

William B. Starr

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Sage School of Philosophy
Cornell University
218 Goldwin Smith Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Language, Philosophical Logic, Cognitive Science

Areas of Competence

Metaethics, Philosophy of Mind, Social Philosophy

Employment

Cornell University

Assistant Professor, Philosophy 07.01.11-

New York University

Bersoff Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow, Philosophy 09.01.10 – 05.17.11

Education

Rutgers University

Philosophy Ph.D., 2010

Cognitive Science Graduate Certificate, 2010

Committee: Ernest Lepore and Jason Stanley (Co-Chairs), Jeffrey King, Brian Weatherson, Matthew Stone

Amherst College

Philosophy and Mathematics/Computer Science B.A., 2005

Cum Laude

Articles

- “A Uniform Theory of Conditionals.” *Journal of Philosophical Logic* 43(6), December 2014. (45 pp.)
- “What If?” *Philosophers’ Imprint* 14(10), April 2014. (27 pp.)
- “Mood, Force and Truth”. *ProtoSociology* 31, 2014. (21 pp.)
- “Dynamic Expressivism about Deontic Modality.” In N. Charlow & M. Chrisman (eds.), *Deontic Modality*, 2016. New York: Oxford University Press. (39 pp.)
- “Expressing Permission”. *Proceedings from Semantics and Linguistic Theory 26*, 2016. Ithaca, NY: CLC Publications. (25 pp.)
- “Force and Conversational States”, w/Sarah Murray. In D. Fogal, D. Harris and M. Moss (eds.), *New Work on Speech Acts*, to appear. New York: Oxford University Press. (37 pp.)
- “Counterfactuals”, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. To appear. (61 pp.)
- “Indicative Conditionals, Strictly.” *Philosophers’ Imprint*, Conditionally Accepted. (35 pp.)
- “The Structure of Communicative Acts”, w/Sarah Murray. *Linguistics & Philosophy*, Conditionally Accepted. (33 pp.)
- “A Preference Semantics for Imperatives”. Under 3rd Review at *Semantics & Pragmatics*. (53 pp.)
- “Conjoined Imperatives and Declaratives”, in preparation for *Proceedings from Sinn und Bedeutung 21*, 2016. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh.
- “Pragmatics Socialized”, in preparation for G. Preyer (ed.), *Beyond Semantics and Pragmatics*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Work in Progress

- “Unstructured Content, Structured Context” (w/Sarah Murray). In preparation for a volume edited by Andy Egan and Dirk Kinderman.
- *Imperative Dynamics*, MS and book proposal for OUP. In preparation.

- “Structured Possible Worlds.” Unpublished manuscript.
- “Minimal Intervention and Counterfactual Cognition.” Unpublished manuscript.
- “What is Communication?” Unpublished manuscript.

Grants and Fellowships

Mellon Corridor Grant (w/Sarah Murray @ Cornell)	2016
Mellon Corridor Grant (w/Sarah Murray @ Cornell)	2015
Mellon Corridor Grant (w/Sarah Murray @ Cornell)	2014
Mellon Corridor Grant (w/Sarah Murray @ Cornell)	2013
Mellon Corridor Grant (w/Sarah Murray @ Cornell)	2012
Mellon Corridor Grant (w/Sarah Murray @ Cornell)	2011
Bersoff Postdoctoral Fellowship, NYU	2010-1

Presentations

“Conjoined Imperatives and Declaratives” Sinn und Bedeutung 21 @ University of Edinburgh	09.06.16
“Minimal Intervention and Counterfactual Cognition” (Poster) Society for Philosophy & Psychology 42 @ UT Austin	06.04.16
“Expressing Permission” Semantics & Linguistic Theory 26 @ UT Austin	05.10.16
“Force and Conversational States” w/Sarah Murray D. Harris & S. Neale’s CUNY Seminar	05.04.16
“Structured Possible Worlds” Philosophy Desert Workshop	04.10.16
“Force and Conversational States” w/Sarah Murray UC Berkeley Meaning Sciences Club	03.11.16
“Force and Conversational States” w/Sarah Murray CMU Differentiating Contents Workshop	12.05.15
“Expressing Choices” University of Pittsburgh Colloquium	12.04.15

“Structured Possible Worlds” UNAM (Mexico City)	10.02.15
“What is Communication?” UCLA	05.11.15
“Imperative Dynamics” University of Texas at Austin	03.27.15
“What is Communication?” Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science	02.17.15
“The Structure of Communicative Acts” w/Sarah Murray Rutgers Semantics Group	02.17.15
“Structured Possible Worlds” University of St. Andrews	05.15.14
“Dynamic Expressivism about Deontic Modality” Eidyn Conference on Normativity and Modality, Edinburgh	05.09.14
“Communication and Coordination” UCLA Semantics Workshop	01.17.14
“The Structure of Communicative Acts” w/Sarah Murray New Work on Speech Acts, Columbia University	09.29.13
“The Structure of Communicative Acts” PhLip 2014	10.10.13
One Week Graduate Course: “Speech Acts” w/Sarah Murray ESSLLI 2013, Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf	08.05.13-
“Dynamic Expressivism about Deontic Modality” USC Deontic Modality Workshop	05.19.13
“Dynamic Expressivism about Deontic Modality” The New York Philosophy of Language Workshop	05.06.13
“Epistemic Modality and the Semantic Enterprise” Rutgers University, Andy Egan’s Grad Seminar	03.15.13
“A Uniform Theory of Conditionals” University of Michigan Philosophy & Linguistics Workshop	12.07.12
“The Structure of Speech Acts” Cornell University Linguistics & Philosophy Workshop	10.21.12

