

## John Morrison, 6/01/2021

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Department of Philosophy  
Barnard College  
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326b Milbank  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027

### Areas

*Specialization:* Philosophy of Mind, Early Modern Philosophy (esp. 17th-century)

*Competence:* Metaphysics, Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Logic

### Education

#### *New York University*

PhD, Philosophy, September 2009

Committee: N. Block, D. Garrett, J. Pryor and S. Schiffer (chair)

#### *University of Pittsburgh*

PhD Student, Philosophy Department, Fall 2001 until Spring 2004

MA, Philosophy, May 2004

#### *Williams College*

BA, Philosophy and Mathematics, May 2001

### Employment

#### *Barnard College, Columbia University*

Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, 2009-2018

Associate Professor, Philosophy Department, 2018-present

Affiliate, Neuroscience and Behavior Department, 2019-present

#### *Columbia University*

Affiliate, Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute, 2018-present

Editor, Journal of Philosophy, 2018-present

Mentor, Neurobiology and Behavior Program, 2019-present

Member, Center for Theoretical Neuroscience, 2019-present

#### *Paris 1: Pantheon-Sorbonne University* (December 2015)

Visiting Professor, Philosophy Department

## Publications

### Articles

“Spinoza on Mind, Body, and Numerical Identity,”  
*Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Mind* (forthcoming)

“Descartes on Numerical Identity and Time,”  
*The Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (forthcoming)

“Perceptual Variation and Ignorance”  
*Synthese* (forthcoming)

↔ Appendix for “Perceptual Variation and Ignorance”,  
*Columbia University Academic Commons* (2020), <https://doi.org/10.7916/d8-d20y-1g83>

“Perceptual Variation and Structuralism”  
*Noûs* (2020), v.54, p.290–326

“Perceptual Confidence and Categorization”  
*Analytic Philosophy* (2017), v.58, p.71–85

“Perceptual Confidence”  
*Analytic Philosophy* (2016), v.57, p.15–48

\*Winner of the 2015 Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Mind

“Triangulating How Things Look”  
*Mind & Language* (2015), v.30, p.140–161

“Anti-Atomism about Color Representation”  
*Noûs* (2015), v.49, p.94–122

“Restricting Spinoza’s Causal Axiom”  
*Philosophical Quarterly* (2015), v.65, p.40–63

“Relation Between Conception and Causation in Spinoza’s Metaphysics”  
*Philosophers’ Imprint* (2013), v.13, p.1–17

“Colour in a Physical World”  
*Mind* (2012), v.121, p.333–373

↔ Appendix for “Colour in a Physical World” (with David Anderson),  
*Columbia University Academic Commons* (2011), <https://doi.org/10.7916/D84J0P02>

### Chapters

“Spinoza on Numerical Identity and Time”  
*A Companion to Spinoza*, Melamed (ed.) (2021),  
Wiley Blackwell, p.189–203

“Perceptual Variation and Relativism”

*Epistemology After Sextus Empiricus*, Vogt and Vlastis (eds.) (2020),  
Oxford University Press, p.13–47

↔ Appendix for “Perceptual Variation and Relativism”,  
*Columbia University Academic Commons* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.7916/D8Q546GJ>

“Two Puzzles about Thought and Identity in Spinoza”  
*Cambridge Critical Guide to Spinoza’s Ethics*, Melamed (ed.) (2017),  
Cambridge University Press, p.56–81

“Truth in the *Emendation*”  
*Young Spinoza*, Melamed (ed.) (2015),  
Oxford University Press, p.67–91

### Reviews

Valtteri Viljanen’s *Spinoza’s Geometry of Power*  
*British Journal for the History of Philosophy* (2013), v.21, p.610–613

Raffaella De Rosa’s *Descartes and the Puzzle of Sensory Representation*  
*Mind* (2014) v.123, p.1187–1191 (with Elliot Paul)

### Talks

“Representation in the Brain”  
Columbia Center for Theoretical Neuroscience (lab meeting)  
Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute (conference)

“Probabilities in perception, Probabilities about Perception”  
London Institute of Philosophy (conference)

“Inferences in Complex Systems (including Brains)”  
MIT, November 2019 (work in progress talk)

Comments on Schellenberg’s *The Unity of Perception*  
Inter-American Congress, October 2019 (conference)

“Perceptual Structuralism: Bees and Toads”  
MIT, November 2019 (graduate seminar)  
Columbia University, April 2019 (neuroscience lab meeting)  
Rutgers University, May 2019 (workshop)  
Oxford University, May 2019 (colloquium)  
King’s College London, May 2019 (MMP colloquium)  
Pacific APA, April 2019 (invited symposium)

“Perceptual Confidence: Empirical Evidence”  
Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, January 2020 (conference)

Inter-American Congress, October 2019 (conference)  
Cambridge University, August 2019 (conference)  
Ruhr-University Bochum, July 2019 (conference)  
University College London, May 2019 (neuroscience lab meeting)  
Eastern APA, January 2019 (invited symposium)

“Perceptual Confidence: Implications for Consciousness and Content”  
UC Berkeley, March 2017 (conference)  
Ryerson University, May 2017 (conference)  
Institut Jean Nicod, Ecole Normale Superieure, July 2017 (colloquium)  
University of Toronto, September 2017 (group talk)

