

JULES SALOMONE-SEHR

he/him/his

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FIELDS

Areas of Specialization: Ethics, Philosophy of Action, Social Philosophy
Areas of Competence: Philosophy of Social Science, Philosophy of Race

EMPLOYMENT

Spring 2021

Centre de Recherche en Éthique – McGill University
Postdoctoral Researcher

EDUCATION

2014 – 2021

The Graduate Center (CUNY) – Institut Jean Nicod (École Normale Supérieure)

Ph.D., Philosophy (dual degree)

Dissertation: *Cooperation: The Ethics of Shared Agency*

Committee: Miranda Fricker (co-supervisor, The Graduate Center), Sacha Bourgeois-Gironde (co-supervisor, Institut Jean Nicod), Charles W. Mills (The Graduate Center), Jennifer M. Morton (UNC Chapel Hill), Elisabeth Pacherie (Institut Jean Nicod), David Papineau (King's College), Katherine Ritchie (University of California, Irvine)

My dissertation is about the nature of shared agency. Therein, I first offer a novel theory of what is required for collections of behaviors to count as shared activities. Specifically, I argue that our activities are shared if and only if they are coordinated by a common plan. I then develop a virtue-theoretic account of cooperativeness, that is, the disposition of individuals to think and act as good partners in shared activity.

2013

Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne

Masters, Philosophy, *Summa cum laude*

2012

Paris School of Economics (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales)

Masters, Economics, *Magna cum laude*

2007

École Normale Supérieure (Rue d'Ulm, Paris)

Admission rank: second (out of around 500 candidates)

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming

1. “Cooperation: With or Without Shared Intentions,” *Ethics*.

2. “Agency and Practical Reasoning,” (as first author, with Jennifer M. Morton) in Ferrero, Luca (ed.), *Handbook in the Philosophy of Agency*, Routledge.

3. “Que doivent faire les blancs ?” (“What Should White People Do?”), *Mouvements*, La Découverte.

2017

4. “Présentation. L'empirisme rationaliste de Durkheim et Mauss” (“Presentation. Durkheim and Mauss's Rationalist Empiricism”), in Durkheim, Émile, and Mauss, Marcel, *De quelques formes primitives de classification. Contribution à l'étude des représentations collectives*, Presses Universitaires de France.

IN PROGRESS

A paper about what is involved in acting together (under review)

A paper about normativity in shared agency (under review)

PRESENTATIONS

†: invited

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Upcoming

“Cooperativeness”

Annual Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association, The University of Alberta, Edmonton (held online)

“Honte Blanche”

Annual Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association, The University of Alberta, Edmonton (held online)

†**“Dissociated Agency: How to Φ at Will Without Intending to Φ ”**

The Centre de Recherche en éthique/Parr Center for Ethics Joint Conference (held online)

2021

†**“Cooperativeness: A Conceptual Job Description”**

Midis de l'éthique du Centre de Recherche en éthique, Montreal (held online)

2020

“Minimally Shared Activities”

The 12th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland (held online)

“White Guilt, White Shame” (*cancelled because of the COVID-19 outbreak*)

Concordia University Graduate Philosophy Students' Association Conference

“Putting the ‘Social’ in Social Justice: Equality, Equity and Feasibility”

“Unlearning Racism: On the Sociological Role of Guilt and Shame Amongst White South Africans Confronting Their Racism” (with Jacob Boersema, NYU)

Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

2019

†**“Whiteness, Guilt and Shame”**

Whiteness Studies workshop, Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne

“Blanchité, culpabilité et honte” (Whiteness, Guilt and Shame)

“Qualifier le racisme,” a conference organized by Sciences Po, INED, ANR and the University Paris Diderot, Paris, France

“Cooperation and Shared Intentional Actions”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver

2018

“Cooperation and Shared Intentional Actions”

The 11th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference, Tufts University, Boston, MA

“Can Socially Engaged Beliefs Be Justified?”

1st Annual CUNY-Milan Workshop on Belief, The Graduate Center, New York

2017

“From Coordination to Cooperation: Switching to Team Reasoning”

The Fifth Conference of the European Network on Social Ontology, Lund University, Sweden

“Grades of Realism in Social Ontology”

Critical Social Ontology Workshop, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO

“From Coordination to Cooperation: Switching to Team Reasoning”

CUNY Social and Political Philosophy Working Group, The Graduate Center, New York

2016

“Shared Intentions Ain’t in the Head”

Long Island Philosophical Society Conference, Molloy College, Rockville Centre, NY

“Transcendental Idealism Revisited?”

APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, CA

“Is Existence Univocal? An Aristotelian Critique of Quinean Meta-Ontology”

The 90th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, Cardiff University, Cardiff, United Kingdom

“Grades of Realism in Social Ontology”

CUNY Social and Political Philosophy Working Group, The Graduate Center, New York

- 2015 †**“Peut-on se payer de mots? La monnaie comme langage des prix”**
 “Pricing Practices, Ranking Practices” Conference, École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France
 †**“Transcendental Idealism Revisited?”**
 Sixth Annual Princeton-Penn-Columbia Graduate Conference in the History of Philosophy, Princeton, NJ
 †**“The Ontology of Money and the Ethics of Monetary Exchanges”**
 NYU-Columbia Graduate Conference, New York
 †**“Circularity and Coordination. A Non-Circular Account of Collective Intentional Action”**
 CUNY Social and Political Philosophy Working Group, The Graduate Center, New York
- 2014 †**“Towards a Philosophical Theory of Money”**
 CUNY Social and Political Philosophy Working Group, The Graduate Center, New York
- 2013 †**“Randomized Controlled Trials at War”**
 Fourth Annual Conference of the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (IIPPE), International Institute for Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands
- 2011 †**“Randomized Controlled Trials and the War on Poverty”**
 Second Annual Conference of the International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy (IIPPE), University of Istanbul, Turkey

COMMENTS

- Upcoming †**Andrea Asker Svedberg, “The Problem of Collective Impact – An Assessment of Julia Nefsky’s General Solution”**
 Small acts, big harms: Workshop on individual responsibility for collectively caused outcomes, University of Helsinki (held online)
- 2021 †**Agnes Tam, “Do Liberals Have to Fear Identity-Expressive Populism?”**
 Political Theory of Populism Workshop, Concordia University Social Justice Centre, Montreal (held online)
 †**Amandine Catala, *The Dynamics of Epistemic Injustice: Theorizing Epistemic Power and Agency*, Introduction**
 Manuscript Workshop, The Centre de Recherche en Éthique and the Concordia University Social Justice Centre, Montreal (held online)
- 2020 †**Amandine Catala, “Metaepistemic Injustice and Intellectual Disability”**
 Social Justice Theory Workshop, Concordia University, Montreal (held online)
- 2016 †**Sara Rachel Chant, “Responsibility Unincorporated”**
 Keynote presentation at the “Collective Action and the Law” Conference, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT (*Instructor of record, unless otherwise specified*)

- 2019 **Baruch College (CUNY)**
 Computer Ethics (one section)
- 2015 – 2019 **Hunter College (CUNY)**
 Introduction to Ethics (two sections)
 Introduction to Logic and the Scientific Method (two sections, incl. one as a TA)
 Introduction to Philosophy (six sections, incl. three as a TA)
- 2011 – 2014 **École Normale Supérieure**
 Graduate Seminar “Approches pluridisciplinaires de l’économie” (Interdisciplinary Approaches to Economics), co-led
- 2009 – 2010 **Northwestern University**
 French—Oral Workshop (three sections)

TUTORING

- 2019 – 2020 **Writing Center Associate** (Borough of Manhattan Community College)
Work with students in individual setting infused with the tenets of Writing Across the Curriculum pedagogy
- 2014 **Tutor at Potentiel Plus** (Paris)
Tutoring of children with learning and physical disabilities

PUBLIC-FACING TEACHING

- 2017 – 2019 **Production of *We The Pupils***, a racial and educational justice podcast recorded in the classroom and funded by an Andrew W. Mellon Public Humanities Teaching Fellowship
- Milestones:
- | | |
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| 2020 | Release |
| 2019 | The Pedagogy Check-In: CUNY Undergrads and Graduate Instructors Meet and Talk About Teaching Students from Disadvantaged Groups (With the CUNY Chapter of Minorities and Philosophy) |
| 2017 – 2018 | Organization of in-class student-led interviews. Guest speakers:
Michael Paris (College of Staten Island) Jennifer Morton (UNC Chapel Hill)
Nate (Crown Heights Tenant Union) Charles Mills (GC)
Miranda Fricker (GC) Linda Alcoff (Hunter College/GC) |
| 2017 | Podcasting Workshop, co-led with Janhavi Pakrashi |

PEDAGOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

- 2019 – 2020 **Writing Across the Curriculum Fellow** (Borough of Manhattan Community College)
Design of writing-intensive courses in collaboration with faculty across the disciplines (special focus on low-stakes writing and scaffolded assignments)
- 2017 **Selected for participation in the “Open Teaching Initiative”** (Teaching and Learning Center, The Graduate Center)
Visits of fellow graduate students’ classes and reflections on teaching challenges that culminated in a short piece posted on the Teaching and Learning Center blog
- 2010 – 2014 **Founding member and co-coordinator of the Student Initiative for Interdisciplinary Economics Teaching** (PEPS-Économie)
Promotion and development of alternative economics curricula with an emphasis on interdisciplinarity
- Milestones:
- | | |
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| 2014 | Publication of “The Case for Pluralism: What French Undergraduate Economics Teaching Is All About and How it Can Be Improved,” (with fellow members of PEPS-Économie) <i>Int. J. Pluralism and Economics Education</i> , Vol. 5, No. 4. |
| 2013 | Co-organization of “Les États Généraux de l’enseignement de l’économie dans le supérieur,” a conference meant to inspire interdisciplinary approaches to the teaching of economics (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris) |

PEDAGOGY-FOCUSED CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

†: invited

- 2020 †**“Promoting Multilingual Students’ Success Thanks to WAC”**
Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York
- †**“Cultivating a Multilingual Classroom”**
Borough of Manhattan Community College Winter Convocation (theme: Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Engagement), New York
- 2019 **“*We The Pupils*: A Social Justice Podcast Recorded in the Classroom”**
Teaching Hub of the APA Central Division Meeting, Denver, CO

†**“We The Pupils: A Social Justice Podcast Recorded in the Classroom”**

Showcase & Information Session: Seminar on Public Engagement and Collaborative Research, The Center for the Humanities, The Graduate Center, New York

†**“Course Policies, Attendance, and Class Participation”**

Philosophy Department Teaching Workshop, The Graduate Center, New York

2014

†**Presentation of the Student Initiative for Interdisciplinary Economics Teaching**

Rethinking Economics New York Conference, Columbia University, NYU, New School

FELLOWSHIPS

2019

Writing Across the Curriculum Fellowship (Borough of Manhattan Community College)

2017

Two-Year Public Humanities Teaching Fellowship Seminar on Public Engagement and Collaborative Research (Andrew W. Mellon Foundation)

2014

Five-Year Tuition Fellowship (The Graduate Center)

Three-Year Doctoral Fellowship (École Normale Supérieure)

2007

Four-Year Full Tuition and Living Stipend (École Normale Supérieure)

GRANTS, AWARDS

2019

Travel stipend (Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne)

American Philosophical Association Graduate Travel Stipend

2018

Conference Presentation Support (The Graduate Center)

2017

Teaching and Learning Center “Open Teaching Initiative” (The Graduate Center)

Honorarium for attendance at the meeting “What is the Public(s) in Public Education? Research, Teaching and the Arts” (The Graduate Center)

Conference Presentation Support (The Graduate Center)

2016

American Philosophical Association Graduate Travel Stipend

Conference Presentation Support (The Graduate Center)

2015

Travel stipend (École Normale Supérieure)

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

2017

Performer (spoken word and dance) in *The Missing Shade of You: A Dance Dialog Between L.A. Paul and Marcel Proust*

Produced by Barbara Montero, Theresa Duhon, Patra Jongjitirat, and Gregory Kollarus
The Tank, NYC

2012 – 2013

Researcher for the Philosophy-themed radio program *Les Nouveaux Chemins de la Connaissance*

France Culture (Radio France), Paris

SERVICE

ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCES

2016

CUNY Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, “Hate Speech and the Normativity of Communication” (Keynote: Elisabeth Camp), The Graduate Center, New York

2015

“Pricing Practices, Ranking Practices” Conference, École Normale Supérieure, Paris

READING GROUPS AT THE GRADUATE CENTER

2016 – 2018

Social Ontology

2017

Philosophy of Action

COMMITTEE WORK AT THE GRADUATE CENTER

2018 – 2019	Philosophy Program Representative on the Doctoral Student Council Representative on the Philosophy Program Student Steering and Executive Committee
2017 – 2018	Chair of the Philosophy Program Student Steering Committee, and Representative on the Executive Committee
2016 – 2017	Representative on the Philosophy Program Colloquium Committee

REFEREEING

Journal of Social Ontology

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association
Canadian Philosophical Association
International Social Ontology Society

LANGUAGES

French (native), English (bilingual), Spanish (intermediate)

REFERENCES

Prof. Miranda Fricker
Presidential Professor of Philosophy
The Graduate Center, CUNY
mfricker@gc.cuny.edu

Prof. Sacha Bourgeois-Gironde
Professor of Economics and
Cognitive Science
Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas
sbgironde@gmail.com

