

Brad Armendt

September 2020

Philosophy, SHPRS
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Education

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, December 1983 (Philosophy).

Dissertation: *Rational Decision Theory: The Foundations of Causal Decision Theory*

B.A., Rice University, Houston, Texas, 1975 (Philosophy and Mathematics).

Professional Positions

Associate Professor, Philosophy, SHPRS, Arizona State University, 2013-present.

Associate Professor, Arizona State University, School of Life Sciences, 2009-2013; Philosophy and Life Sciences, 2003-2009.

Associate Professor, Philosophy, Arizona State University, 1995-2003.

Department Chair, 1996-2002

Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Arizona State University, 1989-1995.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy, University of Rochester, Autumn 1988.

Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Ohio State University, 1983-1989.

Instructor, Philosophy, University of Minnesota, Duluth, 1981-1983.

ASU affiliations

History and Philosophy of Science program, School of Life Sciences

Center for Biology and Society

Center for Social Dynamics and Complexity

Graduate Faculties: Philosophy, History and Philosophy of Science, Complex Adaptive Systems Science, Human and Social Dimensions of Science and Technology

Papers In Progress

“Sophisticated Dynamics, Self-aware Deliberators,” manuscript in progress.

“Frozen Language and Epistemic Norms,” manuscript in progress.

Publications

“Causal Decision Theory and Decision Instability,” *Journal of Philosophy*, 116, 5 (2019) 263-277.

Chosen for *The Philosopher's Annual*, as one of the ten best articles in philosophy, 2019.

“Deliberation and Pragmatic Belief,” in *Pragmatic Encroachment in Epistemology*, Kim and McGrath, eds., 170-180, Routledge, 2019.

“Causal Decision Theory,” in *Introduction to Formal Philosophy*, Hansson & Hendricks, eds., 669-691, Springer, 2018.

“On Risk and Rationality,” *Erkenntnis*, 79 (2014) 1119-1127.

“Pragmatic Interests and Imprecise Belief,” *Philosophy of Science*, 80 (2013) 758-768.

Skyrmsfest, special issue of *Philosophical Studies*, Armendt and Zollman, eds., 147 (January 2010); including “Introduction to Skyrmsfest,” 1-5.

“Stakes and Beliefs,” *Philosophical Studies*, 147(1) (2010), 71-87.

“Stake-Invariant Belief,” *Acta Analytica*, 23 (2008) 29-43..

“Frank Ramsey,” in *The Philosophy of Science: An Encyclopedia*, pp. 671-681, Routledge, 2006.

“Frank Ramsey,” in *Companion to Analytic Philosophy*, 139-147, Blackwell, 2001.

“Decision Theory,” *Encyclopedia of Philosophy Supplement*, 121-123, Macmillan, 1996.

Belief and Probability, edited special issue of *Philosophical Studies*, 77 (January 1995); including “Introduction,” 1-6.

“Dutch books, Additivity, and Utility Theory,” *Philosophical Topics*, 21 (1993), 1-20.

“Marinoff on Evolutionarily Stable Strategies,” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 44 (1993), 789-793.

“Dutch Strategies for Diachronic Rules: When Believers See the Sure Loss Coming,” in *PSA 1992*, Vol. 1, 217-229, Philosophy of Science Association.

“Impartiality and Causal Decision Theory,” in *PSA 1988*, Vol. 1, 326-336, Philosophy of Science Association.

“Conditional Preference and Causal Expected Utility,” in *Causation in Decision, Belief Change, and Statistics*, 3-24, D. Reidel, 1988.

“A Foundation for Causal Decision Theory,” *Topoi*, 5 (1986), 3-19.

“Is There a Dutch Book Argument for Probability Kinematics?” *Philosophy of Science*, 47 (1980), 583-588.

Book review

Notes on Philosophy, Probability, and Mathematics, by F. P. Ramsey, *Philosophical Review*, 103 (1994), 713-715.

Presentations

“Deliberation with Causal Decision Theory,” New Work on Choice and Belief Conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, November 2019.