“Perceptual Structuralism: Objects, Kinds, and Qualities”  
UC San Diego, February 2016 (conference)  
UC Los Angeles, February 2016 (informal workshop)  
University of Bristol, May 2016 (colloquium)  
U of London’s Institute of Philosophy, May 2016 (LEM colloquium)  
Oxford University, May 2016 (informal workshop)  
Johns Hopkins University, February 2017 (colloquium)  
Institut Jean Nicod, Ecole Normale Superieure, July 2017 (conference)  
University of Notre Dame (colloquium)

“Two Puzzles about Thought and Identity in Spinoza”  
Pantheon-Sorbonne University, December 2015 (colloquium)

“Spinoza on Mind, Body, and Numerical Identity”  
University of Colorado at Boulder, July 2015 (NEH institute)  
University of Texas at Austin, October 2015 (conference)

Pantheon-Sorbonne University, December 2015 (colloquium)  
UC Irvine February 2016 (scientia colloquium)  
UC Los Angeles, February 2016 (informal workshop)  
University of Toronto, September 2017 (conference)

“Perceptual Structuralism” (Formerly “A New Approach to Perceptual Variation”)  
Union College, May 2014 (philosophy club)  
Pantheon-Sorbonne University, June 2014 (conference)  
New York University, November 2014 (graduate seminar)  
Yale University, November 2014 (ELLMM colloquium)  
Rutgers University, March 2015 (graduate seminar)  
University of Gothenburg, June 2015 (conference)

“Perceptual Confidence”  
Oxford University, November 2012 (colloquium)  
University of Antwerp, August 2013 (conference)

University of Texas at Austin, October 2013 (colloquium)  
Duke University, June 2015 (SPP conference)  
University of Oslo, June 2015 (colloquium)  
Cornell University, July 2015 (conference)  
New York University, December 2015 (conference)

Comments on Rosenthal's "How to Think about Mental Qualities"  
APA, Pacific Division, April 2014

"Spinoza on the Nature of Truth"  
Johns Hopkins University, September 2011 (conference)

"Knowing How Things Look"  
CUNY, February 2011 (cognitive science colloquium)  
Columbia University, March 2011 (colloquium)

Comments on Della Rocca's *Spinoza*  
APA, Eastern Division, Author Meets Critics, December 2010

"Spinoza on Causation and Conception"  
Johns Hopkins University, April 2010 (conference)  
Oxford University, October 2010 (conference)

### **Postdoctoral Advising**

Raphael Gerraty (Columbia, co-mentor)

### **Graduate Advising**

Andrew Richmond (Columbia, advisor)  
Natalie Hejduk (Columbia, committee, PhD 2021)  
Simon Brown (Columbia, committee, PhD 2020)  
Nathan Bice Morales (Columbia, external examiner, PhD 2018)  
Jorge Morales (Columbia, dissertation advisor, PhD 2018)  
Jeremy Wolos (Columbia, dissertation advisor, PhD 2016)  
EJ Green (Rutgers, external examiner, PhD 2016)  
Chloe Layman (Columbia, external examiner, PhD 2013)

### **Honors**

2015 Sanders Prize in the Philosophy of Mind  
Annual essay competition open to scholars who are within fifteen years of receiving a Ph.D., \$10,000 prize.

### **Grants**

Collaboratory Fellowship  
*Granting Agency:* Columbia's Data Science Institute  
*Purpose:* Funds to develop a course on neural networks with Christos Papadimitriou, a

Columbia computer scientist.  
*Amount:* \$100,000

#### Mellon New Directions Fellowship

*Granting Agency:* Mellon Foundation  
*Purpose:* Funds for a year-long sabbatical for Spring 2019 and Fall 2019 while I take courses in neuroscience.  
*Amount:* \$205,000

#### The Sources of Perceptual Intentionality

*Co-investigator:* Uriah Kriegl (Ecole Normale Superieure, Jean Nicod Institute)  
*Granting Agency:* Columbia's Faculty of Arts & Sciences  
*Purpose:* Funds for Uriah's visit to Columbia in November 2016, and for me to visit Institut Jean Nicod in July 2017 (incl. a conference)  
*Amount:* approx. \$12,000

#### Situating Core Analytic Philosophy within the Liberal Arts Curriculum

*Co-investigators:* Yuval Avnur (Scripps) and Troy Cross (Reed)  
*Granting Agency:* Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges  
*Purpose:* Funds for a conference on teaching courses in "core philosophy" in liberal arts colleges in Portland, Oregon in August 2016.  
*Amount:* approx. \$20,000

#### Short-Term Alliance Visiting Professorship

*Granting Agency:* Columbia's Alliance Program  
*Purpose:* Funds to visit Pantheon-Sorbonne University in December, 2015.  
*Amount:* approx. \$3,000

#### Values and Agency. A Franco-American Philosophical Symposium

*Co-investigators:* Akeel Bilgrami (Columbia), Chantel Jaquet (Pantheon-Sorbonne University), and Laurent Jaffro (Pantheon-Sorbonne University)  
*Granting Agency:* Columbia's Alliance Program  
*Purpose:* Funds for a conference at Pantheon-Sorbonne University in June, 2014.  
*Amount:* approx. \$12,000

#### Reconceiving Spinoza's God

*Granting Agency:* National Endowment for the Humanities  
*Purpose:* Funds for a sabbatical in 2014-5 to write a series of connected papers on Spinoza's metaphysics.  
*Amount:* \$50,400