

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Axel Mueller

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Northwestern University
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Education and Academic Certification

- 1992 B.A. *Excellent* (highest possible), in both, Linguistics/English Literature, and Theatre/Film/Drama Studies.
- 1992 M.A. *With distinction* (highest possible), Philosophy, University of Frankfurt (Germany).
- 1992 M.A. Thesis: *Referring and Realism* Grade: *Excellent* (highest possible). Advisor: Prof. Jürgen Habermas.
- 1999 Ph.D. *summa cum laude* (highest possible), Philosophy, University of Frankfurt (Germany).

Academic Positions

- 2006- *Senior Lecturer*, Northwestern University
- 2001-2006 *Assistant Professor*, Northwestern University
- 1999-2001 *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Northwestern University
- 2000, Summer *Visiting Professor*, Universidad Carlos III, Madrid (Spain)
- 1996-99 *Adjunct Lecturer*, Northwestern University
- 1994, Fall *Visiting Professor*, University of Mexico (UAM)

Grants, Fellowships

- 2005 *Fellowship at the Alice Berline Kaplan Center for the Humanities*, Northwestern University.
- 2004 *Fellowship at the National Humanities Center* (NHC), Chapel Hill, North Carolina, declined.
- 2001 *Publication Grant* by the National German Society of Scientific Investigations ("Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft", DFG).
- 1993-95 *Graduate Scholarship* by the German National Merit Foundation ("Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes").
- 1992-93 *Graduate Scholarship* granted by the Hessen State Endowment Graduate Scholarship ("Graduiertenförderung des Landes Hessen").

Publications

Books:

Referenz und Fallibilismus, De Gruyter: Berlin/New York, 2001.

Articles:

"Does Kantian mental content externalism help metaphysical realists?", *Synthese* (forthcoming 2011); DOI: 10.1007/s11229-010-9753-z

"On Defending Revisability and Rejecting Analyticity", in Baghramian, Maria (ed.), *Reading Hilary Putnam*, "Reading Contemporary Philosophers"-Series, (with replies of the author; other contributors include Kripke, Devitt, Boyd et al.), Oxford: Routledge, (~50pp.), forthcoming end of 2011.

"How to Continue Kant's *Perpetual Peace* with Addams' *New Ideals*", in *Enrahonar* 46 (Barcelona, 2011), 93-122.

"Realism, Beyond Miracles", co-authored with Arthur Fine, in Ben-Menahim, Y. (ed.): *Contemporary Philosophy in Focus: Hilary Putnam*, Cambridge MA: Cambridge University Press 2005, 83-124.

"Some remarks on Semantic Externalism and Conceptual Pluralism ", *Teorema* XXII/3 (2003), 59-83.

"Putnam's pragmatischer Kognitivismus", in Willaschek, M./Rater, M.L. (eds.) *Hilary Putnam und die Tradition des Pragmatismus*, Frankfurt: Suhrkamp, 2001, 64-89.

"Pragmatismo y Naturalismo: dos programas filosóficos, un presente en duda", in Galán, F./Xolocotzi, A./De la Garza, M.T. (eds.), *El Futuro de la Filosofía*, Mexico City: Universidad Iberoamericana 2005, 81-96.

"Natural Kinds and Projectible Predicates", *Sorites* 1 (1995), 1-36.

"Self-Critical Theory. On the development of theory in Siegfried Kracauer's work", *Teoría/Crítica* 4 (1998), 281-314.

Encyclopedia Entries

"Goodman, Nelson" (2,500 words), in Koertge, N. (ed.), *Complete Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, 2008, Vol. 21. Detroit: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2008, p148-152.

Work in Progress:

"What is Really New in Addams's *New Ideals of Peace*", article on the role of pragmatist transformations of the cognitive role of sentiments, theories of justification, and theories of value for the development and compellingness of Jane Addams' arguments against the sufficiency of traditional views of the normative entailments of the political obligation to seek peace and an international order to make it permanent. To be submitted to *The Transactions of the Charles Sanders Peirce Society*. (~30pp.)

"Is Mental Content Externalism by itself Anti-Skepticism?", article on the relation between semantic externalism and the resolution of external-world skepticism, portraying Kant's externalist semantics as less a foundation for a refutation than the center of an alternative standpoint to traditional external-world skepticism that allows deflating the question as dependent on a (traditional, mentalist) theory of representation. To be submitted to *Kant-Studien*. (To be extracted from existing longer Ms. at my website; ~35pp.)

"Kant's Externalist Semantics", article length study of the semantic views underlying Kant's theory of experience, defending his direct-referentialist and use-theoretic commitments and explaining their place in his theory of content for conceptual thought. To be submitted to *Erkenntnis*. (To be extracted from existing longer Ms. at my website, ~40pp.)

Understanding Pragmatism, a survey book on central topics raised in pragmatist thought since Peirce, project initially under contract at Acumen Press.

