Cameron Domenico Kirk-Giannini

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Rutgers University–Newark
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Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence, Philosophy of Language, Social Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Science, Ethics, Philosophy of Religion

Employment

Rutgers University–Newark

Associate Professor [2025–present]

Assistant Professor [2019–2025]

Rutgers University–New Brunswick

Associate Graduate Faculty [2025–present]

Education

Ph.D. Philosophy (with Certificate in Cognitive Science), Rutgers University, 2019

M.Phil. Philosophical Theology, University of Oxford, 2013
Awarded with Distinction

A.B. Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Philosophy (Secondary Field), Harvard University, 2011
Summa Cum Laude, Highest Departmental Honors

Publications

Books

1. *AI Welfare: Agency, Consciousness, Sentience.* Oxford University Press (Forthcoming). (With Simon Goldstein.)

Articles

16. "A Case for AI Consciousness: Language Agents and Global Workspace Theory." *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 33: 61–96 (2026). (With Simon Goldstein.)

15. "How to Solve the Gender Inclusion Problem." *Hypatia* 41: 363–387 (2026).

14. "What Is AI Safety? What Do We Want It to Be?" *Philosophical Studies* 182: 1495–1518 (2025). (With Jacqueline Harding.)

13. "Artificial Intelligence: Approaches to Safety." *Philosophy Compass* 20(5): e70039 (2025). (With William D'Alessandro.)

12. "AI Wellbeing." *Asian Journal of Philosophy* 4(25): 1–22 (2025). (With Simon Goldstein.)

11. "Language Agents Reduce the Risk of Existential Catastrophe." *AI & Society* 40: 959–969 (2025). (With Simon Goldstein.)

10. "Quotation for Dummies." *Philosophical Perspectives* 38: 16–25 (2024).

9. "Covert Mixed Quotation." *Semantics and Pragmatics* 17(5): 1–54 (2024).

8. "Artificial Intelligence: Arguments for Catastrophic Risk." *Philosophy Compass* 19(2): e12964 (2024). (With Adam Bales and William D'Alessandro.)

7. "Dilemmatic Gaslighting." *Philosophical Studies* 180: 745–772 (2023).

6. "Contextology." *Philosophical Studies* 179: 3187–3209 (2022). (With Simon Goldstein.)

5. "Why Horizontalism." *Philosophical Studies* 177: 2881–2905 (2020).

4. "Slurs Are Directives." *Philosophers' Imprint* 19(48): 1–28 (2019).

3. "Radically Insensitive Theists." *Religious Studies* 55: 169–188 (2019).

2. "Uniformity Motivated." *Linguistics and Philosophy* 41: 665–684 (2018).

1. "De Ray: On the Boundaries of the Davidsonian Semantic Programme." *Mind* 126, 697–714 (2017). (With Ernie Lepore.)

Book Chapters

2. "Do Not Diagonalize." In Una Stojnić and Ernie Lepore (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy of Language*, pp. 211–238 (2025).

1. "Pronouns and Gender." In Luvell Anderson and Ernie Lepore (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Applied Philosophy of Language*, pp. 265–292 (2024). (With Michael Glanzberg.)

Shorter Pieces (Replies, Discussion, Etc.)

2. "Gaslighting and Epistemic Competence." *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* 30: 665–672 (2025).

1. "Is Alignment Unsafe?" *Philosophy & Technology* 37(110): 1–4 (2024).

Edited Volumes and Special Issues

3. *Philosophical Studies* Special Issue on AI Safety (2025). (With Dan Hendrycks.)

2. *Unstructured Content.* Oxford University Press (2025). (With Peter van Elswyk, Dirk Kindermann, and Andy Egan.)

1. *The Structure of Truth: Donald Davidson's 1970 Locke Lectures.* Oxford University Press (2020). (With Ernie Lepore.)

