

AUSTIN A. BAKER

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION: Philosophy of Mind (Esp. Cognitive Science); Social Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE: Epistemology; Philosophy of Law; Philosophy of Language

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Postdoctoral Assistant Professor

July 2019 – present

Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science (RuCCS)

EDUCATION

PhD Rutgers University, Department of Philosophy October 2019

Dissertation: “When Perception Bypasses Truth: Attention, Bias, and the Structure of Social Stereotypes”

Committee: Andy Egan (chair), Eric Mandelbaum (co-chair, CUNY), Susanna Schellenberg, Alex Guerrero, Chaz Firestone (Johns Hopkins, psychology)

Graduate Certificate, Cognitive Science

May 2019

MA¹ University of Edinburgh, Department of Philosophy

May 2014

Degree: First Class with Honours

Advisor: Duncan Pritchard

Undergraduate Thesis: “Reexamining Knowledge-Apt Belief and Proposing a New Virtue Epistemology”

¹ Undergraduate degree

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Perception and Mind Lab (PI: Chaz Firestone)

September 2018 – August 2019

Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences

Johns Hopkins University

Project: “You’re my doctor?”: Stereotype-Incongruent Identities Impair Recognition of Incidental Visual Features” (with Jorge Morales and Chaz Firestone)

Funding Sources: Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Johns Hopkins Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

PAPERS & PROJECTS

Baker, Austin A., 2023. “The Right to Gender Identity” in *The Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Jurisprudence*, ed. Kevin Tobia, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Baker, Austin A. & J. Remy Green, 2021. “There’s No Such Thing as a Legal Name: A Strange, Shared Delusion” *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* 43(1), 1-49.

Baker, Austin A., Morales, Jorge & Chaz Firestone, 2019. ““You’re My Doctor?”: Stereotype Incongruent Identities Impair Recognition of Incidental Visual Features,” *Journal of Vision*, 19(10) doi: 10.1167/19.10.156 [abstract].

“The Prioritization of Social Stereotypes” [under review]

“Introducing Nonverbal Marginalization” [under review]

“Accuracy vs Action Guidance: Attention and the Function of Perception” [under review]

“Neural Mechanisms Underlying Gender Disparities in Moral Judgements for Care Violation” with Megha Chawla, Brian Earp & Molly Crockett [in progress]

“No Need to Go To Alone: Ecologically Valid Studies of Group Reasoning” with Nick Byrd, Dania Crafa, Shadab Tabatabaian, & Trey Boone [in progress]

“Tracking the Relationship Between Social Microexpressions and Dehumanization with Machine Learning” with Dania Crafa & Lisette de Jonge-Hoekstra [in progress]

“Capgras Delusion, Prosopagnosia, and the Role of Affect in Social Cognition” [in progress]

GRANTS

“Neural Mechanisms Underlying Gender Disparities in Moral Judgements for Care Violation” with Megha Chawla & Brian Earp [\$30,000]

Source: Summer Sessions in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP) and the John Templeton Foundation.

“No Need to Go To Alone: Ecologically Valid Studies of Group Reasoning” with Nick Byrd, Dania Crafa, Shadab Tabatabaiean & Trey Boone [\$8,000]

Source: Summer Sessions in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP) and the John Templeton Foundation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Social Cognition (300/400 level)

Spring 2020 (400 level), Spring 2021 (300 Level) [*Primary Instructor*]

Cognitive Science: A Multidisciplinary Introduction (200 level)

Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021 [*Primary Instructor, Supervising 4-6 Graduate Student TAs Per Semester*]

Cognitive Neuroscience (400 level)

Spring 2018 [*Teaching Assistant* for Prof. Karin Stromswold]

Philosophical Aspects of Cognitive Science (300 level)

Fall 2017 [*Primary Instructor*]

RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

Philosophy Fellow, Summer Seminars in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP), Duke University, [*May 2021*]

AWARDS

Best Poster Award

2019

Society for Philosophy and Psychology, UCSD Conference

Mellon Summer Grant

2019

Rutgers University, School of Arts and Sciences

Excellence Fellowship Rutgers University, School of Arts and Sciences	2018
Bruce of Grangehill Prize University of Edinburgh, Philosophy Department	2014
Lanfine Bursary University of Edinburgh, College of Humanities and Social Sciences	2012

PRESENTATIONS

* invited

*TBD

- Northwestern Psychology Department Brownbag Speaker Series [*February 2022*]

“Who Are *You* Lookin At!: Nonverbal Cues as Epistemic Injustice”

- Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Princeton University [*June 2021*]
- Perceptual and Cognitive Science Forum, Rutgers, [*May 2021*]

“There’s No Such Thing as a “Legal Name”: A Strange, Shared Delusion”
(w/ J. Remy Green)

- *Boston University Law School [*April 2021*]

“Social Bias Dynamics During Pandemics”

- *Rutgers Undergraduate Cognitive Science Club, [*April 2020*]

“You’re My Doctor??: Stereotype-Incongruent Identities Impair Recognition of Incidental Visual Features” (w/ Jorge Morales and Chaz Firestone)

- Vision Sciences Society, St Pete Beach, Florida [*May 2019*]
- Society for Philosophy and Psychology, UCSD [*July 2019*]

“The Cognitive Science of Social Bias”

- *Rutgers Undergraduate Cognitive Science Club [*March 2019*]

“Rethinking the Scope and Mechanisms of Stereotyping”

