

# Katherine Ritchie

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## EMPLOYMENT

University of California, Irvine, Assistant Professor, 2020-present  
The Graduate Center, CUNY, Assistant Professor, 2018 — 2020  
City College of New York, CUNY, Assistant Professor, 2014 — 2020  
Central European University (Summer Seminar on *Ontology and Metaontology*), Summer 2017  
Duke University, Visiting Assistant Professor, 2013 — 2014

## EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin — Ph.D., Philosophy, 2013  
Lewis and Clark College — B.A. with Honors in Philosophy, 2007

## RESEARCH AREAS

Specialization — Metaphysics, Social Philosophy, Philosophy of Language  
Competence — Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind

## PUBLICATIONS

[17] **Essentializing Language and the Prospects for Ameliorative Projects**  
forthcoming, *Ethics*

[16] **Does Identity Politics Reinforce Oppression?**  
forthcoming, *Philosophers' Imprint*

[15] **Social Ontology (with R. Mason)**  
2020, *Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics* (R. Bliss and J. Miller (Eds.), Routledge)

[14] **Kindhood & Essentialism: Evidence from Language (with J. Knobe)**  
2020, *Advances in Child Development and Behavior* (M. Rhodes (Ed.), Elsevier)

[13] **Social Structures and the Ontology of Social Groups**  
2020, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*

[12] **What We Can Do**  
2020, *Philosophical Studies*

**[11] Minimal Cooperation and Group Roles**

2020, *Minimal Cooperation and Shared Agency* (A. Fiebich (Ed.), Springer)

**[10] Should We Use Racial and Gender Generics?**

2019, *Thought*

**[9] Social Groups and Social Creationism**

2018, *Collectivity: Ontology, Ethics, and Social Justice* (K. Hess, T. Isaacs, and V. Ignieski (Eds.), Rowman & Littlefield)

**[8] Social Identity, Indexicality, and the Appropriation of Slurs**

2017, *Croatian Journal of Philosophy*

**[7] Plural and Collective Noun Phrases**

2017, *Routledge Handbook of Collective Intentionality*, (M. Jankovic and K. Ludwig (Eds.), Routledge)

**[6] Can Semantics Guide Ontology?**

2016, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*

**[5] The Metaphysics of Social Groups**

2015, *Philosophy Compass*

**[4] What are Groups?**

2013, *Philosophical Studies*

**BOOK REVIEWS**

**[3] Review of Asta's *Categories We Live By***

2020, *Analysis*

**[2] Review of Ron Mallon's *The Construction of Human Kinds***

2017, *Ethics*

**[1] Review of Deborah Tollefsen's *Groups as Agents***

2016, *Journal of Social Ontology*

**WRITING FOR A GENERAL AUDIENCE**

**Neither Fate Nor Fiction: Finding Social Groups in Networks of Relations**

2019, *The Philosopher*

**OTHER PAPERS**

**Essentializing Inferences** (under revision for R&R)

**Social Groups** (commissioned for the Oxford Handbook of Social Ontology, S. Collins, B. Epstein, S Haslanger, and H. Bernhard Schmid (Eds.))

**Language of Essence** (commissioned for the Routledge Handbook of Essence, K. Koslicki and M. Raven (Eds.))

## **PRESENTATIONS**

\* denotes refereed

### **Essentializing Language and the Prospects for Ameliorative Projects**

Colloquium at Lewis and Clark College, 10/2020 (via Zoom)

Social Metaphysics in Barcelona, 10/2020 (via Zoom)

Colloquium at Vassar College, 4/2020 (postponed due to COVID)

Group for Empirical Approaches to Morality and Society, 03/2020

Colloquium at Rice University, 1/2020

Colloquium at Mount Holyoke, 11/2019

\*2019 Conference on Essentialism and Anti-Essentialism, 9/2019

Rutgers Feminist Philosophy Workshop, 4/2019

Zermatt Conceptual Engineering Workshop, 2/2019

### **TBD**

Society for Philosophy and Psychology PreConference on Essentialism, 6/2020  
(postponed due to COVID)

