

Marc A. Moffett

Curriculum Vitae

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, EL PASO

Department of Philosophy

500 W University • El Paso, Texas 79968

PH: 1.505.652.0204 • EMAIL: mamoffett (at) utep (dot) edu

WEBSITE: www (dot) marcmodfett (dot) com

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Colorado, (Philosophy). 2003

DISSERTATION: *Communication, Meaning and the Attitudes*

COMMITTEE: George Bealer (Chair), Kent Bach, Michael Tooley, Graeme Oddie, Christopher Shields, Laura Michaelis (Linguistics).

M.A. University of Colorado (Philosophy). 2002

B.A. New Mexico State University, (Philosophy, Psychology; minor Mathematics). 1993

Areas of Specialization:

epistemology, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind

Areas of Competence:

metaphysics, philosophy of AI, philosophical & mathematical logic, 20th Century analytic, action theory

APPOINTMENTS

2013 – Department of Philosophy, University of Texas, El Paso. Associate Professor

2013 – 2018 Department of Philosophy, University of Texas, El Paso. Department Chair

2009 – 2013 Department of Philosophy, University of Wyoming. Associate Professor

2003 – 2009 Department of Philosophy, University of Wyoming. Assistant Professor

SCHOLARLY IMPACT

[Philpeople](#) | publication volume M&E = 93rd pctl (top 3% ≤ 5 years) | citations = top 5% (86th pctl ≤ 5 years)

[Google Scholar](#) | citations = 931 | h-index = 8 | i10-index = 7

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *The Indispensability of Intuition*. Elements in Epistemology. New York: Cambridge. (2025).
- *Knowing How: Essays on Knowledge, Mind and Action*. Co-edited with John Bengson. New York: Oxford (2011).
- Selected Papers from the 36th Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, *Synthèse*, **176** (2), Guest Editor (2010).
- *The Pursuit of Meaning: A Practical Introduction to Philosophy*. Cognella (In Process)

Articles

- Basic epistemic reasons: An action-theoretic proposal. *Ratio*, **38** (2025): 93-101.
- Intuitions as evidence. In Lasonen-Aarnio & Littlejohn (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of the Philosophy of Evidence*, Routledge (2023)
- Non-propositional intellectualism (w/ John Bengson). In Bengson & Moffett (Eds.), *Knowing How: Essays on Knowledge Mind and Action*, Oxford (2011)
- Introduction: Two conceptions of mind and action (w/ John Bengson). In Bengson & Moffett (Eds.), *Knowing How: Essays on Knowledge Mind and Action*, Oxford (2011)
- Against a posteriori functionalism. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, **40** (2010): 83–106.
- The folk on knowing how (w/ John Bengson & Jennifer Cole Wright). *Philosophical Studies*, **142** (2009): 387–401.
- Reasonable disagreement and rational group inquiry. *Episteme: A Journal of Social Epistemology*, **4** (2007): 352–367.
- Know-how and concept possession (w/ John Bengson). *Philosophical Studies*, **136** (2007): 31–57.
- Constructing attitudes. *Protosociology*, **21** (2005): 105–128.
- Language, communication, and the paradox of analysis: Some philosophical remarks on Plato's *Cratylus*. *Logical Analysis and History of Philosophy: Epistemology*, **8** (2005): 58–67.
- Knowing facts and believing propositions: A solution to the Problem of Doxastic Shift. *Philosophical Studies*, **115** (2003): 81–97.
- A note on the relationship between Mates' Puzzle and Frege's Puzzle. *Journal of Semantics*, **19** (2002): 159–166.

Minor Publications

- Review: Norms and Necessity by Amie L. Thomasson (Oxford). *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2023)
- Addendum to Synonymity. In D. Borchert (Ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Supplement)*, 2nd edition. New York: Macmillan (2006).
- Generalized quantifiers and NP conjunction in intensional algebraic logic (Abstract). *Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, **10** (2003).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Manuscripts

- *That-Clauses*. Proposal under review. Cambridge Elements in Formal Semantics
- *From Action to Belief: The Epistemology of Doxastic Agency*. Proposal in progress

Papers (Under Review or Complete)

- | | |
|---|--|
| — A theory of intuitional error | [Under Review] |
| — Diachronic availability and generic knowledge | [Under Review] |
| — Traversing the uncanny valley:
Artificial wisdom & the limits of alignment | [Under Review] |
| — Act-conservatism | [Under Review] |
| — Objectual semantics for knowledge <i>wh</i> - (w/Bengson) | [Complete, revising] |
| — Taking aliens seriously: Alien minds and the scope of philosophy | [Complete, revising] |
| — An algebraic metaphysics for non-disjunctive direct realism | [Complete, revising] |
| — The constitution view: A Rylean theory of action | [Complete, revising] |
| — Value pluralism and the integration problem | [In progress] |
| — Agency, cluelessness, and altruistic preference | [working paper
Short list Cluelessness Contest] |

