Aaron M. Griffith
Curriculum Vitae
Summer 2025

Department of Philosophy
College of William & Mary
138 James Blair Hall
Williamsburg, VA 23187

Email: amgriffith [at] wm [dot] edu
Website:
https://aaronmgriffith.wixsite.com/mysite

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION
Metaphysics (truth, truthmaking, grounding, social ontology, time), Philosophy of Race, Kant (esp. metaphysics and epistemology)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE
19th Century Philosophy, Ethics, Feminism, Philosophy of Mind

EMPLOYMENT
College of William & Mary, Associate Professor (2021-present)
College of William & Mary, Assistant Professor (2015-2021)
Central Michigan University, Lecturer (2013-2015)
California State University, Long Beach, Lecturer (Fall 2011)
University of California, Irvine, Teaching Associate (2010-2012)

EDUCATION
Ph.D., Philosophy, Spring 2013, University of California, Irvine
Ways of Truthmaking: A Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking
Committee: Sven Bernecker (Chair), David W. Smith, M. Oreste Fiocco, Gila Sher.
M.A., (with distinction) Philosophy, Winter 2009 University of California, Irvine
B.A., Philosophy and Religion, Spring 2004, Calvin College

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Truth and Social Reality: A Metaphysical Inquiry. (2025). Oxford: Clarendon Press. Oxford University Press.

Articles

(24) "The Metaphysics of Social Construction" in *Perspectives in Metaphysics: An Introductory Coursebook*. Jonathan Barker (ed.). Routledge, forthcoming.
(23) Review of *Ontology and Oppression: Race, Gender, and Social Reality*, by Katharine Jenkins. (forthcoming) *European Journal of Philosophy*.
(22) "What is Systemic Racism?" (forthcoming). *Think: Philosophy for Everyone*.
(21) "Social Construction." (2024) *Routledge Handbook of Essence in Philosophy*, Kathrin Koslicki and Mike Raven (eds.). Routledge.
(20) "Basic Racial Realism, Social Constructionism, and the Ordinary Concept of Race." (2023). *Journal of Social Philosophy*. 54(2): 236-247.
(19) "True by Default." (2022). *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*. 8(1): 92-109.
(18) "Presentism, Truthmaking, and the Nature of Truth." (2021). *Analytic Philosophy*. 63(4): 259-267.
(17) "The Dependence of Truth on Being in Asay's *A Theory of Truthmaking*." (2021). *Asian Journal of Philosophy*. 1(2): 1 – 6.

(16) "Randomness and God's Providence: Defining the Problem(s)" (2021) with Arash Naraghi. *Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence,* Kelly James Clark and Jeffrey Koperski (eds.). Palgrave: 29-53.

(15) "Individualistic and Structural Explanations in Ásta's *Categories We Live By.*" (2020). *Journal of Social Ontology*. 5(2): 251 – 260.

(14) "Realizing Race." (2020). *Philosophical Studies*. 177(7): 1919 – 1934.

(13) "Review of *The Metaphysics of Truth* by Douglas Edwards." (2019). *Analysis* 79(4): 805-809.

(12) "Metaphysics and Social Justice." (2019) *Philosophy Compass* 14: e12594. https://doi.org/10.1111/phc3.12594

(11) "Truthmaking." (2019) *Oxford Bibliographies* in "Philosophy." Ed. Duncan Pritchard. New York: Oxford University Press, https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195396577/obo-9780195396577-0058.xml?rskey=Nwq1sP&result=1&q=truthmaking#firstMatch

(10) "Intergenerational Rights and the Problem of Cross-Temporal Relations." (2018) *Erkenntnis*. 83(4): 693-710.

(9) "Social Construction: Big-G Grounding, Small-g Realization." (2018) *Philosophical Studies*. 175(1): 241-260.

(8) "Social Construction and Grounding." (2018) *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 97(2): 393-409.

(7) "The Rights of Future Persons and the Ontology of Time." (2017) *Journal of Social Philosophy*. 48(1): 58-70.

(6) "Towards a Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking." (2015) *Erkenntnis*. 80(6): 1157-1173.

(5) "Do Ontological Categories Exist?" (2015) *Metaphysica.* 16(1): 25-36.

(4) "How Negative Truths are Made True." (2015) *Synthese*. 192 (1): 317-335.

(3) "Truthmaking and Grounding." (2014) *Inquiry*. 57(2): 196-215.

(2) "On Some Alleged Truthmakers for Negatives." (2013) *Thought*. 1(4): 301-308.

(1) "Perception and the Categories: A Conceptualist Reading of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason.*" (2012) *European Journal of Philosophy*. 20(2): 193-222.

