy department, University of Cambridge

To the Wider Philosophical Community

- Ongoing Reviewer, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Nous*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Synthese*, *Erkenntnis*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Ethics*
 2023- BPA SWIP Mentor to a graduate student in philosophy
 2018 Mentor, SWIP Analytic event for graduate students in Mexico City, Universidad Panamericana
 2016 Reviewer, Society for Philosophy and Psychology Conference

At Yale University

- 2016-2017 Graduate Student Professional Development Czar, Yale University (initiated and organised a series of 7 professional development seminars for graduate students)
 2015 Graduate convener, Shulman Lectures in the Sciences and Humanities "*Habits of Mind*", taught by Tamar Gendler and Paul Bloom
 2013-2016 Reviewer, Yale Graduate Philosophy Conference
 2012-2015 Reading group co-founder and organizer, Contemporary Work in Cognitive Science
 2014 Organiser (one of two), Epistemology, Logic, Language, Metaphysics and Mind Working Group
 2014 Philosophy Dept. graduate student representative to the faculty
 2011 Organiser (one of three), Yale Graduate Philosophy Conference

Languages

- Latin Degree level
 Ancient Greek Degree level
 French Advanced reading, intermediate spoken and written