Grants, Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

Coefficient Giving Grant: "Interpretability, LLM Decision Theory and Risk Attitudes, and AI Governance" (PI of Subaward via University of Southern California) ($40,008) [2026-2028]

Rutgers–Newark School of Arts and Sciences AI Hub Dean's Seed Grant: "Investigating Iconic Representation in Vision Transformers" (PI, with Sean Trott) ($5,000) [2026-2027]

Open Philanthropy Grant: "AI Takeoff Speeds" (PI) ($26,675) [2025]

London AI and Humanity Project Visiting Fellowship [2025]

Center for AI Safety Philosophy Fellowship ($80,000) [2023]

Rutgers University Presidential Fellowship ($70,000) [2013-2015]

Oxford University Clarendon Scholarship (£27,180) [2011-2013]

Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Iota Chapter of Massachusetts [2010]

John Harvard Scholarship (top 5% of class) (3) [2008, 2009, 2010]

Detur Book Prize for outstanding scholarship in the freshman year [2008]

Presentations

"*Philosophical Problems for the Era of Agentic AI.*" USC Institute on Ethics and Trust in Computing Summer Retreat, Digital. [September 2026]

"*Valenced Conscious Experience in AI Systems.*" SUNY Albany Graduate Philosophy Conference (Keynote). [April 2026]

"*Rebooting the Singularity.*" University of Southern California. [March 2026]

"*AI Sentience.*" AI Minds Reading Group, New York University. [March 2026]

"*Rebooting the Singularity.*" Syracuse University. [February 2026]

"*Gaslighting in Axiology.*" College of William & Mary. [January 2026]

"*Gaslighting in Axiology.*" Annual MAP Lecture, Syracuse University. [November 2025]

"*Human Factors & Anthropomorphism.*" Panelist. Emerging Topics in AI: Consciousness and Moral Patienthood Workshop, Google, New York. [November 2025]

"*AI Welfare.*" Philosophy of AI Workshop, Columbia University. [October 2025]

"*Rebooting the Singularity.*" London Initiative for Safe AI (LISA), London. [June 2025]

"*Rebooting the Singularity.*" Institute for Safe Autonomy, University of York. [June 2025]

"*Rebooting the Singularity.*" Institute of Philosophy, University of London. [May 2025]

"*A Case for AI Consciousness: Artificial Language Agents and Global Workspace Theory.*" University of Texas at Arlington. [April 2025]

"*Commissioned Voices: Rethinking Authorship in Algorithmic Speech.*" Western University Law. [March 2025]

"*AI Welfare and the Problem of Genuine Desire.*" Workshop on AI Consciousness and Well-Being, University of Hong Kong. [March 2025]

"*What Remains of the Singularity Hypothesis?*" Workshop on the Cognitive and Linguistic Capacities of LLMs, University of Hong Kong. [December 2024]

"*A Case for AI Consciousness: Artificial Language Agents and Global Workspace Theory.*" UMD College Park. [October 2024]

"*Metalinguistic Comparison Is Covert Mixed Quotation.*" Workshop in Philosophy of Language, 25th World Congress of Philosophy, Rome. [August 2024].

"*Metalinguistic Comparison Is Covert Mixed Quotation.*" Point of View in Language Workshop, Uppsala University. [June 2024].

"*How to Solve the Gender Inclusion Problem.*" Filosofidagarna 2024, University of Gothenburg. [June 2024].

"*AI Wellbeing.*" Mind and Moral Status Group, Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford, Digital. [May 2024].

"*A Case for AI Consciousness: Artificial Language Agents and Global Workspace Theory.*" Pacific APA Symposium, Portland. [March 2024]

"*What Remains of the Traditional AI X-Risk Argument?*" Colloquium on Artificial Intelligence and Catastrophic Risk, Australian National University. [March 2024]

"*A Case for AI Consciousness: Artificial Language Agents and Global Workspace Theory.*" Macquarie University. [March 2024]

"*AI Safety: The View from Philosophy.*" ITAM AI Futures Fellowship, Mexico City. [January 2024]

"*Might Language Agents Be Conscious?*" AI Agency and Wellbeing Workshop, University of Hong Kong. [November 2023]

"*Quotation for Dummies.*" Central APA Symposium, Denver. [February 2023]

"*Gender Identity and Volition.*" Social Identities and Cognition in the Desert Workshop, Palm Springs. [February 2023]

"*Gender First: A Theory of Binary Category Terms.*" Words Workshop, Digital. [February 2023]

"*Quotation for Dummies.*" 7th Brazilian Society for Analytic Philosophy Conference, Rio de Janeiro. [October 2022]

"*Covert Mixed Quotation.*" Logic, Language, and Cognition Seminar, University of Turin. [October 2022]

"*Quotation for Dummies.*" 1st Annual Philosophy of Language Association Conference, Digital. [June 2022]

