

David Liebesman

Department of Philosophy
University of Calgary
Social Sciences Building
618 Campus Place N.W.
Calgary, AB T2N 1N4
(587) 703-5275

Employment

University of Calgary, Professor of Philosophy and Linguistics, 2023-present.
University of Calgary, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Linguistics, 2016-2023.
University of Calgary, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Linguistics, 2014-2016.
Boston University, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2009 - 2014.

Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, Cornell University, 2009.
M.A. Philosophy, University of Colorado, 2005.
B.A. Philosophy, Brandeis University, 2002, *Magna Cum Laude*.

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics, Semantics

Areas of Teaching Competence

Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind, History of Analytic Philosophy

Publications

Book

Property Versatility and Copredication (with Ofra Magidor) forthcoming with Oxford University Press. (full ms. available upon request)

Articles

“Partialhood,” forthcoming in *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, vol. 15.

“Ambiguity Tests, Polysemy, and Copredication,” (with Ofra Magidor) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 102(3), 2024: 551-60.

“Alien Languages and Linguistic Structure,” *Festschrift for Matti Eklund*, ed. Andreas Stokke, Uppsala University, 2024

“Copredication and Meaning Transfer,” (with Ofra Magidor) *Journal of Semantics* 40(1), 2023: 69-91.

“Generics and the Metaphysics of Kinds,” (with Rachel Sterken) *Philosophy Compass* 16(7), 2021: 1-14.

“Double-Counting and the Problem of the Many,” *Philosophical Studies* 178, 2021: 209-234..

“Copredication, Counting, and Criteria of Individuation: A Response to Gotham,” (with Ofra Magidor) *Journal of Semantics* 36(3), 2019: 549-61.

- “Meaning Transfer Revisited,” (with Ofra Magidor) *Philosophical Perspectives* 32(1), 2018: 254-97.
- “The Normativity of Meaning,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Reasons and Normativity*, ed. Daniel Star, Oxford University Press, 2018.
- “Copredication and Property Inheritance,” (with Ofra Magidor) *Philosophical Issues* 27(1), 2017: 131-166.
- “Counting as a Type of Measuring,” *Philosophers’ Imprint* 16(12), 2016: 1-25.
- “Sodium-Free Semantics: The Continuing Relevance of the Concept Horse,” in *Philosophy and Logic of Predication* ed. Piotr Stalmaszczyk, Peter Lang, 2016.
- “Does Vagueness Underlie the Mass/Count Distinction?” *Synthese* 193(1), 2016, 185-203.
- “Quantifier Variance and Hyperintensionality,” in *Quantifiers, Quantifiers, and Quantifiers*, ed. Alessandro Torza, Synthese Library, 2015.
- “We Do Not Count by Identity,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 93(1), 2015, 121-42.
- “Predication as Ascription,” *Mind* 124(494), 2015, 517-69.
- “Necessarily, Sherlock Holmes is not a Person,” *Analytic Philosophy* 55(3): 306-18, 2014.
- “Relations and Order-Sensitivity,” *Metaphysica* 15(2), 2014, 409-429.
- “Converse and Identity,” *dialectica* 67(2), 2013, 137-55.
- “Some Puzzles About Some Puzzles About Belief,” *Analysis* 72(3), 2012, 608-18.
- “Causation and the Canberra Plan,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 92(2), 2011, 232-42.
- “Simple Generics,” *Noûs* 45(3), 2011, 409-442. Reprinted in *Philosophers Annual XXXI*.
- “Sider on Existence,” *Noûs* 41(3), 2007, 519-28. (with Matti Eklund)

Encyclopedia Entries

- “Type and Token” in preparation for *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*
- “Copredication” (with Ofra Magidor) forthcoming in *International Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, Third Edition

Reviews

- Review of Ryan Nefdt’s *Language, Science and Structure*, forthcoming in *Folia Linguistica*
- Review of Bernhard Nickel’s *Between Logic and the World*, *Mind* 127: 2018, 284-293.
- Review of Eli Hirsch’s *Quantifier Variance: Essays in Metaontology*, *The Philosophical Review* 122(2), 2013, 310-314.
- Review of Jeffrey C. King’s *The Nature and Structure of Content*, *The Philosophical Review* 119(2), 2011, 246-250.

