

## Matthew L. Kotzen, *curriculum vitae*

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Philosophy UNC Chapel Hill Caldwell Hall 101B Chapel Hill, NC 27599 USA	<i>Cell:</i> (919) 448-8920 <i>Fax:</i> (866) 383-2778 <i>E-mail:</i> kotzen@email.unc.edu <i>Web:</i> <a href="http://matthewkotzen.net">http://matthewkotzen.net</a>
ACADEMIC POSITIONS	<b>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</b> Adjunct Professor, School of Civic Life and Leadership Professor, Department of Philosophy Faculty Fellow, Applied Epistemology Project Chair, Department of Philosophy Faculty Affiliate, Program for Public Discourse Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Philosophy Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy	October 2023–present July 2023–present July 2022–present July 2021–present July 2021–present July 2013–June 2023 July 2008–June 2013
AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION	Epistemology, Formal Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Law	
AREAS OF COMPETENCE	Logic, Philosophy of Language, Aesthetics	
EDUCATION	<b>University of North Carolina School of Law</b> J.D. with High Honors Order of the Coif <b>New York University</b> Ph.D. in Philosophy <b>Harvard University</b> A.B. <i>magna cum laude</i> in Philosophy	December 2021   September 2008  May 2000
FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS	<b>Mellon Foundation New Directions Fellowship</b> \$288,000 grant to investigate connections between epistemology and the law of evidence <b>Bowman and Gordon Gray Distinguished Term Associate Professor</b> Five-year term Distinguished Professorship recognizing excellence in undergraduate teaching <b>Ruth and Phillip Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement</b> Prize for scholarly achievement awarded annually to UNC faculty members <b>IAH Academic Excellence Award</b> \$3,000 to support research and teaching at UNC <b>UNC Interdisciplinary Initiatives Grant</b> \$10,000 to support a conference on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Humor (co-organized with Michelle Robinson) <b>Faculty Fellow</b> New York Institute of Philosophy Foundations of Epistemology Project <b>Junior Faculty Development Award</b> UNC Chapel Hill Office of the Provost <b>Graduate Fellow and Project Coordinator</b> New York Institute of Philosophy Disagreement Project <b>Graduate Fellow</b> New York Institute of Philosophy Science and Religion Project	2017–2022  2014–2019  2016  2016  2015  2011–2014  2010  2007–2008  2006–2008

PUBLICATIONS

**Reply to Allen**

Forthcoming in *Law and Philosophy*

**Conditional Relevance and Conditional Admissibility**

*Law and Philosophy* (2023) 42(3): pp. 237-83.

**The Bayesian and Classical Approaches to Inference**

*Philosophy Compass* (2022) 17(9), e12867.

**Standards and Values**

*Philosophical Issues* 31 (2021): pp. 167-87.

**What Follows from the Possibility of Boltzmann Brains?**

In S. Dasgupta & B. Weslake (Eds.), *Current Controversies in Philosophy of Science* (Routledge 2020).

**A Formal Account of Evidential Defeat**

In Fitelson, Borges, and Braden (eds.), *Themes from Klein: Knowledge, Scepticism, and Justification*, *Synthese Library* 404: pp. 213-34 (2019).

**Comments on Richard Pettigrew's *Accuracy and the Laws of Credence***

*Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (May 2018) 96(3): pp. 776-783.

**Probability in Epistemology**

In Hajek and Hitchcock (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Probability and Philosophy* (OUP 2016).

**The Normativity of Humor**

*Philosophical Issues* (2015) 25(1): pp. 396-414.

**The Probabilistic Explanation of Why There Is Something Rather Than Nothing**

In Goldschmidt (ed.), *The Puzzle of Existence* (Routledge 2013)

**Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat**

*Nôus* (2013) 47(1): pp. 154-80.

Reprinted in Neta (ed.), *Critical Concepts in Philosophy: Epistemology Vol 3* (Routledge 2012)

Selected for inclusion in *The Philosopher's Annual* 2013

**Selection Biases in Likelihood Arguments**

*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (2012) 63(4): pp. 825-39.

**Silins's Liberalism**

*Philosophical Studies* (2012) 159(1): pp. 61-68.

**Dragging and Confirming**

*The Philosophical Review* (2012) 121(1): pp. 55-93.

Selected for inclusion in *The Philosopher's Annual* 2012

***In Defence of Objective Bayesianism*, by Jon Williamson**

*Mind* (2011) 120(480): pp. 1324-1330.

