

Quayshawn Spencer

Curriculum Vitae

University of Pennsylvania
Department of Philosophy
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Philadelphia, PA 19104

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EDUCATION

Stanford University

Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2009
M.S. in Biology, 2008

Dissertation: “Is Cladistic Race a Genuine Kind?”

Committee: Michael Friedman (advisor), Helen Longino, Elliott Sober, & Ward Watt

Tufts University

M.A. in Philosophy, 2004

Cornell University

B.A. in Philosophy and Chemistry, 2001
Cum Laude in Philosophy, Richard Boyd (advisor)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Race

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Logic, Metaphysics, Ethics

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Pennsylvania

Department of Philosophy
Robert S. Blank Presidential Associate Professor of Philosophy, July 2018 – Present
Assistant Professor, January 2015 – March 2018

University of San Francisco

Department of Philosophy
Assistant Professor, August 2009 – January 2015

University of Pennsylvania

Department of Philosophy

Distinguished Visiting Scholar, March 17-21, 2014

Stanford University

Department of Philosophy

Visiting Scholar, August 2012 - August 2013

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Department of Linguistics and Philosophy

Martin Luther King Jr. Visiting Assistant Professor, Summer 2009 - Summer 2010

AWARDS, HONORS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS_____

Honors

- In 2023, “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem” was re-published in the 90th Anniversary Issue of *Philosophy of Science*, which included 30 articles published in the journal since 1934 that represent “the best and most significant work the journal has published over the years.” The issue includes contributions from very influential scientists and philosophers of science, such as, Albert Einstein, Theodosius Dobzhansky, Rudolf Carnap, Carl Hempel, and Nancy Cartwright.
- In 2021, I was elected and confirmed as a Hastings Center Fellow due to my work in philosophy of race having “informed scholarship and public understanding of complex ethical issues in health, health care, science, and technology.”

Grants

Penn Undergraduate Research Mentorship Grant

- \$6,000 to support the book project *A Pluralist Solution to the Race Problem*, Summer 2022
- \$5,000 to support the book project *A Radical Solution to the Race Problem*, Summer 2017
- \$5,000 to support the book project *Racial Pluralism*, Summer 2016

Robert S. Blank Presidential Professorship Endowment, 7/1/18 – 7/31/23

- \$37,500 to support various research projects

American Philosophical Association Grant, 9/30/14-9/15/15

- \$945 to support the study “What is the State of Blacks in Philosophy?, Part II”

National Science Foundation Standard Grant (Award #: [1331110](#)), 9/15/13-8/31/14

- \$21,514 to support “Workshop: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the Nature and Reality of Race bringing together Philosophical and Biomedical Perspectives”

Fleishhacker Foundation Grant, 2012

- \$12,000 to support a conference on the nature and reality of race called, “The Race Debate... from Philosophy to Biomedical Research”

Philosophy of Science Association (PSA) Travel Grant, 2012

- \$206 to fund travel costs to attend the 23rd Biennial PSA Meeting

Fleishhacker Foundation Grant, 2011

- \$12,000 to support a conference on the status of race in evolutionary biology, “Is There Space for Race in Evolutionary Biology?”

Fellowships

Hastings Center Fellow, 2021-present

Penn Fellow, 2020-2021

Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2012-2013

Martin Luther King Jr. Visiting Professor Fellowship (MIT), 2009-2010

University of San Francisco Dissertation Fellowship, 2008-2009

Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (declined), 2008

Patrick M. Byrne Fellowship (Stanford), 2008

PUBLICATIONS

Asterisks flag peer-reviewed publications

Books

- Glasgow, J., Haslanger, S., Jeffers, C., and Spencer, Q. (2019). *What is Race? Four Philosophical Views*. New York: Oxford University Press.* This book has been reviewed by David Ludwig in [Philosophy of Science](#), Robert Gooding-Williams in [Mind](#), Luvell Anderson in [Ethics](#), Ron Mallon in the [Australasian Journal of Philosophy](#), Phila Msimang in [Philosophical Papers](#), Michael Hardimon in [Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews](#), and Katharine Jenkins in [Metascience](#).