Honors and Grants

SSHRC Insight Grant, “Counting in Language and Reality” 2016-2019 (\$80,385).

SSHRC Insight Grant “Copredication: Motivations and Applications” 2020-2024 (\$88,662).

Curriculum Development Grant, (to develop a graduate placement program), 2018 (\$8,000).

Boston University Humanities Foundation Junior Fellowship, AY 2011-2012.

“Simple Generics” reprinted in *Philosopher’s Annual XXXI*. (*Philosopher’s Annual* reprints the ten best philosophy papers of the year, as selected by their editorial board. See philosophersannual.org for more information.)

Presentations

“Establishments and Uniformity”, Western Canadian Philosophical Association, University of Saskatchewan, September 2024.

“Copredication and Category Mistakes,” Alien Structure Workshop, Uppsala University, April 2023.

“Thinking Outside of the Lunch Box,” University of Alberta, November 2021; University of Victoria, September 2022.

“Copredication and Semantic Scepticism,” Bilkent University, November 2020.

“Generics and the Metaphysics of Kinds,” Banff Conference on Language and Metaphysics, February 2020.

“Meaning Transfer Revisited,” University of Oslo, March 2019.

“Double Counting and the Problem of the Many”, Western Canadian Philosophical Association, October 2018. USC (graduate seminar guest), November 2018.

“Meaning, Types, and Predication”, Simon Fraser University workshop on the Intellect, March 2017; University of Birmingham workshop on relations and unity, March 2018.

“Partialhood”, University of Calgary Graduate Conference, Keynote speaker, May 2016; Boston University September 2017; Franklin and Marshall conference on the semantics and metaphysics of aspect, April 2018; University of California at Santa Barbara, November 2018; Uppsala University, March 2019; Philosophy Mountain Conference, March 2020.

“Copredication and Property Inheritance,” (with Ofra Magidor) University of British Columbia, January 2017; Society for Exact Philosophy, May 2017; Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistical Philosophy Conference, Oct. 2017; University of Oslo, March 2017.

Critic in session on Bernhard Nickel’s *Between Logic and the World: An Integrated Theory of Generics*, Eastern APA January 2017.

“Neo-Fregean Category Theory”, University of Alberta, October 2016.

“Sodium-Free Semantics”, University of Stockholm November 2015; University of Hamburg, Nominalizations Workshop, May 2016.

“Generics and Pronouns”, Society for Exact Philosophy, May 2015.

“Counting as a Type of Measuring,” University of Colorado Boulder, March 2015; M.I.T. May 2015; Bogazici University, May 2015; Cal. State Northridge colloquium talk, October 2015; Uppsala University colloquium talk, November 2015; Oxford University Leverhulme speakers series, May 2016

Comments on “Subordinate Necessity”, Pacific APA, April 2015.

“Counting Cards”, National Autonomous University of Mexico, September 2014.

“We Do not Count by Identity,” Oxford University, February 2014; University of Rochester, March 2014; University of Calgary, April 2014.

“Generalized Scrutability and the Construction of Intensions,” University of Cologne, May 2013.
“Expressibility Problems and Type-Assignment,” University of Oslo, April 2013.
Comments on “Composition and Facts,” Pacific APA, March 2013.
“Predication as Ascription,” M.I.T., February 2013.
“The Problem of the Many,” B.U. Undergraduate Philosophy Club, February 2013.
“Three Questions About Counting,” University of Southern California, January 2013.
“Predication as Ascription,” Oxford University, May 2012.
“Necessarily, Sherlock Holmes is not a Person,” University of Manitoba, March 2012; Illinois Philosophical Association, November 2012 .
“Verbal Disputes, Common Sense, and Quantifier Variance,” Harvard University, December 2011.
“Propositional Representation,” University of Texas, El Paso, March 2011; Syracuse University, August 2011.
“Relations and Order-Sensitivity,” University of Texas, El Paso, March 2011.
“Branching Quantification and the Nature of Scope,” Hocking-Cabot Seminar, July 2010.
“The Semantics of Quotation,” BU Undergraduate Philosophy Club, November 2009.
“Simple Generics,” Generics Workshop, University of Oslo, February 2009; Creighton Club, Hobart and William Smith, October 2009.
“Predication as Ascription,” Cornell University Workshop, February 2008; Leeds CMM Graduate Conference, September 2008
“Mass Nouns as Kind Referring,” Plurality, Unity and Structure in Ontology and Semantics, IHPST Paris, October 2007

