

Jonathan Livengood

Academic Appointments

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Associate Professor of Philosophy with tenure

2018 – present

Assistant Professor

2011 – 2018

London School of Economics

Visiting Fellow, CPNSS

2019

Education

Ph.D., History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2011

Dissertation: *On Causal Inferences in the Humanities and Social Sciences*

Committee: John Norton (co-director), Peter Spirtes (co-director), Robert Krafty, Edouard Machery, and Sandra Mitchell

M.A., History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2011

M.A., Statistics, University of Pittsburgh, 2011

M.A., Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh, 2008

B.S., Mathematics, Truman State University, *cum laude* with General Honors, 2004

B.A., Philosophy and Religion, Truman State University, *cum laude* with General Honors, 2004

Research Interests

My research is motivated by an interest in the logic of science. I have worked on a range of problems under the umbrella of causal reasoning, including work on the psychology and semantics of causal reasoning and work on normative questions about causal inference from data. Currently, I am working on the early stages of scientific inquiry and thinking about how we generate hypotheses.

AOS: Philosophy of Science; Metaphysics; Experimental Philosophy

AOC: Philosophy of Psychology and Cognitive Science; Philosophy of Language;

Logic (especially inductive logic); Philosophy of Statistics; Epistemology;

Biomedical Ethics; History of Analytic Philosophy; Pragmatism; Hume; Wittgenstein

Research Publications

h-index = 17

Papers (Refereed)

- [20] Ben Moshe, N., Levinstein, B., and Livengood, J. (2023). "Probability and Informed Consent," *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 44(6), 545-566.
- [19] Livengood, J. and Edwards, A. (2022). "Calibrating Chromatography: How Tswett Broke the Experimenters' Regress," *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 73(3), 685-710.
- [18] Sytsma, J. and Livengood, J. (2021). "Causal Attributions and the Trolley Problem," *Philosophical Psychology* 34(8), 1167-1191.
- [17] Livengood, J. and Korman, D. (2020). "Debunking Material Induction," *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Part A* 84, 20-27.
- [16] Livengood, J. and Sytsma, J. (2020). "Actual Causation and Compositionality," *Philosophy of Science* 87(1), 43-69.
- [15] Briley, D. A., Livengood, J., Derringer, J., Tucker-Drob, E., Fraley, R. C., & Roberts, B. (2019). "Interpreting Behavior Genetic Models: Seven Developmental Processes to Understand," *Behavior Genetics* 49(2), 196-210.
- [14] Sytsma, J. & Livengood, J. (2019). "On Experimental Philosophy and the History of Philosophy: A Reply to Sorell," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 27(3), 635-647.
- [13] Livengood, J. (2019). "Counting Experiments," *Philosophical Studies* 176(1), 175-195.
- [12] Briley, D. A., Livengood, J., & Derringer, J. (2018). Behaviour Genetic Frameworks of Causal Reasoning for Personality Psychology. *European Journal of Personality* 32(3), 202-220.
- [11] Livengood, J., Sytsma, J., & Rose, D. (2017). "Following the FAD: Folk Attributions and Theories of Actual Causation," *Review of Philosophy and Psychology* 8(2), 273-294.
- [10] Horne, Z. and Livengood, J. (2017). "Ordering Effects, Updating Effects, and the Specter of Global Skepticism," *Synthese* 194(4), 1189-1218.
- [9] Sytsma, J., Livengood, J., Sato, R., & Oguchi, M. (2015). "Reference in the Land of the Rising Sun: A Cross-cultural Study on the Reference of Proper Names," *Review of Philosophy and Psychology* 6(2), 213-230.
- [8] Murray, D., Sytsma, J., & Livengood, J. (2013). "God Knows (but Does God Believe?)" *Philosophical Studies* 166(1), 83-107.
- [7] Livengood, J. (2013). "Actual Causation and Simple Voting Scenarios," *Noûs* 47(2), 316-345.
- [6] Sytsma, J., Livengood, J., & Rose, D. (2012). "Two Types of Typicality: Rethinking the role of statistical typicality in ordinary causal attributions," *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 43(4), 814-820.

