
Richard Hanley

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Education

BA (Honors First Class), Philosophy, University of Sydney, 1988
PhD, Philosophy, University of Maryland, College Park, 1995

Areas of specialization

Metaphysics
Philosophy of language
Philosophy of law
Philosophy of fiction
Philosophy and popular culture

Current interests and research statement

- * Interpretation of prescriptive language, especially fiction and law.
 - * Metaphysics of spacetime and time travel.
 - * Ontology of material objects.
 - * Epistemology of Sexual Assault allegations.
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Publications: books

South Park and Philosophy: Bigger, Longer, and more Penetrating, Chicago: Open Court, 2007.

The Blackwell Guide to the Philosophy of Language. Oxford: Blackwell, 2006. (Co-edited with Michael Devitt, CUNY Graduate School)

The Metaphysics of Star Trek, New York: Basic Books, 1997. Reprinted 1998 in paperback, as *Is Data Human?*

Book in preparation

In Nino's Shadow: Positivist Originalism and the Republican Scalia Judge Project. Monograph.

Articles forthcoming

1. "What You *Must* Do For Your Country: Compulsory National Service as Human Infrastructure." Bob Fischer, ed., *College Ethics*, Third Edition. Oxford University Press.
 2. "Defense Against The Dark Arts: Academic Freedom meets the Anti-Woke Crusade," *AAUP Journal of Academic Freedom*, Volume 13, 2023.
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Article submitted

“Cannibalizing Decedent Organs: The Case for Harvesting Without Consent,” to *The American Journal of Bioethics*

Published peer-reviewed articles

“Autoinfanticide is No Biggie: The Reinstatement Reply to Vihvelin.” *Philosophies* special issue on time travel, edited by Alisdair Richmond, October 2021, *Philosophies* 6, no. 4: 87. <https://doi.org/10.3390/philosophies6040087>

“Skepticism revisited: Chalmers on The Matrix and brains-in-vats,” *Cognitive Systems Research* **41**, 93-98, 2017.

“Title IX, Sexual Harassment, and Academic Freedom: What No One Seems to Understand,” *Journal of Academic Freedom* **6**: 1-7, 2015.

“No end in sight: causal loops in philosophy, physics and fiction,” *Synthese* **141**: 123-152, 2004.

- Reprinted in *Arguing About Metaphysics*, edited by Michael Rea, Routledge, 2009.

“As Good as it Gets: Lewis on truth in fiction,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* **82**: 112-128, 2004.

- Reprinted in *Lewisian Themes*, edited by Frank Jackson and Graham Priest, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2004, 113-129.

“A Modest Proposal,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* **18**: 1-12, 2004.

“Much Ado About Nothing: critical realism examined,” *Philosophical Studies* **115**: 123-147, 2003.

“A Wolf in Sheep’s Cloning?” *Monash Bioethics Review* **18**: 59-62, 1999.

- Reprinted in *Journey Into Philosophy*, edited by Stan Baronett. New York: Routledge, 2017, 523-526.

“On Valuing Radical Transformation,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, **74**: 209-220, 1993.

Published: commissioned articles

“Miracles and Wonders: Science Fiction as Epistemology,” in *Science Fiction and Philosophy*, edited by Susan Schneider. Blackwell, 2008, 335-342. Reprinted in Second Edition, 2016, 384-392.

“Who’s Who on Gallifrey,” in *Dr Who and Philosophy*, edited by Paula Smithka, Open Court, 2010, 27-39.