### **Two Ways Not to Refer to a Kind**

Ontario Meaning Workshop, 8/2019

### **Essentializing Inferences**

Lima Workshop on Philosophy of Mind and Language, 7/2019

Taipei Meaning and Reality in Social Context Conference, 1/2019

\*Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistical Philosophy (PhLiP), 11/2018

University of Minnesota Feminist Philosophy and Formal Logic Workshop, 4/2018

### **Does Identity Politics Reinforce Oppression?**

University of California, Irvine, 2/2020

\*Social Ontology 2018 (The 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference),  
8/2018

Barcelona Conference on Race and Gender (GRSelona4), 6/2018

Nassau Community College, 3/2018

CCNY Rifkind Seminar, 2/2018

USC California Metaphysics Conference, 1/2018

### **Minimal Cooperation and Group Roles**

University of San Francisco, 9/2017

### **What *We* Can Do**

The Nova Scotia Meaning Workshop, 7/2017

New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, 4/2017

### **Social Groups and Group Nouns**

MIT Colloquium, 10/2017

CUNY Graduate Center Colloquium, 9/2016

Junior Metaphysics Workshop, 4/2015

### **Social Structures and the Ontology of Social Groups**

\*Critical Social Ontology Workshop, 6/2017

Canadian Philosophical Association, 5/2017

Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference—Metaphysics on the Mountain, 3/2017

### **Varieties of Social Structures**

Oxford University Structure in Metaphysics Conference, 5/2016

Early Career Women in Metaphysics Workshop, 4/2016

### **Social Position and the Reclamation of Slurs**

IUC-Dubrovnik Philosophy of Language and Linguistics Conference, 9/2016

Dartmouth Mind and Language Workshop, 8/2016

### **No Easy Answers to Ontological Category Questions (with V. Flocke)**

Columbia University Seminar on Metametaphysics, 11/2016

\*Society for Exact Philosophy, 5/2016

### **Collective Nouns: Polysemy and Predication**

Cornell Workshop in Linguistics and Philosophy, 11/2014

New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, 10/2014

Philosophical Linguistics and Linguistical Philosophy (PhLiP), 9/2014

### **Group Persons and Normative Individualism**

\*Collective Intentionality IX, 9/2014

### **Groups and Social Creationism**

\*The Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 04/2016

Ohio State University Social Ontology Conference, 02/2016

Notre Dame University, 2/2016

Lewis and Clark College, 11/2015

CUNY Logic and Metaphysics Workshop, 11/2015

### **Reduction, Fundamentality, and Groups**

\*Society for Exact Philosophy, 06/2014

### **The Ontological Commitments of Natural Language are Indeterminate**

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1/2014 (under title “Natural Language and Ontology”)

Triangle Area Philosophy Conference, 8/2013 (under title “Natural Language and Ontology”)

\*Mathematising Science: Limits and Perspectives Conference, 5/2013

University of Edinburgh, 2/2013 (under title: “Natural Language, Ontology and Indeterminacy”)

Gottingen University, 7/2011 (under title “Plurals and Ontological Commitment”)

\*Arché Ordinary Language, Philosophy and Linguistics Conference, 6/2011

### **The Shifty Behavior of Collective Nouns**

\*Society for Exact Philosophy, 10/2012

\*Collective Intentionality VIII, 8/2012

### **What are Groups?**

Duke University, 1/2013

\*The Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 4/2012

### **What the Externalist Cannot Say About Slow Switching Case**

\*Society for Exact Philosophy, 5/2011

\*Brandeis Graduate Philosophy Conference, 4/2011

\*University of Iowa Graduate Philosophy Society Conference, 4/2010

Fourth Philosophy Conference UT-Austin/UNAM, 10/2009

## **COMMENTARIES**

### **On Ted Sider’s “Determinism and the Metaphysics of Quantity”**

Ranch Metaphysics Workshop, 1/2020

### **On Ashley Atkins’s “Partial Events: On the Legacy of the Imperfective Paradox”**

Iceland Meaning Workshop, 8/2018

### **On Samia Hesni’s “Deviant Assertion: When Relying on Accommodation is Preferable”**

The Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 4/2018

**Distinctions Between Groups: On Brian Epstein's *The Ant Trap***

The Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (symposium on Epstein's *The Ant Trap: Rebuilding the Foundations of the Social Sciences*), 4/2017

