

Evan Welchance

Curriculum Vitae

Phone: 

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University of Richmond
Department of Philosophy
Humanities Building, 106 UR Drive
Richmond, VA 23173

Areas of Specialization: Metaphysics, philosophy of perception

Areas of Competence: Epistemology, applied ethics

Employment

University of Richmond, Department of Philosophy

- Visiting Lecturer of Philosophy, August 2025 –

Education

PhD in Philosophy, University of Virginia: August 2019 – August 2025

- Supervisor: Trenton Merricks
- Thesis title: How Perception Bears on the Metaphysics of Ordinary Objects
 - Defended on December 4, 2024

Visiting Graduate Student, Rutgers University: August 2022 – May 2023

MA in Philosophy, Brandeis University: December 2018

BA in Philosophy, BS in Mathematics, Middle Tennessee State University: May 2017

Publications

“Metaphysical infinitism and theoretical virtue.” *Erkenntnis* (forthcoming).

“Perception and extraordinary objects.” *Synthese* (2026).

“Against Philosophical Proofs Against Common Sense.” *Analysis* (2021) [co-authored with Louis Doulas]

Under review

The epistemology of ontology

Consciousness and composition

Works in Progress [drafts available]

Reference variance

Ontological empiricism

The principle of epistemic charity

Presentations

Consciousness and composition

- Eastern APA (Symposium), January 2026.
- Virginia Commonwealth University, February 2026. (Invited)

Ontological empiricism

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 2025.

Ontological aliens and epistemic charity

- Central APA (Colloquium), February 2025.

The problem of referential adicity for easy ontology

- Eastern APA (Symposium), January 2025.

Perception and extraordinary objects

- Morven Retreat for the University of Virginia's Department of Philosophy, September 2024.

Extraordinary objects

- UVA Undergraduate Philosophy Club, October 2023. (Invited)

Perceptually justifying ordinary object beliefs

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 2023.
- Eastern APA (Symposium), January 2024.

Justification, bias, and epistemic blame

- Virginia Philosophical Association, October 2023.
- Mind, Value, and Moral Psychology: Rice and University of Houston Graduate Conference, November 2023.

Reference variance

- Rutgers Grad Talk Series, March 2023.

Metaphysical infinitism and theoretical virtue

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 2022.
- Central APA (Colloquium), February 2023.
- Long Island Philosophical Society, April 2023.

Phenomenology-based quantifier variance

- Second Austrian Summer School in Phenomenology, University of Graz, September 2022.

Perceiving persistence conditions

- Georgia Philosophical Society, June 2022.
- Rutgers Metaphysics Reading Group, November 2022.
- Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference, November 2022.
- Eastern APA (Colloquium), January 2023.

Acquaintability and ordinary ontology

- Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference in Philosophy, April 2022.

Attention and cognitive phenomenology

- Morven Retreat for the University of Virginia's Department of Philosophy, September 2021.
- Tennessee Philosophical Association, November 2021.

Vagueness is unitary

- Graduate Philosophy Conference at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2021.

Ordinary objects are *a priori*-ty

- Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Philosophy Conference, Brown University, March 2021.

Against Philosophical Proofs Against Common Sense

- Florida Philosophical Association, February 2021. (With Louis Doulas.)

The functional conception of laws

- Mathematical and Numerical Inspirations in Philosophy, Stanford University, April 2020.
- Wisconsin Philosophical Association, August 2020.
- South Carolina Society for Philosophy, April 2021.

Commentaries

Scott Aikin's "Skepticism, Conservatism, and Equilibrium's Problem of Meta-philosophical Disappointment"

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 2023

Scott Aikin's "Fallacy Accusation and Meta-Argument"

- Tennessee Philosophical Association, October 2022

Teaching

(As instructor of record at the University of Richmond)

PHIL 101 – Introduction to Philosophical Problems and Arguments: Fall 2025

PHIL 120 – Contemporary Moral Issues: Fall 2025, Spring 2026

PHIL 265 – Bioethics: Spring 2026

(As instructor of record at the University of Virginia)

PHIL 1510 – Common Sense and Skepticism in Philosophy: Summer 2025

PHIL 1510 – Ethics in the Digital Age: Summer 2023, Summer 2024

PHIL 2500 – Philosophy of Language: Spring 2024

LASE 2500 – Environmental Ethics: Summer 2021

(As teaching assistant at UVA)

PHIL 1710 – Human Nature: Fall 2020

PHIL 1750 – Meaning of Life: Spring 2021

PHIL 2120 – History of Philosophy, Modern: Spring 2022

PHIL 2350 – Minds, Machines, and Persons: Spring 2025

PHIL 2420 – Introduction to Symbolic Logic: Fall 2023

PHIL 2820 – Philosophy of Health and Healthcare: Fall 2021, Fall 2024

ANTH 2559 – The Past, Present, and Future of Humankind: Spring 2021

Professional Development

Graduate Instructor Seminar on the Teaching of Writing: University of Virginia

- August 2020 (as student)
- January 2023, January 2024 (as graduate assistant)

Service

Graduate Student Representative for UVA's Philosophy Department, AY 2021-22

Index writer for Ross Cameron's *Chains of Being* (2022)

Research Assistant for Elizabeth Barnes, AY 2023-24, AY 2024-25

Reviewer for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Synthese*, and *Erkenntnis*

Honors and Awards

UVA All-University Graduate Teaching Award, AY 2024-25

South Carolina Society for Philosophy Graduate Student Essay Prize (“The functional conception of laws.”)

General References [Contact mj5pa@virginia.edu for letter solicitations]

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Teaching References

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