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Research Interests

**Areas of Specialization:** General Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Social Science (esp. Causal Inference in Social Sciences), Metaphysics (esp. Causation and Explanation), Metaphilosophy (esp. Theoretical Virtues in Philosophy), Philosophy of AI

**Areas of Competence:** Philosophy of Mind, Ethics

Education

<b>PhD in Philosophy   University of California San Diego</b>	2020–2026 (Expected)
Dissertation: <i>Middle-Range Theories of Causation</i>	
Committee: Nancy Cartwright (co-chair), David Danks (co-chair), Kerry McKenzie, Stephan Haggard (political science)	
<b>MA in Philosophy   Simon Fraser University</b>	2016–2019
<b>MA in Philosophy   Renmin University of China</b>	2014–2017
<b>BA in Philosophy   Renmin University of China</b> (Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis)	2010–2014

Visiting Positions

<b>Visiting Researcher   Durham University</b>	Apr–Jun 2025
Department of Philosophy   Host Professor: Nancy Cartwright	
<b>Visiting Student   University of Cambridge</b>	Oct–Dec 2024
Department of History and Philosophy of Science   Host Professor: Anna Alexandrova	
<b>Guest Associate Researcher   Kyoto University</b>	Apr–Aug 2024
Department of Philosophy and History of Science   Host Professor: Tetsuji Iseda (伊勢田 哲治)	

Publications

1.	<b>Determinism as a Stance</b> (in Chinese)   作为立场的决定论 <i>Journal of Dialectics of Nature</i> (自然辩证法通讯) 47 (10): 48–54.	2025
2.	<b>Simpson’s Paradox Beyond Confounding</b> (with Zili Dong and Shimin Zhao; equal authorship) <i>European Journal for Philosophy of Science</i> 14, 44.	2024
3.	<b>Causal Exclusion and Causal Autonomism</b> <i>Frontiers of Philosophy in China</i> 13 (3): 402–419.	2018

In Progress

1.	<b>Theorizing about Causation, Part I: Grand Theories of Causation and Their Discontents</b> (commissioned by <i>Philosophy Compass</i> ).	
2.	<b>Theorizing about Causation, Part II: Kinds of Causal Diversity and Middle-Range Theories of Causation</b> (commissioned by <i>Philosophy Compass</i> ).	

3. **Causal-Structural Explanation** (with Zili Dong; under review).
4. **Simplicity: A Secondary Ultimate Cognitive Value for Non-Ideal Cognitive Agents** (in Chinese; under review).
5. **The Prospects and Challenges of AI-Empowered Experimental Philosophy** (in Chinese; under review).

### **Presentations († = Referred; ‡ = Invited)**

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#### **Two Approaches to Philosophical Theorizing: Causation as a Case Study**

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> Philosophical Analysis Methodology Workshop for Junior Scholars | Shanxi University Nov 2025†

#### **Causal-Structural Explanation**

2. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Chinese National Conference on Philosophy of Science | Sun Yat-sen University Nov 2025†
3. The 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Philosophy of Biological Sciences | Sun Yat-sen University Oct 2025‡

#### **Opportunities and Perils in Using Large Language Models in Experimental Philosophy**

4. The 1<sup>st</sup> Cross-Disciplinary Workshop on Mind and Intelligence | Sun Yat-sen University Sep 2025†

#### **The Virtue of Middle-Range Philosophizing: The One and the Many**

5. The 29<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association (Poster Session, declined due to overseas academic visit) Nov 2024†
6. Philosophy of Science: Past, Present and Future | University of Minnesota (Poster Session, declined due to overseas academic visit) Oct 2024†

#### **Simplicity as a Secondary Ultimate Cognitive Value for Non-Ideal Epistemic Agents**

7. The 2024 Annual Conference of the Korean Society for the Philosophy of Science | Jeju National University Jul 2024†
8. Colloquium for CAPE (Center for Applied Philosophy & Ethics) Lecture | Kyoto University Jun 2024‡
9. The 6<sup>th</sup> Science and Philosophy Workshop for Junior Scholars | University of Chinese Academy of Sciences Apr 2024†
10. Philosophy of Science around the World 2023 Nov 2023†

#### **A Plea for Middle-Range Theories of Causation**

11. Causation in Kyoto: A Workshop on the Philosophy, Psychology, and Computer Science of Causation | Kyoto University Jun 2023†

#### ***Reductio ad Absurdum* Explanations**

12. Pacific APA (cancelled due to COVID-19) Apr 2020†

#### **The Role of Non-Causally Related Variables in Causal Models**

13. The 26<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association Nov 2018†

#### **How Can We Understand Mental Causation**

14. Workshop on Mental Causation | Renmin University of China May 2017‡

#### **The Autonomy Approach, Interventionism, and Multiple Realizability**

15. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Beijing Analytic Philosophy Conference | Renmin University of China Apr 2016†

### **Mental Causes as Insufficient Causes**

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| 16. The Mental and the Physical: The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Summer Workshop of the Chinese Wittgenstein Society   East China Normal University | Aug 2015 |
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### **Refuting an Argument against Anti-Intellectualism**

