

# Peter Finocchiaro

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## Appointments

Associate Professorial Research Fellow, Wuhan University, School of Philosophy, 2018–Present  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Notre Dame, Department of Philosophy, 2017–2018  
Arts & Letters Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Notre Dame, Department of Philosophy, 2016–2017

## Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 2011–2017  
Dissertation: *Structuring Metaphysical Disputes: A Foray into Meta-Ideology* (Director: Michael Rea)  
B.A. Philosophy (*Summa Cum Laude*), Syracuse University, 2007–2011

## Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics  
Social Philosophy

## Areas of Competence

Practical Reason  
Philosophy of Language  
Philosophical Logic  
Philosophy of Science

## Research Articles

“Ideology and Its Role in Metaphysics.” *Synthese*. Forthcoming.  
“The Explosion of Being: Ideological Kinds in Theory Choice.” *Philosophical Quarterly*. Vol. 69 Issue 276 (2019) pp. 486–510.  
“The Intelligibility of Metaphysical Structure.” *Philosophical Studies*. Vol. 176 Issue 3 (2019) pp. 581–606.  
“Yet Another ‘Epicurean’ Argument.” *Philosophical Perspectives*. Vol. 30 Issue 1 (2016) pp. 135–159. (with Meghan Sullivan)

## Articles for Popular Audiences

“The KISS Franchise.” In progress commission for *KISS and Philosophy*, edited by Courtland Lewis (Chicago: Open Court Publishing House)

## Colloquium Lectures and Conference Talks

- “Rational Self-Deception: Confabulation and Related ‘Pathologies’”, APA Pacific Division, April 2020 (with Sam Murray)
- “A Puzzle About Parsimony”, APA Central Division, February 2020
- “Anchoring Sexual Orientation”, Meaning and Reality in Social Context Conference, January 2019
- “Intrinsic Masking and Sexual Orientation”, Social Ontology Conference, August 2018
- “High-Fidelity Metaphysics”, Wuhan University, May 2018
- “High-Fidelity Metaphysics”, Philosophers’ Cocoon Philosophy Conference, October 2017
- “The Intelligibility of Metaphysical Structure”, APA Central Division, March 2017
- “Yet Another ‘Epicurean’ Argument”, Immortality Project Capstone Conference, UC Riverside, June 2015 (with Meghan Sullivan)
- “A New Solution to the Problem of Temporary Intrinsic”, APA Central Division, February 2015
- “A New Solution to the Problem of Temporary Intrinsic”, Western Michigan University, December 2013

## Invited Commentaries

- On “Parity, Incomparability, and Categorical Judgments” by Leo Yan, APA Eastern Division, January 2018
- On “Your Intuitions Have No Effect On Me” by Moti Mizrahi, Philosophers’ Cocoon Philosophy Conference, October 2017
- On “Are There Essential Properties? No.” by Meghan Sullivan, Notre Dame Colloquium Series, September 2014

## Research Workshops and Panels

- Visitor Workshop Series, Australian National University, August 2019, “Fidelity: A Constitutive Aim of Metaphysics”
- Lunchtime Works-in-Progress Series, University of Notre Dame, April 2018, “High-Fidelity Metaphysics”
- Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers, August 2016, “Ontologist v Ideologue”
- Young Scholars Workshop, UC Riverside, May 2015, “Yet Another ‘Epicurean’ Argument”
- Time Bias and Future Planning Workshop, Vancouver BC, April 2015, “Yet Another ‘Epicurean’ Argument” (with Meghan Sullivan)

## Works in Progress/Under Review

Note: an \* indicates that the work is under review.

