Elanor Taylor

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EMPLOYMENT

2022-	Associate Professor of Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University
2017-2022	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University
2012-2017	Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Faculty Affiliate in Women's and Gender Studies, Iowa State University

EXPERTISE

AOS	Metaphysics, Philosophy of Science
AOC	Social Philosophy

EDUCATION

2012	PhD in Philosophy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (MA 2008)
2005	MSc in Philosophy, University of Edinburgh
2003	BA (Hons) in Philosophy and Theology, University of Oxford

VISITING

Spring 2027	Human Abilities Center, Berlin, Fellow
2023-4	National Humanities Center, Raleigh NC, Fellow
Fall 2022	University of Wisconsin at Madison, Visiting Associate Professor of Philosophy
Fall 2015	Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science, Visiting Fellow

PUBLICATIONS - BOOK

The Foundations of Social Metaphysics. (forthcoming) Oxford University Press.

PUBLICATIONS - PAPERS

1) "Explanatory Substantivity." (forthcoming) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*

2) "Changing Social Truth: A Commentary on Griffiths' *Truth and Social Reality.*" (forthcoming) *The Journal of Social Ontology*.

3) "A Dormitive Virtue Puzzle." (2024) *Levels of Explanation*, edited by Alastair Wilson and Katie Richardson. Oxford University Press.

4) "Naturalness: Abundant and Sparse Properties." (2024) *Routledge Handbook on Properties*, edited by Anna-Sofia Maurin and Anthony Fisher. Routledge.

5) "Substantive Social Metaphysics." (2023) *Philosophers' Imprint* 23(18):1-18

6) "Explanation and the Right to Explanation." (2023) *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 1-16. (New Work in Philosophy piece on this article.)

7) "Explanatory Distance." (2023) *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 74(1):221-239 (Short Read, Selected for BJPS *Editors' Choice*.)

8) "Power Emergentism and the Collapse Problem." (2022) *Philosophy of Science* 89(2):302-318

9) "Backing Without Realism." (2020) *Erkenntnis* 87:1295-1315

10) "Social Categories in Context." (2020) *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 6(2):171-187

11) "Against Explanatory Realism." (2018) *Philosophical Studies* 175(1):197-219

12) "How to Make the Case for Brute Facts." (2018) in *Brute Facts*, edited by Elly Vintiadis and Constantinos Mekios. Oxford University Press.

13) "Explanatory Emergence as a Guide to Metaphysical Structure." (2017) *Philosophica* 91:15-48

14) "Only Explanation Can Reinflate Emergence." (2017) *Philosophical Quarterly*, 68(271):385–394

15) "Groups and Oppression." (2016) *Hypatia* 31(3):520–536

16) "Naturalness in Context." (2016) *Inquiry* 59(4):319-342

17) "Explanation and the Explanatory Gap." (2016) *Acta Analytica* 31(1):77-88

18) "Collapsing Emergence." (2015) *Philosophical Quarterly* 65(271):732-753

19) "An Explication of Emergence." (2015) *Philosophical Studies* 172(3):653-669

PUBLICATIONS – BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Jessica Wilson's *Metaphysical Emergence.* (2023) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 101(3):767-771

Review of Carl Gillett's *Reduction and Emergence in Science and Philosophy.* (2017) *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science Review of Books*.

PRESENTATIONS – TALKS

TBA, Plenary Speaker, Social Ontology 2027, Columbus (July 2027)

TBA, Central European University Vienna (January 2027)

TBA, Invited Symposium on Methodology in Metaphysics & Epistemology, Eastern APA (January 2027)

The Challenge of Social Change, Auburn University (August 2026)

The Challenge of Social Change, Social Ontology 2026, Kraków (July 2026)

The Logical Limits of Ontic Injustice, Critical Social Ontology Workshop, Online (May 2026)

The Logical Limits of Ontic Injustice, JHU Metaphysics Workshop (April 2026)