- “Fictional Objects,” in the *Routledge Companion to Metaphysics*, edited by Robin Le Poidevin. Routledge, 2008, 357-369.
- “Where is the Twilight Zone?” in *The Twilight Zone and Philosophy*, edited by Noël Carroll and Lester Hunt, Blackwell, 2009, 77-92.
- “*Memento* and Personal Identity: Can You Have it Backwards?” in *Memento and Philosophy*, edited by Andrew Kania, Routledge, 2009, 107-126.
- “Homo Sapiens, Robots, and Persons in *I, Robot* and Bicentennial Man” (with Stephen Coleman), in *Bioethics at the Movies*, edited by Sandy Shapshay. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009, 44-55.
- “I am a Cylon,” in *Battlestar Galactica and Philosophy*, edited by Josef Steiff and Tristan Tamplin. Chicago: Open Court, 2008, 103-113.
- “The Perfectibility of Spider-Man,” in *Webslinger: Unauthorized Essays on Your Friendly Neighborhood Spider-Man*, edited by Gerry Conway et. al., BenBella Books, 2007; 55-72.
- “Identity Crisis: time travel and metaphysics in the DC multiverse,” in *Superheroes and Philosophy*, edited by Tom Morris and Matt Morris, Chicago: Open Court, 2005, 237-249.
- “Send in the Clones,” in *Star Wars and Philosophy*, edited by Jason Eberl and Kevin Decker, Chicago: Open Court, 2005, 93-103.
- “Simulacra and Simulation: Baudrillard and *The Matrix*,” in the Philosophy section on the official Warner Brothers website, edited by Christopher Grau, December 2003: http://whatisthematrix.warnerbros.com/rl_cmp/new_phil_fr_hanley2.html.
- “Never the Twain shall meet: reflections on the First Matrix,” in the Philosophy section on the official Warner Brothers website, edited by Christopher Grau, November 2002: http://whatisthematrix.warnerbros.com/rl_cmp/new_phil_hanley.html.
- Reprinted with revisions in Christopher Grau, editor, *Philosophers explore The Matrix: Philosophy and The Matrix*, Oxford University Press, 2005.

Book review

Robert Yanal, *Paradoxes of Emotion and Fiction*, in *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* **61**: 406-408, 2003.

Professional presentations

University of Delaware Center for Global and Area Studies Series, "Global Viruses/ Global Virality," April 2022

- “The Garden of Your Mind: How Memes Destroy the *Marketplace of Ideas*”

University of Delaware Philosophy Colloquium, May 2019

- “Cannibalizing organs: the case for harvesting without consent”

David Lewis Society Group Meeting, Pacific APA, April 2019

- Commentary on Anthony Fisher, “David Lewis and Serious Ontology”

Casts and Casting: Perspectives from Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art, University of Hertfordshire Workshop, November 2018

- “Casting, Make-Believe, and Fictional Truth”

AAUP Annual Conference on The State Of Higher Education, Washington D.C., June 2017

- “Student Freedom of Expression at the University of Delaware in 2016: Legal Issues”

The International Association for the Philosophy of Time, Winston-Salem, June 2016

- “Puzzles of Material Constitution and Persistence: A Coincidence Solution”

Mazzei Week Conference, University of Pisa, March 2016

- “Two Italian-Americans, 200 years apart: Filippo Mazzei and Antonin Scalia”

APA Pacific Division meeting, Vancouver, April 2015

- David Lewis Society: “What Would David Lewis Have Said? Counterfactuals and the Similarity Metric”
- Philosophy of Time Society, “A Forking Miracle”

Humanities Education and Research (HERA) conference, San Francisco, April 2015

- “Blurred Lines: Fox News/Faux News, Fiction/Nonfiction, and Poe's Law”
- “Vagueness in the Law and Affirmative Consent”

CLE (Continuing Legal Education) Seminar, Philadelphia, April 30, 2015

- “Sexual Assault on College Campuses: untangling the empirical issues”

Australasian Association for Philosophy Annual Meeting, Special session on the philosophy of Frank Jackson and Michael Devitt, Canberra, July 2014

- “Devitt on Empty Names”

Gargnano International Philosophy of Time Conference, May 2014

- “How to Beam and Keep Your Body”

APA Central Division Meeting, February 2014

- Philosophy of Time Group Meeting, “Affecting the Past: a problem for presentist time travel”

NEH Institute on Experimental Philosophy, University of Arizona, July 2012

- “Rethinking Gettier Experiments”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, April 2012, Special Session on Philosophy and Science Fiction

- “The Paradoxes of Time Travel Fiction”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, April 2011

- Commentator, Philosophy of Art Colloquium: “The Peculiar Photographic Character of Documentaries”

Time Travel Conference, North Carolina State University, April 2011:

- “Truth in Time Travel Fiction”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, April 2010

- David Kellogg Lewis Society Group Meeting, “Counterfactuals, Backtracking, and Time Travel”

UD Faculty Seminar, December 2009

- “Time Travel and Sidetracking Counterfactuals.”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, March 2009