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| 17. Experience and Concept: Conference on Themes from John McDowell and Wilfrid Sellars   Chinese Academy of Social Sciences | Oct 2013 |
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### **Comments**

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| 1. On Prasanta S. Bandyopadhyay's " <b>A Dilemma for the Causal Theorist</b> "   Pacific APA | Apr 2021 |
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### **Grants and Awards**

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| • Dissertation Fellowship   University of California San Diego   | 2024–2025  |
| • First-Year Graduate Fellowship   University of California San Diego  | 2020–2021  |
| • Graduate Fellowship   Simon Fraser University  | 2016, 2018 |
| • Graduate Research Award   Simon Fraser University<br><i>Awarded annually to the best graduate philosophy paper</i>   | 2017       |
| • Department-Level Excellent Graduate Student Award   Renmin University of China   | 2017       |
| • Prize for the Best Student Essay in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Beijing Analytic Philosophy Conference   | 2016       |
| • National Scholarship for Graduate Students   Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China<br><i>Highly competitive scholarships granted to selected graduate students nationwide based on merit</i> | 2015       |
| • University-Level Student Award of Merit   Renmin University of China   | 2015       |
| • Excellent Graduate Student Award   Renmin University of China  | 2015       |
| • Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award in Philosophy   Renmin University of China  | 2014       |
| • Excellent Undergraduate Student Award   Renmin University of China   | 2014       |

### **Teaching Experience**

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#### **Instructor of Record** | Department of Philosophy, University of California San Diego

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| • Philosophy of Science | Summer 2025 |
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#### **Pedagogical Training** | University of California San Diego

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| • Advanced College Teaching         | Winter 2025 |
| • Foundations of Teaching Workshops | Fall 2024   |

#### **Teaching Assistant** | Department of Philosophy, University of California San Diego

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| • Introduction to Logic   Winter 2025, Fall 2023, Spring 2023: Jennifer Carr   |  |
| • Ethics and Society (I)   Winter 2024, Winter 2023, Spring 2022: Manuel Vargas   Fall 2022: Mara Harrell   Fall 2021: Reuven Brandt |  |
| • Ethics and Society (II)   Winter 2022: Mara Harrell  |  |
| • Topics in Metaphysics   Summer 2022: Joseph Martinez   |  |

**Teaching Assistant** | Department of Philosophy, Simon Fraser University

- Critical Thinking | Summer 2019: Lyle Crawford | Spring 2018: Jennifer Wang | Fall 2017: Dai Heide | Summer 2017: Jill McIntosh
- Introduction to Logic and Reasoning | Spring 2019: Tom Donaldson | Fall 2018, Spring 2017: Jill McIntosh
- Introduction to Philosophy | Fall 2016: Jennifer Warriner

## Selected Graduate Coursework

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### **Philosophy of Science and Scientific Practice**

- Topics in Philosophy of Science | Nancy Cartwright
- Empiricism in Philosophy of Science | Kerry McKenzie
- Qualitative Methods in Political Science | Stephan Haggard
- Quantitative Methods in Sociology | Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra
- Philosophy of Science: Objectivity and Other Issues | Nancy Cartwright
- Laws of Nature | Eddy Keming Chen
- Pain | Matthew Fulkerson
- History and Philosophy of Science: An Integrated Approach | Holly Andersen

### **Metaphysics, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Language**

- Causation: Singular & Generic | Nancy Cartwright
- Contemporary Analytic Metaphysics: Varieties of Metaphysical Relationship | Eric Watkins
- Topics in Recent Epistemology | Jennifer Carr
- Applied Formal Epistemology | Jennifer Carr
- Core Course in Philosophy of Language | Jonathan Cohen
- The Principle of Sufficient Reason | Fatema Amijee, Dai Heide
- Physicalism | Thomas Donaldson
- The Metaphysics of Properties | Jennifer Wang
- Explanation and Causation | Holly Andersen

### **Moral Philosophy**

- Data Ethics | David Danks
- Risk, Responsibility, and Morality | Dana Kay Nelkin, Samuel Rickless
- Pleasure and Hedonism in Greek Philosophy | Monte Ransome Johnson
- Mathematics of Morality | Evan Tiffany, Nicolas Fillion
- Meta-Normativity | Evan Tiffany

## Academic Service and Activities

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- Referee: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*  
*IEEE Transactions on Artificial Intelligence*  
*Synthese*

- Website maintainer for Nancy Cartwright Summer 2024 to now
- Research assistant for Kerry McKenzie Summer 2022
- Co-organizer and regular attendant of a weekly reading group on philosophy of science Summer 2019 to now
- Organizing assistant for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Beijing Analytic Philosophy Conference Apr 2016
- Editorial assistant for *Philosophy Digest* (a quarterly digest for Chinese philosophy journal articles) Jul 2015–Apr 2016

## References

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Nancy Cartwright  
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy (UCSD)  
Professor of Philosophy (Durham University)  
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