

Chase B. Wrenn

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Areas of Specialization and Competence

Specialization Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind
Competence Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Science, Logic, Pragmatism

Academic Positions

2007–present Associate Professor. Department of Philosophy. University of Alabama.
2001–2007 Assistant Professor. Department of Philosophy. University of Alabama.
2000, 2001 Instructor. Department of Social Science. St. Louis Community College, Forest Park.
1999 Instructor. Department of Philosophy. University of Missouri - St. Louis.
1998, 2000 Instructor. University College. Washington University in St. Louis.
1997–2001 Teaching Assistant. Department of Philosophy. Washington University in St. Louis.

Education

Ph.D. Philosophy. Washington University in St. Louis. May 2001.
Dissertation: *Truth and the Normativity of Naturalistic Epistemology*
Committee: Roger Gibson (Chair), Robert Barrett, Joe Ullian, Alison Wylie, John Clark, Ryan Balot
M.A. Philosophy. Washington University in St. Louis. May 1998.
B.A. Philosophy. University of Alabama. May 1996.

Honors and Awards

- Arts and Sciences Distinguished Teaching Fellowship, University of Alabama, 2008–2010.
- Richard M. Griffith Memorial Award, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2003.
- Honorary Colonel in the Alabama State Militia, Commissioned 2003.
- William James Prize, American Philosophical Association Eastern Division, 1999.
- Meritorious Service in Teaching Award, University of Missouri - St. Louis Students with disAbilities Association, 1999.
- Alabama Philosophical Society Undergraduate Essay Award, 1996.
- Iredell Jenkins Philosophical Essay Prize, University of Alabama, 1995 and 1996.
- Phi Beta Kappa, 1996.

Peer Reviewed Articles

- “A Puzzle About Desire.” *Erkenntnis*, vol. 73 no. 2 (Sept. 2010), pp. 185–209. DOI 10.1007/s10670-010-9226-2.
- “Practical Success and the Nature of Truth.” Forthcoming in *Synthese*, published online March, 2010. DOI 10.1007/s11229-010-9733-3.

Peer Reviewed Articles (continued)

- “The Unreality of Realization.” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, vol. 88 iss. 2 (June 2010), pp. 305–322. DOI 10.1080/00048400902943790.
- “Why there are no Epistemic Duties.” *Dialogue: The Canadian Philosophical Review*, vol. 46 (2007), pp. 115–136.
- “Inter-world Probability and the Problem of Induction.” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, vol. 87 n. 3 (2006), pp. 387–402.
- “Epistemology as Engineering?” *Theoria*, vol. 72, part 1 (2006), pp. 60–79.
- “Pragmatism, Truth and Inquiry.” *Contemporary Pragmatism*, vol. 2 n. 1 (June 2005), pp. 95–113.
- “Truth and Other Self-effacing Properties.” *Philosophical Quarterly*, vol. 54 n. 217 (October 2004), pp. 577–586.
- “Hypothetical and Categorical Epistemic Normativity.” *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, vol. 42 n. 2 (Summer 2004), pp. 273–290
- “Naturalistic Epistemology.” *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, <http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/n/nat-epis.htm>. 2003.
- “Being and Knowledge: A Connoisseur’s Guide to Republic V.476e ff.” *Apeiron* v. 33 n. 2 (June 2000), pp. 87–108.

Books and Book Chapters

- “True Belief is not Instrumentally Valuable.” In *New Waves in Truth*, eds. Nikolaj Pederson and Cory Wright. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010, pp. 174–188.
- *Naturalism Reference and Ontology: Essays in Honor of Roger F. Gibson*. (editor) New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2008.
- “Naturalism and Belief-centered Epistemology.” In *Naturalism, Reference and Ontology: Essays in Honor of Roger F. Gibson*, ed. Chase B. Wrenn, pp. 77–92. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2008.

Professional Service

University Service

- Departmental Assessment Coordinator. 2010–.
- Departmental Academic Advisor, 2009 to 2010.
- University of Alabama Committee on Rhodes, Truman, Fulbright, and Marshall Scholarships. 2007–2009.
- University of Alabama Faculty Senate, Senator, 2007–09.
- Director, Mind and Brain Freshman Learning Community, 2006, 2007, 2009.
- Director, Department of Philosophy Mind and Brain Track, 2005 to present.
- University of Alabama Premier Awards Committee, 2003–06, 2009–11. (Committee Chair 2010–11)
- University of Alabama Philosophy Club Faculty Adviser, 2002–08.
- University of Alabama Phi Sigma Tau Honor Society Faculty Adviser, 2002–08.
- University of Alabama Department of Philosophy Technology Committee (Chair), 2001 to present.
- Affiliated Faculty, Cognitive Psychology Program, University of Alabama, 2002 to present.
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Washington University in St. Louis Department of Philosophy, 2000–2001.
- Departmental *Mind and World* Reading Group Organizer, Washington University, 1999.
- Washington University Philosophy Colloquium Committee, 1997–1998.