Journal Articles

- Spencer, Q. (2019). A More Radical Solution to the Race Problem. *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 93(1): 25-48.*
- Spencer, Q. (2018). A Racial Classification for Medical Genetics. *Philosophical Studies* 175(5): 1013-1037.*
- Spencer, Q. (2018). Racial Realism II: Are Folk Races Real? *Philosophy Compass* 13(1): e12467.*

- Spencer, Q. (2018). Racial Realism I: Are Biological Races Real? *Philosophy Compass* 13(1): e12468.*
- Spencer, Q. (2016). Do Humans Have Continental Populations? *Philosophy of Science* 83(5): 791-802.*
- Spencer, Q. (2015). Philosophy of Race Meets Population Genetics. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 52: 46-55.*
- Spencer, Q. (2014). A Radical Solution to the Race Problem. *Philosophy of Science* 81(5): 1025-1038.* This article was included with 29 other articles in the 90th Anniversary Issue of *Philosophy of Science* in order to represent “the best and most significant work the journal has published over the years.”
- Botts, T.F., Bright, L.K., Cherry, M., Mallarangeng, G., and Spencer, Q. What is the State of Blacks in Philosophy? (2014). *Critical Philosophy of Race* 2(2): 224-242.*
- Spencer, Q. (2014). The Unnatural Racial Naturalism. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 46:38-43.*
- Spencer, Q. (2013). Biological Theory and the Metaphysics of Race: A Reply to Kaplan and Winther. *Biological Theory* 8(1): 114-120.*
- Spencer, Q. (2013). Introduction to ‘Is There Space for Race in Evolutionary Biology?’ *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 44(3): 247-249.
- Spencer, Q. (2012). What ‘Biological Racial Realism’ Should Mean. *Philosophical Studies* 159(2): 181-204. (This was the first philosophy of race article published in this journal.)*
- Spencer, Q. (2004). Do Newton’s rules of reasoning guarantee truth... must they? *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Part A* 35(4): 759-782.*

Book Chapters or Encyclopedia Entries

- Spencer, Q. (2022). “A Metaphysical Mapping Problem for Race Theorists and Human Population Geneticists,” in Ludovica Lorusso and Rasmus Winther (ed.), *Remapping Race* (pp. 207-226). New York: Routledge.*
- Spencer, Q. (2018). “Are Folk Races Like Dingos, Dimes, or Dodos?,” in Gideon Rosen et al. (eds.), *The Norton Introduction to Philosophy* (pp. 571-578). New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.*

- Spencer, Q. (2016). “Genuine Kinds and Scientific Reality,” in C. Kendig (ed.), *Natural Kinds and Classification in Scientific Practice* (pp. 157-172). New York: Routledge.*
- Spencer, Q. (2013). “Race,” in Hugh LaFollette (ed.), *The International Encyclopedia of Ethics*, Hugh LaFollette (ed.)*

WORK IN PROGRESS

- *The Race Debates from Metaphysics to Medicine*, an edited volume (under contract with Oxford University Press)*
- *A Pluralist Solution to the Race Problem*, a single-authored monograph for the Philosophy of Race Series (in preparation for Oxford University Press)
- *Philosophy of Race: A Very Short Introduction*, an introductory text for the Very Short Introductions Series (under contract with Oxford University Press)*

TALKS

Philosophy

February 2023, “Does Race Theory Rest on a Mistake?,” a bioethics seminar talk for Penn’s Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Philadelphia, PA, in-person.

November 2022, “Against Racial Monism,” for an Invited Symposium at the 2022 Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, in-person.

“A Metaphysical Mapping Problem for Race Theorists and Human Population Geneticists,” at:

August 2023, Keynote Address at the 2023 Meeting of the Society for Metaphysics of Science, Dalhousie University, in-person.

April 2023, Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, in-person.

March 2023, Douthat Distinguished Lectureship, Lycoming College, in-person.

February 2023, Princeton’s Center for Human Values, in-person.

October 2022, Colloquium Talk for Pitt’s Center for Philosophy of Science, in-person.

