

BARRY LAM

Curriculum Vitae (1-1-13)

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor-Philosophy Department, Vassar College

Fall 2006-present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, Princeton University, January 2007

Dissertation: *The Dynamic Foundations of Epistemic Rationality*

M.A. Philosophy, Princeton University, January 2004

B.A. (*summa cum laude*) Philosophy, English (w/ minor in History and Philosophy of Science) University of California, Irvine 2001

Education Abroad, 1999 Pembroke College, University of Cambridge

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Epistemology, Philosophy of Language/Linguistics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Science, Metaphysics, Logic, History of Early Modern Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

ARE CANTONESE SPEAKERS REALLY DESCRIPTIVISTS?

(*Cognition* 115:320-32, 2010)

CALIBRATED PROBABILITIES AND THE EPISTEMOLOGY OF DISAGREEMENT

(forthcoming in *Synthese*, online first, Feb. 2011)

ON THE RATIONALITY OF BELIEF-INVARIANCE IN LIGHT OF PEER DISAGREEMENT

(*Philosophical Review*, 120:2. Apr. 2011)

JUSTIFIED BELIEVING IS TRACKING YOUR EVIDENTIAL COMMITMENTS

(*Logos and Episteme* III:4 (545-564). 2012)

VAGUENESS AND AMBIVALENCE

(forthcoming in *Acta Analytica*)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

REASONING ABOUT KNOWLEDGE: THE ROLE OF EVIDENCE, STAKES, AND OPTIONS IN
THIRD-PERSON ATTRIBUTIONS

(unpublished manuscript 2010)

INVITED TALKS

“Rationality and Relativistic Semantics”

Department of Philosophy, University of Rochester. March 2013

Comments on Jennifer Nagel’s “Intuitions in Gettier Cases, a Cross-Cultural Approach,”

Eastern Division Meeting of APA. Atlanta, Dec. 2012

“Vagueness and Ambivalence,”

Epistemology Brownbag Series, Department of Philosophy, Northwestern University. January 2012.

Comments on Clayton Littlejohn’s “Its not the Thought that Counts”,

Eastern Division Meeting APA. Boston, Dec. 2010

“Calibrated Probabilities and the Epistemology of Disagreement,”

Society for Exact Philosophy, 2010 Meeting in Kansas City, Mo. March. 2010

“Calibrated Probabilities and the Epistemology of Disagreement,”

Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science, UC Irvine, scheduled Feb. 2010

“On the Rationality of Belief-Invariance in Light of Peer Disagreement,”

Knowledge, Belief, Normativity Project, 2009 Conference at VU University, Amsterdam, NL. Aug. 2009.

Comments on Christopher Meacham’s “Binding and its Consequences,”

Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference 2009. University of Western Washington, Aug. 2009

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer reviewer for *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Cognition*, *Monist*, *Erkenntnis*, *Synthese*, and *International Journal in the Philosophy of Science*. Expert reviewer for *Swiss National Science Foundation*, Referee for Russell, G., and Fara, D. eds., *Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Language*

COURSES TAUGHT AT VASSAR

PROBLEMS OF PHILOSOPHY, Philosophy 105.

An introduction to issues such as skepticism, free will, personal identity, and trolley problems.

HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY II, Philosophy 102.

An introduction to the metaphysics and epistemology of Early Modern philosophers from Descartes to Kant.

PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE, Philosophy 222.

A survey of theories of linguistic meaning and use from Frege to Kripke.

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE, Philosophy 226.

A survey of recent work on scientific realism, explanation, observation and, theory-change.

EPISTEMOLOGY, Philosophy 228.

A survey of recent work on the analysis of knowledge, belief, skepticism, and justification.

SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE EXTERNAL WORLD, Philosophy 310.

A seminar on skeptical arguments and linguistic, externalist, and Moorean responses.

RATIONALITY AND JUSTIFICATION, Philosophy 310.

A seminar on the nature and principles of epistemic normativity.

LANGUAGE AND THE INFINITE MIND, Cognitive Science/Philosophy 311.

(w/ Jan Andrews) A seminar on theories of language acquisition and the relationship between language and non-linguistic cognition.

PRAGMATISM AND RELATIVISM, Philosophy 310.

A seminar on recent work in relativistic and pragmatic epistemology such as Boghossian, MacFarlane, Stanley, Fantl and McGrath, and their critics.

LINGUISTIC AND PHILOSOPHICAL SEMANTICS, Philosophy 310.

A look at the semantic and pragmatic issues that arise from the phenomena of vagueness, context-sensitivity, and genericity in natural language.

COLLEGE SERVICE

Benefits Committee, AY 2010-2011.

Departmental Liaison for Library Purchasing, January 2007-2009.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Research Grant, Vassar College Committee on Research, Spring 2010 for "Pragmatic Encroachment and the Ethics of Belief"

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship 2001

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship (2001, *declined*)

Humanities Scholarship, UC Irvine 1999

Phi Beta Kappa, UC Irvine 2000 (junior year)