Explanatory Substantivity, Social Metametaphysics Workshop, University of St Andrews (June 2025)

Social Metaphysics and Metametaphysics, Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University (May 2025)

Explanatory Substantivity, Conference on the Metaphysics of Mind-Dependence, University of Oxford (April 2025)

Explanatory Substantivity, SoCal Metaphysics Network, University of California at Irvine (March 2025)

Explanatory Substantivity, The College of William & Mary (February 2025)

Explanatory Substantivity, Philosophy Mountain Workshop, Jackson Hole (January 2025)

The Models of Social Essentialism, University of Colorado Center for Philosophy of Science (January 2025)

Explanatory Substantivity, Idealism Workshop, Keynote, University of British Columbia (September 2024)

The Foundations of Social Metaphysics, JHU Philosophy "Struggles and Triumphs" series (April 2024)

The Foundations of Social Metaphysics, National Humanities Center (March 2024)

Explanatory Substantivity, Duke University WIP series (March 2024)

Social Essentialism and Social Inquiry, University of Vermont (October 2023)

Explanatory Substantivity, Social Ontology 2023, Stockholm (August 2023)

Social Essentialism and Social Inquiry, Social Metaphysics Workshop, Duke University (May 2023)

A Problem for Social Essentialism, Keynote, University of Houston Homecoming Conference (March 2023)

A Problem for Social Essentialism, Virginia Tech University (March 2023)

A Problem for Social Essentialism, New England Metaphysics Workshop, Rhode Island College (November 2022)

Sparse and Abundant Properties, Properties Workshop, University of Gothenburg, Online (May 2022)

On Social Metaphysics as Metaphysics, University of Oklahoma, Online (February 2022)

On Social Metaphysics as Metaphysics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Online (February 2022)

Explanation and the Right to Explanation, Philosophy of Science Association (November 2021)

A Dilemma for Social Essentialism, Symposium on Social Kinds at European Society for Philosophy of Science Meeting. Turin, Italy (September 2021)

Mind-Dependence and Social Metaphysics, Arché Center, University of St Andrews, Online (July 2021)

Mind-Dependence and Social Metaphysics, Social Metaphysics Workshop, University of North Carolina, Online (June 2021)

Mind-Dependence and Social Metaphysics, Symposium on Objectivity and Grounding, Pacific American Philosophical Association, Online (April 2021. Originally scheduled for April 2020, rescheduled due to Covid-19)

Mind-Dependence and Social Metaphysics, Frei Universität Berlin (Colloquium in Theoretical Philosophy), Online (December 2020)

Mind-Dependence and Social Metaphysics, University of Gothenburg (Seminar in Theoretical Philosophy), Online (October 2020)

Explanatory Distance, University of Oxford, Online (June 2020)

Philosophical Perspectives on the Right to Explanation, University of Mississippi (February 2020)

Mind-Independence, Southern California Metaphysics Network Inaugural Conference, University of California at Irvine (December 2019)

Philosophical Perspectives on the Right to Explanation, Computational Methods and the Future of Science, University of Kansas (June 2019)

Backing Without Realism, Women's Pre-Tenure Mentoring Workshop in Philosophy, Boston University (June 2019)

Backing Without Realism, Non-Causal Explanations: Logical, Linguistic and Philosophical Perspectives, Ghent University (May 2019)

Backing Without Realism, Early Career Workshop in Metaphysics, Lehigh University (April 2019)

Backing Without Realism, FramePhys/Gothenburg conference on Metaphysical Explanation in Science, Birmingham University (January 2019)

Naturalness, Context and Social Categories, Social Ontology 2018 Conference, Tufts University (August 2018)

Social Explanation in Context, University of Edinburgh (August 2018)

Explanation, Distance and Dependence, University of Glasgow (July 2018)

Explanation, Distance and Dependence, Metaphysical Explanation Workshop, University of Gothenburg (February 2018)

Explanation, Distance and Dependence, Society for Women in Philosophy Analytic Lecture Series, City University of New York (February 2018)

Social Explanation and Social Groups, Symposium on The Metaphysics and Ethics of Social Groups, Eastern American Philosophical Association (January 2018) (Cancelled due to weather.)