- “On an Impossibility Result for Best Systems Analysis,” comments on paper by Sungwon Woo, 2016 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco.
- “Risks and Beliefs,” Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of California, Irvine, November 2013.
- “Imprecise Belief and What’s at Stake,” Models and Decisions: MST 2013 Conference, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, Ludwig Maximilian University, April 2013.
- “On Degrees of Incoherence and Dutch Books,” comments on paper by Julia Staffel, 2013 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco.
- “Pragmatic Interests and Imprecise Belief,” PSA 2012, biennial meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, San Diego, November 2012.
- “Risk and Rational Choice,” on work by Lara Buchak, Formal Epistemology Workshop 2012, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, May 2012.
- “Belief Here, Doubt There—What Do You Really Think?” Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, April 2011.
- “Property Theories of Belief and Degrees of Belief,” comments on paper by Joel Pust, 2011 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego.
- “Understanding and Knowledge: Comments on Elgin, Kvanvig, and Strevens,” 2010 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco.
- “Pragmatic Interests and the Strength of Belief,” EpiConFor: Epistemology, Context, Formalism conference, MSH Lorraine, November 2009, Nancy, France.
- “Stakes and Beliefs,” Philosophy Colloquium, Arizona State University, October 2009.
- “Shogenji on Degrees of Epistemic Justification,” comments on paper by Tomoji Shogenji, 2008 APA Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia.
- “Beliefs, Believings, and What’s at Stake,” Philosophy Department colloquium, California University of Pennsylvania, November 2008, California, PA.
- “Stakes and Beliefs,” invited lecture, Laguna Workshop in Honor of Brian Skyrms, March 2008, Laguna Beach, CA.
- “Stake-Invariant Belief,” invited lecture, Boulder Philosophy of Science Conference, October 2007, Boulder, CO.
- “Deliberation and the Logic of Partial Belief,” Bled Conference on Contemporary Epistemology, May 2007, Bled, Slovenia.
- “Degrees of Belief and Dutch Books,” invited lecture, ANU Conference on Probability, March 2006, Australian National University, Canberra.
- “Dutch Books, Coherence, and Consistency,” Philosophy Colloquium, Arizona State University, October 2005.
- “Coherence and Consistency,” invited lecture, Prague International Colloquium: Dutch Book Arguments, August 2005, Prague.
- “Simulating Decisions of Water Use in Uncertain Times in the Southwestern US: An ABM of Strategies and Population Level Actions,” W. Griffin, S. Schmidt, B. Armendt, North American Association for Computational Social and Organizational Science, June 2005, Notre Dame.

- “Risk Sensitivity,” comments on paper by Lara Buchak, 2005 Formal Epistemology Workshop, May 2005, Austin, TX.
- “Disjunctive Causes,” comments on paper by Carolina Sartorio, 2004 APA Pacific Division Meeting, Pasadena.
- “On van Fraassen’s Argument against Explanationism,” comments on paper by Dorit Ganson, 2003 Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, Pullman, WA / Moscow, ID.
- “Goldman on Probabilistic Inference,” comments on paper by Don Fallis, 2001 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco.
- "Preference and causal beliefs," symposium paper, 2000 APA Pacific Division meeting, Albuquerque, April 2000.
- “Partial Belief and Well-conceived Bayesianism,” April 1997, Philosophy Department, University of Arizona.
- “Bandyopadhyay on Bayesian Accounts of Acceptance,” comments on paper by Prasanta Bandyopadhyay, 1996 APA Pacific Division meeting, Seattle.
- “Wolf on the Value of What We do not Know,” comments on paper by Charles Wolf, 1995 APA Central Division meeting, Chicago.
- “Bayesian Policies for Belief Revision,” 10th International Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, August 1995, Florence, Italy.
- “Moser and Mulder on Probability and Rational Decision-making,” comments on paper by Paul Moser and Dwayne Mulder, 1994 APA Central Division meeting, Kansas City.
- “Weirich on Ratifiability and Nash Equilibria,” comments on paper by Paul Weirich, 1994 APA Pacific Division meeting, Los Angeles.
- "Ulysses in the Mirror," comments on paper by Bas van Fraassen, 1993 APA Central Division meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "Wanted: Irrational Belief Change (Reward)," 1992 APA Eastern Division meeting, Washington DC.
- "Dutch Strategies for Diachronic Rules: When Believers See the Sure Loss Coming," 1992 Biennial meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- "Rational Coagency," comments on paper by Julius Sensat, 1991 APA Central Division meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "Dispositions and Attitudes," October 1988-February 1989. Philosophy Departments, University of Rochester, Wayne State University, Arizona State University, University of Notre Dame
- "Impartiality and Causal Decision Theory," Conference on Contemporary Moral Theory, University of St. Andrews, Sept. 1988.
1988 Biennial meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- "Scatena on the Theory of Error," comments on paper by Paul Scatena, 1988 APA Central Division meeting, Cincinnati, OH.
- "Maher on Coherence and Indeterminate Probability," comments on paper by Patrick Maher, 1987 APA Central Division meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "Conditional Preference and Rational Choice," symposium paper, 1986 APA Pacific Division meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