**On Kevin Klement's "Russell on Ontological Fundamentality and Existence"**

Metaphysics in Higher Order Languages Workshop, 4/2017

**On Marion Boulicault's "The Contingency of Logical Necessity"**

SWIP-Analytic, 4/2017

**On James Miller's "The Nature of Words"**

Junior Metaphysics Workshop, 3/2016

**On Matthew Baddorf's "Phenomenal Consciousness, Collective Mentality and Collective Moral Responsibility"**

The Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 4/2015

**On Juan Colomina's "Problematizing Prohibitionism"**

The Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 4/2014

**On Bradley Rettler's "A Truthmaker View of Ontological Commitments"**

University of Texas at Austin Graduate Conference, 3/2012

**On Matt Teichman's "Casting Slurs"**

University of Texas at Austin Graduate Conference, 4/2011

**AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

PSC-CUNY Award (\$3500), 2020-2021

PSC-CUNY Award (\$3500), 2019-2020

Faculty Fellowship Publishing Program (3 credit hours of course release), 2019

PSC-CUNY Award (\$3500), 2018-2019

CUNY Mellon Faculty Diversity Career Enhancement Initiative Fellow

PSC-CUNY Award (\$3450), 2017-2018

William Stewart Travel Award, 2017, 2018

Office of the Provost International Travel Grant, 2016, 2018, CCNY

Dean of Arts and Humanities Research Award (\$5,000), 2015-2016, CCNY

Dean of Arts and Humanities Travel Grant, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, CCNY

Office of the Provost Domestic Travel Grant, 2015, CCNY

Cogburn Essay Prize, 2013, University of Texas at Austin

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE**

### **Memberships**

American Philosophical Association, Society for Exact Philosophy,  
International Social Ontology Society, Society for Philosophy and Psychology

### **Referee**

*Analytic Philosophy, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Dialectica, Ergo, Erkenntnis, Ethics, Hypatia, W.W. Norton & Company Publishing, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Journal of Social Ontology, Journal of Social Philosophy, Linguistics and Philosophy, Mind, Mind & Language, Philosophy Compass, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy of Science, Routledge Philosophy, Synthese*

### **Service to CUNY**

CCNY Undergraduate Philosophy Advisor, 2015-2018, 2019-2020  
CUNY Philosophy Graduate Program Placement Committee Member, 2019-2020  
CUNY Philosophy Graduate Program Executive Committee Member, 2019-2020  
CUNY Philosophy Graduate Program Placement Director, 2018-2019  
Member of Mellon Working Group on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Humanities of and for the City Initiative  
Head of City College Philosophy Honors Program, 2017-2019  
Developer, City College Philosophy Honors Program, 2017  
CCNY Faculty Council Member, 2016-present  
Member of CCNY Philosophy Day Organizing Committee, 2017  
Philosophy Department Representative, CCNY Undergraduate Open House, Fall 2017  
Panelist for *Free Speech in the Wake of Charlottesville*, CCNY, Fall 2017  
Philosophy Department Representative, General Advisors Meeting, Spring 2017  
Humanities & Arts Representative, Macaulay Honors College Recruitment, Spring 2017  
Major/Minor Outreach Campaign, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020  
Major/Minor Recruitment Informational Session, Fall 2017  
Member of the Search Committee for Dean of Humanities and The Arts, City College of New York, 2016  
Philosophy Department Executive Committee Member, 2015-2016  
Organizer, PhD Preparation meeting for Undergraduate Students, 2015, 2016  
Faculty Advisor for the CCNY Philosophy Club, 2014-2015