"*Quotation for Dummies.*" New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, New York University. [May 2022]

"*Cogventionalism.*" Central APA Symposium, Chicago. [February 2022]

"*Covert Quotation.*" Virtual Language Work-in-Progress Group (VirLaWP), Digital. [August 2021]

"*Cogventionalism.*" CUNY Cognitive Science Speakers Series, Digital. [April 2021]

"*Gaslighting in Axiology.*" Pacific APA Symposium, Digital. [April 2021]

"*Contextology.*" (With Simon Goldstein.) Philosophy of Language In Progress Group, Digital. [December 2020]

"*On the Plurality of Tongues.*" Australian Catholic University, Melbourne. [December 2019]

"*On the Plurality of Tongues.*" Rutgers Alumni Workshop, New Brunswick. [April 2019]

"*Slurs Are Directives.*" Bochum-Rutgers Workshop in Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Ruhr-Universität Bochum. [March 2019]

"*Gaslighting in Axiology.*" New York City Minorities and Philosophy Workshop Series, CUNY. [March 2019]

"*Slurs Are Directives.*" Ashoka University, Sonipat. [December 2018]

"*Slurs Are Directives.*" Pacific APA Colloquium, San Diego. [March 2018]

"*Slurs Are Directives.*" USC/UCLA Graduate Conference, Los Angeles. [March 2018]

"*Uniformity Motivated.*" Central APA Colloquium, Chicago. [February 2018]

"*Slurs Are Directives.*" Harvard/MIT Graduate Conference, Cambridge, MA. [February 2018]

"*Slurs Are Directives.*" ESSLLI 2017 Workshop on Integrating Approaches to Social Meaning, Toulouse. [July 2017]

"*Uniformity Motivated.*" ESSLLI 2017 Student Session, Toulouse. [July 2017]

"*Uniformity Motivated.*" UT Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference, UT Austin. [April 2017]

"*Radically Insensitive Theists.*" University of Oklahoma Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Oklahoma. [February 2017]

"*Uniformity Motivated.*" Northern Graduate Philosophy Conference, Northern Illinois University. [October 2016]

"*Do Not Diagonalize.*" Pacific APA Colloquium, San Francisco. [April 2016]

"*Do Not Diagonalize.*" New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, New York University. [December 2015]

"*Skeptical Theism and the Future.*" New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology Workshop on Formal Epistemology and Religious Epistemology, University of Oxford. [December 2014]

"*Truth Conditions Not Required.*" OZSW Graduate Conference in Theoretical Philosophy, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. [May 2014]

"*Truth Conditions Not Required.*" Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, University of Colorado Boulder. [April 2014]

"*Skeptical Theism Is Self-Defeating.*" Pacific APA Colloquium, San Diego. [April 2014]

"*A New Moral Problem for (Skeptical) Theism.*" 4th Annual Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Research Conference, Department of Classics, University of Leeds. [June 2013]

"*Mushy Skeptical Theism and the Evidential Argument from Evil.*" Pacific APA Colloquium, San Francisco. [March 2013]

Comments Delivered

"*Beyond Verdicts: Evaluating Language Model Moral Competence.*" By Daniel Kilov, Aaron Snoswell, Seth Lazar, and Dylan Hadfield-Menell. Pacific APA Symposium, San Francisco. [April 2025]

"*Characterizing AI Agents for Alignment and Governance.*" By Atoosa Kasirzadeh and Iason Gabriel. Pacific APA Symposium, San Francisco. [April 2025]

"*Gaslighting, Knowledge Norms, and Knowing That We Know.*" By Gus Turyn. Eastern APA Symposium, New York. [January 2025]

"*Bigoted Beliefs and the Safety Condition.*" By Gus Turyn. Eastern APA Symposium, New York. [January 2024]

"*The Impact of Slurs.*" By Edward Schwartz. Eastern APA Symposium, Montreal. [January 2023]

"*Against Conventional Wisdom.*" By Ethan Jerzak, Arc Kocurek, and Rachel Rudolph. Eastern APA Symposium, Philadelphia. [January 2020]

"*What Jones Didn't Do: Rethinking Some Linguistic Evidence for Davidsonian Event Semantics.*" By Andrés Colapinto. Eastern APA Colloquium, Washington, DC. [January 2016]