**Review of *Decision Theory and Rationality* by José Luis Bermúdez**

*Philosophical Books* (2010) 51(1): pp. 53-62.

PAPERS IN  
PREPARATION

**Inferential Encroachment**

**On Deferring**

**Forbidden Inferences**

**Preventive Detentions Should Be Subject to Strict Scrutiny**

**Conditional Oughts and Simpson's Paradox**

**Where Should Displaced Credence Go?**

**Lewis's Argument Against Desire-as-Belief**

**Some Worries about Probabilistic IBE**

DEPARTMENT SERVICE	<b>Department Chair</b>	2021–present
	<b>Associate Chair and Department Teaching Coordinator</b>	2014–2021
	<b>Graduate Committee</b>	2014–2021
	<b>Hiring Committee</b>	2008–2009, 2013–2014, 2014–2016 (Chair)
	<b>Admissions Committee</b>	2008–2014
	<b>Colloquium Committee</b>	2009–2010, 2021–2022
	<b>Speakers Committee</b>	2013–2014 (Chair)
UNIVERSITY SERVICE	<b>College AI Committee (Chair)</b>	2023–present
	<b>University Generative AI Committee</b>	2023–present
	<b>Faculty Interest Committee for the School of Civic Life and Leadership (co-Chair)</b>	2023–present
	<b>Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the School of Civic Life and Leadership</b>	2023
	<b>Cognate Units Program for Public Discourse Committee</b>	2023
	<b>Program for Public Discourse Hiring Committee</b>	2019–2020
	<b>Bowman and Gordon Grey Selection Committee (Chair)</b>	2015–2016
	<b>Polyani Lectureship Selection Committee</b>	2015–2016
PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTARIES	<b>Greco on Epistemic Modeling</b>	October 2023
	Philosopher Meets Critics, hosted by CONCEPT at the University of Cologne and the Federal University of Bahia (Brazil)	
	<b>Standards of Proof for Affirmative Defenses</b>	October 2023
	University of Michigan Law and Philosophy Colloquium	
	<b>Epistemology and Empirical Science</b>	May 2017, May 2018
	Duke University Summer Seminars in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP)	
	<b>Comments on Stephanie Beardman’s “Advance Directives and the Coherence of ‘What One Would Have Wanted’ ”</b>	May 2017
	UNC Transformative Experience Workshop	
	<b>Subversion of Stereotypes and the Ethics of Humor</b>	April 2017
	Bucknell University Conference on the Ethics and Aesthetics of Humor	
	<b>Information Sensitivity in Epistemology and Decision Theory</b>	March 2016
	Dartmouth College Department of Philosophy	
<b>Comments on Lee Elkin’s “Confirmation Theory with Imprecise Probabilities”</b>	January 2016	
2016 Eastern APA		
<b>Some Worries about Probabilistic IBE</b>	October 2015	
UNC Conference in honor of Marc Lange		
<b>Information Sensitivity in Epistemology and Decision Theory</b>	April 2015	
2015 Pacific APA		
<b>Misbehaving Conditionals</b>	September 2014	
UNC Philosophy in Fifteen Minutes		