- Philosophy of Time Group Meeting, “All Present and Accounted For”

Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth, 2008

- Invited member, High School Philosophy Curriculum Development Committee

Pacific APA, 2008

- Speaker, “Teaching time travel”

Cal State Fullerton Symposium, 2008

- Speaker, “Time travel and personal identity”

Robert A. Heinlein Centennial Academic Conference, Kansas City, July 2007

- Speaker, “By His Bootstraps: Heinlein and time travel”

Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, Kansas City, July 2007

- Speaker, “The legacy of H.G. Wells’ *The Time Machine*”

Australasian Association of Philosophy, New Zealand, Annual Meeting, December 2006

- Speaker, “Logical Parts as Abstract Individuals”

Davidson College, March 2005

- Speaker, Philosophy Department Colloquium: “How not to defend abortion.”
- Speaker, public lecture “Philosophy and *The Matrix*.”
- Guest lecturer, Senior Seminar on time travel.
- Guest lecturer, Freshman Seminar on time travel.

University of Richmond Philosophy Colloquium, February 2005

- “Hyper-dimensionality and changing the past.”

Claremont-McKenna College/ Claremont Consortium, January 2005

- Speaker, Claremont-McKenna Philosophy Department Colloquium: “Why you can’t change the past.”
- Speaker, Consortium Atheneum Lecture, “No need for miracles: simulation and the supernatural.”
- Guest lecturer, Claremont-McKenna, Seminar on philosophy and science fiction.

University of Delaware Philosophy Colloquium

- “Abstract individuals as logical parts,” September 2005
- “Why you can’t change the past,” September 2004
- “Marquis, abortion, and burdens of proof,” April 2002
- “A new evidential argument from evil,” April 1999
- “A functionalist schema for compatibilism,” October 1997

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, April 2004

- Commentary on Mark McCullagh, “Mixed quotation: *de re* attitude ascription’s evil twin.”

Third Colloquium on Language, Mind and World, Buenos Aires, May 2003

- Speaker, “Referential/Attributive: Arguments from Misdescription,” with commentary by Maia Ezcurdia

APA Pacific Division Meeting

- Symposium speaker, “How to Russell the Incompleteness Argument,” with commentary by Kent Bach, March 2003
- Symposium speaker, “A counterexample to Lewis,” with commentary by Michael Gettings, March 1999

University of Maryland, College Park, Philosophy Colloquium

- “Zombies? Inconceivable!” April 1999
- “A functionalist schema for compatibilism,” October 1997

University of Queensland Cognitive Science Association, Annual Meeting, 1998

- Keynote address: “Minds, Brains, and Pogroms”

University of Melbourne

- “Truth in Fiction: A counterexample to Lewis,” November 1998

Monash University Philosophy Colloquium

- “Free will and compatibilism,” 1997
- “Fact, fiction and pornography,” 1997
- “Fiction and fictional characters” 1996

University of Colorado, Boulder, Philosophy Colloquium, 1997

- “A functionalist schema for compatibilism.”

Australian National University

- “Fact, fiction and pornography,” 1997

Australasian Association of Philosophy, Annual Meeting

- “How to appreciate fiction,” 1996
- “Imperfect reference and definite descriptions,” 1989

Outreach presentations, events and excursions since 2012

- Opinion piece, *Delaware State News*, “The Death Penalty as Retribution?” Feb 13, 2018.
- Honors trip to Supreme Court oral argument, Nov 2018
- “Is Abortion Wrong?” debate with Professor Katherin Rogers, UD, May 2019
- World Philosophy Day Nov 16, 2017: “Drug Treatment in *South Park*.”
- Presenter: Munson Fellows Study Break (Honors), Fall 2017 “Teleportation”
- Honors trip to Supreme Court oral arguments, Nov 2016
- Organizer and Panelist, UD Department of Philosophy International Blasphemy Day, “Blasphemy and Hate Speech,” Fall 2015
- MC, Norton Lecture, Fall 2015
- Philosophy of Law trip to Supreme Court oral argument on gay marriage, Oct 2015
- Organizer and Panelist, UD Department of Philosophy forum on Death with Dignity, Spring 2015
- MC, Norton Lecture, Spring 2015
- Guest Presenter on “Campus Sexual Assault,” Continuing Legal Education session, Doubletree Hotel, Philadelphia, April 30, 2015.
- Co-organizer, Spring 2015 events on campus sexual assault, including *The Hunting Ground*
- Moderated panel discussion on Campus Sexual Assault, Spring 2015
- Speaker, “Darwin’s Delay,” Delaware Darwin Day, February 2015
- Honors trip to Supreme Court oral argument, Nov 2014
- MC, Norton Lecture, Fall 2014
- Debate with Katherin Rogers on abortion, Spring 2014
- Organizer and panelist, UD Department of Philosophy forum on Death with Dignity, Spring 2014
- Speaker, Honors Program Faculty Outreach, “Sexes and Sexisms,” Fall 2013