"Conditional Preference and Causal Expected Utility," Conference on Probability and Causation, July 1985 at University of California, Irvine.

"Humphreys on 'Non-Nietzschean Decision Making,'" comments on paper by Paul Humphreys, 1985 APA Pacific Division meeting, San Francisco, CA.

"The Foundations of Causal Decision Theory," Ohio State University Philosophy Department Conference on Decision Theory, February, 1984.

"Rational Decision Theory," January and February, 1983. Philosophy Departments, Brown University, Ohio State University, University of Minnesota at Duluth

Teaching

Undergraduate courses taught since 2007

Philosophy of Science PHI/HPS 314

Probability, Evidence, and Decision PHI/HPS 313

Symbolic Logic PHI 333

Introduction to Philosophy PHI 101

Theory of Knowledge PHI 312

History of Science HPS 322

Graduate seminars taught since 2007, some repeated

Evolution and Strategic Interaction

Rational Choice; Choice and Belief; Decisions and Strategies

Probabilism

Causation

Biology and Society Lab; History and Philosophy of Science Lab

New courses developed

Probability, Evidence, and Decision PHI/HPS 313

Decisions and Strategies HPS 513

Philosophy of Computing PHI 319 (with Bernard Kobes)

Selected awards and grants

ASU School of Life Sciences Initiatives Award, "Frank Ramsey," November 2008

Philosophy of Science Association/NSF Travel Grant to 10th International Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, 1995

ASU CLAS Grant for Improvement of Undergraduate Education (with B. Kobes) "Development of Course, Philosophy of Computing" 1995

Council for Philosophical Studies/NEH Summer Institute on Theory of Knowledge, 1986

ASU and community presentations, workshops, seminars

- “Causal Decision Theory and Decision Instability,” ASU Philosophy talk, October 2018.
- “Questions,” Origins of Xenophobia Workshop, Center for Social Dynamics and Complexity, March 2012.
- “Stakes and Beliefs and Subjective Probabilities,” Center for Biological Physics, October 2010.
- “Is Genetic Engineering Necessary?” CLAS Family Weekend Faculty Debate, October 2008.
- “When do Rewards Justify Beliefs?,” to Spirit of the Senses community group, December 2007.
- “Philosophy and Normative Judgment,” ASU Institute for Humanities Research Seminar Series, February 2007.
- “Ethical Dilemmas,” with Jason Robert, to Spirit of the Senses community group, May 2006.
- Faculty seminar, "On Being Human: Science, Religion, Technology and Law," sponsored by the ASU Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict. Many meetings during 2004-2006.
- ASU SOLS Workshop, “Structure and Evolution of Social Systems: Integrating Empirical, Theoretical, and Conceptual Approaches,” March 2004.

