

ANDREW RICHMOND

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Cognitive Science	Neuroscience, Psychology, AI
Philosophy of Mind	Computation, Representation, Teleology, Naturalism
Philosophy of Science	Scientific Explanation, Metaphysics of Science

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Language, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Philosophy of Humor, Philosophy of Psychiatry, Kant

EMPLOYMENT

Rotman Institute, University of Western Ontario Postdoctoral Associate, EMRG Lab	<i>2022-present</i>
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EDUCATION

PhD , Columbia University, Department of Philosophy	<i>2022</i>
BA , University of Toronto, Philosophy	<i>2016</i>
Certifications Neuromatch, Computational Neuroscience	<i>2024</i>
Columbia, Teaching Development Program (Advanced Track)	<i>2022</i>

DISSERTATION

Methods in Mind: Explanation in Cognitive Science

Committee: John Morrison (advisor), Jenann Ismael, Chris Peacocke, Frances Egan, Rosa Cao

My dissertation developed a pragmatic and psychological approach to understanding scientific explanation, and used that approach to argue for reforms to both scientific and philosophical methods in mind/brain research. In particular, while most philosophers understand specialized scientific concepts by investigating the kinds or categories they refer to, I argued that we must focus on the pragmatic role those concepts play in the scientific process: what they help scientists *do*, and how.

PUBLICATIONS (superscript indicates authorship order)

Baker, B.,¹ Lange, R.,¹ [Richmond, A.](#),¹ Kriegeskorte, N., Cao, R., Pitkow, X., Schwartz, O., & Achille, A. (forthcoming). **Use and usability: Three levels of neural representation.** *Neurons, Behavior, Data, and Theory*.

[Richmond, A.](#) (2025). **How computation explains.** *Mind & Language*, 40(1).

[Richmond, A.](#) (2025). **What is a theory of neural representation for?** *Synthese*, 205(14).

Commentaries

[Richmond, A.](#),¹ Bowen, J.G., Kayssi, L.F., Küçük, K., Ravikumar, V., Şahin, M.Y., & Anderson, M.L. (2024). **Imposing vs finding unity: Mechanisms in embodied cognitive neuroscience.** *Cognitive Neuroscience*, 15(34), 122123.

[Richmond, A.](#) (2023). **Commentary: Investigating the concept of representation in the neural and psychological sciences.** *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14:1259808.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW OR IN PREPARATION

Minor revisions: [What really lives in the swamp? Kinds and the illustration of scientific reasoning](#)

Under review: [Computational externalism for neuroscience and AI](#)

Under commission, *Philosophy Compass*: **Pragmatist philosophy of cognitive science**

In preparation: **Experimental philosophy of science: Beyond taxonomy**

GRANTS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

\$26,453 , <i>The Next Generation of Ethical Artificial Intelligence</i> (PI) Connection Grant, Social Science and Humanities Research Council (\$17,635) Matching funds from other sources (\$8,818)	2025
\$20,000 , <i>AI in the Public Sector: Responsible AI in Education</i> (Collaborator) Think Tank Award, Rotman Institute	2025
\$20,000 , <i>Computational Epistemology</i> (Collaborator) Think Tank Award, Rotman Institute	2024
Teaching Scholars Fellowship, Columbia University <i>Created and taught a course on Philosophy and AI</i>	2021–2022
Senior Lead Teaching Fellowship, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning <i>Supervised 7 teaching fellows; created and ran a two-week pedagogy workshop</i>	2021–2022
David H. Siff Philosophy of Science Award <i>Annual prize for best graduate student paper in philosophy of science</i>	2019, 2020, 2021
Lead Teaching Fellowship, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning <i>Created and ran pedagogy workshops; served as liaison for the Center</i>	2019–2020
\$500 , Teaching Development Grant, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning Benjamin Wolstein Fellowship	2020 2017–2018
Columbia Dean's Fellowship	2016–2021

PRESENTATIONS (* = invited)

“Humility and the Evisceration of Cognitive Science” Humility in Inquiry Seminar, Arizona State University	upcoming, 2025
“Another Negative Program for Experimental Philosophy” Society for Philosophy and Psychology CSHPS, York University	upcoming, 2025 2023
“Representation in Context: Neuroscience and Explainable AI” The Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology	2025
“The Psychology of Scientific Concepts” * Brain & Mind Institute, Western University The Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology * Concepts & Cognition Lab, Princeton University	2025 2025 2023
“Ignoring the Evidence: A Guide for RECS” (with Giovanni Rolla) Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf	2024
“Kinds and the Illustration of Scientific Reasoning” CPA, York University	2023
“How Computation Explains” Neuromatch 5.0 12th Principia International Symposium: Models and Modeling in the Sciences, USFC	2022 2021

“What Is a Theory of Neural Representation For?”