“Comments on Ninan” Rutgers University Semantics Workshop	09.29.12
“The Structure of Possible Worlds” UCLA	05.31.12
“A Preference Semantics for Imperatives” Chicago University	04.12.12
“Semantic Explanation and Abstraction” Washington University, St. Louis	04.05.12
“What <i>If?</i> ” Washington University, St. Louis	04.03.12
“Expressing <i>May</i> and <i>Must</i> ” (Invited) Eastern Division APA	12.27.12
“A Preference Semantics for Imperatives” Cornell University	03.29.11
“Conditionals, Questions & Meaning” University College London	02.19.10
University of Pittsburgh	02.03.10
Cornell University	01.26.10
University of Toronto	01.19.10
University of Western Ontario	01.18.10
University of Chicago	01.12.10
“Conditionals, Questions & Content” Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science	09.10.09
“Conditional Content” University of Siena, Italy – Mind & Language Workshop	06.06.09

Teaching

Cornell

Ethics of Eating (Phil 1440) w/Andrew Chignell	Fall 2016
Topics in Philosophy of Language: Speech Acts (Phil 4710/6710 and Ling 4712/6634) w/Sarah Murray	Fall 2016

Minds & Machines (Phil 2612)	Spring 2016
Philosophy of Language (Phil 3710/Ling 3332)	Spring 2016
Pro-seminar in Philosophy (Phil 6100) w/Kate Manne	Fall 2015
Topics in Philosophy of Language: Signalling Games, Language and Society (Phil 4710/6710 and Ling 4712/6634)	Fall 2015
Ethics of Eating edX MOOC w/Andrew Chignell	April-May 2015
Estimated enrollment: 10,000 students	
Ethics of Eating (Phil 1440) (University Course) w/A. Chignell	Spring 2015
Minds & Machines (Phil 2612)	Spring 2015
Ethics of Eating (Phil 1440) (University Course) w/A. Chignell	Spring 2014
Philosophy of Language (Phil 3710/Ling 3332)	Spring 2014
Topics in Philosophy of Language: Counterfactuals (Phil 4710/6710 and Ling 4712/6634)	Fall 2013
Pro-seminar (Phil 6100)	Fall 2013
Ethics of Eating (Phil 2411) (Created course, University Course) w/Andrew Chignell	Spring 2013
Minds & Machines (Phil 2612)	Spring 2013
Pro-seminar (Phil 6100)	Fall 2012
Topics in Philosophy of Language: Speech Acts (Phil 4710/6710 and Ling 4712/6634)	Fall 2012
Modality (Phil 6710 / Ling 6634)	Spring 2012
Minds & Machines (Phil 2612) (Created course)	Fall 2011
Introduction to Logic (Phil 2310)	Fall 2011
NYU	
Minds & Machines	Spring 2011
Topics in Mind & Language	Fall 2010

Institutional Service

Discussion Club Organizer	2013-
Director of Undergraduate Studies	Fall 2014
<i>Logos</i> Advisor	Fall 2014
Standing Committee for Faculty Recruitment	Fall 2013-
Co-organizer of Cornell Linguistics & Philosophy Workshop	Fall 2011-
Faculty Co-advisor for Cornell Semantics Group	Fall 2013-
Department Minutes-Taker	Spring 2013
<i>Philosophical Review</i> Book Review Committee	Spring 2013
<i>Philosophical Review</i> Book Review Committee	Fall 2012
Department Minutes-Taker	Fall 2012
Departmental (Weekly) Workshop Organizer	Fall 2012
Organizing Committee Member of SULA 7 Conference (SULA: Semantics of Underrepresented Languages)	Spring 2012
Departmental eLibrary Co-ordinator	2011-12
Departmental (Weekly) Workshop Organizer	Spring 2012
<i>Philosophical Review</i> Book Review Committee	Fall 2011

Committees @ Cornell

David Fielding (Dissertation Chair)	2013-current
Lucia Munguia (Dissertation Chair)	2012-current
Yuna Won (Dissertation Chair)	2011-current
Augie Faller	2013-current
Todd Snider	2014-current
Frances Fairbairn	2014-current
Thomas Foerster	2013-current
Brandon Conley	2013-current
Eric Epstein	2012-current
Lu Teng	2013-2016
<i>Assistant Prof. NYU Shanghai</i>	
Amin Nikbin (Philosophy Honors Thesis Chair)	2015-16

<i>Ph.D. Student at UCLA Philosophy</i>	
Nathaniel Baron-Cohen (2nd Reader, Honors Thesis)	2013
<i>Ph.D. Student at MIT Philosophy</i>	
Sadev Parikh (Univ. Scholars Honors Thesis Chair)	2013-14
Jenna Paulson (Philosophy Honors Thesis Co-Chair)	2011-12

Service to Discipline

- Referee Work: *Ergo*, *Linguistics & Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, Oxford University Press, *Semantics & Pragmatics* (Editorial Board Member), *Philosophical Review* (Editorial Board Member), *Mind*, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, *Synthese*, *Journal of Semantics*, Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 23-6, Canadian Philosophical Association '14