Professional Service

- Referee for *Philosophical Review*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophy of Science*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Mind*, *Nous*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Synthese*, *Erkenntnis*, *Analysis*, *Ergo*, *Episteme*, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Economics and Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Journal of the History of Biology*, *American Philosophical Association*.
- Co-organizer, *New Work on Choice and Belief Conference*, November 2019, Tempe. The conference was held at ASU and co-sponsored by University of Michigan Philosophy and ASU School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies.
- Manuscript reviewer for Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Springer Publishing.
- Philosophical Gourmet evaluator, 2004, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2017
- NSF proposal reviewer, SES Science Technology and Society Program, 1998, 2007, 2012, 2015.
- FWF proposal reviewer, Austrian Science Fund (similar to NSF), 2018.
- Program Committee, Formal Epistemology Workshop (FEW) 2020, Irvine.
- Program Committee, Philosophy of Science Association, PSA 2014 biennial meeting.
- Program Committee, MST 2013 Models and Decisions Conference, Munich.
- Program Committee, Philosophy of Science Association, PSA 2006 biennial meeting.
- Chair, Session on Probability and Statistics, PSA 2018, Seattle.
- Chair, Session on Skepticism, 2018 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego.
- Chair, Session on Scientific Explanation, 2017 APA Pacific Division Meeting, Seattle.
- Chair, Session on Formal Epistemology, PSA 2016, Atlanta.

Chair, Session on Decision Theory, 2016 APA Central Division Meeting, Chicago.
 Chair, Session on Epistemology and Decision Theory, 2015 APA Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver.
 Chair, Session on Bayesianism, PSA 2014, Chicago.
 Chair, Symposium on Risk and Rationality, 2014 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Diego.
 Chair, Session on Justification, 2012 APA Pacific Division Meeting, Seattle.
 Chair, Session on Decision and Game Theory, PSA 2006, Vancouver.
 Chair, Session on Causes, Counterfactuals, Nonlocality, 2005 APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco.
 Chair, Session on Epistemic Probability, 2003 APA Pacific Division meeting, San Francisco.
 Chair, Session on Laws and Origins, 2002 APA Pacific Division meeting, Seattle.
 Chair, Session on Metaphysics and Philosophy of Science, 1999 APA Central Division meeting, New Orleans.
 Chair, Session on Constituting the Self, 1997 APA Pacific Division meeting, Berkeley.
 Chair, Session on Philosophy of Science, 1996 APA Central Division meeting, Chicago.
 Chair, Session on The Stability of Intention, 1995 APA Pacific Division meeting, San Francisco.
 Chair, Session on Political Philosophy: Decision Theory, 1992 APA Pacific Division meeting, Portland.
 Chair, Session on Ethics and Decision Theory, 1989 APA Central Division meeting, Chicago.
 Chair, Session on Decision Instability, 1986 APA Central Division meeting, St. Louis.
 Organizer of conferences on Social Choice and Bargaining, October 1987; on Decision Theory, February 1985, both at Ohio State University.

ASU Service, University and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

CLAS Search Committee for SHPRS Director, 2016
 University Senate Personnel Committee, 2011-2014 (chair 2012-2014)
 Provost's Budget Committee, 2013
 University Senate, 2011-2014 (executive committee 2012-2014)
 CLAS Senate 2011-2014
 Steering Committee, Academic Chairs and Directors Council 1999-2002
 CLAS Committee on Committees, 2003-2006
 Many other ad hoc CLAS committees...

ASU Service, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies

Personnel Committee, 2018, 2020-2021
 Transdisciplinary Committee, 2017-2019
 Philosophy Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2016-2017

ASU Service, Philosophy

Graduate Committee 2014-2016, 2020-2021

Personnel Committee 2020-2021

Student Awards Committee, 2015-2016, (chair) 2016-2017, 2017-2018

Curriculum Committee (chair), 2016-2017

Lecturer Search Committee, 2016

Philosophy Department Chair 1996-2002

Director of Graduate Studies 1990-1991

Curriculum Committee 1990-1991, 1994-1995 (chair), 2004-2006, 2007-2009

Colloquium Coordinator, 1996, 2005-2007

Many other committees and minor offices...

ASU Service, School of Life Sciences

Search Committee, Assistant Professor, Philosophy of Biology 2014-2015

Director, History and Philosophy of Science Program 2004-2005

Undergraduate Programs Committee 2006-2008, 2010

Other committees and minor offices...