- [5] Rose, D., Livengood, J., Sytsma, J., & Machery, E. (2012). "Deep Trouble for the Deep Self," *Philosophical Psychology* 25(5), 629-646.
- [4] Sytsma, J. & Livengood, J. (2012). "Experimental Philosophy and Philosophical Disputes," *Essays in Philosophy* 13(1), 145-160.
- [3] Sytsma, J. & Livengood, J. (2011). "A New Perspective concerning Experiments on Semantic Intuitions," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 89(2), 315-332.
- [2] Livengood, J. et al. (2010). "Philosophical Temperament," *Philosophical Psychology* 23(3), 313-330.
- [1] Livengood, J. (2009). "Why Was M.S. Tswett's Chromatographic Adsorption Analysis Rejected?" *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 40, 57-69.

Papers (Non-Refereed)

- [1] Livengood, J., & Machery, E. (2007). "The Folk Probably Don't Think What You Think They Think: Experiments on Causation by Absence," *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 31, 107-127.

Books

- [1] Sytsma, J., & Livengood, J. (2015). *The Theory and Practice of Experimental Philosophy*. 354 pp. <http://www.broadviewpress.com/product.php?productid=2250>

Book Chapters

- [3] Livengood, J., & Sytsma, J. (forthcoming). "Empirical Investigations: Reflecting on Turing and Wittgenstein on Thinking Machines," in *Turing and Wittgenstein on Mind and Mathematics*, edited by Diane Proudfoot. Oxford University Press.
- [2] Livengood, J. & Zwier, K. (2019). "Temporalization in Causal Modeling," in *Time and Causality Across the Sciences*, edited by Samantha Kleinberg. Cambridge University Press.
- [1] Livengood, J., & Rose, D. (2016). "Experimental Philosophy and Causal Attribution," in *A Companion to Experimental Philosophy*, edited by Justin Sytsma and Wes Buckwalter. Wiley Blackwell. 16 pp.

Presentations

- [49] "Doctrinal Stagnation and the Humean Predicament" at the Illinois Philosophical Association, November 2023.
- [48] "What is Induction? And What is the Problem?" at the Illinois MBM Symposium, March 2023.

- [47] “What is Induction? And What is the Problem?” at Illinois Attention and Perception Brownbag, February 2023.
- [46] “Back to the Rubbish Bin” at SIUE, invited colloquium, October 2022.
- [45] “What is Induction? And What is the Problem?” at Insight Softmax Consulting’s All About Data Science, June 2022.
- [44] “How Good was the Bayesian Response to Hume?” at the Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization Online, June 2021.
- [43] “How Good was the Bayesian Response to Hume?” at the Midwest Junto for the History of Science Online, April 2021.
- [42] “A Whirlwind Introduction to Graphical Causal Modeling,” at the Center for Social and Behavioral Science Methods Workshop Online, May 2020.
- [41] “Actual Causation and Compositionality,” at the X-Phi Under Quarantine Workshop Online, April 2020.
- [40] “Debunking Predictive Inference,” at the Illinois Philosophical Association in Normal, IL, November 2019.
- [39] “Philosophy and Wonder,” Keynote at the Johns Hopkins Graduate Philosophy Conference, What is Philosophy? And other Topics in Metaphilosophy in Baltimore, MD, October 2019.
- [38] “Probability and Informed Consent,” at the Romanell Center for Clinical Ethics and the Philosophy of Medicine Workshop in Buffalo, NY, September 2019.
- [37] “Second Thoughts on Formal Methods in Philosophical Research,” at the Rethinking Formal Methods in Philosophy Conference in Minneapolis, MN, September 2019.
- [36] “Variable Choice,” at the Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Statistics in Blacksburg, VA, August 2019.
- [35] “Varieties of Causal Reasoning Problem,” at the Genetics and Human Agency Annual Meeting in Charlottesville, VA, May 2019.
- [34] “Back to the Rubbish Bin: Experimental Philosophy and the Metaphysics of Causation,” in the Conjectures and Refutations Seminar Series, March 2019.
- [33] “Actual Causation and Compositionality,” at the Causal Cognition Laboratory at University College London, March 2019.
- [32] “Debunking Induction,” at the Norton for Everyone Festschrift in Pittsburgh, PA, October 2018.
- [31] “Free Will and Determinism,” at the Behavior Genetics Association Meeting in Boston, MA, June 2018.
- [30] “Counting Experiments,” at the Society for Exact Philosophy Annual Meeting in Storrs, CT, May 2018.