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY & MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Popular Essays

- The mundane matter of intuitions, *Aeon* (forthcoming)

Media Appearances

Interview on intuitions

- *Friction* (podcast), March 17th, 2026: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nyV0gOZl3LQ>

Interview: “The Philosophy of Big Game Hunting”

- *The Takeaway*, WYNC (public radio), August 2nd, 2015

“Did Walter Palmer give Cecil the lion a ‘fair chase’? We asked a hunter/philosopher”

- Interview by Peter Holley, *The Washington Post: Morning Mix*, July 31st, 2015.
 - Quoted in “I say ‘murdered’ because that was not hunting”, Mary Elizabeth Williams, *Salon*, August 5, 2015.

Public Lectures

“The dilemma of fair chase” — public lecture

- Boise State University, November 2013.

“Valuing the wasteland” — public lecture

- *Red Desert Symposium*, University of Wyoming, September 2007.
-

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Objectual semantics for knowledge *wh*-”

- 76th Annual New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society Conference, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, April 2026.

“Metaphysics for non-disjunctive direct realism”

- *Balkan Analytic Forum 3: Intentionality & Intentionality of Emotions*, University of Belgrade, Belgrade. Serbia + Online. October 2025.

“Purposive knowledge & the stability thesis”

- *Society for Exact Philosophy*, University of California, Davis, June 2025.

“Russellian presentationality”

- 74th Annual New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society Conference, University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley, April 2024. First place - Glenn Joy Award

“The motivational theory of inference”

- University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, March 2024.
- *Society for Exact Philosophy*, (poster presentation), University of Florida, Gainesville, November 2024.

“Action theory as epistemology”

- 76th Annual Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference, Online, February 2023.
- *Meeting of the North Carolina Philosophical Society*, Duke University, March 2023.
- 73rd Annual New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society Conference, UTEP. First Place - Glenn Joy Award, April 2023.

“A unified theory of basic evidence”

- New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, March 2019.

“The unity of understanding”

- New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, February 2015.

“Intentionality – Propositional and objectual”

- *Workshop on Propositions*, Texas Tech University, November 2014.

“Understanding, wisdom, & intellectual progress”

- *Bled Epistemology Conference*, Bled, Slovenia, June 2011.
- Boise State University, November 2013.
- *Southwest Epistemology Conference*, University of New Mexico, August 2014.

“Conceptions”

- *Society for Exact Philosophy*, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, May 2011.

“Intelligent action”

- New Mexico State University, April 2011.

“Radical intellectualism”

- University of Colorado, Boulder, March 2011.

Symposium presentation on epistemic conservatism and metaepistemology

- *UT Austin Methodology Workshop*, August 2008

“A paradox of ideal rational inquiry”

- *Episteme Conference 2007: Testimony*, Rutgers University, June 2007.

“Stability as an irreducible component of knowledge”

- *International Conference on Linguistics and Epistemology*, University of Aberdeen, May 2007.

“Conservatism, stability, and self-trust”

- *Rationality in Contemporary Epistemology*. Canadian Society for Epistemology, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, September 2006.
- *Society for Exact Philosophy: Time, Logic and Exact Philosophy*, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, May 2007.
- *Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference*, Western Washington University, July 2007.
- Colorado State University, September 2007

“Know-how and concept possession” (with John Bengson)

- *Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference*, Washburn University, September 2006
- *Symposium, Pacific Division APA, San Francisco, CA. April 2007*

“Outline of a nonDavidsonian semantics for events”

- *It’s About Time: Theoretical and Experimental Perspectives on Tense, Aspect, Modality and Events*, Michigan State University, July 2003.

“Knowledge attributions as generic sentences”

- *Third Barcelona Workshop on Issues in the Theory of Reference: General Terms*, June 2003.
- Colloquium, *Eastern Division APA*, Washington, D.C., December 2003.

“Knowing facts and believing propositions: A solution to the problem of doxastic shift”

- *The Creighton Club (New York Philosophical Association)*, Cornell University, October 2002. Graduate Student Presentation Award.
- *Illinois Philosophical Association*, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, November 2002.
- Colloquium, *Pacific Division APA*, San Francisco, CA, March 2003

“Are ‘that’-clauses really singular terms?”

- *Northwest Conference on Philosophy*, Washington State University, October 2001.
- Colloquium, *Eastern Division APA*, Philadelphia, December 2002.

GRANTS

External

- John Templeton Foundation (subaward), *The Unity of Practical and Theoretical Understanding*, (co-PI, with John Bengson), 2014, \$98,989.00.

Internal

- Basic Research Grant, University of Wyoming, College of Arts & Sciences, 2003, \$2,500.00.