Realism and Pragmatism, long term plan for a book on semantic, methodological and pragmatic aspects of scientific objectivity, based on results of my German book on Putnam and subsequent research, aimed at developing the requirements and consequences of 'pragmatic realism' in the philosophy of language, epistemology, and the philosophy of science.

Conference papers, Invited lectures

"Kant and Addams on the Political Idea and Obligation for Peace", invited talk at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona (Spain), 03-18-2010.

"Does Mental Content Externalism Require Mind Independent Particulars?", Symposium paper at the Eastern Division of the APA, 12-27-2009 (Commentator: Quassim Cassam).

"What's New About Addams' *Newer Ideals of Peace*?", Colloquium paper at the SAAP national meeting, Texas A&M University, College Station (TX), 03-09-2009.

"Revisability and Analyticity", invited talk at Grinnell College (Grinnell, IA), 04-03-2007.

"Putnam vs. Quine on Revisability and the Analytic-Synthetic Distinction", paper at the conference *Putnam at 80*, UCD School of Philosophy, Dublin (Ireland), 03-13-2007.

"Putnam and Quine on Revisability and Rejecting the Analytic-Synthetic Distinction", invited colloquium talk at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 09-08-2006

"Kant's Mental Content Externalism", comments on a paper by Kenneth Westphal, APA Central Meeting, Chicago 04-29-2006.

"Towards Another Pragmatic Conception of the A Priori", Workshop discussion of a paper by me at the Alice Berline Kaplan Center for the Humanities, 04-11-2005.

"Revisability, Recalcitrance, and the Use of a Contextual A priori-A posteriori Distinction", colloquium talk at the Meeting of the APA Central Division on 04-23-2004.

"Pragmatismo y Naturalismo: dos programas filosóficos, un presente en duda", invited talk at the Conference *El futuro de la filosofía*, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico DF, September 2003.

"Quine and Putnam on Revisability", invited talk at the Institute of Philosophical Investigations of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (IIFS-UNAM), Mexico DF, September 2003.

"Generality, Nonsense, and Contextual Constraints", comments on a paper by Elisabeth Camp, APA Pacific Division Meeting, Seattle, March 2002.

"Commonsense Realism", invited talk at the conference *Realismo* at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), November 2001.

"Contextual Elements in Empirical Concepts", invited talk at the Cognitive Science Area Colloquia Series, Northwestern University, Spring 2001.

"Conceptual Pluralism and Semantic Externalism in Hilary Putnam's Philosophy", Northwestern University, 2000.

"Putnam's Pragmatic Cognitivism", invited talk at the international conference *Putnam and the Pragmatist Tradition*, University of Muenster, Germany, July 2000.

"Semantic Externalism and Conceptual Relativity", invited talk at the Universidad Carlos III Madrid, Spain, July 2000.

"Conceptual Relativity, Continuity of Reference, and Learning from experience", Grinnell College, Grinnell (IA), January 2000.

"Referenz und Fallibilismus", J.-W.Goethe Universität, Frankfurt, Germany, 1999.

"Referencia y Proyectabilidad" invited talk at the Congress "Problems of Reference and Truth" at the Institute of Philosophy of the National University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico, 1994.

"Projizierbarkeit und Artbegriffe" invited talk at the Colloquium "Investigations on Problems in

the Philosophy of Language", J.-W. Goethe Universität, Frankfurt, Germany, June 1994.

Editorial and other Professional Service:

Book-Reviewer for *Harvard University Press*, *Acumen Press*.

Referee for *Crítica* (México), *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*, *Synthese*, *Review of Metaphysics*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*

Professional Organizations:

American Philosophical Association

Philosophy of Science Association

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP)

Gesellschaft für Analytische Philosophie

German National Merit Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)

Teaching experience

Graduate seminars:

"Meaning and Context"

at *Northwestern University*

"Pragmatism and Neopragmatism"

at *Northwestern University*

"Context and Content"

at *Northwestern University*

"Realism"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Relativism and Alternatives in the Philosophy of Science"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Theories of Reference"

at *Universidad Autonoma de Mexico Iztapalapa*.

Upperlevel lecture courses:

"Reference"

at *Northwestern University* (new course, co-taught w/. Prof. Ward, NU Linguistics)

"Meaning and Context"

at Alice Berlin Kaplan Center for the Humanities, *Northwestern University*

"Realism and Anti-Realism in Putnam"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Hilary Putnam's Philosophy of Language"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Classics of Analytic Philosophy"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Theories of Reference"

at *Northwestern University*.

"The Philosophy of Hilary Putnam"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Basic Concepts of Democracy"

at *Universidad Carlos III Madrid (Spain)*

Lowerlevel lecture courses:

"Introduction to the Philosophy of Science"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Pragmatism from Peirce to Rorty "

at *Northwestern University*.

"Introduction to Philosophy"

at *Northwestern University*.