- [29] “Utility of Causal Claims in Behavior Genetics Under Plausible Gene-Environment Interplay,” at the Genetics and Human Agency Annual Meeting in Charlottesville, VA, May 2018.
- [28] “Counting Experiments,” at the 2018 meeting of the Pacific American Philosophical Association in San Diego, CA, March 2018.
- [27] “Counting Experiments,” at the Minnesota Philosophical Society meeting in St. Cloud, MN, November 2017.
- [26] “Counting Experiments,” at the Illinois Philosophical Association meeting in DeKalb, IL, October 2017.
- [25] “Temporalization in Causal Modeling,” at the Time and Causality in the Sciences Conference in Hoboken, N.J., June 2017.
- [24] “Temporalization in Causal Modeling,” at the University of Western Australia, March 2017.
- [23] “Temporalization in Causal Modeling,” at the London School of Economics, February 2017.
- [22] “Counting Experiments,” given as a colloquium talk at the University of Illinois, November 2016.
- [21] “How Good Was Bayes’ Response to Hume?” at the Illinois Philosophical Association meeting in Peoria, IL, November 2016. Presented by Travis Tanner.
- [20] “On Goodness of Fit,” at the Philosophy of Science Association meeting in Atlanta, GA, November 2016.
- [19] “Philosophy and Wonder,” at the Midwest Experimental and Theoretical Association Conference: Beyond Intuitions in Urbana-Champaign, October 2016.
- [18] “Actual Causation and Compositionality,” at the Buffalo Experimental Philosophy Conference, September 2016.
- [17] “Modality for Moderate Empiricists: On Some Problems and Prospects for Structural Counterfactuals,” at the Illinois Philosophical Association meeting in Charleston, IL, November 2015.
- [16] “Ordering Effects, Evidence Effects, and the Specter of Global Skepticism,” at the Causal and Probabilistic Reasoning Conference in Munich, June 2015.
- [15] “Ordering Effects, Evidence Effects, and the Specter of Global Skepticism,” at the 2015 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- [14] “Modality for Moderate Empiricists: On Some Problems and Prospects for Structural Counterfactuals,” at the 23rd Annual Philosophical Collaborations Conference in Carbondale, IL, March 2015.
- [13] “Four Varieties of Causal Reasoning Problem,” at the Illinois Philosophical Association meeting in Bloomington, IL, November 2014.

- [12] “On Goodness of Fit,” at Inductive Logic and Confirmation in Science II in Salt Lake City, UT, October 2014.
- [11] “Questions on Actual Causation,” at a Roundtable Conference on Causal Overdetermination and the Law in Urbana-Champaign, November 2013.
- [10] “Ordering Effects, Evidence Effects, and the Specter of Global Skepticism,” at the Fourth UK Experimental Philosophy Workshop in Bristol, September 2013.
- [9] “Actual Causation: Problems and Prospects,” at the Midwest Experimental and Theoretical Association meeting in Urbana-Champaign, February 2012.
- [8] “Folk Intuitions and Theories of Actual Causation: A Hitch in Hitchcock’s Account,” at the Philosophy of Science Association meeting in Montreal, 2010.
- [7] “Two Types of Typicality: Rethinking the Role of Statistical Typicality in Ordinary Causal Attributions,” Poster Presentation at the 2010 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- [6] “Folk Intuitions and Theories of Actual Causation: A Hitch in Hitchcock’s Account,” Poster Presentation at the 2010 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- [5] “M.S. Tswett and the Experimenters’ Regress” at the 2009 meeting of the International Society for the Philosophy of Chemistry.
- [4] “A New Perspective Concerning Experiments on Semantic Intuitions” at the 2009 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology. William James Prize Winner.
Commentary by Ron Mallon.
- [3] “A New Perspective Concerning Experiments on Semantic Intuitions” at the 2009 meeting of the Pacific American Philosophical Association (under the title “The Case of the Divergent Descriptions”). Graduate Student Travel Prize Winner.
Commentary by Arthur Sullivan.
- [2] “A New Perspective Concerning Experiments on Semantic Intuitions” at the 2009 Princeton/Rutgers Graduate Student Philosophy Conference (under the title “The Case of the Divergent Descriptions”).
Commentary by Jennifer Nado.
- [1] “M.S. Tswett and the Experimenters’ Regress” at the 24th Regional Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science in Boulder, CO, 2008.