WORK IN PROGRESS

A book project on truth, race, and reparations

AWARDS

William & Mary Faculty Summer Research Grant 2024: $5000
William & Mary Faculty Summer Research Grant 2016: $3000
William & Mary Faculty Summer Research Grant 2017: $3000
UC Irvine Dean's Graduate Dissertation Fellowship, Winter 2013
Oxford Bibliographies Online: Philosophy Graduate Student Prize 2012 ($350 Honorarium)
Matchette Foundation Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in Philosophy 2009 (interdepartmental award)
Graduate Essay Award, UC Irvine 2008 (interdepartmental award)
Regents Fellowship, School of Humanities UC Irvine 2006

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Projects

Research Fellow for the *Randomness and Providence: An Abrahamic Inquiry*. John Templeton Foundation funded project. Project Advisor: Kelly James Clark. Run through the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, Grand Valley State University. $1 million grant. Attended four meetings (Kalamazoo, MI (2017), Orid Macedonia (2018), Casablanca Morocco and Amman Jordan (2019) and wrote a paper for a collected volume.

The University Teaching and Learning Project, College of William & Mary 2019-2020.

Talks (* = Invited)

2025	"What is Social Context?" International Social Ontology Society meeting, Dublin Ireland.
2025	*Symposium on *Truth and Social Reality*, University of Virginia.
2025	*"Grounding and Truthmaking in Social Ontology," Grounding and Truthmaking: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives, Knowledge in Crisis Project, Vienna Austria.
2024	"Social Vagueness and Social Truth," Alabama Philosophical Society meeting, Pensacola, FL.
2024	"Vagueness and Social Truth," International Social Ontology Society Meeting, Duke University.
2023	"Truth, Power, and Justice," Alabama Philosophical Society meeting, Pensacola, FL.
2023	*"Truthmaking and Social Ontology," VCU, March 17.
2022	"A Truthmaking Account of Social Construction," Social Metaphysics Workshop, Duke University.
2021	"Correspondence Truth and Social Reality," International Social Ontology Society Meeting, online.
2021	* "Essence and Social Construction," Conference for Routledge Handbook of Essence, online.
2020	*"Correspondence Truth and Social Reality," Early Career Social Metaphysics Workshop, online.
2020	"True by Default," *American Philosophical Association* (Eastern Division), Philadelphia, PA.
2019	* "Randomness and God's Providence: Defining the Problem(s)," with Arash Naraghi, *Randomness and Providence* Project, Amman, Jordan.
2019	* "Randomness and God's Providence: Defining the Problem(s)," with Arash Naraghi, *Randomness and Providence* Project, Casablanca, Morocco.
2018	"Anchoring Human Social Kinds," Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
2018	"Anchoring Human Social Kinds," International Social Ontology Society Meeting, Tufts University. Boston, MA.
2018	* "Randomness and God's Providence: Defining the Problem(s)," with Arash Naraghi, *Randomness and Providence* Project, Ohrid, Macedonia.
2018	*"Social Construction and the Aims of Justice," City College of New York, NY.
2018	"Realizing Race," *American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division), San Diego, CA.
2017	"Realizing Race," Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
2017	*"Realizing Race," Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, VA.

2016   "The Rights of Future Persons and the Ontology of Time," Alabama
          Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
2016   *"The Rights of Future Persons and the Ontology of Time," Ohio State
          University Social Metaphysics Workshop. Columbus, OH.
2016   *"Obligations to Future Generations and the Metaphysics of Time,"
          American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division), Society of Christian
          Philosophers: Metaphysics Symposium. Washington D.C.
2015   "The Metaphysics of Social Construction: a 'Grounding' Account,"
          Alabama Philosophical Society Meeting, Pensacola, FL.
2015   *"The Metaphysics of Social Construction: a 'Grounding' Account," Junior
          Metaphysics Workshop, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI
2015   "The Metaphysics of Social Construction: a 'Grounding' Account,"
          American Philosophical Association (Central Division), St. Louis, MO.
2014   *"Truthmaking Pluralism: How Positive and Negative Truths Depend on
          Being," *American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division), San Diego, CA
2014   *"Presentism, Truthmaking, and Truth," Philosophy Department
          Colloquium, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI.
2013   "A Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking," *American Philosophical Association*
          (Eastern Division), Baltimore, MD.
2013   "Presentism, Truthmaking, and Truth," *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium*,
          Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburgh, PA.
2012   "A Pluralist Theory of Truthmaking," Main Paper *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy
          Colloquium*, Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburgh, PA.
2012   "Truthmakers and 'Suspicious' Properties," *North Carolina Philosophical Society
          and South Carolina Society for Philosophy Joint Meeting,* Elon University, Elon,
          NC.
2011   "Truthmakers for Negative Propositions," *Northwest Philosophy Conference,*
          Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR.
2008   "A Conceptualist Reading of Kant," *Pacific Group Meeting North American
          Kant Society*, University of California, Irvine, CA.