Explanatory Distance, Midwest Annual Workshop in Metaphysics, University of Wisconsin-Madison (October 2017)

Explanatory Distance, Open Session of the Aristotelian Society, University of Edinburgh (July 2017

Explanatory Distance, Scripps College (February 2017)

Naturalness, Context and Social Categories, Johns Hopkins University (January 2017)

Explanatory Distance, Iowa Philosophical Society (November 2016)

Emergence and Explanation, Boise State University (April 2016)
Groups and Oppression, Boise State University (April 2016)

Groups and Oppression, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (February 2016)

Against Explanatory Realism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Philosophy of Science Workshop (November 2015)

Against Explanatory Realism, University of Reading (October 2015)

Groups and Oppression, University of California at Irvine (April 2015)

Three Problems for Grounding, Iowa Philosophical Society (November 2014)

Three Problems for Grounding, Central States Philosophical Association (October 2014)

Three Problems for Grounding, Open Session of the Aristotelian Society, University of Cambridge (July 2014)

The Natural in Context, Occidental College (April 2014)

An Explication of Emergence, Reduction and Emergence in the Sciences, LMU Munich (November 2013)

The Natural in Context, Central States Philosophical Association (October 2013)

An Explication of Emergence, Illinois Wesleyan University (November 2012)

Explanation and the Explanatory Gap, Mountain Plains Philosophy Conference (October 2012)

Collapsing Emergence, Illinois State University (February 2012)

Collapsing Emergence, Barnard College (February 2012)

Collapsing Emergence, Union College (February 2012)

Collapsing Emergence, Duke University (January 2012)

Collapsing Emergence, Iowa State University (January 2012)

Collapsing Emergence, Eastern American Philosophical Association (December 2011)

Collapsing Emergence, University of Tennessee (December 2011)

Real Patterns and Less Real Patterns, Metaphysics of Science '09, University of Nottingham (September 2009)

Systems and Non-Mechanistic Explanation, Mechanisms and Causality in the Sciences, University of Kent (September 2009)

Models and Systems Explanation, Models and Simulations III, University of Virginia (March 2009)

PRESENTATIONS – COMMENTS AND PANELS

Comments on Arnold Chen's *To Be Relatively Fundamental Is To Be Relatively Explanatory*, Pacific APA Online (April 2026)

Panelist, Author Meets Critics session on Aaron Griffith's *Truth and Social* Reality, Eastern American Philosophical Association (January 2026)

Comments on Siddharth Muthukrishnan's *The Scientific and the Zetetic*, Eastern APA (January 2025)

Panelist, Manuscript Workshop on Kevin Richardson's *The End of Binaries: Gender and Sexuality on a Continuum*, Duke University (May 2024)

Comments on Jade Fletcher's *The Role of Values in Feminist Metaphysics*, Social Metaphysics Workshop, Rutgers University (April 2024)

Comments on Shimin Zhao's *Two Problems for Interventionist's Probabilistic Explanations*, Eastern APA (January 2024)

Panelist, Book Symposium on Jamin Asay's *Truthmaking*, Purdue University (November 2023)

Comments on Graham Renz, *A Case Against a Case for the Neo-Aristotelian Thesis*, Central American Philosophical Association (February 2022)

Commentator for Amie Thomasson, New England Metaphysics Workshop, Rhode Island College (November 2021)

Comments on Craig Callender's *Humean Laws of Nature: The End of the Good Old Days,* Ranch Metaphysics Workshop (February 2020)

Comments on David Bourget's *Debugging Two-Dimensionalism About Narrow Content,* Eastern American Philosophical Association (January 2020)