- September 2022, Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, College of William & Mary, online.
- September 2022, Biology Department Colloquium Talk, University of Pennsylvania, in-person.
- August 2022, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, University of Vienna, online.
- May 2022, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, NYU, in-person.
- April 2022, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, Marist College, online.
- March 2022, Charles McCracken Distinguished Guest Lecturer, Michigan State University, online.
- March 2022, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, Columbia University, online.
- January 2022, Jemison Visiting Professor in the Humanities Lecture, University of Alabama at Birmingham, online.
- November 2021, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, Ohio State University, online.
- November 2021, for the Steinkraus Lecture Series at SUNY Oswego, online.
- April 2021, Keynote Address for the Undergraduate Philosophy and Social Science Conference, LaGuardia Community College, online.
- April 2021, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, Cornell University, online.
- April 2021, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, University of Washington, online.
- February 2021, an Invited Lecture on Philosophy of Race for SUNY Albany's Philosophical Association & Minorities and Philosophy Chapter, online.
- January 2021, Anthropology Colloquium Talk, UCLA, online.
- December 2020, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, University of Minnesota, online.
- October 2020, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, UW Madison, online.
- September 2020, Philosophy Colloquium Talk, The New School, online.
- February 2022. "How to be a Racial Pluralist in Medical Research," Invited Lecture for the Structure and Development of Concepts in the Life Sciences Workshop at Bielefeld University, online.

October 2021. “Is Essence Monism About Race Accurate?,” an Invited Lecture for the 39th Annual Spindel Conference (themed: “New Ontologies of Race”) at the University of Memphis, online.

October 2021. “What is Race?,” a multi-course Guest Lecture at Bucknell University, online.

May 2021. “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” a Work-In-Progress Talk for the Department of Bioethics, National Institute of Health, online.

April 2021. “The US Race Debate,” a Talk for the Postdoctoral Fellows in the Department of Bioethics, National Institute of Health, online.

April 2021. “When Population Genetics Meets the Metaphysics of Race,” a Guest Lecture for the “Human Nature and Human Diversity” signature course at Rutgers University, online.

April 2021. “Using Race as an Independent Variable in Medicine,” for the Ernest E. Just Biomedical Society Workshop Series in Biomedical Graduate Studies Division of the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, online.

January 2021. “Philosophy of Science 101,” a Guest Lecture for BIOE 561: Ethics and Policy of Science in the Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy of the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, online.

September 2020. “What is Race?” (with Chike Jeffers), an Africana Studies Center Faculty Research Colloquium Talk, University of Pennsylvania, online.

February 2020. “The Metaphysical Problem in Race Theory,” a Two-Part Distinguished Lectureship for the Harold Stoner Clark Lecture Series, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA.

October 2019. “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” Inaugural Speaker for the Society for Philosophy and Public Affairs Lecture Series, Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA.

September 2019. “A More Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

July 2019. “A More Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” 2019 Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association Symposium Keynote Speaker for Radical Racial Pluralism Symposium, Durham University, Durham, England.

May 2019. “A Racial Classification for Medical Genetics,” Science, Technology, and Society Keynote Lecture, Tufts University, Medford, MA.

April 2019. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.

March 2019. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

January 2019. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

November 2018. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

November 2018. "Defending Burchard's Hypothesis," a talk for the symposium *Folk Racial Classification and Pursuit of Medical Knowledge*, 2018 Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Seattle, WA.

July 2018. "A Racial Classification for Medical Genetics," a Keynote Lecture for the conference *Social Metaphysics: Race, Gender, and Disability*, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, England.

April 2018. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY.

April 2018. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," the Keynote Lecture for the 2018 Ohio Philosophical Association Conference, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH.

March 2018. "Two Comments on Michael Hardimon's *Rethinking Race*," for the book symposium on Michael Hardimon's *Rethinking Race: The Case for Deflationary Realism*, 92nd Annual Pacific APA Meeting, San Diego, CA.

February 2018. "A Racial Classification for Medical Genetics," a Keynote Lecture for the 2018 Philosophy Department Spring Colloquium entitled 'Science, Values, and the Public,' University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

December 2017. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Lecture for the McFarland Center for Religion, Ethics, and Culture and the Department of Philosophy, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

November 2017. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, Smith College, Northampton, MA.

October 2017. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, Tufts University, Medford, MA.

September 2017. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA.