"*The Resurrection and Hypertime.*" By Hud Hudson. Paradise Project Conference, Christopher Newport University. [April 2015]

"*The Cognitive Dimension of Heavenly Bliss.*" By Jonathan Kvanvig. Paradise Project Conference, Christopher Newport University. [April 2015]

"*Will There Be Skeptics in Heaven?*" By Ted Poston. Paradise Project Conference, Christopher Newport University. [April 2015]

Service

Refereeing (Journals): *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Analysis* (×4), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (×2), *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (×2), *Computational Linguistics*, *Dialectica*, *Ergo* (×2), *Erkenntnis*, *Ethics*, *Hypatia*, *Inquiry* (×3), *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, *Journal of Semantics*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Linguistics and Philosophy* (×3), *Logos & Episteme*, *Metaphilosophy*, *Mind* (×2), *Mind & Language*, *Minds and Machines*, *Noûs* (×3), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Patterns*, *Philosophical Studies* (×8), *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophy*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophy & Technology*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Religious Studies*, *Semantics & Pragmatics* (×3), *Social Theory and Practice* (×3), *Synthese* (×7), *Topoi* (×3)

Refereeing (Academic Presses): Oxford University Press (×2), Cambridge University Press, Routledge

Refereeing (Grantmaking Organizations): Austrian Science Fund (FWF), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), National Science Foundation

Member of the Editorial Board of *Semantics and Pragmatics* [2022–present]

Co-Organizer of the New York Philosophy of Language Workshop [2022–present]

Program Committee, NeurIPS Workshop on Foundations of Agentic Systems Theory (FAST) [2026]

Mentor, ITAM AI Futures Fellowship, Mexico City [2024]

Admissions Evaluator for Rutgers–Newark's Honors Living and Learning Community [2022, 2024]

North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information Organizing Committee [2016]

Teaching

Rutgers University–Newark

Philosophy 323: Philosophy of AI [Fall 2026]

Philosophy 327: Philosophy of Religion [Fall 2025]

Data Science 410: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Fall 2025]

Philosophy 210: Philosophy of AI [Spring 2025]

Philosophy 422: Independent Study in Philosophy (Metaphysics of Gender) [Spring 2025]

Philosophy 327: Philosophy of Religion [Fall 2024]

Philosophy 322: Social Philosophy [Fall 2024]

Philosophy 385: Special Topics in Philosophy: The Philosophy of AI [Spring 2024]

Data Science 410: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Spring 2024]

Philosophy 422: Independent Study (AI and Feminism) [Spring 2024]

Philosophy 327: Philosophy of Religion [Spring 2022]

Data Science 330: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Spring 2022]

Philosophy 422: Independent Study (Foucault) [Spring 2022]

Philosophy 322: Social Philosophy [Fall 2021]

Data Science 330: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Fall 2021]

Philosophy 327: Philosophy of Religion [Spring 2021]

Data Science 330: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Spring 2021]

Philosophy 320: Social Philosophy [Fall 2020]

Computer Science 330: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Fall 2020]

Philosophy 448: Philosophy of Language [Spring 2020]

Computer Science 330: Ethical Issues in Data Science [Spring 2020]

Philosophy 320: Social Philosophy [Fall 2019]

Rutgers University–New Brunswick

Philosophy 360: Philosophical Aspects of Cognitive Science [Spring 2019]

Philosophy 107: Introduction to Ethics [Spring 2019]

Philosophy 107: Introduction to Ethics [Summer 2017]

Philosophy 107: Introduction to Ethics [Spring 2017]

Philosophy 210: Philosophy of Language [Winter 2017]

Philosophy 329: Minds, Machines, and Persons [Fall 2016]

Philosophy 107: Introduction to Ethics [Summer 2016]

Philosophy 201: Introduction to Logic [Spring 2016]

Philosophy 265: Introduction to Philosophy of Religion [Winter 2016]

Philosophy 329: Minds, Machines, and Persons [Fall 2015]

Summer Schools

Speech Acts: Dynamic Force and Conversational Update (With Henry Schiller) [ESSLLI 2024]

Certifications

ACUE Micro-Credential in Promoting Active Learning [2022]

Academic Memberships and Affiliations

Member, American Philosophical Association

Research Affiliate, Center for AI Safety

Last updated: October 6, 2026