Commentaries

- [5] “Not Safe from Kidnappers,” a critical comment on *The Art of Abduction*, by Igor Douven at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in Chicago, IL, February 2022.
- [4] On “The Problem of Neurochemical Variability,” by Joseph Vukov at the Illinois Philosophical Association in Normal, IL, November 2019.

[3] On “Pragmatic Development and the False Belief Task,” by Evan Westra at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in Chicago, IL, March 2016.

[2] On “Where Parameters Come From,” by Naftali Weinberger at the Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in Philadelphia, PA, December 2014.

[1] On “A Refutation of Counterfactual Theories of Causation,” by Marcus Arvan at the Central States Philosophical Association meeting in Evanston, IL, October 2014.

Honors, Awards, and Grants

[9] Faculty Teaching Award, 2021-2022.

[8] *Quantitative Analysis of Moral Judgment and Decision Making* (2019-2020).
PI: Michel Regenwetter. University of Illinois Research Board Funding
Amount funded: \$30,000.

[7] Humanities Released Time Beckman Award, Fall 2018

[6] *Simulating Models of Development under Plausible Gene-Environment Interplay* (2016-2019).
PI: Daniel A. Briley. Grant from the Templeton Foundation
(subawardee of JTF Grant ID 58792).
Amount funded: \$359,573.

[5] Wengert Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2014-2015

[4] ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2010-2011
Awarded through a national competition across the humanities
<http://www.acls.org/grants/default.aspx?id=512>

[3] William James Prize for the best essay submitted by a graduate student to the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2009

[2] Arts and Sciences Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2008-2009, 2006-2007

[1] Mellon Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2004-2005

Courses and Independent Studies Taught

[63] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Epistemology, Summer 2024

[62] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Frog Epistemology, Spring 2024

[61] PHIL 513 Seminar on Normativity of Logic, Spring 2024

[60] PHIL 477 Philosophy of Psychology, Fall 2023

[59] PHIL 430 Theory of Knowledge, Fall 2023

- [58] CHP 395 Thinking and Reasoning, HONORS, Fall 2023
- [57] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Spring 2023
- [56] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on the Philosophy of Biology, Fall 2022
- [55] PHIL 477 Philosophy of Psychology, Fall 2022
- [54] PHIL 430 Theory of Knowledge, Fall 2022
- [53] PHIL 214 Biomedical Ethics, HONORS, Fall 2022
- [52] PHIL 513 Seminar on Induction, Spring 2022
- [51] PHIL 499 Capstone Seminar on Wicked Problems, Spring 2022
- [50] PHIL 430 Epistemology, Fall 2021
- [49] PHIL 214 Biomedical Ethics, HONORS, Fall 2021
- [48] PHIL 214 Biomedical Ethics, Fall 2021
- [47] PHIL 430 Epistemology, Spring 2021
- [46] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, HONORS, Spring 2021
- [45] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Spring 2021
- [44] PHIL 492 Undergraduate Thesis Research, Spring 2021
- [43] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Ramsey and the Nature of Logic, Spring 2021
- [42] PHIL 390 Individual Study on What Makes a Good Life, Fall 2020
- [41] PHIL 390 Individual Study on the Metaphysics of Time, Fall 2020
- [40] PHIL / PSYC 477 Philosophy of Psychology, Fall 2020
- [39] PHIL 214 Biomedical Ethics, Fall 2020
- [38] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, HONORS, Fall 2020
- [37] PHIL 521 Seminar on Induction, Spring 2020
- [36] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Spring 2020
- [35] PHIL / PSYC 477 Philosophy of Psychology, Fall 2019
- [34] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, HONORS, Fall 2019

