

Max Bialek

Curriculum Vitae

SAS - Philosophy
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Education

- 2017 **Ph.D.**, *University of Groningen*, Philosophy.
- 2017 **Ph.D.**, *University of Maryland, College Park*, Philosophy.
- 2008 **B.A.**, *Rutgers University – New Brunswick*, Philosophy (with Honors).

Dissertation

- title *Relative and Objective, On Balance: Detailing the Best Systems Analysis of Laws*
- supervisors Aidan Lyon, Jan-Willem Romeijn, Leah Henderson
- committees (Groningen) Mathias Frisch, Jeanne Peijnenburg, Markus Schrenk, Mauricio Suárez
(Maryland) Jeff Bub, Peter Carruthers, Barry Loewer, Aidan Lyon, Jan-Willem Romeijn

Appointments

- 2017–present **Rutgers University – New Brunswick**, *Part-Time Lecturer*, Department of Philosophy.
- Jun–Aug 2012 **Australian National University**, *Visiting Student*, School of Philosophy.
- 2008–2010 **Princeton University**, *Visiting Associate Researcher*, Department of Molecular Biology.
- 2008–2010 **Howard Hughes Medical Institute**, *Research Technician*, with Investigator Carlos Brody.

Areas of Specialization

- Formal Epistemology
- Philosophy of Probability
- Philosophy of Science

Areas of Competence

- Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art
- Cognitive Science and Philosophy of Mind
- Epistemology
- Logic
- Metaphysics

Publications

- 2017 **Interest relativism in the best system analysis of laws**, *Synthese*, Vol. 194 (pp. 4643–4655).
- 2011 **A cortical substrate for memory-guided orienting in the rat**, *Neuron*, Vol. 72 (pp. 330–343), with J.C. Erlich and C.D. Brody.

Presentations

- key *I* invited
- 2016 **X Inter-University Workshop on Mind, Art and Morality**, *Moderate Deflationism for Literary Cognitivism*, Valencia, Spain.
Society for the Metaphysics of Science, *Special Science Interests in the BSA*, Geneva, Switzerland.
Dutch Society for the Philosophy of Science, *Relativizing Laws to Kinds and Facts*, Kaap Doorn, The Netherlands.
- 2015 **European Philosophy of Science Association**, *Interest Relativity in the Best System Analysis of Laws*, Düsseldorf, Germany.

Munich-Sydney-Tilburg Conference in Philosophy of Science, *Interest Relativity in the Best System Analysis of Laws*, Tilburg, The Netherlands.

Philosophy of Probability Workshop^I, *Measuring (Meta-)Physical Limits to Induction*, College Park, Maryland.

2014 **American Society for Aesthetics**, *Moderate Deflationism for Literary Cognitivism*, San Antonio, Texas.

2013 **European Philosophy of Science Association**, *Chance in Information Theory*, Helsinki, Finland.

2012 **Society for Exact Philosophy**, *A Humean-Classical Account of Objective Chance*, Columbus, Ohio.

UMD Philosophy Department Colloquium^I, *Humean-Classical Chance*, College Park, Maryland.

British Society of Aesthetics, *Some Ontology of Jokes*, Oxford, UK.

Australasian Association of Philosophy, *Hoefler's Justification of the Principal Principle*, Wollongong, Australia.

2005 **1st Annual Aresty Undergraduate Research Symposium**, *Optimality in the Learning of Probability by Humans*, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Honors & Awards

2015 Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant

2014 Moreland Perkins Fellowship in Philosophy

2012 International Conference Student Support Award

2011 Australian Centre of Excellence for Risk Analysis Doctoral Fellowship

2007 Rutgers University President's Bridge Award

2005 Aresty Undergraduate Research Grant

Teaching

training ○ American Association of Philosophy Teachers Workshop on Teaching and Learning in Philosophy: Participant (Philadelphia, PA, 2017)

key ^Ainvolved as teaching assistant (primary instructor, otherwise); ^Gtaught at *University of Groningen*; ^Mtaught at *University of Maryland, College Park*; ^Rtaught at *Rutgers University – New Brunswick*.