Comments on Richard Lauer's *Scientific Social Ontology? Objecting to Kincaid on the Existence of Social Classes,* Pacific American Philosophical Association (March 2018)

Panelist, Author Meets Critics session on Carl Gillett's *Reduction and Emergence in Science and Philosophy.* Central American Philosophical Association (March 2017)

Comments on Cameron Buckner's *The Rationality of Intuitive Judgment*. Eastern American Philosophical Association (January 2016)

Comments on Maxwell Suffis' *Emergent Panpsychism, Emotional Zombies and Fundamental Kinds*. Southwest Philosophical Society (October 2014)

Panelist, Author Meets Critics session on John Heil's *The Universe as We Find It.* Pacific American Philosophical Association (April 2014)

Comments on Joshua Rassmussen and Andrew Bailey's *Physicalism and the Puppet Argument.* Eastern American Philosophical Association (December 2013)

Comments on David Kovacs' *A New Look at the Simple Question*. Central States Philosophical Association (October 2013)

Comments on Thomas Polger's *Exclusion, Still Not Tracted*. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (March 2013)

Comments on Kari Theurer's *When Is a Mechanism More than the Sum of its Parts?* Eastern American Philosophical Association (December 2012)

Comments on Dan Giberman's *Emergent Consciousness and Ontological Fundamentality*. Pacific American Philosophical Association, (April 2010)

TEACHING – CLASSES

At Johns Hopkins University

AS 150.636 The Social Turn: Fall 2026

AS 150.112 Philosophical Problems: Fall 2025

AS 150.672 Social Metaphysics: Spring 2025

AS 150.622 Metametaphysics: Fall 2021

AS 150.678 Social Construction: Fall 2019

AS 150.668 Essence (co-taught with Yitzhak Melamed): Spring 2019

AS 150.667 Explanation in Science and Metaphysics: Fall 2017

AS 150.436 Philosophy of Gender: Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

AS 150.301 Majors' Seminar on Realism and Anti-Realism: Fall 2024, Spring 2021

AS 150.301 Majors' Seminar on Truth: Fall 2019

AS 150.260 Introduction to Metaphysics: Fall 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2018

AS 150.245 Introduction to Philosophy of Mind: Fall 2017

At the University of Wisconsin at Madison

PHILOS 560 Metaphysics: Fall 2022

PHILOS 960 Social Metaphysics: Fall 2022

At Iowa State University

Phil 464X Contemporary Metaphysics: Spring 2016

Phil 201 Introduction to Philosophy: Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Phil 338 Feminist Philosophy: Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2016

At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Summer 2011 Philosophy of Religion

Summer 2010 Bioethics

Summer 2009 Philosophy of Gender

Spring 2009 Philosophy of Science with Marc Lange

Summer 2008 Practical Ethics

Spring 2008 Introduction to Ethics with Geoff Sayre-McCord

Fall 2007 Introduction to Philosophy with Ram Neta

TEACHING – AWARDS

Iowa State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Cassling Family Faculty Award for Early Achievement in Teaching, 2016

Iowa State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Award for Early Achievement in Teaching, 2016

ADVISING

Graduate

Jacob Lettie, Primary Advisor, ongoing

Emily Scholfield, Primary Advisor, ongoing

JoJo Lovejoy (at UW Madison), External committee member, ongoing

Arun Baxter (at UW Madison), Reader for Prelim 2022

Zachary Gartenberg, Reader for Dissertation Defence 2022

Tammo Lossau, Reader for Dissertation Defence 2022

Oscar Rodriguez Cruz, co-advised with Dean Moyar 2020-2021

Maegan Kaczmarek, Reader for Third Year Paper and Proposal, 2018, 2019

Palmer Gunderson, Reader for Proposal, 2018

Undergraduate

Independent Study, Lawrence Cao 2021-2022

Co-Advisor for independent study, Phillip Yoon, 2020-2021

Senior Thesis, Shanice Guthrie 2020-2021

SERVICE – TO THE PROFESSION

Referee for *Acta Analytica, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Crítica, Ergo, Erkenntnis, Hypatia, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Journal for General Philosophy of Science, Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Social Ontology, Mind, Noûs,* Oxford University Press, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Pacific*

Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophy & Technology, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy of Science, Res Philosophica, Synthese, Thought.