- High-Fidelity Metaphysics: Ideological Parsimony in Theory Choice\*
- These Confabulations Are Guaranteed to Save Your Marriage! Toward a Teleological Theory of Confabulation\* (with Samuel Murray)
- Intrinsic Masking and Sexual Orientation\*
- A Puzzle About Parsimony\*
- How to Project a Socially Constructed Sexual Orientation\* (a descendant of “Anchoring Sexual Orientation”)

Seek the Joints! Avoid the Gruesome! Fidelity as an Epistemic Value  
(a descendant of “Fidelity: A Constitutive Aim of Metaphysics”)

Ontologist v Ideologue

A New Solution to the Problem of Temporary Intrinsic

Explanatory Unity and the Argument from A-Theoretic Experience

## Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

Research Assistant, Immortality Project Grant, UC Riverside, PI: Meghan Sullivan. Including stipend, travel, and research funds (2014–2015)

Adjunct Professional Development Grant, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame (2017)

Graduate Student Union Conference Presentation Grant, University of Notre Dame (2016)

Miscellaneous Travel Grants, Funded by the Philosophy Department of University of Notre Dame to present at various institutions (2011–2016)

## Teaching

### *Wuhan University*

Philosophy of Science

Fall 2019

Philosophy of Language

Spring 2019

Contemporary Philosophical Issues (MA Independent Studies Seminar)

Fall 2018, Spring 2019 (Director)

Philosophical English

Fall 2018, Fall 2019

### *University of Notre Dame*

Introduction to Philosophy

Spring 2018

Metaphysics Seminar for Majors

Fall 2017

Environmental Philosophy

Fall 2017

Rationality and Action

Spring 2017, Spring 2018

Groups: What They Are and What They Can Do

Fall 2016 (with Rebecca Chan)

Death and Dying

Fall 2015

## Advising

MA Independent Studies Supervisor: Qian Xiao (Free Will), Fu Jiayi (Problem of Divine Foreknowledge)

## Service

### *Conference Organization*

Co-Organizer, 2nd Annual Wuhan University International Conference on Explanation in Philosophy (working title: “Explaining Philosophy 2020”), May 2020

with Timothy Perrine (Wuhan University)

Co-Organizer, Thinking About Theory Choice: A Wuhan-Leeds Workshop in Philosophy, October 2019

with Matt Lutz (Wuhan University)

Co-Organizer, Wuhan University International Conference on Explanation in Philosophy (working title: “Explaining Philosophy”), May 2019

with Matt Lutz (Wuhan University)

Manager, Time Bias and Future Planning Workshop, Vancouver BC, April 2015

under Meghan Sullivan (Notre Dame) and Preston Greene (Nanyang Technological University)

### *Referee Service*

Referee for:

*Dialectica; Erkenntnis; Mind; Philosophy and Phenomenological Research; Topoi*

### *Departmental-Level Service*

Wuhan University

Mentor for Philosophy Major (International Concentration) students, Class of 2019, 2019–2020

Wuhan University International Postdoctoral Fellowship Search Committee, Member, 2019

University of Notre Dame

Co-Organizer for Notre Dame Prospectives Week Visit, 2017, 2018

MAP (Minorities and Philosophy), ND Undergraduate Mentor, 2016–2017

Climate Committee, Member, 2016–2017

Graduate Committee, Graduate Student Representative, 2015–2016

5+ Graduate Student Cohort Representative, 2015–2016

Organizer for the Metaphysics Reading Group, 2014–2018

### *University-Level Service*

Wuhan University

Undergraduate Mentor Program, 2018–2019, 2019–2020

University of Notre Dame

Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts:

Reviewer for Graduate Student Research Awards, 2017, 2018

Reviewer for Graduate Student Professional Development Awards, 2017, 2018

*Other Things I'm Proud Of*

Honors Capstone Award, Syracuse University. Awarded to best senior thesis written in humanities for completion of the honors capstone project (2011)

Peterfreund Prize, Syracuse University. Awarded to the senior philosophy major that best demonstrates originality of philosophical thought and skill and style as a writer of philosophy (2011)

Philosophy Club, C.W. Baker High School. Founded and served as inaugural president of high school philosophy club (2006–2007)

Philosoraptors, University of Notre Dame. Coached and captained co-rec flag football team. Ranked top defense in league. Reached university-wide semi-finals (2015, 2016, 2017)

Last updated: October 10, 2019