<b>Comments on Ittay Nissan’s “Contrastive explanations, Crystal Balls, and the Inadmissibility of Historical Information”</b>	May 2014
2014 UNC–Hebrew University Workshop in the Philosophy of Science	
<b>Comments on Branden Fitelson’s “Comparative Confidence”</b>	May 2014
Duke Fitelfest Symposium	
<b>Conditional Oughts</b>	August 2013
2013 Triangle Area Philosophy Symposium	
<b>Conditional Oughts and Simpson’s Paradox</b>	May 2013
2013 Formal Epistemology Workshop	
<b>Comments on Mercier and Sperber’s “Why Do Humans Reason?”</b>	April 2013
New York Institute of Philosophy Foundations of Epistemology Project	
<b>Simpson’s Paradox and the Sure-Thing Principle</b>	February 2013
MIT Department of Linguistics and Philosophy	
<b>Belief-Formation Processes</b>	November 2012
University of St Andrews Arché Research Centre Workshop on the Causes of Belief	
<b>Fine-tuning Arguments for God and Multiple Universes</b>	August 2012
Virginia Commonwealth University Life Sciences and Religion Public Lecture (with Paul Davies)	
<b>Comments on Julia Staffel’s “Should I Pretend I’m Perfect?”</b>	June 2012
2012 Formal Epistemology Workshop	
<b>Comments on Leandro De Brasi’s “Reliability, Responsibility and Anti-Individualism”</b>	May 2012
3rd Annual KCL-UNC Conference	
<b>Defeating Disjunctions</b>	December 2011
2011 Eastern Division APA Meeting Symposium in Epistemology	
<b>Motivating Dempster-Shafer Theory</b>	November 2011
Rutgers Recent Topics in Formal Epistemology Seminar	
<b>Modeling Epistemic Flow</b>	May 2011
University of Chicago Formal Philosophy Workshop	
<b>Comments on David Chalmers’s “Frege’s Puzzle and the Objects of Credence”</b>	June 2010
2010 Carolina Metaphysics Workshop	
<b>Philosophical Perspectives on the Origins of the Universe</b>	May 2010
UNC Program in the Humanities and Human Values	
<b>Does Evidence Flow?</b>	May 2010
UC Berkeley Recent Topics in Epistemology Seminar	
<b>Selection Biases in Likelihood Arguments</b>	February 2010
Virginia Commonwealth University	
<b>Information Session on Statistical Inference</b>	December 2009
2009 Eastern Division APA Meeting	
<b>Selection Biases in Likelihood Arguments</b>	May 2009
2009 Formal Epistemology Workshop	
<b>Comments on Jacob Ross’s “Countable Additivity and the Sleeping Beauty Problem”</b>	May 2008
2008 Formal Epistemology Workshop	

<b>Comments on Peter Kung's "Dogmatism and Bayesian Confirmation"</b> 2008 Pacific Division APA Meeting	March 2008
<b>Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat</b> University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	February 2008
<b>Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat</b> University of Texas at Austin	January 2008
<b>Dragging and Confirming</b> Cornell University	January 2008
<b>Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat</b> University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	January 2008
<b>Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat</b> UCLA	January 2008
<b>Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat</b> University of Pittsburgh	January 2008
<b>Multiple Studies and Evidential Defeat</b> Ohio State University	January 2008
<b>Dragging and Confirming</b> Florida State University	January 2008

TEACHING

**Undergraduate**

Philosophy 55: First Year Seminar: Paradoxes  
 Philosophy 89: First Year Seminar: Humor  
 Philosophy 101: Introduction to Philosophy  
 Philosophy 155: Introduction to Mathematical Logic  
 Philosophy 180: Philosophy of Humor  
 Philosophy 335: Epistemology  
 Philosophy 397: Colloquium for Majors

**Undergraduate-Graduate**

Philosophy 432: The Beginnings of Analytic Philosophy (with Alan Nelson)  
 Philosophy 433: Introduction to Formal Epistemology  
 Philosophy 455: Advanced Logic  
 Philosophy 480: Philosophy of Law

**Graduate**

Philosophy 700: Protoseminar (with Ryan Preston-Roedder)  
 Philosophy 700: Protoseminar (with Keith Simmons)  
 Philosophy 735: Survey of Recent Epistemology  
 Philosophy 735: The Nature of Epistemic Norms (with Ram Neta)  
 Philosophy 735: Formal Epistemology (with Jim Pryor)  
 Philosophy 765: Philosophy of Humor (with Ram Neta)  
 Philosophy 850: Explanation (with Marc Lange)  
 Philosophy 994: Dissertation Research Seminar

## ADVISING

### **PhD**

Jessi Addison, Aliosha Barranco Lopez, Mike Bertrand, Dominik Berger, Christopher Blake-Turner, Lindsay Brainard, Finnur Dellsén, Chris Dorst, Katrina Elliott, Emily Given, Tyron Goldschmidt, Nevin Johnson, Daniel Kokotajlo (Chair), Devin Lane, Christian Loew, Jordan Mackenzie, Francesco Nappo, Kate Nolfi, John Phillips, Chris Smith

### **MA**

Jessi Addison, Lindsay Brainard, Yan Chen, Finnur Dellsén, Chris Dorst, Daniel Kokotajlo, Francesco Nappo, Kate Nolfi, John Phillips (Chair), Sylvie Ramirez (Chair), Nate Sharadin, Larisa Svirksy, Min Tang

### **Undergraduate**

Allison Balin (Chair), Olivia Branscum, Jim Dennison, Priyesh Krishnan (Chair), Jonathan McCain, Eleanor Raskin, Christopher Register, Siyu Zhao