July 2017. "Race and Medicine," for the Pittsburgh Summer Program in Philosophy of Science for Underrepresented Groups, Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

June 2017. "Genuine Kinds as a Solution to Goodman's New Riddle of Induction," for PIKSI Boston, M.I.T., Cambridge, MA.

April 2017. "A Race Theory for Medical Genetics," for the Invited Symposium on Race, 91st Annual Pacific APA Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

April 2017. "How's it Going for Blacks in Philosophy?," for the Second Annual Inclusiveness Conference, University of Miami, Miami, FL.

March 2017. "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," a lecture for the Victor M. Bearg Science and Humanities Scholars Speaker Series and the University Lecture Series, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

March 2017. "A Race Theory for Metaphysics and Medicine," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk," Duke University, Durham, NC.

March 2017. "A Race Theory for Metaphysics and Medicine," a Philosophy Department Colloquium Talk," Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

February 2017. "The Rise of Trump... How Did Race Matter?," at the Trump, Philosophy, and American Politics Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

November 2016. "When is a Genetic Cluster a Race?," a Center for Philosophy of Science Lunchtime Talk, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

November 2016. "How Should Race Be Used in Medicine?," Public Forum, 25th Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Atlanta, GA.

November 2016. "In Defense of the Actual Metaphysics of Race," Session 10: Metaphysics Contributed Papers, 25th Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Atlanta, GA.

September 2016. "The Case for Racial Pluralism," a Philosophy Department Colloquium," University of Maryland - Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD.

September 2016. "One View on Race," Penn Philosophy Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

September 2016. "A Race Theory for Metaphysics and Medicine," a Philosophy Department Colloquium," Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

June 2016. “An Implication of Using Continental Populations in Preferential Affirmative Action,” Keynote Lecture at the 3rd Barcelona Conference on Gender, Race, and Sexuality, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.

May 2016. “Racial Pluralism,” a colloquium for the English and Philosophy Department, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA.

April 2016. “Implications of Using Biological Populations in Preferential Affirmative Action,” Invited Speech for the North American Society for Social Philosophy, Annual Pacific APA Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

December 2015. “Philosophy of Race Meets Population Genetics,” Keynote Address at Boulder Workshop on the Metaphysics of Social Categories, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO.

November 2015. “Race, Pluralism, and Biology,” Keynote Address at 9th Annual Ida B. Wells Conference, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN.

October 2015. “Are OMB Races Biological Populations?,” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, Duke University, Durham, NC.

September 2015. “What Kind of Populations Are These?” at Penn Philosophy Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

February 2015. “Tainted Fruit: Comments on Paul Taylor’s *Race: A Philosophical Introduction*” at the 112th Annual Central APA Meeting, St. Louis, MO.

November 2014. “Do Humans Have Continental Populations?” at the 24th Biennial Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL.

September 2014, “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, Reed College, Portland, OR.

June 2014, “The Unnatural Racial Naturalism” at the Philosophy of Biology at Madison Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI.

May 2014, “The Meaning of ‘Race’ is Just Its Referent” at The Race Debates... from Philosophy to Biomedical Research Conference, University of San Francisco, CA.

April 2014, “Philosophy of Race Meets Population Genetics,” Closing Keynote Address at Genomics and Philosophy of Race Conference, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA.

April 2014, “Biological Reality and the Problem of Biological Races” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR.

March 2014, “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

December 2013, “How’s It Going for Blacks in Philosophy?” at the 110th Annual Eastern APA Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

November 2013, “Race, Meaning, and Reality: Closing Remarks” at Genomics and Philosophy of Race Workshop, Center for Computational, Evolutionary and Human Genetics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

October 2013, “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem,” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Redlands, Redlands, CA.

May 2013, “How’s It Going for Blacks in Philosophy?” at the Diversity in Philosophy Conference, University of Dayton, Dayton, OH.

May 2013, “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” at a Philosophy Department Colloquium, Department of Philosophy, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

April 2013. “Population Genetics and the Metaphysics of Race” at an Ecology and Evolution Group Lunch Seminar, Department of Biology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

March 2013. “Implicit Instrumentalism and Newtonian Idealization” at the 87th Annual Pacific APA Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

March 2013. “Comments on Speciesism and Religion” at the Speciesism and the Future of Humanity Sawyer Seminar, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

February 2013. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” at the 110th Annual Central APA Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

November 2012. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” at the 23rd Biennial Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, San Diego, CA.

