

Mike Dacey

Bates College, Department of Philosophy
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Employment

2017-Present Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Bates College
2016-2017 Faculty Fellow in Philosophy, Colby College
2015-2016 Lecturer in Philosophy, Washington University in St. Louis

Education

PhD Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology
Washington University in St. Louis, August 2015
MA Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology
Washington University in St. Louis, May 2012
BA Philosophy (High Honors) and Physics
Wesleyan University, May 2006

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Science

Areas of Competence

Early Modern Philosophy, Moral Psychology, Biomedical Ethics

Work in Progress

“Of a Different Mind: Seven challenges for the science of animal cognition” Book project
Anticipated completion early 2023.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Evidence in Default: Rejecting default models of animal minds” forthcoming in *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.
“The Shared Project, but Divergent Views, of the Empiricist Associationists” (2022) in *Philosophical Psychology*
“Simplicity and the Meaning of Mental Association.” (2019) *Erkenntnis*, 84 (6): 1207-1228.
“Association and the Mechanisms of Priming.” (2019) *Journal of Cognitive Science*, 20-3: 281-321.
“The Paper Topic Machine: Creativity, Credit, and the Unconscious.” (2018) *Analysis*, 78, 4: 614-622.
“Anthropomorphism as Cognitive Bias.” (2017) *Philosophy of Science*, 84 (5), 1152-1164.
“The Varieties of Parsimony in Psychology.” (2016) *Mind & Language*, 31: 414-437.
“Rethinking Associations in Psychology.” (2016) *Synthese*, 193: 3763-3786.

“Associationism without Associative Links: Thomas Brown and the Project of Associationism.” (2015) *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*, 54: 31-40.

Invited Publications

“Separate substantive from statistical hypotheses and treat them differently.” (2022) *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 45, E9. Commentary on Yarkoni, T. “The Generalizability Crisis.”

“Associationism in the Philosophy of Mind” *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. First published August 2020: <https://iep.utm.edu/associat/>

“Parsimony.” (2017) in *Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences*, V. Zeigler-Hill and T. Shackelford (Eds.). New York: Springer.

“A New View of Association and Associative Models.” (2017) in *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Animal Minds*, K. Andrews & J. Beck (Eds.). New York: Routledge. 419-426.

“Reference.” Dacey, M., & Mallon, R. (2016) in *A Companion to Experimental Philosophy*, J. Sytsma & W. Buckwalter (Eds.). Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell. 371-389.

Research Presentations

TBD

April 2023: Invited talk at inaugural meeting Philosophy of Philosophy of Animal Minds and Behavior Association. Madrid, Spain.

“Of a Different mind: seven challenges to the science of animal minds”

June 2022: Kinds of Intelligence Works in Progress Retreat. Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, UK.

“Anecdotal Experiments: evaluating evidence with few animals”

Feb. 2022: Philosophy of Science Association. Baltimore, MD (Postponed from Nov 2020).

Dec. 2020: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Held Online (postponed from March 2020 in Louisville KY).

Nov. 2019: Northern New England Philosophical Association. College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

“Gathering Evidence about Animal Minds”

Nov. 2021: “Conjectures and Refutations” Seminar Series at London School of Economics. Held Online.

“Challenges to the Science of Animal Minds”

April 2020: Philosophy Department Colloquium, Bard College. Part of the Bard Thinking Animals Initiative. *Cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic*

April 2020: American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA. Part of invited session “*Methods of Observations in the Animal Mind Sciences*” sponsored by the Society for the Philosophy of Animal Minds. *Cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic*

“Varieties of Association”

Jan. 2020: American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division. Philadelphia, PA. *Part of invited symposium “The Association of Ideas in Philosophy and Its History.”*

“Is Anthropomorphism an Automatic Process? Evidence from Affective Priming Tasks”

Nov. 2019: Psychonomic Society. Montreal QC, *Poster Presentation of empirical work with Yi Feng, Kai Chang, and Jen Coane.*

“Evidence in Default: Rejecting default models in comparative psychology”

July 2019: International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology. Oslo, Norway.

Dec. 2018: Australasian Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.

Nov. 2018: Philosophy of Science Association. Seattle, WA. *Poster Presentation.*

Oct. 2018: Northern New England Philosophy Association. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.