- *Rutgers-Bochum Workshop in Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Ruhr Universität Bochum [*March 2019*]
- *Psychological and Brain Sciences Department, Johns Hopkins University [*February 2019*]

Careers in Cognitive Science Panel

- *Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science [March 2018]

“Action, Accuracy, and Attention: Reflection on the Action-Guiding Role of Perception”

- European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Hertfordshire [August 2017]
- Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Johns Hopkins University [July 2017]

“Attention, Perceptual Phenomenology, and Perception of Contrast”

- Institute for Visual Intelligence, Columbia University [April 2017]

“Resurrecting the Causal Theory of Knowing”

- Rutgers-Lund Conference, Lund University [May 2016]

“Reexamining Knowledge-Apt Belief and Proposing a New Virtue Epistemology”

- University of Edinburgh Undergraduate Conference, University of Edinburgh [May 2014]
- *University of Edinburgh Philosophy Society Lecture Series, University of Edinburgh [November 2013]

Invited Comments

Comments on Zachariah A. Neemeh’s “Cultural Affordances in AI Perception”

- American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division [January 2020]

MEDIA COVERAGE

Featured on radio show/podcast ‘Default Mode’ [June 2021]

- On social philosophy, stereotyping, and LGBT identity
- Link: https://mariakhoudary.com/default_mode/

Appearance on ‘Ipse Dixit: A Podcast on Legal Scholarship’ w/ J. Remy Green [March 2021]

- Discuss our forthcoming paper on legal names and transgender discrimination
- Link: <https://shows.acast.com/ipse-dixit/episodes/j-remy-green-austin-a-baker-onnames>

Coverage of Public Talk on Social Bias and the Pandemic [March 2020]

- On bias and discrimination during public health crises
- Link: <https://sasaccess.rutgers.edu/current-issue/student-groups-atrutgers-findways-to-connect-during-lockdown>

Stereotype research with Jorge Morales & Chaz Firestone mentioned in *Forbes Magazine* [June

2020]

- Link: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/andreamorris/2020/06/08/the-2d-gremlin-inour-head-distorting-3d-reality-johns-hopkins-study/?sh=5ab800cb1c25>

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant <i>Philosophy and Phenomenological Research</i> (Editor Ernest Sosa)	July 2016 – May 2017
Research Assistant (to Ernest Sosa) <i>Epistemology</i> , Oxford University Press, 2018	September 2015 – May 2016

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association
Society for Philosophy and Psychology
European Society for Philosophy and Psychology
Vision Sciences Society
The Mind Association

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Refereed for: <i>Philosophical Studies</i> , <i>Synthese</i> , <i>Review of Philosophy and Psychology</i>	
Departmental Advisor to the Cognitive Science Major and Minor	Fall 2021 – present
Organizer of ‘Diversity in Cognitive Science’ Panel	Fall 2021 – present
Faculty Council for <i>Minorities in Cognitive Science (MiCS)</i>	December 2020 – present
Faculty Advisor for <i>Rutgers Undergraduate Cognitive Science Club</i>	August 2019 – present
Rutgers Philosophy Climate Committee	September 2016 – May 2018

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Philosophy of Mind, Psychology, & Neuroscience

'Cognitive Penetration' [audit] Steven Gross, Johns Hopkins	Fall 2018
'Vision Seminar' [audit] Chaz Firestone, Justin Halberda, & Johnathan Flombaum, John Hopkins [Psychology]	Fall 2018
'The Philosophy and Cognitive Science of Ignorance' [audit] Eric Mandelbaum, CUNY Graduate Center	Spring 2018
'Perception' [audit] David Heeger, NYU [Psychology]	Fall 2017
'Emotion' [audit] Jesse Prinz, CUNY Graduate Center	Spring 2017
'Perception and Cognition' [audit] 2016 Ned Block & Eric Mandelbaum, NYU & CUNY Graduate Center	Fall
'Philosophy of Technology' [audit] David Chalmers & Matthew Liao, NYU	Fall 2016
'Perceptual Capacities' Susanna Schellenberg, Rutgers	Spring 2016
'Belief Fragmentation' Andy Egan, Adam Elga & Augustin Rayo, Rutgers/Princeton/MIT	Spring 2016
'Sensory and Motor Neuroscience' [audit] Michael Hawken, NYU [Neuroscience]	Spring 2016
'Concepts' Elizabeth Camp, Rutgers	Fall 2015
'Face Perception and Social Cognition' Jon Freeman, NYU [Psychology]	Fall 2015
'Propositional Attitudes' Robert Matthews, Rutgers	Spring 2015

‘Cognitive Science Prosem’ Zenon Pylyshyn, Rutgers [Center for Cognitive Science]	Fall 2014
<i>Epistemology</i>	
‘Social Constructivism’ Jesse Prinz, CUNY Graduate Center	Fall 2016
‘Virtue Epistemology’ Ernest Sosa, Rutgers	Fall 2015
‘Epistemology’ Alvin Goldman, Rutgers	Spring 2015
‘Epistemology & Perceptual Evidence’ Susanna Schellenberg, Rutgers	Spring 2015
‘Bayesian Epistemology’ Branden Fitelson, Rutgers	Fall 2014

REFERENCES

Andrew Egan

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Eric Mandelbaum

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New York, NY 10016
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Chaz Firestone

Assistant Professor of Psychology
Johns Hopkins University
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Susanna Schellenberg

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Paul Pietroski (Teaching)

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