October 2012. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist,” a Philosophy Department Colloquium, UC San Diego, San Diego, CA.

September 2012. “Genetic Genealogy: Friend or Foe?,” Plenary Speech at the 29th Conference of Ford Fellows, Beckman Center of the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering, Irvine, CA.

June 2012. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” for the Bay Area Philosophers of Race, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

April 2012. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” for The Pizza Munch Philosophy of Biology Reading Group, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA.

April 2012. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” at The 86th Annual Pacific APA Meeting, Seattle, WA.

March 2012. “Comments on ‘The Dialectical Biologist, circa 1890: Dewey, Mead, and the Oxford Hegelians’” at Pragmatism in Philosophy of Science Conference, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

October 2011. “How to Be a Biological Racial Realist” at the Phi Sigma Tau Philosophy Colloquium, Chico State University, Chico, CA.

July 2011. “Why There is No Space for Race in Phylogenetics” at The ISHPSSB Biannual Meeting, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT.

February 2011. “The Shaky Foundation of Biological Racial Anti-Realism,” for the Race and Philosophy Speaker Series, organized by the Department of Philosophy and the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University, New York, NY.

November 2010. “Reexamining the Biological Race Debate” at the Alfred I. Tauber Forum: The Race Debate in Public Health Genomics, The Center for Philosophy and History of Science, Boston University, Boston, MA. Click [Here](#) to Listen.

November 2010. “Why There is No Space for Race in Phylogenetics,” Keynote Address at the 4th Annual Ida B. Wells Conference, Department of Philosophy, Memphis University, Memphis, TN.

October 2010. “An Impossibility Proof for a Genuine Phylogenetic Classification of Race,” at the 7th Annual California Roundtable for Philosophy and Race, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

August 2010. “What ‘Biological Racial Realism’ Should Mean” at the Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

February 2010. “A New Perspective on the Cladistic Race Debate” at a Philosophy Department Colloquium, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

January 2010. “A New Approach for Evaluating Scientific Classification and an Application to Cladistic Race Theory” for the Bay Area Biosystematists, Carnegie Institution for Science, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

October 2009. “A New Method for Evaluating Biological Theories of Race” Work In Progress Seminar, Department of Linguistics & Philosophy, MIT, Cambridge, MA.

February 2009. "The Evolution of Darwin's Idea of Race" at the Darwin Day Symposium, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

December 2008. "The Idea of a Genuine Kind," a Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

April 2008. "Is Cladistic Race a Genuine Kind?" at the New Perspectives in Race Theory Conference, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

March 2008. "Dissolving the Original Problem of Cladistic Race," a Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

September 2006. "A Question about Biological Race and Its Application to Cladistic Race Theory," at the 3rd Annual California Roundtable on Philosophy and Race, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

April 2005. "Comments on Troy Duster's 'Race and Reification in Science'," at the Revisiting Race & Ethnicity in the Context of Emerging Genetic Research Workshop, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

Biology

May 2007. "Using CO I+II, rRNA, EF1 α , and G3PD to Reconstruct a Molecular Phylogeny for *Eurema* Butterflies," a Watt Lab Lunch Talk, Department of Biology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

August 1998. "Total Antibody Detection via Radial Immunodiffusion in the Mucosal Immune Response to Trivalent Live Attenuated Intranasal Influenza Vaccine in Children," at the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN.

April 1997. "Elucidation of the Involvement of Tyrosine Phosphorylation in the Signal Transduction Mechanism of *Interleukin-16* (IL-16) in U937 Leukemia Cells," at the Department of Biochemistry, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN.

Public Talks

September 2021, Panelist for the NIH-funded Symposium "A Conversation on History, Infectious Disease, and Genomics" at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics, online.

February 2021, Panelist for the Straight Talk event "The Persistence of Race in Scientific Research" at the Connecticut Science Center, online.

October 2021. “What is Race?,” for the Race and Racism Lecture Series jointly hosted by the Rotman Institute of Philosophy and the London Public Library, online.

October 2021, "What is Race?," a Radio Interview with Rebecca Zandbergen on London Morning for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, available online.