### **Service to the Profession**

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Social Ontology*, 2020-present  
Steering Committee Member, International Social Ontology Society (ISOS), 2020-present  
Chair, ISOS Membership Committee, 2020-present

Co-Organizer of the New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, 2017-2020  
Director of Society for Women in Philosophy(SWIP)—Analytic, 2017-2019  
Member of International Social Ontology Society Nominating Committee, 2020  
Speaker at Night of Philosophy Event at Avenues High School, May 2019  
SALT (SALT29) Referee, 2019, 2020  
BayFAP Referee, 2019, 2020  
Job Candidate Mentoring Program for Women in Philosophy Mentor, 2015-2016;  
2016-2017; 2017-2018  
Panelist on Minorities & Philosophy (MAP) Panel on Activism and Philosophy,  
2018  
Session and Panel Organizer, Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, May  
2017  
Junior Metaphysics Workshop Steering Committee Member, 2015-2016  
Co-Organizer, University of Texas—Austin Graduate Colloquia Series 2009-2012  
Organizing Committee Member, University of Texas—Austin Graduate  
Conference, 2009-2012

## **ADVISING AND MENTORING**

### **Dissertation Committee Member**

David Neely (CUNY, Philosophy, 2020-present)  
Jules Salomone-Sehr (CUNY & Ecole Normale Supérieure, Philosophy, 2020-  
present)  
Emilie Pagano (UT-Austin, Philosophy, 2020-present);  
Nicolas Porot (CUNY, Philosophy, 2019; PhD awarded 09/2019);  
Sonia Kasyanenko (NYU, Linguistics, 2015-2018; PhD awarded 12/2018);  
Daniel Shabasson (CUNY, Philosophy, 2016-2018)

### **Prospectus Committee Member**

David Neely (CUNY, Philosophy, 2019-2020; Passed 03/2020)

### **Candidacy Exam Committee Member**

Rachel Cooper (UC Irvine, Philosophy, 2020; Passed 09/2020)

### **Qualifying Paper Supervisor**

Michael Greer (CUNY, Philosophy, 2019-2020; Passed 02/2020)

### **Qualifying Paper Committee Member**

Ivana Durovic (CUNY, Linguistics, 2019-2020; Passed 02/2020)

### **City College Fellowship Pre-PhD Program Mentor**

Anton Pavlov (2017-2018);  
Gage Williams (2015-2017);  
Rebecca Wellington (2015-2016)



### **Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor**

Olivia Calamia (CCNY, 2018-2019);  
Caley Pigliucci (CCNY, 2018-2019)

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **University of California, Irvine**

Social Ontology—Winter 2021

Seminar: The Nature of (Representations) of Social Kinds—Winter 2021

Introduction to Philosophy—Spring 2021

#### **CUNY Graduate Center**

Seminar: Essentializing Language—Fall 2019

Seminar: Logic—Fall 2017

#### **City College of New York, CUNY**

Philosophy of Language—Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2019

Feminist Philosophy—Fall 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2018

Social Ontology—Spring 2018, Spring 2020

Honors Introduction to Philosophy—Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

Introduction to Philosophy—Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Summer 2016, Fall 2016,  
Spring 2017

Metaphysics and Epistemology—Fall 2016

Independent Study: Intersectionality—Fall 2015

Independent Study: History of Analytic—Fall 2015

Philosophy of Mind—Spring 2015

Independent Study: Social Metaphysics—Spring 2015

Introduction to Logic—Summer 2016, Spring 2018

#### **Duke**

Seminar: Collections and Collectivity—Spring 2014

Philosophy of Language—Spring 2014

Appearance and Reality—Fall 2013

Introduction to Logic—Fall 2013

#### **University of Texas**

Introduction to Logic—Summer 2012