

David Sorensen | Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

M.A. Philosophy and Cognitive science (neurophilosophy track), 2014-2016

Thesis supervisor: Daniel Weiskopf

Thesis title: The unity of higher cognition: the case against dual process theory

Committee: Daniel Weiskopf, Neil van Leeuwen, Andrea Scarantino

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

B.A. Philosophy, *magna cum laude*, 2012-2013

Minor in Cognitive Science

Raritan Valley Community College, Branchburg, NJ

A.A. Liberal Arts, 2011-2013

Academic Employment

Lecturer (Philosophy and Cognitive Science), **Montclair University**, 2023-present

Lecturer II, **Rutgers University**, 2019-present

Adjunct Associate Professor, **Raritan Valley Community College** 2018-present

Adjunct Instructor, **Middlesex County College**, 2018-present

Lecturer, **Drew University**, 2022-2024

Adjunct Instructor, **Union County College**, 2017-2021

Honors and awards

Brains and Behavior Fellowship: Georgia State University (August 2014-May 2016)

Emily F. Mitchell Prize in philosophy: Rutgers, New Brunswick (2014)

Guru Vandana Award: Rutgers, New Brunswick (2021)

Areas of specialization

Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Mind, Animal Minds

Areas of competence

Ethics, Epistemology, Philosophy of Science

Current Research Interests

Animal Minds: marker approach solutions to the distribution problem

Teaching experience

Intro to Cognitive Science	Montclair University: Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025
Animal Minds	Montclair University: Spring 2024
Intro to Philosophy of Science	Rutgers University: Spring 2024
Minds, Machines, Persons	Rutgers University: Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Summer 2021 (online), Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022 (online), Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Seminar in Philosophy of Mind	Drew University: Spring 2023
Philosophical Ideas in Science Fiction	Rutgers University: Spring 2023
Logic, Reason, Persuasion	Rutgers University: Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021 (online), Fall 2022, Fall 2024, Fall 2025
Bioethics	Rutgers University: Summer 2020, Winter 2021, Summer 2021 (online)
Ethics Honors	Raritan Valley Community College: Spring 2024
Current Moral and Social Issues	Raritan Valley Community College: Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Winter 2020 (online), Spring 2020 (online), Spring 2021, Summer 2021 (online), Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Spring 2023
Advanced Topics in Medical Ethics	Rutgers University: Spring 2021 (online)
Intro to Formal Reasoning	Rutgers University: Spring 2019 (online)
Intro to Formal Logic	Raritan Valley Community College: Spring 2021 (online), Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023
Theory of Knowledge	Rutgers University: Fall 2019 Drew University: Fall 2022
Intro to Philosophy	Raritan Valley Community College: Spring 2018, Summer 2018 (online), Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019 Middlesex County College: Fall 2018 Rutgers University: Spring 2020, Summer 2022 Drew University: Fall 2022
Expository Writing	Rutgers University: Fall 2018, Spring 2020, Fall 2020
Basic Composition	Rutgers University: Fall 2019
Ethics	Union College: Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2020
Critical Thinking	Union College: Fall 2017, Spring 2019 Middlesex County College: Spring 2019 Raritan Valley Community College: Fall 2021

Related Experience

Teaching Assistant: Intro to Philosophy (Prof. Karen Bennett)	Rutgers University
Teaching Assistant: Human Nature and Human Diversity (Prof. Stephen Stich)	Rutgers University
Grader: Logic (Prof. Kirk McDermid)	Montclair State
Presentation on “What it’s like to be a fish”	MCC Lecture
Guest lecture on applied critical thinking: 9/11 conspiracy theories	Georgia State
Presentation on the moral behavior of professional ethicists	Seminar: Moral-Psych
Presentation on evolutionary psychology and the evolution of the human brain	Georgia State
Presentation on Ned Block’s distinction between cognition and perception	B&B seminar
Presentation on inattentional blindness and cultural variation	Seminar: Cog-Psych
Presentation on competing theories of blindsight	Seminar: Cog-Neuro
Presentation on the problem of the criterion	Seminar: Epistemology

Conference Presentations

May 1st, 2025

Talk: *Cephalopod Phenomenology and Nautloid Zombies*, Society for Philosophy and Neuroscience (SPAN) Conference, Washington University, St.Louis

June 19th, 2025

Poster Session: *Is there something it’s like to be an axolotl?*, Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP) Conference, Cornell University

Service to the Profession

Session Chair: **Animal Cognition**, SPP 2025 Conference

Professional Conferences Attended

SPP 2025 Conference	June 2025
SPAN 2025 Conference	May 2025
APA 2025, Eastern Division	January 2025
Philosophy of Science Biennial Conference, New Orleans	December 2024
Philosophy of Deep Learning (NYU, online)	April 2023
Conference in Honor of Jerry Fodor (Rutgers)	June 2019
AAPT-APA Teaching Hub Eastern Division Meeting	January 2019
APA Eastern Division Conference: NYC	January 2019
NYU Conference on Issues in Modern Philosophy	November 2018
Foundations of Conceptual Engineering (NYU)	September 2018
AAPP Conference: Philosophical Perspectives on Affect, Emotion, and Mood in Psychiatric Disorder	May 2018

Animal Minds Conference NYU	
Philosophy of Science Biennial Conference in Atlanta, Ga	November 2017
Foundations of Emotion in Mind, Brain, and Culture at Emory	November 2016
Brains & Behavior Retreat at GSU	February 2016
Neuro-interventions and the Law at GSU	June 2015; 2016
Philosophy of Cosmology Conference at Rutgers	September 2014
MERG mini-conference at NYU on Experimental Philosophy	Spring 2013
Naturalistic Dualism: Alternatives to Physicalism at NYU	March 2012
NECSS Conference for Science and Skepticism in NYC	October 2012
CFI & UPenn Conference on Biomedical Enhancements at UPenn	2010; 2011
	December 2010

Graduate coursework

Georgia State University

- Seminar in philosophy of science (Andrea Scarantino)
- Seminar in epistemology (Stephen Jacobson)
- Seminar on free will and moral responsibility (Eddy Nahmias) *audited*
- Seminar in philosophy of cognitive science (Daniel Weiskopf)
- Moral Psychology (Eddy Nahmias)
- Philosophy of cognitive science (Neil Van Leeuwen)
- Symbolic Logic (Edward Cox)

Rutgers University

- Advanced topics in philosophy of mind (Howard Robinson)
- Survey in epistemology (Alvin Goldman)
- Moral Psychology (Stephen Stich)
- Advanced topics in philosophy of physics (David Albert and Barry Loewer)
- Advanced topics in philosophy of mind (Brian McLaughlin) *audited*
- Philosophy of Time (Ted Sider) *audited*

Science coursework highlights

Georgia State University

- Topics in neurobiology: Evolution of nervous systems (Charles Derby)
- Advanced Cognitive Psychology (Heather Kleider-Offutt)
- Cognitive Neuroscience (William Hopkins)

Rutgers University

- Intro to Cognitive Science (Randy Gallistel)
- Behavioral Pharmacology (George Wagner)
- Sensation and Perception (Eileen Kowler)
- Physiological Psychology (Bonnie Nolan)