April 2019. “What is Race in the USA?,” a 60-Second Lecture, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

March 2018. Panelist for “Teaching Race: A Roundtable” at Teach-In 2018, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

February 2017. “The Rise of Trump... How Did Race Matter?,” at the Trump, Philosophy, and American Politics Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

October 2016. Panelist for “Class 3: Genetics and Race,” at the Public Classroom for Science and Race: History, Use, and Abuse, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Philadelphia, PA.

September 2015, “How to Use a Ford Postdoc to Further Your Research,” at 2015 Conference of Ford Fellows, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Washington, DC.

April 2015, “Is There Space for Race in Evolutionary Biology?,” for The Philomathean Society, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

April 2015, “Getting a Teaching Job in Philosophy,” for the Philosophy PhD students, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

November 2012, “Getting a Job at a Teaching College,” for PHIL 260: Teaching Methods, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

August 2012, (with Michael Hunter) “The P3R Project,” for CS 690: Master’s Project, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.

August 2010. “Being a Philosopher of Science,” at the Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

November 2009. “Philosophy Professor: Getting Paid to Think,” for the Career Series, MIT-Wellesley Upward Bound Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

† indicates a course I created at Penn

Courses Taught at Penn

- Spring 2023 †PHIL 3510: Topics in Philosophy of Race (seminar for philosophy majors; 7 students; a course that addresses a single major issue in contemporary philosophy of race, such as the morality of race-based preferential affirmative action in selective college admissions, which was the focus of this course in spring 2023)
- PHIL 4800/6800: Advanced Philosophy of Science (a seminar for advanced philosophy majors and graduate students in philosophy; 7 students; a course that introduces students at an accelerated pace to the major metaphysical and epistemological problems about science that philosophers have tackled since David Hume to the present day along with a representative sample of solutions to these problems from philosophers of science)
- Spring 2022 †PHIL 491: Metaphysics of Race (seminar for advanced undergrads & graduate students; 6 students; a course that explores the major scholarly theories about what race is and whether race exists from the 17th century to the 21st century, and from the fields of biology, anthropology, sociology, and philosophy)
- †PHIL 558: Science and Objectivity (graduate seminar, 9 students, a course that tackles the question of whether science can give us objective knowledge about the world and knowledge about objective reality)
- Fall 2021 PHIL 025: Philosophy of Science (undergraduate introductory course, 42 students, a course that introduces students to the major metaphysical and epistemological problems about science that philosophers have tackled since David Hume to the present day along with a representative sample of solutions to these problems from philosophers of science)
- Spring 2021 PHIL 425: Advanced Philosophy of Science (a seminar for advanced philosophy majors and graduate students in philosophy; 18 students; see course description above for PHIL 4800/6800)
- Fall 2020 †PHIL 291: Philosophy of Race (undergraduate seminar; 11 students; a course that surveys biological race theories from 1684 to 2005, folk race theories from philosophers of race, theories of racism from philosophers of race, and one currently hot topic in philosophy of race, such as the morality of reparations to Black Americans or the epistemic utility of racial classifications in medicine)

- Spring 2020 †PHIL 291: Philosophy of Race (undergraduate seminar; 9 students; see course description above)
- †PHIL 525: Race & Biology (graduate seminar; 6 students; a course that addresses a handful of advanced problems in the philosophy of race that relate to biology and in the philosophy of biology that relates to race theory, such as whether cladistic races exist in the human species and whether the US Office of Management and Budget's 1997 racial scheme divides people into biologically real groups)
- Fall 2019 PHIL 025: Philosophy of Science (undergraduate introductory course, 40 students, see course description above)
- PHIL 700: Dissertation Workshop (graduate seminar, 19 students, a required course for all 3rd-year PhD students and above, 3rd-year students must present a draft of their preliminary exam prospectus, all other students must present drafts of dissertation chapters, the instructor also gives some lessons on dissertation writing and professional development)
- PHIL 999: Independent Study (graduate seminar; 1 enrolled student & 3 auditors; this was a test-run of Metaphysics of Race, see above for course description)
- Spring 2018 PHIL 025: Philosophy of Science (undergraduate introductory course, 16 students, see course description above)
- †PHIL 558: Science & Objectivity (graduate seminar, 7 students, see course description above)
- Fall 2017 †PHIL 291: Philosophy of Race (undergraduate seminar, 14 students, see course description above)
- PHIL 600: Proseminar (first-year PhD students in philosophy only, 7 students, a course that introduces students to the major contributions to metaphysics and epistemology in twentieth-century analytic philosophy)
- Summer 2017 †AFRC 006: Philosophy of Race (pre-freshmen who plan to major in Africana Studies, 25 students, an abridged version of PHIL 291)
- Spring 2017 PHIL 025: Philosophy of Science (undergraduate introductory course, 15 students, see course description above)
- †PHIL 525: Race and Biology (graduate seminar, 2 enrolled students & 2 auditors, see course description above)