AWARDS

- First Place, Glenn Joy Award. New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society. 2024

- First Place, Glenn Joy Award. New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society. 2023
- Extraordinary Merit in Research Award, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Wyoming, 2007
- Graduate Student Presentation Award, *The Creighton Club*, 2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE SEMINARS

Metaphysics

- Metaphysics: Time, Identity & Persistence

Epistemology

- Zombies, Consciousness, and Knowledge
- The Indispensability of Intuition
- Rationalism vs. Empiricism
- Basic Evidence
- Knowledge & Intelligent Action
- Transformative Experience
- Modal Epistemology
- Contextualism
- Knowledge How

Logic & Language

- Formal Semantics
- Problems of Intensionality
- Introduction to Mathematical Logic (through Incompleteness Theorem)

History

- The Philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein
- Plato's *Republic*
- Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*
- The Philosophy of W. V. O. Quine
- Foundations of Analytic Philosophy (Frege, Russell, Moore, Wittgenstein)

UPPER DIVISION

- Epistemology
- Metaphysics
- Philosophy of Language
- Philosophy of Mind
- Introduction to Metaphysics & Epistemology.
- 20th Century Philosophy
- Philosophy of Biology
- Environmental Ethics
- Political Philosophy
- Formal Syntax
- Philosophy of Hunting/Fishing [animal rights, environmental ethics and aesthetics]
- Native American Philosophy

LOWER DIVISION

- Introduction to Philosophy
- Introductory Logic (quantified logic w/identity)
- Introduction to Ethics
- Philosophy & Society
- Critical Thinking: Puzzles & Paradoxes

MASTER'S THESIS COMMITTEESChair

- 2014, *Moral Supervenience* (Co-Chair, Caroline Arruda)
- 2013, *Understanding Nature*
- 2012, *Arbitrary Things*
- 2012, *Truth and Abstracta*
- 2012, *A Defense of Ontological Deflationism*
- 2010, *Reference and Stuff*
- 2010, *Specificity and Know-how Attributions*
- 2008, *Disagreement in Context*

Reader

- 2022, *Traveling Epistemology*
- 2019, *The Latinx, Anti-Black Racism, and Forward-Looking Collective Moral Responsibility*
- 2014, *The Problem of Using Evil Against the Possible Existence of God*
- 2008, *Problems for Presentism*
- 2007, *Spinoza on the Relation between Substance and Attribute*
- 2007, *Groundwork for a Concept-based Theory of Confirmation*
- 2007, *Improving Improvability*
- 2005, *The Problem of Prior Probabilities in Bayesian Confirmation Theory*
- 2004, *From Inner Perception to Direct Attention*

SERVICE**DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**UTEP

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2025– | Chair and Primary Author, Department of Philosophy By-Laws <i>Ad Hoc</i> Committee |
| 2024 | Member, Post Tenure Review Committee (Best) |
| 2024 | Member, Philosophy of AI Search Committee |
| 2022–2023 | Ethics Search Committee |
| 2021 | Member, Philosophy Chair Search Committee |
| 2020 | Chair, Tenure and Promotion Committee (Dasgupta) |
| 2020 | Member, Graduate and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee |
| 2019–2020 | Faculty Senate |
| 2019 | Member, Philosophy Lecturer Search Committee |

2019	Member, Third Year Review Committee (Dasgupta)
2019	Member, Post Tenure Review Committee (Best)
2019–	Member, Professional Achievement Report (PAR) Committee
2016–2017	Liberal Arts Committee on the Transition to Graduate School
2016–2017	Liberal Arts Committee on Stackable Degrees
2014–2015	Liberal Arts Faculty Leave Committee
2015	Chair, Administrative Assistant Search Committee
2014–2015	Chair, Philosophy of Mind/Philosophy of Science Search Committee
2013–2015	Undergraduate Advisor, minor in Feminist Philosophy
2014	Reviewer, UTEP Arts & Humanities Career Enhancement Awards
2013–2014	Chair, Latin American Search Committee

Wyoming

2013	Graduate Program Assessment, Philosophy M.A.
2007–2013	Junior Faculty Mentoring Committee
2006–2007	Co-chair, Ancient Philosophy Search Committee
2005–2006	Ancient Philosophy Search Committee
2005–2013	Undergraduate Advisor
2004–2013	Graduate Program Assessment Committee, Philosophy M.A.
2003–2013	Philosophy Club Faculty Mentor
2003–2013	Director, Philosophy Colloquium Series
2003–2013	Graduate Admissions Committee

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

External Reviewer, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2025).

Local Organizer & Program Chair, 36th annual meeting of the *Society for Exact Philosophy*, Laramie, WY

Refereeing: *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Mind*, *Noûs*, *The Journal of Philosophy*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Analysis*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy Compass*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Ergo*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Synthèse*, *Erkenntnis*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophical Explorations*, *Dialogue*, *Topoi*, *Ratio*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, MIT Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge.

Vice-President: New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society, 2026-27

MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association, Society for Exact Philosophy, New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society