Philosophy of Art Review of recent literature on aesthetics, the definition of “art”, and the interpretation and ontological status of artworks.
○ Spring 2017^G (12 students, M.A.-level).

Intro. to Formal Reasoning and Decision Making Introduction to the fundamentals of logical, probabilistic, and statistical thinking, as well as the basic principles of rational decision making.
○ Spring 2018^R (40 students).

Introduction to Philosophy Introduction to a selection of major questions from epistemology, metaphysics, and the philosophies of language, mind, and religion.
○ Fall 2017^{AR} (40 students); Fall 2010^{AM} (65 students).

Introduction to Logic Introduction to Propositional and First Order Predicate logics, and natural deductions within those logics.
○ Spring 2015^M (208 students); Summer 2014^M (21 students); Spring 2013^{AM} (46 students); Fall 2012^{AM} (69 students).

Symbolic Logic Introduction to set theory and mathematical induction, and work-through of soundness and completeness proofs for Propositional and Modal or First Order Predicate logics.
○ Fall 2014^M (26 students); Fall 2013^M (22 students).

Service

referee for *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*; *Journal of Philosophical Logic*; *Synthese*

outreach ○ Open Philosophy Initiative: Founding Director (2017–present); see theopi.org for details.

- Kenmoor Middle School (Landover, MD) Philosophy Club (2011–2013): Conducted discussions over lunch with 15–25 students (ages 11–14) on a variety of philosophical topics.
- conference organization ○ North American Summer School for Logic, Language, and Information: Student Session Program Committee Member (2014)
- At University of Groningen ○ PCCP Secretary (2016–2017)
- At University of Maryland, College Park
 - Graduate Student Representative to the Philosophy Faculty (2014–2015)
 - Philosophy Graduate Student Association:
 - President (2013–2014)
 - Chair of the Professional Development Committee (2012–2013)
- At Rutgers University – New Brunswick
 - Special Interest Housing: Philosophy Section Leader (2007–2008)
 - Rutgers Undergraduate Philosophy Journal: Founding Vice President (2007–2008)
 - Transformation of Undergraduate Education Information Development Subcommittee: Member (2006–2007)

Graduate Courses

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for credit ○ <i>Aesthetic Theory</i>, Jerrold Levinson ○ <i>Biological Mechanisms: Discovery and Explanation</i>, Lindley Darden ○ <i>Chance</i>, Aidan Lyon ○ <i>Concepts</i>, Georges Rey ○ <i>Defaults, Defeasibility, and Argumentation</i>, John Horty ○ <i>From Social Choice to Theory Choice</i>, Michael Morreau ○ <i>Maimonides</i>, Charles Manekin ○ <i>Metaphysics, Mind, and Language</i>, Erin Eaker ○ <i>Modal Logic</i>, Eric Pacuit ○ <i>Performance</i>, Jerrold Levinson ○ <i>Philosophically Useful Logic</i>, Ted Sider ○ <i>Representing Numbers</i>, Paul Pietroski ○ <i>Value Theory</i>, Patricia Greenspan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> audited ○ <i>Beauty, Aesthetic Experience, and the Aesthetics of the Ordinary</i>, Jerrold Levinson ○ <i>Epistemic Game Theory</i>, Eric Pacuit ○ <i>Gödel</i>, Eric Pacuit ○ <i>History and Philosophy of Probability</i>, Barry Loewer and Glenn Shafer ○ <i>Legal Reasoning</i>, John Horty ○ <i>Models, Confirmation, and Decision-Making Under Uncertainty</i>, Mathias Frisch ○ <i>Probability in Philosophy</i>, Barry Loewer ○ <i>Spinoza</i>, Charles Manekin |
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