- Fall 2016 †PHIL 249: Affirmative Action (undergraduate seminar, 3 students, a course that surveys philosophical and US Supreme Court legal arguments for and against race-based preferential affirmative action in college admissions since *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* (1978) to the present-day, such as Howard McGary’s argument for affirmative action as reparations for past injustice and Justice Powell’s 1978 diversity argument for affirmative action)
- †PHIL 291: Philosophy of Race (undergraduate seminar, 7 students, see course description above)
- Spring 2016 †PHIL 359: Modal Logic and Metaphysics (seminar for majors, 4 students, a course that introduces students to over twenty formal languages of modal logic and associated proof systems and then uses those languages to address perennial problems in metaphysics, such as whether time travel is possible and whether necessary beings like the Judeo-Christian God exist)
- †PHIL 558: Science and Objectivity (graduate seminar, 3 students, see course description above)
- Fall 2015 †PHIL 291: Philosophy of Race (undergraduate seminar, 10 students, see course description above)
- PHIL 025: Philosophy of Science (undergraduate introductory course, 24 students, see course description above)

Dissertation Supervisees at Penn

- **Asil Martinez** is writing a series of chapters addressing various problems related to the ethics of racial identity. Asil is a 4th-year PhD student.
- **Yosef Washington** wrote “Ontological Dependence and Possible Metaphysics of Race” under my supervision. He passed his university oral exam in the summer of 2023. As of fall of 2023, Yosef is a Postdoctoral Fellow of Philosophy at Claremont McKenna College.
- **Alexander Tolbert** wrote “Race, Algorithms, and Causality: An Investigation into Equity and Bias” under my co-supervision (with Michael Kearns and Anita Allen). He passed his university oral exam in the summer of 2023. As of fall 2023, Alex is an Assistant Professor at Emory University in the Department of Quantitative Theory and Methods, with a secondary appointment in Emory’s Center for Ethics.
- **Ian Peebles** wrote “On the Ethics of Neuroenhancements and the Use of Race Theory in Biomedical Ethics” under my supervision. He graduated in the spring of 2022. Currently, he is working at Princeton University as the Harold T. Shapiro

Postdoctoral Research Associate in Bioethics at the Center for Human Values. Ian received tenure-track Assistant Professor offers from Syracuse University (the department of philosophy) and Baylor College of Medicine (the center for medical ethics and health policy), but he decided to decline both for personal reasons.

Honors Thesis Supervisees at Penn

- **Vikram Balasubramanian** wrote “Race and Causal Inference in Policing” under my supervision. He graduated in the spring of 2023. Currently, Vikram is pursuing a master’s degree in philosophy at Trinity College in Dublin as a Mitchell scholar. Once he completes his master’s degree, Vikram plans on attending a doctoral program in philosophy to study philosophy of science.
- **Lawrence Phillips** wrote “Stable Property Cluster Theory in Doubt” under my supervision. He graduated in the spring of 2022. Currently, Lawrence is pursuing a master’s degree in physics at the University of Cambridge on a Thouron Award. Once he completes his master’s degree, Lawrence plans on attending a doctoral program in philosophy to study philosophy of science.
- **Lillian Phung** wrote “A Defense of the Communitarian Requirement: How Transformative Criticism is Necessary for Producing Scientific Knowledge” under my supervision. She graduated in the spring of 2022. Currently, Lillian is pursuing an MD at Drexel University.
- **Augustine Benjamin** wrote “Race and Biomedical Research: Determining a Biological Referent of ‘Race’” under my supervision. He graduated in 2021. Currently, Augustine is a business analyst at McKinsey & Company in Chicago, IL.
- **Grace Wu** wrote “Disambiguating Race: A Case for Pluralism in Medical Treatment and Diagnosis” under my supervision. She graduated in the spring of 2020. Currently, Grace is a responsible innovation strategist at Google in New York, NY.
- **Eric Rawot** wrote “There Exists Some Objective and Accurate Species Conception” under my supervision. Eric graduated in the spring of 2019. After graduating, Eric joined Dr. Edward Brodtkin’s lab in Penn’s Perelman’s School of Medicine as a clinical research coordinator.
- **Alexandra Johnson** wrote “On the Use of Folk Racial Classifications in Human Genetic Research: A Rawlsian Perspective” under my supervision. She graduated in the spring of 2017. Currently, Alexandra is pursuing a JD at Yale Law School. She will graduate in 2024.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Committees