Courses Taught

Philosophy of A.I.
Topics in Metaphysics: Social Ontology
20th Century Philosophy
Mind and Language
Pragmatics
Topics in Language and Logic: Counting
Topics in Language and Logic: Conceptual Engineering
Mind, Matter, and God
Advanced Semantics
Reasoning and Argumentation
Philosophy of Language
Topics in Language, Logic, and Epistemology: Propositions
Knowledge and Reality
Metaphysics
Puzzles and Paradoxes
Metaphysics and Epistemology
Proseminar: Death
Placement and Thesis Seminar
Mind and World (Undergraduate Majors Seminar)

Introduction to Semantics

Topics in Metaphysics: Philosophy of Time

Service to the Profession

Referee for *Noûs**, *Synthese**, *Philosophical Studies**, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy**, *Philosophical Papers*, *The Philosophical Review**, *Mind**, *dialectica*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Linguistics and Philosophy**, *Analytic Philosophy*, *Erkenntnis**, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Res Philosophica*, *Disputatio*, *Philosophical Quarterly**, *Mind and Language**, *Ergo**, *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Philosophia Mathematica*, *Inquiry**, *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, Oxford University Press*, Cambridge University Press, and Broadview Press. (* means multiple)

Grant referee for SSHRC, Israel Science Foundation, Fund for Scientific Research (Brussels).

External M.A. examiner, University of Cape Town.

Ergo section editor, (2017- present).

Inquiry associate editor, (2022- present)

Co-organizer, Banff Manuscript Workshop on *Copredication and Property Versatility*, (May 2023).

Co-organizer, Banff Conference on Metaphysics and Language, (March 2020).

Co-organizer, Society for Exact Philosophy annual meeting, (May 2017) .

Programming committee member, Canadian Philosophical Association meeting (2015/2016).

Service to the University

Environmental Ethics Search Committee, University of Calgary (2023)

Head's Advisory Committee, University of Calgary (2022-present)

Speakers Committee Chair, University of Calgary (2021-present)

Language Research Centre Steering Committee, University of Calgary (2016-2018)

Graduate Scholarship Committee, University of Calgary (2016)

Convener, Vendler Reading Group in Linguistics and Philosophy, (2014-present)

Graduate Committee, University of Calgary (2014-2019)

Logic and Language Prelim Committee, University of Calgary (2014-2016)

Placement Director, University of Calgary (2015-2019)

Linguistics Search Committee, Boston University (Spring 2010)

Philosophy Colloquium Organizer, Boston University (2010-2014)

Findlay Visiting Professor Committee, Boston University (2010-2014)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Boston University (2013-2014)

Supervision

Ally Jokl, M.A. in progress, University of Calgary

Mitchell Blackstaffe, Undergraduate Honours Thesis in progress, University of Calgary.

Yudi Huang, M.A. University of Calgary, 2023, “The Problem of Hyperintensionality: A Truthmaker Approach”.

Quinn Goddard, M.A. University of Calgary, 2023, “On Indefinite Singular Generics”

Darren Wilson, M.A. University of Calgary, 2023, Course-Based.

Alexander Wentzell, M.A. University of Calgary, 2022, “A Pluralistic Account of Phenomenal Unity”.

Jonathan Payton, SSHRC postdoctoral fellow, University of Calgary 2019-2021.

Joshua Stein, Ph.D. University of Calgary 2021 (co-supervisor), “Making Up Reasons: Constructivism, Functionalism, and Reasons”.

Kira Cartwright, Ph.D., Boston University, 2017, “A Semantic Theory of a Subset of Qualifying “as” Phrases in English”

Aaron Beauchene, Undergraduate Honours Thesis, University of Calgary, 2016, “The Irreducibility of Mass Predicates”.