Central APA	2022
Neuromatch 4.0	2021
Columbia-Mount Sinai Brain Symposium	2021
Young Scholars Pragmatism Conference, Cambridge University	2021
Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf IV	2021
5th International Conference on Interactivity, Language & Cognition, University of Warsaw	2021
Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science	2021
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy	2021

“Computational Externalism”

Information and Computing in Nature, Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences	2022
Rudolf Carnap Lectures, Ruhr-Universität Bochum	2019

“What Makes Representations ‘Useful’?” (with Alessandro Achille, Ben Baker, Rosa Cao, Nikolaus Kriegeskorte, Richard Lange, Xaq Pitkow, Nick Shea, Odelia Schwartz)

Cognitive Computational Neuroscience	2021
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“Naturalistic Philosophy of Mind: Taking Scientific Explanation Seriously”

Sciences of the Origin	2021
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“Complexity and Computational Explanation”

Complexity in the Humanities and Sciences, University of Memphis	2019
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Invited Commentaries

“The Overly Modular Mind”, Eastern APA	2022
“Computation in Context”, CU-NYU Graduate Conference	2021
“Communication about Death and Loss”, Lighthearted Philosophers Society	2018

Other Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Beyond the Ivory Tower, Northeastern University	2024
<i>Chair</i> , Eastern APA, “A Husserlian/Fodorian Approach to Deep Learning”	2022
<i>Chair</i> , Eastern APA, Book symposium on Sebastian Watzl’s <i>Structuring Mind</i>	2021
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Mentoring the Mentors, APA	2021
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Philosophy and Physical Computing, Virginia Tech	2019
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Center for Vision Research Workshop, York University	2019
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind, University of Oslo	2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (at Columbia University unless otherwise noted)

As Primary Instructor

Lab Associates Basic Training (Graduate Intro to Cognitive Psych), <i>Rotman Institute</i>	2025
Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence, PHIL 3870	2022
Ethics, PHIL 3701	2022
Metaphysics, PHIL 3601	2020

As TA

Symbolic Logic, PHIL 3413	2021
Philosophy of Cognitive Science, PHIL 2655	2021
Company Failure, PS 5510	2020
Philosophy of Psychology, PHIL 3654	2020
Ethics, PHIL 3701	2019
Kant, PHIL 3251	2019
Metaphysics, PHIL 3601	2018
Introduction to Logic, PHIL 1401	2018
Philosophy of Language and Mind, PHIL 3252	2017

Tutor, Philosophy Student Resource Center, *University of Lethbridge* 2011–2012
Grader, Symbolic Logic I, LOGIC 2003, *University of Lethbridge* 2011

Individual Supervision

Paola Fabian, Research Assistant: “Addiction and the Evolution of Free Will” 2022
Paola Fabian, Research Assistant: “Neuroethics: Research into Consent and Addiction” 2021
Hannah de Jesus, Research Assistant: “Neuroscience and Moral Responsibility” 2021
Ryan Carrasco, Research Assistant: “The Neuroscience of Free Will” 2020

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Rotman Institute of Philosophy Advisory Committee 2023–2025
Rotman Institute of Philosophy Directorship Search Committee 2024
Podcast interview on the [Jack Roycroft-Sherry Podcast](#) 2024
Podcast interview on [Merging Minds](#) 2024
Podcast interview on [Dialexicon](#) 2023
Mentor with [BRAINYAC](#) 2020–2022
Volunteer with [Rethink](#) 2020–2022
Various service for Columbia Minorities and Philosophy: mentor, panelist, etc. 2016–2022
Advisor for *The Ethics of Metaverse*, a student documentary series 2021
Organizer for PopRocks Philosophy of Psychology Workshop 2019–2021
Co-organizer of the Columbia AAPT Teaching Workshop 2020
Teacher with [Corrupt the Youth](#) 2018–2019
Co-organizer of the Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference 2017
Organizer of the Columbia Graduate Student Workshop 2017

Peer Reviewer/Referee

The European Journal of Neuroscience, Synthese 2025
Journal of Philosophy, Society for Philosophy & Psychology, Synthese 2024
Bloomsbury Press 2023
Philosophical Topics 2022
Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference 2018–2022

REFERENCES

Michael Anderson

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Department of Neuroscience
Western University
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Rosa Cao

Department of Philosophy
Stanford University
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Frances Egan

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John Morrison

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Barnard College, Columbia University
jmorriso@barnard.edu

Teaching Reference

Patricia Kitcher

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Columbia University
pk206@columbia.edu