November 2020 - Present. Nominating Editor, The Philosopher's Annual.
March 2013 - March 2015. Chair of the Board, Board of Officers, Society of Young Black Philosophers.

Jan. 2012 - March 2012. Member, Executive Director Search Committee, APA.

July 2011 - June 2014. Member, Committee on Black Philosophers, APA.

Conferences & Symposia

November 2019. Organizer, *Folk Racial Classification and Pursuit of Medical Knowledge* at the 2018 Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, Seattle, WA.

March 2018. Organizer, *Book Symposium on Michael Hardimon's Rethinking Race: The Case for Deflationary Realism*, an invited symposium at the 92nd Annual Pacific APA Meeting, San Diego, CA.

November 2016. Co-Organizer, *How Should Race Be Used in Medicine?*, a public forum at the 25th Biennial Philosophy of Science Association meeting, Atlanta, GA.

December 2013. Organizer, *Mentoring Early Career Black Philosophers*, The 2013 Eastern APA Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

December 2012. Organizer and Chair, *Race in Population Genetics*, The 2012 Eastern APA Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

November 2012. Organizer, *The State of Race in Population Genetics*, The 23rd Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, San Diego, CA.

May 2011. Co-organizer (with Brent Mishler), *Is There Space for Race in Evolutionary Biology? The 2011 Bay Area Biosystematists Spring Symposium*, University of San Francisco, see the conference website [here](#).

April 2011. Chair, Politics & Pragmatism Colloquium, 85th Annual Pacific APA Meeting.

Co-organizer (with Graduate Student Science and Technology Studies Writing Group), *Critical Conversations: a Conference on Methods and Practices in Interdisciplinary Science Studies*, Patrick Suppes Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Science and Technology (CISST), Stanford University, May 2007, view the conference website [here](#).

Refereeing

Editorial Board Member: *Biology and Philosophy*, *Critical Philosophy of Race*, *Ergo* (Section Editor for Philosophy of Race), *PhilPapers* (Category Editor for Philosophy of Race)

Guest Editor: *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*

Book Proposal Referee: *Oxford University Press*, *Routledge*, *Wadsworth*, *Westview*

Journal Article Referee: *Biological Theory*, *Biology & Philosophy*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Critical Philosophy of Race*, *Du Bois Review*, *Ethics*, *Evolution & Development*, *Human Biology*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophy & Theory in Biology*, *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*

Reading Groups

Faculty mentor for the Penn-Rutgers Philosophy of Race Reading Group (founded by Penn and Rutgers graduate students), Fall 2019 to Present.

Co-founder (with Ron Sundstrom) and Organizer, *Bay Area Philosophy of Race (BAPR) Reading Group*, Fall 2008 – Fall 2014.

Co-organizer (with Teru Miyake), Isaac Newton Lectures Reading Group (led by George Smith), Patrick Suppes CISST, Stanford University, March 2007.

Other Service

Co-founder and Former Chair of the Board, *The Society of Young Black Philosophers*, visit our Facebook page [here](#) (founded in Spring 2010).

Fund-raiser, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Fall 2004

AFFILIATIONS: American Philosophical Association, Philosophy of Science Association, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Society of Young Black Philosophers.

REFERENCES

---Available Upon Request---