- [33] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Fall 2019
- [32] Short Seminar on the Philosophy of C.S. Peirce, at LSE, Spring 2019
- [31] PHIL / PSYC 477 Philosophy of Psychology, Spring 2018
- [30] GCL 187 Morality, Methods, and Medicine, Spring 2018
- [29] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Fall 2017
- [28] PHIL 471 Contemporary Philosophy of Science, Spring 2017
- [27] GCL 187 Morality, Methods, and Medicine, Spring 2017
- [26] PHIL 517 Seminar on Experimental Philosophy, Fall 2016
- [25] PHIL 426 Metaphysics, Spring 2016
- [24] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Spring 2016
- [23] PHIL 471 Contemporary Philosophy of Science, Fall 2015
- [22] PHIL 530 Dissertation Seminar, Fall 2015
- [21] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Modal Logic and Modal Epistemology, Spring 2015
- [20] PHIL 471 Contemporary Philosophy of Science, Spring 2015
- [19] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Spring 2015
- [18] PHIL 517 Seminar in Philosophy of Science, Fall 2014
- [17] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Fall 2014
- [16] PHIL 380 Current Controversies: The Possibility of Time Travel, Summer 2014
- [15] PHIL / PSYC 351 Thinking and Reasoning, Spring 2014
- [14] PHIL 214 Biomedical Ethics, Spring 2014
- [13] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Maudlin's *The Metaphysics Within Physics*, Fall 2013
- [12] PHIL 426 Metaphysics, Fall 2013
- [11] PHIL 390 Individual Study on Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations*, Fall 2013
- [10] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Fall 2013
- [9] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Hume and Bayes on Induction, Spring 2013
- [8] PHIL 492 Undergraduate Thesis Supervision, Spring 2013

- [7] PHIL 471 Contemporary Philosophy of Science, Spring 2013
- [6] PHIL 214 Biomedical Ethics, Spring 2013
- [5] PHIL 517 Seminar in Philosophy of Science, Fall 2012
- [4] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Fall 2012
- [3] PHIL 583 Individual Topics on Moral Naturalism, Spring 2012
- [2] PHIL 471 Contemporary Philosophy of Science, Spring 2012
- [1] PHIL 103 Logic and Reasoning, Fall 2011

Professional Service

Director of the University of Illinois Creativity, Concepts, and Causal Cognition Laboratory

Director of Undergraduate Studies in Philosophy, Fall 2016-Spring 2018; Fall 2022-present.

Chair of the Undergraduate Program Committee in Philosophy, 2016-2018; 2022-present.

Chair of Philosophy Search Committee, 2017-2018; 2022-present.

Dissertation Director for Adam Edwards, Amber Polk*, and Dan Durso.

Dissertation Committee Member for David Carillo-Fuchs, Alexis Dyschkant, Rachel Heaton*, Ian Hegger*, Christopher Hendricksen*, Zachary Horne*, James Keller*, Seungil Lee*, Steven Lee*, and Joseph Spino*, where * indicates successful defense.

Member of the Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus, University of Illinois, 2017-2018.

Member of the Advisory Committee in Philosophy, 2016-2017.

Member of the TA Oversight Committee in Philosophy, 2011-2016, 2018, 2019-2020; Chair, 2013-2015.

Member of the Prizes and Scholarships Committee in Philosophy, 2011-2015; Chair, 2013-2015.

Member of the Executive Committee in Philosophy, 2012-2013, 2015-2016.

Member of the Graduate Program Committee in Philosophy, 2011-2013, 2019-2020.

Co-Organizer of a conference on Causation and Reduction: From Metaphysics to the Sciences with Chris Weaver, April 2020.

Organizer of a Roundtable Conference on Dynamic Causal Modeling, January 2019.

Organizer of the First Annual Midwest Experimental and Theoretical Association Conference “Beyond Intuitions,” October 2016.

Co-Organizer of a Roundtable Conference on Causal Overdetermination in the Law with Eric Johnson, November 2013.

Referee for:

Analysis (2019)

The Australasian Journal of Philosophy (2013, 2014, 2015)

The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science (2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2019)

Cognitive Science (2019)

Dialectica (2013)

Dialogue (2015)

Economics and Philosophy (2012)

Erkenntnis (2014)

Ergo (2015, 2016, 2019)

European Journal for Philosophy of Science (2020)

Inquiry (2017)

Journal of Experimental Psychology, General (2019)

Mind (2017, 2019)

The Monist (2011)

Philosophy of Science (2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2021)

Philosophical Studies (2014, 2019)

Review of Philosophy and Psychology (2014, 2015, 2016)

The Southern Journal of Philosophy (2013)

Synthese (2015, 2016, 2017, 2021)

Theoria (2012)