Prof. Charles W. Mills
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy
The Graduate Center, CUNY
cmills3@gc.cuny.edu

Prof. Jennifer M. Morton
Associate Professor of Philosophy
The University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill
jmmorton@unc.edu

Prof. Laura Keating (teaching reference)
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Hunter College, CUNY
lkeating@hunter.cuny.edu

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Courses taken at The Graduate Center (CUNY), unless otherwise specified

†: audited ‡: faculty-led reading group

ETHICS & META-ETHICS

† Bernard Williams' Ethical Philosophy
† Adv. Intro. to Ethics (NYU)
‡ A. Callard's *Aspiration*
† Subjectivity and Objectivity in Morality
† Ethics of Immigration
Eudaimonism
Moral Realism

PHILOSOPHY OF ACTION

‡ J. Dancy's *Practical Shape*
† Decision Theory (Columbia)
‡ Action Theory

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

† Critical Philosophy of Race
† Rawls, Race, and Gender
† Contractarianism and Its Critics
† Epistemic Injustice
Social Ontology and Democracy

EPISTEMOLOGY & PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

† Philosophy of Social Science
† Adv. Intro. to Epistemology (NYU)

PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

† Thought, Speech, and Content
Intersubjectivity (Columbia)
Intentionality and the Mental

LOGIC & PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE

Mathematical Logic
Modal Logic
† Modal Logic (Columbia)
† Non-Classical Logic (Columbia)
Language and Metaphysics
Intro. to Logic

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

Kant's *Critique of the Power of Judgment*

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

Picture yourself at a Parisian café, gazing at people walking down the street. At first, they seem to be typical Parisians going about their own business. Until you realize, as you spot cameras, that they are all actors on a movie set. You thought you were in the midst of many individual actions, but it is now clear that each actor is playing their part in a different kind of activity: a shared activity.

Our capacity for shared agency is fundamental to our social lives. We make movies, sit in Parliament, and fight pandemics together. In my thesis, I first offer a novel theory of what is required for collections of activities to count as shared. I then develop an account of cooperativeness, i.e. the disposition to think and act as a good partner in shared activity.

What makes it the case that the actors in the Parisian street are engaged in more than mere parallel individual actions? From the café, it was—at first—impossible to distinguish the actors from real flâneurs. Such examples have led shared agency theorists to argue that the difference between shared activities and individual actions is a psychological matter: while flâneurs have individual intentions to go about their own business, actors share the intention to make a movie. Some theorists add a normative twist: they argue that our activities are shared only when, in addition to sharing intentions, we are bound by mutual obligations to play our roles. The Parisian actors would, thus, act together only if they had obligations to stick to the script. I disagree with these dominant views.

In my dissertation, I offer a minimalist account of shared agency. My account has two main components: a conceptual analysis of shared agency in terms of the notion of plan, and an explanation of the mechanisms through which we pool our agential powers. In my analysis of shared agency, our activities are shared if and only if our activities conform to a plan and that plan figures in an explanation of our activities' conformity to it. In short, our activities are shared if and only if they are coordinated by a common plan. Sometimes, doing one's bit in a common plan will be obligatory, but not necessarily; and sometimes, of course, the plan will figure in the content of intentions we share. However, besides shared intentions, there are two additional families of agency-pooling mechanisms that the literature has neglected: one involves a central planner (e.g. a film director), another involves selective processes of a roughly Darwinian sort. Both mechanisms can coordinate our activities even in the absence of shared intentions. This minimalist account does justice to the variety of jobs that the concept of shared agency does for us. This concept, indeed, is not just a useful label for activities we engage in willingly together. Another of its functions is to help us navigate our social world by identifying the common plans that somewhat unintentionally, and perhaps at first unknowingly, we have enacted.

The starting point of my inquiry into cooperativeness is the observation that shared activity is an endemically risky business: perhaps you coerced me into sharing some intention with you, or you deviated from our plan without telling me. Thankfully, we have conceptual resources meant to keep us safe from the risks we run when we share our agency. The concept of cooperativeness is one such resource. Its point, I argue, is to flag agents moved by a disposition to think and act as good partners. Cooperativeness has weaker and stronger forms. A minimally cooperative partner, once committed to doing their bit, will neither deviate from, nor hijack our plan. A strongly cooperative partner, in addition, regards co-participants' agency not as a given that one should predict and work around, but as an agential resource that one can engage with. Cooperativeness, so conceived, is a disposition that we have an interest in modelling as a virtue—indeed, the virtue that makes our social world go round.