Professional Service (continued)

Service to Professional Organizations

- Secretary, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2011–present.
- Hotel Negotiator, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2009–2012.
- Executive Council Member, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2008–10.
- Program Chair for Philosophy, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2006–7.
- Program Committee Member, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2005–6.
- President, Alabama Philosophical Society, 2006.
- Vice President, Alabama Philosophical Society, 2005.
- Recruitment Committee Co-Chair for Philosophy, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2004–present.
- Secretary-Treasurer, Alabama Philosophical Society, 2004.

Refereed Conference Presentations

- “Truth: The Worst of All Goods.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA: 2011.
- “Truth is not Instrumentally Valuable.” Alabama Philosophical Society, Orange Beach, AL: 2009. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Atlanta, GA: 2010.
- “The Unreality of Realization.” (Poster) Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Toronto, ON: 2007.
- “Rationality for Ostriches, Wishful Thinkers and Other Deviants.” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Chicago, IL: 2005. Also presented to the Alabama Philosophical Society, Mobile AL: 2004.
- “Moderate Rationalism’s Problem with Induction.” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA: 2005.
- “Why There are no Epistemic Duties.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. New Orleans, LA: April, 2004. Also presented to the Alabama Philosophical Society. Orange Beach, AL: 2003.
- “How not to be an Epiphenomenalist.” Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Pasadena, CA: 2003.
- “Truth and Other Self-effacing Properties.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Atlanta, GA: 2003.
- “Hypothetical and Categorical Epistemic Normativity.” American Philosophical Association, Central Division. Chicago, IL: 2002. Also presented to the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, March 2002, Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 2002, Alabama Philosophical Society, October 2001, and the Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 2001.
- “Is it Rational to Pursue the Truth?” Value-free Science: Ideal or Illusion (Conference sponsored by University of Alabama at Birmingham Center for Ethics and the Sciences). Birmingham, AL: 2001. Also presented to the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA: 2001.
- “Inter-world Probabilities and the Problem of Induction: A Critique of Laurence Bonjour.” Central States Philosophical Association. Lincoln, NE: 2000.
- “Discovery, Justification, and the Coherence of Feminist Empiricism.” American Philosophical Association, Central Division. Chicago, IL: 2000.
- “Giving up the Given: Conditional Commitments and the Pragmatics of ‘Seems’” (with T. W. Zawidzki). Pragmatism and Semantics International Colloquium. Prague: 2000
- “Pragmatism, Truth, and Inquiry.” American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division. Boston, MA: 1999. (Awarded the APA Eastern Division’s William James Prize)

Refereed Conference Presentations (continued)

- “Rhetorical Considerations Governing Socrates’ Argument Against the Lovers of Sights and Sounds (Republic 476e ff.)” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Lexington, KY: 1999. Also presented at Philosophical Collaborations 1999: Knowledge and Normativity. Carbondale, IL.
- “Explaining Mathematical Objectivity.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. New Orleans, LA: 1998.
- “Epistemology Distilled.” Alabama Philosophical Society. Mobile, AL: 1996.

Invited Presentations

- “The Intrinsic Value of Truth.” Colloquium presentation at Mississippi State University, October, 2010.
- “Realization and Predication, or, The Unreality of Realization.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Atlanta, GA, April 2007.
- “Comments on Casey Woodling, ‘On a Confusion about Aboutness’.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Charleston, SC, March 2006.
- “Mental Causation.” Guest lecture the University of Alabama Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Research Group, Fall 2004.
- “Rationality for Ostriches, Wishful Thinkers and Other Deviants.” Southeastern Philosophical Workshop, Oxford, MS: September 2004.
- “Making Good Policy Arguments.” Guest lecture to University of Alabama Arts and Sciences 102, Spring 2004.
- “Writing Arguments.” Guest lecture to University of Alabama Arts and Sciences 101, Fall 2003.
- “Knowledge as a Theoretical Category.” Guest lecture to University of Alabama Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Research Group. Fall 2003.
- Commentary on Sven Walter, “Multiple Realizability and Psychophysical Property Identities.” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April 2003.
- “What Can You Do For Me? Epistemological Naturalism for Psychologists.” Guest lecture to the University of Alabama Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Research Group. Spring 2003.
- Commentary on Troy Cross, “What is a Disposition?” Dispositions and Laws of Nature Conference, University of Alabama at Birmingham, February 2003.
- Commentary on Andrew Moser, “Cognitive Norms as Hypothetical Imperatives?” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 2002.
- Commentary on Derek Turner, “Consistent and Stable Belief,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, March 2002.
- “Epistemological Naturalism: A Nonstandard Formulation of a Standard Defense.” Invited colloquium presented at the University of Mississippi, November 2001.

Grants and Sponsored Research

- College of Arts & Sciences Teaching Grant. 2009.
- University of Alabama Active and Collaborative Learning Grant. 2009.
- *Mind and Metaphysics* NEH Summer Seminar Participant. St. Louis, MO, 2006.
- “Epistemic Duties.” University of Alabama Research Advisory Committee grant, Summer 2002.
- Washington University Dissertation Fellowship, 2000 - 2001.