

## David Manley

Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
435 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003 | [dmanley@umich.edu](mailto:dmanley@umich.edu)

## APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of Philosophy, 2013-present  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2009-13  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2005-09  
University of Southern California

## EDUCATION

Rutgers University: Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2005

University of Notre Dame: M.A. in Philosophy, 2001

Boston College: B.A in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, 1999

## HONORS

James B. and Grace J Nelson Fellow in Philosophy, 2013-present  
Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan

Norman and Jane Katz Faculty Fellowship, 2012-13  
Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan

Denise Research Fellowship, 2009-13  
Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan

Editorial Board, *Journal of Semantics and Pragmatics*, 2016-present

Class of 1923 Memorial Teaching Award, 2013  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## BOOKS

*The Reference Book* (2012)  
Oxford University Press; with John Hawthorne  
(published in paperback, 2014)

*Metametaphysics: New Essays on the Foundations of Ontology* (2009)  
Oxford University Press; ed. with D. Chalmers and R. Wasserman

*Reason Better: An Interdisciplinary Guide to Critical Thinking* (2019)  
Tophat Monocle (revised edition 2022)

## ARTICLES

The ethics, economics, and demographics of delaying aging  
in *Essays on Longtermism*, eds. H. Greaves & W. MacAskill, 2025,  
Oxford University Press; with Kevin Kuruc

**Keeping up appearances: A reducer's guide**  
forthcoming (conditionally) in *The Journal of Philosophy*

## God and the Bayesian conception of evidence forthcoming in *Religious Studies*

**Quantifier variance**

in *The Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics*, eds. R. Bliss & JTM Miller, 2020, Routledge: 100-117; with Rohan Sud

**Dispositions without teleology**

*Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, 2017, 10: 47-59; with R. Wasserman

**Response** (to four critical studies of *The Reference Book*)

*Mind and Language*, 2014, 29(4): 499-510s; with John Hawthorne

**The folk probably do think what you think they think**

*Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 2013, 91(3): 421-441, with Billy Dunaway and Anna Edmonds

**Dispositional: Beyond the biconditionals**

*Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 2012, 90(2): 321-334

**Dispositions, conditionals, and counterexamples**

*Mind*, 2011, 120(480): 1191-1227; with Ryan Wasserman

**When best theories go bad**

*Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2009, 78(2): 392-405

**A guided tour of metametaphysics**

in *Metametaphysics*, eds. Chalmers, et. al., Oxford: OUP, 2009

**On linking dispositions with conditionals**

*Mind*, 2008, 117: 59-84; with Ryan Wasserman. Also translated in *Dispositionen: Texte aus der zeitgenössischen Debatte*, eds. B. Vetter and S. Schmid, Suhrkamp, 2013

**Safety, content, apriority, self-knowledge**

*The Journal of Philosophy*, 2007, 104(8): 403-423

**A gradable approach to dispositions**

*The Philosophical Quarterly*, 2007, 57: 68-75; with Ryan Wasserman

**Mumford's dispositions**

*Noûs*, 2005, 39:179-195 (critical study); with John Hawthorne

**Properties and resemblance classes**

*Noûs*, 2002, 36: 75-96

## SHORT PIECES

**‘Fictionalism’ and ‘Fink’**

entries in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, 3rd edition, 2015

**F. Correia, *Existential Dependence and Cognate Notions***

*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 02/01, 2007

## TALKS

**Moral realism, defective concepts, and cognitive illusions**

Midwest Annual Workshop in Metaphysics, Lexington, Oct 2025

**Paine, Pigou, George & Claude:**  
**Social surplus, externalities, and the case for an AI dividend**  
Technical AI Governance Forum, London Aug 2025

**AI labor and human well-being**  
World Bank Advisory Services & Analytics Workshop: AI Economic Competitiveness and Fiscal Implications, Warsaw, May 2025

**Reasoning education in a world of AI**  
AI for Epistemics Workshop, San Francisco May 2024

**The ethics of lifespan extension**  
Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy, July 2021

**A gentle introduction to Bayesian updating**  
EA Global, Oct. 2020

**Decoupling: A technique for reducing bias**  
EA Global, Oct. 2020

**Axiology, identity, and lifespan**  
Global Priorities Institute (University of Oxford) Mar. 2019

**Personal identity and population axiology**  
University of Northern Illinois, Nov. 2018

**On being a random sample**  
University of Toronto, Nov. 2016  
Oakland University, Oct. 2016

**Moral realism and semantic plasticity**  
University of Oxford, May 2016

**Fine-tuning and confirmation theory: Some complications**  
Ohio State University, Apr. 2015  
Calvin College, Mar. 2015

**Remarks on Boris Kment's *Modality & Explanatory Reasoning***  
Princeton University, Feb. 2015

**Ground rules for metaphysical reduction**  
Carolina Metaphysics Workshop (Arizona), Feb. 2014

**Why it's (usually) bad to be ad hoc**  
Metaphysical Virtues, Western Michigan University, Mar. 2013

**Names: a third way**  
APA Pacific Division Meeting (Invited Symposium), Mar. 2013

**Bridges to reality**  
Method in Metaphysics Conference, U. of Michigan, Mar. 2013  
Notre Dame Metaphysics Reading Group, Mar. 2013

**Authors meet critics: *The Reference Book***  
APA Eastern Division Meeting, Dec. 2012

**Self-location, existence, and evidential uniqueness**

Rutgers University Colloquium, Nov. 2012

University of Virginia Colloquium, Nov. 2012

**The book of the world and two stories of language**

Midwest Annual Workshop in Metaphysics, SLU, Oct. 2012

**Remarks on Memento and self-deception**

The Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor, Mar. 2012

**Is there an existential selection effect?**

Western Michigan University, Mar. 2012

MIT Colloquium, Dec. 2011

Yale University Colloquium, Dec. 2011

**Dispositions: Beyond the biconditionals**

Pacific APA Invited Symposium, Apr. 2011

**When best theories go bad**

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Colloquium, Jan. 2009

The Online Philosophy Conference, May 2006

**Chance-changing and necessitation**

Arizona Ontology Conference, Jan. 2009

**Precis of *The Reference Book***

Logos Group Workshop on Singular Thought Barcelona. Jan. 2009

**Acquaintance and propositional attitudes**

University of Vermont Colloquium, Nov. 2008

**Workshop on *The Reference Book***

Arché Research Centre, St Andrews. Nov. 2008

**Symposium on singular thought**

with John Hawthorne: Pacific APA, Apr. 2007

**Safety, content, a priority**

California State University, Northridge Colloquium, Nov. 2006

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot?**

Notre Dame Colloquium, Jan. 2006

**On linking dispositions with conditionals**

University of Southern California Colloquium, Apr. 2005

**REFEREEING**

*The Australasian Journal of Philosophy, The Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Ergo, Erkenntnis, Inquiry, Mind, The Monist, Noûs, Oxford University Press, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophers Imprint, The Philosophical Quarterly, The Philosophical Review, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Springer-Verlag, Synthese*

for competitions: Ethics Bowl, Essay Competition on the Automation of Wisdom and Philosophy