Area Editor for *Ergo*, 2022-ongoing

International Social Ontology Society, Program Chair for Social Ontology 2024

External Honors Examiner for Swarthmore College Phil 119 Philosophy of Science, 2023-2024, 2025-2026

Reviewer for the National Humanities Center Fellowship Program

Reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship Program

Referee for the Israel Science Foundation

Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Reviewer, 2023

Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, 2023 Program Committee

Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, 2018 Program Committee

Mentor for the Job Candidate Mentoring Program for Women in Philosophy, 2015-2018

SERVICE – TO DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

Johns Hopkins University, Director of Undergraduate Studies in Philosophy, 2024-ongoing

Johns Hopkins University, KSAS Ad-Hoc Budget Committee, 2025-ongoing

Johns Hopkins University, KSAS Subcommittee on Wages and Compensation, 2025-ongoing

Johns Hopkins University PATHs Program, Faculty Associate, 2023-2024

Johns Hopkins University, Ad Hoc Tenure Committee member, 2023-4

Johns Hopkins University Department of Philosophy Graduate Admissions Committee, 2019, 2021, 2022, Chair in 2023

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Manny Ross Scholarship Selection Committee, 2022

Johns Hopkins University Department of Philosophy Climate Committee, 2021-ongoing

Johns Hopkins University Department of Philosophy Job Market Co-Ordinator, 2019-2020

Johns Hopkins University Department of Philosophy Graduate Life Seminar, 2017-2020

Johns Hopkins University Department of Philosophy Advising Committee, 2017-2018
Iowa State University Faculty Senator, 2016-2017

Iowa State University Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies Speakers Committee, 2016-2017

Iowa State University Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies Curriculum Committee, 2016-2017

Chair, Iowa State University Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Recruitment & Retention Committee, 2013-2015

Iowa State University Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Dorothy Scholarship Committee, 2013-2017

Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Honor Society) advisor for Iowa State University, 2013-2016
Research Assistant to William Lycan, 2009-2011

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Philosophy Graduate Student Grievance Officer, 2011-2012

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Graduate Research Consultant, PHIL 165 Bioethics, Spring 2009

Graduate Student Representative, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Philosophy Department Colloquium Planning Committee, 2008-2009

Graduate Student Representative, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Philosophy Department Hiring Committee, 2007-2008

EVENT ORGANIZING

Social Metaphysics Workshop, Johns Hopkins University, August 2027

JHU Metaphysics Workshop, April 2026

Manuscript Workshop and Conference on Social Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University, October 2025

OUTREACH AND PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

The Malone Center for Engineering in Healthcare, Johns Hopkins University. Discussion on Philosophical Issues in Artificial Intelligence (with Israel Gannot) (February 2020)

Film Studies/Biophysics Science and Film series. Public discussion of "The Matrix", Parkway Theater, Baltimore. (October 2019)

Consulted for Radiolab podcast, episode on "Einstein's Brain." (July 2019)

Philosopher-in-Residence, Whitehall Berkeley Museum, Middletown RI. (July 2017, July 2019)

Prometheus Philosophy Club, Johns Hopkins University. Keynote speaker for annual conference. (April 2019)

University of the Third Age Philosophy Group, Leeds, Seminar on "Philosophy of Gender". (July 2018)

Johns Hopkins University Flash Seminar on "Old and New Riddles of Induction". (February 2018)

Prometheus Philosophy Club, Johns Hopkins University, Presentation on "Emergence". (October 2017)

Philosophy Discussion Group, C.A. Dillon Youth Development Center, North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, Butner NC. (Spring 2007, Fall 2009, Spring 2010)