

Department of Philosophy
University of Pennsylvania
Email: altol25@sas.upenn.edu

Academic Positions

2020 Visiting Research Fellow
The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
Supervisor: Charles Mills

Education

2019-2024 (expected) P.h.D Philosophy
University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation: Causation and Fairness in Machine Learning
Advisors: Michael Kearns and Scott Weinstein

2019-2022 (expected) M.A. in Statistics
Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

2019-2022 (expected) Graduate Certificates:
Advanced Scientific Computing
Africana Studies
Center for Teaching and Learning

2019 M.A. in Philosophy
Virginia Tech

2019 M.S. in Biochemistry
Virginia Tech

2013 B.S. in Biology
University of Mobile

Research Interest

Algorithmic Fairness, Differential Privacy, Causal Discovery, Learning Theory, (Science, Technology & Law), (Science, Technology, & Public Policy), Political & Legal Epistemology, Transitional Justice

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Science (Causation, Statistics, Machine Learning), Social, Political, & Legal Philosophy, Philosophy of Race, Public Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Africana Philosophy, History of Science, Philosophy of Biology

Languages/Coding Skills:

Proficient	Familiarity	Everday Workflow
R	MATLAB	LaTeX
Python		
Javascript		

Presentations

2021 “Amerolation or Association” Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association

2021 “Causation and Alorgimtic (un)Fairness in Machine Learning”, Pacific APA

2021 “Causation, Race, and Alorgimtic (un)Fairness in Machine Learning, Eastern APA

2020 “Causation, Race, and Alorgimtic (un)Fairness in Machine Learning” Ernest E. Just Biomedical Society at the University of Pennsylvania

2019 “Dynamics and Biochemical Kinds” Philosophy and Physical Computing Conference

2019 “Exploring the Ability of the Inositol 1,3,4 Trisphosphate 5/6-Kinase (ITPK) to Accommodate Inositol hexakisphosphate (InsP6)”, Virginia Tech Department of Biochemistry Speakers in Biochemistry Series

2018 “Finding Natural Kinds”, Philosophy and Physical Computing Conference
“Finding Natural Kinds”

Awards & Honors

2020- Present Africana Summer Institute Fellow, University of Pennsylvania

2019-Present Fontaine Fellow, University of Pennsylvania

2007-2009 Graduate Scholar, Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program, Virginia Tech

2007-2009 Academic Incentive Scholarship (competitive merit-based scholarship), Alabama State

Teaching

University of Pennsylvania

2021 Philosophy of Law
2020 Justice, Law, and Morality

Virginia Tech

2018 History of Modern Philosophy
2018 Morality and Justice
2017 Knowledge and Reality

Guest Lecturer

University of Pennsylvania

2020 Philosophy of Sex and Love

Virginia Tech

2018 Modern Logic & Dev
2018 Symbolic Logic

Former Scientific Research

2018 -2019

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia Supervisor: Dr. Benjamin Jantzen

Research Assistant

- The project is focused on interrelated questions about natural kinds and the logic of discovery. Research is attempting to test ideas about the logic of discovery by building algorithms that carry out automated scientific discovery

2018 –2019

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia Supervisor: Dr. Glenda Gillaspay

Research Assistant

- The focus of research is on the molecular pathways that plants use to respond to the environment, an area important for developing strategies to increase crop yield in stressful or nutrient-poor soil conditions. The lab works as part of an

NSF-funded collaborative project on new inositol signaling molecules called PPx-InsPs. Along with collaborators at North Carolina State University and the USDA, our lab is examining PPx-InsPs as critical players in metabolism and stress. This work also has implications for understanding basic mechanisms to control phosphate pollution in watersheds, an important problem in Virginia.

Professional Development

2020-2021` Graduate Teaching Assistant Workshop, University of Pennsylvania
2017-2019 Graduate Teaching Assistant Workshop, Virginia Tech
2017-2018 Philosophy Professional Seminar, Virginia Tech

Graduate Service

2020-Present Organizer, Penn-Rutgers Philosophy of Race Reading Group, University of Pennsylvania
2019-Present Minorities and Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania
2020-Present Africana Summer Institute Fellow, University of Pennsylvania
2018-2019 Co-President, Minorities and Philosophy, Virginia Tech
2017-2019 Organizer, Graduate Philosophy Club, Virginia Tech
2017-2019 Organizer, Minorities and Philosophy Reading Group, Virginia Tech
2017-2019 Organizing Committee Member, VT Annual Philosophy

Professional Service

2018-2019 Editorial assistant, HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science

Selected Graduate Coursework

University of Pennsylvania:

- PHIL999 Philosophy of Race, Spencer, Fall 2019
- PHIL578 The Methodology of Political Philosophy: Pereira Di Salvo, Fall 2019
- PHIL510 Plato's Republic and Laws, Meyers: Fall 2019
- STAT500 Introduction to Regression and Anova, Rosenbaum, Fall 2019

- PHIL505 Mathematical Logic: Singer, Spring 2020
- PHIL525 Race and Biology, Spencer: Spring 2020
- STAT501 Intro to Nonparametrics & Log-Linear Models: Tchetgen Tchetgen, Spring 2020
- PHIL578 Liberalism and Racial Justice: Freeman, Spring 2020
- PHIL479 History of Modern Political Philosophy: Freeman, Spring 2020
- PHIL 999 Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science and Statistics, Fall 2020, Weinstein

Virginia Tech:

- PHIL5614 Intermediate Philosophy of Science, Kovaka, Fall 2018
- PHIL5444 Issues in Bioethics, Shew, Fall 2018
- PHIL5604 Intermediate Philosophy of Biology, Novack, Spring 2018
- PHIL6014 Advanced Logic: Set Theory, Analysis, and Model Theory, Patton, Spring 2018
- PHIL6204 Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, Patton, Fall 2017
- PHIL5505 Symbolic Logic, Jantzen, Fall 2017
- PHIL6014 Origins of Analytic Philosophy, Klagge, Fall 2017

Professional experience

2018-2019 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and University

- HOPOS editorial assistant

2017-present. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and University

- Graduate Teaching Assistant

2016-2017. Providence Classical School

- Upper School Science Instructor (Biology, Anatomy and Physiology)
- Head Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach

2014-2015. Faith Academy

- Upper School Science Instructor (Physics, Physical Science)
- Assistant Basketball Coach
- Middle School Basketball Coordinator

2013-2014. Chamberlain-Hunt Academy

- Upper School Science Instructor (Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, Earth and Space Science)
- Head Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach
- Head Boys' Varsity Track and Field Coach
- Dorm Supervisor

References

Available upon request