- Guest lecturer, POSC 390-080 Honors Colloquium: Social/Science/Fiction, Fall 2013
- Guest speaker, Newark High School Metaphysics Club: “Death and Meaning,” Spring 2013
- Took students to David Lewis Memorial Lecture, Princeton University, May 2013
- Took Honors class to Laurence Tribe lecture at Penn Law School, Nov 2013
- Participant, Salzburg Global Seminar, Salzburg, Austria, Fall 2012
- Speaker, UD Socratic Club, “*Star Trek* and Philosophy,” Spring 2012
- Debated Katherin Rogers on abortion, Fall 2012
- Honors trip to Supreme Court oral argument, Nov 2012

Public lectures and debates on many issues, for instance:
 existence of God, nature of morality, problem of evil, embryonic stem cell research,
 abortion, death with dignity, time travel, hate speech, animal welfare, censorship,
 evolutionary theory, teleportation, sexual assault and harassment, performance
 enhancing drugs, science fiction, popular culture

Study Abroad as Faculty

- Athens, Greece, Winter 2016 (Social and Political Philosophy)
- Volterra, Italy, Spring 2016 (Philosophy of Science; Philosophy of Art)
- Athens, Greece, Winter 2018 (Social and Political Philosophy)

Teaching experience

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE (1999-date)

Honors Program (The Art of Interpretation; Morals for Millennials; The End of the World; Citizenship in a 21st Century Democracy; Time Travel; Contemporary Moral Problems)

Distinguished Scholars Honors Tutorial (Darwin and Lincoln; Freedom and Identity)

Senior Seminar (Definite Descriptions; Fiction and Fictions; Puzzles and Paradoxes; Survival of Bodily Death; Constitutional Interpretation)

Metaphysics

Time Travel

Symbolic Logic

Logic for Lawyers

Philosophy of Law

Medical Ethics

Social and Political Philosophy

Philosophy of Art

Philosophy of Science

Contemporary Moral Problems

Philosophy of Language

Meaning and Reference (at undergraduate and graduate level for Linguistics and Cognitive Science)

Ancient Philosophy

Philosophies of Life

Introduction to Philosophy
South Park and Philosophy
Star Trek and Philosophy
Science fiction and philosophy
Ethics

MONASH UNIVERSITY (1996-98)

Metaphysics and Epistemology (combined Honors/Graduate seminar)
Epistemology (combined Honors/Graduate seminar)
Problems in Philosophy: the self; free will (combined Honors/Graduate seminar)
The following half-course modules:
Time, Self and Freedom
Primary Logic
God, Freedom and Evil.
Life, Death and Morality
Reason and Argument
Reason and Rationality
Science, Religion and Witchcraft
Bioethics
Ethics
Morality and Objectivity
Coordinated Open Learning (Keller Plan) distance courses in PHL 1070, 1080, 2110, and 2150

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY (1995-96)

Business Ethics
Introduction to Philosophy
Contemporary Moral Problems
Introduction to Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK (1990-95)

(Courses lectured)
The Philosophy of *Star Trek*
Introduction to Logic
Self and Identity
God and Cosmos
Introduction to Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY (1992-94)

Introduction to Philosophy

Refereeing

Philosophies
Philosophy
Australasian Journal of Philosophy
Public Affairs Quarterly

Pacific Philosophical Quarterly

Philosophical Studies

Philosophical Quarterly

British Journal of Aesthetics

Erkenntnis

Monograph reviewer for Blackwell, Open Court, Oxford, Routledge, Cambridge

Textbook reviewer for Wadsworth, Oxford
