

William A. Kowalsky Jr.

York University | S416 Ross Building, 4700 Keele Street | Toronto, ON M3J 1P3 Canada
william.kowalsky@gmail.com | williamkowalsky.org

EMPLOYMENT

York University, Department of Philosophy
Postdoctoral Fellow, 2021–23

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles
Ph.D. in Philosophy, December 2020

Dissertation: *Confidence and Objective Probability Signaling in Perceptual Systems*
Committee: Tyler Burge (chair),
Gabriel Greenberg,
Josh Armstrong, and
Hakwan Lau (external)

Harvard University
B.A. in Philosophy (Mind, Brain, and Behavior track), 2012
Secondary Field in Neurobiology, 2012
Foreign Language Citation in Japanese, 2012

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Psychology/Cognitive Science; Philosophy of Mind; Philosophy of Perception

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Language; Philosophy of Science; Epistemology (formal and traditional); Logic

PUBLICATIONS

“Representation of Pure Magnitudes in ANS” (with Tyler Burge and Steven Gross). *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 44. 2021.

AWARDS AND HONORS

University Distinguished Teaching Award, UCLA, 2018
Competitive award given annually to five Teaching Assistants university wide.
Annual Departmental Teaching Award, UCLA, 2018
Award in recognition of teaching excellence by a graduate student.
Robert M. Yost Prize for Excellence in Teaching, UCLA, 2016
Annual award for excellent performance as a Teaching Assistant.

PRESENTATIONS

“Minimal Bayesian Realism for Perceptual Systems,” Society for Philosophy and Psychology, expected July 2023.
“Levels of Confidence in Perceptual Systems,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, March, 2023.
“Minimal Bayesian Realism for Perceptual Systems,” York University Cognitive Science Speaker

- Series, January, 2023. (Invited)
- “Levels of Confidence in Perceptual Systems,” Joint Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology and the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Milan, 2022.
- “Perceptual Uncertainty and Perceptual Computation,” UCLA Mind and Language Workshop, 2018.
- “‘Numerosity Representations’ Are Not Representations,” UCLA Mind and Language Workshop, 2018.
- “Against Beck on Numerosity Representation,” UCLA Prospectus Defense, 2016.
- “Implicit Assumptions Are Not Represented,” UCLA Albritton Society, 2015.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- University Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA, September 2018–December 2019
- Mellon Foundation Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, UCLA, Summer 2017
- Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA, September 2014–June 2015
- Mellon Foundation Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, UCLA, Summer 2013
- University Fellowship, UCLA, September 2012–June 2013

TEACHING

As Primary Instructor

- Introduction to Symbolic Logic, Spring 2021
- Introduction to Philosophy of Science, Winter 2021
- Philosophy of Psychology, Summer 2020
- Introduction to Metalogic, Winter 2020
- Introduction to Symbolic Logic, Summer 2019
- Teaching College Philosophy, Fall 2018
- Philosophy of Psychology, Summer 2018
- Teaching College Philosophy, Fall 2017
- Introduction to Philosophy of Mind, Summer 2016

As Teaching Assistant

- Anti-Individualism (Tyler Burge), Fall 2018
- Introduction to Philosophy of Science (Sheldon Smith), Spring 2018
- Skepticism and Rationality (Andrew Hsu), Spring 2017
- Introduction to Philosophy of Science (Alexis Burgess), Winter 2017
- Philosophy of Psychology (Alexis Burgess), Fall 2016
- Philosophy of Psychology (Tyler Burge), Spring 2016
- Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics (Sheldon Smith), Winter 2016
- Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Steve Levy), Fall 2015
- Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Jason Carnell), Summer 2015
- Introduction to Philosophy of Mind (Gabriel Greenberg), Spring 2014
- Contemporary Philosophy of Science (Sheldon Smith), Winter 2014
- Introduction to Philosophy of Mind (Luca Struble), Fall 2013

As Tutor

- Departmental tutor for Introduction to Metalogic, Winter 2017
- Departmental tutor for Introduction to Metalogic, Winter 2016

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Departmental Visiting Teaching Assistant Coordinator, 2018–2019.
Research Assistant for Gabriel Greenberg, help designing undergraduate computation course, 2018–2019.
Research Assistant for Sherrilyn Roush, collection and summarization of research materials on direct inference and the reference class problem, 2018–2019.
Research Assistant for Gabriel Greenberg, collection and summarization of research materials on the use of feature maps in psychology, philosophy, and computer science, Summer 2018.
Departmental Teaching Assistant Coordinator, 2017–2018.
Co-organizer, UCLA Mind and Language Workshop, 2018–2019.
Graduate Student Representative, 2016–2017.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Chair, York Predictive Vision Philosophy Workshop, Summer 2019
Referee, UCLA-USC Graduate Philosophy Conference, 2014–2018
Chair, UCLA-USC Graduate Philosophy Conference, Winter 2016

GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSES TAKEN

Epistemology

Epistemology of the Apriori (Tyler Burge, 2019–20, audited)
Epistemology of the Apriori (Tyler Burge, 2017–18, audited)
Direct Inference and the Reference Class Problem (Sherrilyn Roush, 2017–18, audited)
Epistemology of Perception (Tyler Burge, 2014–15)

Philosophy of Perception

Visual Object Reference (Gabriel Greenberg, 2016–17, audited)
Philosophy of Perception (Tyler Burge, 2016–17, audited)
Philosophy of Perception (Tyler Burge, 2015–16)
Philosophy of Perception (Rene Jagnow, 2013–14, audited)
Philosophy of Perception (Tyler Burge, 2013–14)
Pictorial Semantics (Gabriel Greenberg, 2012–13)
Philosophy of Perception (Tyler Burge, 2012–13)

Philosophy of Language

Teleosemantics (Josh Armstrong, 2014–15)
Evolution of Language (Josh Armstrong, 2013–14)
Counterfactual Conditionals (Gabriel Greenberg and Jessica Rett, 2013–14)

Logic

Buridan's Theory of Consequences (Terry Parsons and Calvin Normore, 2014–15)
Aristotle's Logic (Adam Crager, 2014–15)
Meta-logic (Donald Martin, 2012–13)
Modal Logic (Ed Stabler, 2012–13)
Abduction (Sam Cumming and Sheldon Smith, 2013–14)

Metaphysics

Meta-ontology (Sheldon Smith, 2012–13)

Ethics

Meta-ethics (Pamela Hieronymi, 2014–15)

Meta-ethics (Pamela Hieronymi, 2013–14)