Referee

Articles: *Acta Analytica*, *American Philosophical Quarterly (x2)*, *Analysis, Asian Journal of
Philosophy, Australasian Journal of Philosophy (x7), Canadian Journal of Philosophy (x3),
Dialectica, Disputatio, Ergo (x8), Erkenntnis (x7), Feminist Philosophy Quarterly, Inquiry
(x5), Journal of the American Philosophical Association (x2), Journal of Social Ontology (x3),
Journal of Social Philosophy (x2), Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior, Kantian Review
(x2), Kant Studies Online, Kriterion, Logique et Analyse, Metaphysics (x2), Mind (x3),
Philosophy of the Social Sciences*, *Philosopher's Imprint (x2), Philosophia (x3), Philosophical
Quarterly (x3), Philosophy and Phenomenological Research (x3), Philosophical Papers (x2),
Philosophical Studies (x7), Southern Journal of Philosophy (2x), Synthese (x12), Ratio, Theology
and Science, Theoria, Thought, Topoi (x3)*

Books: *Oxford University Press (x2)*, *W.W. Norton & Co, Rowan and Littlefield*

Australasian Philosophical Review 7.4 (2023) Curatorial Team for "The 'Post-Truth'
Crisis, and Value of Truth, and the Substantivist-Deflationist Debate" by Gila Sher.

Comments

2025   Comments on "Obligations to Collectives" by András Svigeti at the
          Knowledge in Crisis Social Metaphysics workshop, Vienna, Austria.

2025   Comments on "The Modal Theory of Anchoring" by Kevin Richardson at the Eastern APA Division Meeting, New York, NY.

2023   Comments on "Staging the Social" by Jonathan Schaffer, at the *Social Metaphysics Workshop* at Duke University, Durham, NC.

2023   Comments on "The Modal Argument Against Social Grounding," by Samuele Chilovi at the Pacific *American Philosophical Association*, San Francisco, CA.

2021   Author Meets Critics for Jamin Asay's *A Theory of Truthmaking: Metaphysics, Ontology, and Reality* at Truth 2021, online.

2021   Comments on "Social Kinds* and Social Groups," by Rachel Cooper at the Re-Thinking Social Essences Workshop, online.

2019   Comments on "Norms and Object: A Normative Hylomorphic Theory of Social Objects," by Asya Passinsky at the Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA.

2017   Comments on "About Propositions and their Component Facts," by Aviv Hoffmann at the *American Philosophical Association* (Eastern Division), Baltimore, MD.

2013   Comments on "A Propositional Semantics for Substitutional Quantification," by Geoff Georgi at the *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Conference*, Washington and Jefferson College, Pittsburgh, PA.

2012   Chairperson for Metaphysics and Epistemology session at *North Carolina Philosophical Society and South Carolina Society for Philosophy Joint Meeting,* Elon University, Elon, NC.

2011   Comments on "Anything is Possible? Explaining False Beliefs about Possibility," by Leigh Duffy at the *Northwest Philosophy Conference,* Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR.

Service

William & Mary Pre-major Advising (2015 – present)
William & Mary University Library Committee (2018 – present)
William & Mary Faculty Research Committee (2019 – 2021)
William & Mary Diverse Philosophies Club Faculty Coordinator (2015 – present)
William & Mary Philosophy Department Diversity Advocate (2017 – present)
Organizer for the 2018 Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, College of William & Mary
Organizer for the 2016 - 2019 Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, College of William & Mary
Organizer for the 2020 Ethics and Metaphysics Workshop, College of William & Mary.
William & Mary Philosophy Department Faculty Affairs Committee (2022 – present)
William & Mary Gender, Sexuality, and Women Studies Department Personnel Committee (2022 – present)
Dissertation Committee for Emilie Pagano (University of Texas, Austin) 2023.

TEACHING

College of William & Mary
    Metaphysics
    Philosophy of Race
    Truth and Time Seminar
    Gender Identity (independent study)
    Social Ontology Seminar

Feminist Metaphysics
Truthmakers (independent study)
The Metaphysics of Race (independent study)
Kant and Arendt (independent study)
Kant and his Successors
Knowledge and Reality
Truth: What is it? Why Care about it?

Honors Theses: Kristen Ekstrom (committee 2016-2017), Riley Covert (advisor 2019), Bryce Herndon (committee 2018-2019), Luke Erdhal (advisor fall 2019), Jake Beardsley (advisor 2020-2021), Neal Going (advisor 2020-2021), Ryan Kopelman (advisor 2023-2024), Kia Morawitz (advisor 2023-2024), Juntong Gu (advisor 2023-2024), Sam Roach (advisor 2024-2025).

Central Michigan University:
Truth and Time
Introduction to Philosophy
Contemporary Moral Problems
Business Ethics (online)

California State University, Long Beach:
Introduction to Ethics

University of California, Irvine:
Philosophy of Mind