"Introduction to Philosophy:
The Idea of empirical science"

at *Universidad Carlos III Madrid (Spain)*.

Freshman seminar:

"What is Democracy?"

at *Northwestern University*.

Advising Experience:

Individual Research Advising:

- Fall 2001, Independent Study (PHIL 399) for Marc Solomon, Victoria Thompson (undergraduates)
- Fall 2001, Independent Study (PHIL 499) for Benjamin Rutter (graduate)
- Fall 2002-3, Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-1) for Katherine L. Moore (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Winter 2002-3 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-2) for Katherine L. Moore (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Spring 2002-3 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-3) for Katherine L. Moore (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Spring 2002-3 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-1) for Bart Chwalisz (undergraduate, honors thesis)
- Fall 2003-4 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-2) for Bart Chwalisz (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Winter 2003-4 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-3) for Bart Chwalisz (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Spring 2006 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-1) for Irina Livshitz (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Fall 2006-7 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-2) for Irina Livshitz (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Winter 2007 Senior Tutorial (PHIL 398-3) for Irina Livshitz (undergraduate, towards honors thesis)
- Spring 2007 PHIL 398 Senior Tutorial towards Honors for Amber North on The Background Ontological Attitude (on quantum mechanics and ontology)
- Summer 2007 Summer Research Project funded by a Weinberg Summer Fellowship for Jennifer Jhun at Oxford (UK) on Perception and its Lack of Content
- Fall 2007 PHIL 398 Senior Tutorial towards Honors for Amber North on The Background Ontological Attitude (on quantum mechanics and ontology)
- Fall 2007 PHIL 398 Senior Tutorial towards Honors for Jennifer Jhun on Interactive Epistemology: Belief and Belief-Change in Game Theory
- Fall 2007 PHIL 399 Independent Study for Amber North on John McDowell's Givenness Anxieties
- Winter 2008 PHIL 398 Senior Tutorial towards Honors for Jennifer Jhun on Interactive Epistemology: Belief and Belief-Change in Game Theory
- Spring 2008 PHIL 399 Independent Study for Gabriel Brunswick on Conceptual Change and Philosophy of Science
- Spring 2009: Advising and comparative study of some results in early 20th cy. philosophy of Science (Poincaré, Duhem, Mach, Ostwald, Vaihinger) and early 20th century phenomenology (Bergson, Husserl).
- Summer 2010: Summer Research Project funded by a Undergraduate Research Grant by Aaron Kahn on The Role of Contemporary Logic and Metalogic in Interpreting the Upshot and Coherence of Kant's Metaphysical Deduction;
- Spring 2009-Fall 2010 PHIL 398 Senior Tutorial towards Honors for Natalie Friend on The Meaning of Natural Kind Terms.

Dissertation Committees:

Ryan Doran (Advisor)
B Scot Rouse
Adam Rink
Ivan Ivanov

Freshman Advising:

Fall 2000 (15 Students), Fall 2001 (15 Students), Fall 2002 (15 Students), Fall 2003 (15 Students), Fall 2006 (16 Students), Fall 2007 (16 students), Fall 2008 (16 students), Fall 2009 (17 students)

Undergraduate Advisory Committee: 2007- (yearly ~20 advisees)

Service:

Department:

Library Liaison	2010-
Member of the Departmental Web-Committee	2009-
Fellowship Coordinator	2009-
Honors Convenor	2009-
Webmaster of the departmental website	2001-2009.
Chair of admissions	2006- 2008.
Member of the admissions-committee	2001-2, 2005.
Member of the Analytic Search committee	2005.
Graduate Faculty Advisor for two 1 st year students	2005-2009.
Undergraduate Advisory committee	2002-3, 2003-4, 2007-.
Speakers committee	2002-3.

University Service:

University Fulbright Fellowship Advisor	2010-present.
Participant in Office of Fellowships Selection Tasks relating to British Fellowships	2008-present
Member of the Committee on Graduate Diversity, The Graduate School	Winter 2006-2009.
Member of the College <i>ad hoc</i> committee for the Promotion of lecturer-faculty	Spring 2004.
Advisor in the Freshman Advising Program	Fall 2000-2009.
Instructor at the Humanities Computing Training Day	Fall 2003.
Associate Faculty of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Theatre and Drama	Fall 2003-present.

Member of the Classical Traditions Initiative
Member of the Faculty of the Graduate School
Member of the Philosophy of Language and
Linguistics Workgroup "PhLing"

Fall 2001-present
Fall 2001-present
Fall 2007-.

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Language
Philosophy of Science

Areas of Competence

American pragmatism
Kant, German philosophy since Kant
Philosophy of Mind
Epistemology

Languages:

German
English, Spanish
Italian
French, Catalan, Latin, Ancient Greek

Native speaker.
Fluent.
Speaking and reading.
Reading, French add'ly: basic speaking.