June 2018: Munich/Sydney/Turin Conference: Models of Explanation. University of Turin, Turin, Italy. *Poster Presentation.*

June 2018: Inaugural Varieties of Minds Conference. Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, UK. *Poster Presentation.*

“Implicit Anthropomorphism: Theory and Preliminary Results”

June 2018: Varieties of Minds Conference. Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, UK.

“The Aging Mind and the ‘Smiling’ Chimpanzee: Anthropomorphic Responses in an Affective Priming Paradigm”

May 2018: Cognitive Aging Conference. Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA. *Poster Presentation of empirical work with Yi Feng, Shuofeng Xu, and Jen Coane.*

“Rethinking Associations”

March 2018: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. San Antonio, TX. *Part of invited symposium “Associationism and its Discontents.”*

“The Paper Topic Machine: Creativity, Credit, and the Unconscious”

Nov. 2017: Northern New England Philosophy Association. Stonehill College, Easton, MA.

March 2017: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Savannah, GA.

“The Varieties of Parsimony in the Chimpanzee Mindreading Debate”

Jan. 2017: Department Colloquium. Bates College.

“Anthropomorphism as Cognitive Bias”

Nov. 2016: Philosophy of Science Association. Atlanta, GA.

Sept. 2016: Department Colloquium. Bates College.

March 2016: Department Colloquium. University of Nevada Reno.

Oct. 2015: PNP/Medical School Series. Washington University in St Louis.

“Three Problems of Parsimony in Psychology”

June 2015: Ernst Mach Workshop IV. The Institute of Philosophy. Prague, Czech Republic.

April 2015: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. New Orleans, LA.

“Simplicity, Complexity, and Association in Human Psychology”

June 2015: Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Duke University, Durham, NC.

“Three Problems of Parsimony in Psychology and Lessons for Associationism”

April 2015: Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology Colloq. Washington University in St Louis.

“Simple Theories, Simple Minds”

April 2014: Harvard-MIT Graduate Philosophy Conference.

Feb. 2014: The Colombian Conference on Logic, Epistemology and Philosophy of Science. Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, Colombia.

“Association as a Semantic Level Construct”

June 2013: Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Brown University, Providence, RI. *Poster Presentation.*

May 2013: Midwestern Cognitive Science Conference. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. *Poster Presentation.*

“Rethinking Associations in Psychology: Evidence against an associative process.”

March 2013: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Austin, TX.

Oct. 2012: Invited Presentation at Carnegie Mellon University. Pittsburgh, PA.

“What’s so Special about the Conscious Will?”

April 2012: Mind, Method and Morality. University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

March 2012: Gateway Graduate Philosophy Conference. University of Missouri, St. Louis.

Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

May-June 2022	Visiting Scholar, Leverhulme Center for the Future of Intelligence, The University of Cambridge
May-June 2022	Bates Faculty Development Fund Grant for Cambridge Visit
2017-2019	Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada Postdoctoral Fellowship. <i>Declined</i>
2016-2017	Faculty Fellow in Philosophy, Colby College
Spring 2015	Washington University Teaching Citation
Winter 2014	WUSTL Philosophy Stenner Prize for best graduate essay
2013-2014	Washington University Dissertation Fellowship

August 2011 Travel Funding, Early Career Participant, Cortical Color Vision Conference, Vancouver Canada
2008-2009 Washington University First Year Fellowship
Spring 2006 High Honors in Philosophy, Wesleyan University

Courses Taught

Bates College

300-level seminars:

-*Animal Minds* (Philosophy 321): Spring 2018, Spring 2021, Fall 2022
-*Philosophy of Evolution* (Philosophy/Biology 323): Fall 2019
-*Moral Psychology* (Philosophy/Psychology 332): Fall 2018, Spring 2022

200-level courses:

-*Making Moral Minds: Nature, Nurture, and the Sources of Morality* (Philosophy 233): Fall 2017, Spring 2019 (two sections), Fall 2019, Spring 2022 (two sections)
-*Philosophy of Mind* (Philosophy 235): Fall 2018, Fall 2021, Fall 2022 (two sections)
-*Philosophy of Science* (Philosophy 211): Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2021
-*Philosophy of Cognitive Science* (Philosophy 210/Digital & Computational Studies 252/Neuroscience 252): Fall 2017, Spring 2020, Fall 2020 (two sections)

First Year Seminar:

-*Making Moral Minds: Nature, Nurture, and the Sources of Morality* (FYS 503): Fall 2019

Undergraduate theses advised:

Conor Fay, spring 2021 (Interdisciplinary major in Decision Science)
Katherine Salazar, fall 2020
Elizabeth Ottenstein, 2019-2020 (Interdisciplinary Major in Cognitive Science)
Sean Anderson, spring 2020
Max Rein, fall 2019
Caleb Perlman, 2018-2019
Josh Langer, fall 2018
Katrina Muñoz 2017-2018, (honors – joint Philosophy and Neuroscience)

Honors Thesis Panels

Xavier Fallone, 2022, Psychology
Arya Mohanty 2022, Psychology

Colby College

-*Philosophy of Cognitive Science* (Philosophy 398): Spring 2017
-*On Being Human* (Philosophy 113): Fall 2016, Spring 2017
-*Philosophy of Mind* (Philosophy 297): Fall 2016

Washington University in St. Louis

-*Great Philosophers* (Philosophy 125): Spring 2016, Fall 2015 (two sections)

-*Inquiry in the Cognitive Sciences* (Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology 201): Spring 2016 (co-designed with Carl Craver)

-*PNP Reading Class: "Happiness and Well-being"* (Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology 390): Spring 2016

University College at Washington University in St. Louis

-*Biomedical Ethics* (Philosophy 233): Spring 2015

-*Great Philosophers* (Philosophy 125): Summer 2013

-*Introduction to Logic and Critical Analysis* (Philosophy 100): Summer 2012

Teaching Assistantships (Washington University in St. Louis)

Spring 2015	Environmental Ethics	J. Claude Evans
Fall 2014	Biomedical Ethics	Anya Plutynski
Spring 2013	Great Philosophers	Eric Brown
Fall 2012	Mind, Brain, & Behavior	Balota, Duchek, & Peterson
Spring 2012	Introduction to Cognitive Science	Santiago Amaya
Fall 2011	Philosophy of Mind	Elizabeth Schechter
Spring 2011	Introduction to Cognitive Science	Brandon Towl
Fall 2010	Problems in Philosophy	John Doris
Spring 2010	Intro to Logic and Critical Analysis	John Heil
Fall 2009	Inquiry in the Cognitive Sciences	David Kaplan

Service to Bates College

Fall 2022	Member Psychology Dept. Assistant Professor Search Committee
Fall 2022	Member Student Conduct Pool
2021-2022	Chair Bates Committee on Teaching and Learning
2021-2022	Member Anthropology Chair Search Committee
Spring 2020	Member Philosophy Department VAP Search Committee (<i>cancelled</i>)
2019-2022	Chair Faculty Advisory Board for Interdisciplinary Major in Game Design created by Jasper Tucker (class of 2021)
2018-2020	Member Bates Committee on Teaching and Learning
2018-2020	Member Faculty Advisory Board for Interdisciplinary Major in Cognitive Science created by Elizabeth Ottenstein (class of 2020)
2018-2019	Member Bates Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee
2018-2019	Member Bates Philosophy Dept. Assistant Professor Search Committee

Journals Reviewed for: *Animal Behavior and Cognition*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Cognition*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Interface Focus*, *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*, *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Patterns*, *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Synthese*.

Organizations Reviewed for: *L'Oréal Fellowship - Austrian Academy of Sciences*

Book series reviewed for: *Cambridge Elements - Cambridge University Press*

Scientific Research Experience

2016-Present

Designing and running empirical tests of human tendency to anthropomorphize
Laboratory of Jennifer Coane, Colby College Psychology Department

Fall 2007, Fall 2006

Field Research Assistant: Observing bighorn sheep mating behavior in wild
Montana Conservation Science Institute, Missoula, MT.

Summer 2007, Summer 2006, Summer 2004, Summer 2003

Research Assistant: Designing and testing chemical detection techniques in vitro
Biocurrents Research Center at Marine Biological Laboratories, Woods Hole, MA

Spring 2007

Research Assistant: Studying camouflage behavior in captive cuttlefish
Marine Resources Center (Hanlon Lab) at Marine Biological Labs, Woods Hole, MA

Spring 2006, Year 2005, Fall 2004

Undergraduate Researcher: Studying Na₂ energy levels by laser dissociation
Laboratory of Lutz Huwel, Wesleyan University Physics Department