Alexander Skiles

Institut de Philosophie	Email: alexander.j.skiles@gmail.com		
Université de Neuchâtel	Personal webpage: www.alexanderjskiles.weebly.com		
Espace Louis-Agassiz 1	Dept. webpage: www.philosophie.ch/eidos/currentmembers		
2000 Neuchâtel		Cell phone: +41 (0)76 310 84 54	
Switzerland		Citizenship: United States of America	
Employment			
2012 – present	Swiss National Science Foundation postdoctoral researcher ('scientific collaborator')		
	2013 – present	University of Neuchâtel – Swiss NSF project "The Nature of Existence: Neglected Questions at the Foundations of Ontology" (PIs: Fabrice Correia and Kevin Mulligan)	
	2012 – 2013	University of Geneva – Swiss NSF project "Intentionality as the Mark of the Mental: Metaphysical Perspectives on Contemporary Philosophy of Mind" (PI: Fabrice Correia)	
Education			
2005 - 2013	University of Notre Dame – Ph.D. in philosophy Dissertation: Getting Grounded: Essays on the Metaphysics of Fundamentality		

Dissertation advisor and committee chair: Michael Rea

Honors Program, highest honors (summa cum laude, 3.97 GPA)

University of Georgia - B.A. in philosophy

Areas of research specialization:

Metaphysics, philosophy of science

Additional areas of teaching competence:

Asian philosophy, epistemology, ethics, history of early modern, logic (intro and advanced), phil. of language, phil. of mind

Research output

2001 - 2005

- Journal	l articles and	(non-encyc	lopedic)	book chapters
-----------	----------------	------------	----------	---------------

Forthcoming	"In Defense of the Disjunctive", <i>Inquiry</i> .
2015	"Against Grounding Necessitarianism", Erkenntnis, 80, pp. 717-751.
2015	"Essence in Abundance", Canadian Journal of Philosophy, 45, pp. 100-112.
2014	"Is There a Dilemma for the Truthmaker Non-Maximalist?", <i>Synthese</i> , 191, pp. 3649-3659.
2014	"Primitivism about Intrinsicality", in <i>Companion to Intrinsic Properties</i> , ed. Robert Francescotti, Berlin: De Gruyter, pp. 221-252.
2013	"Time, Modality, and the Unbearable Lightness of Being", with Akiko Frischhut, <i>Thought</i> , 2, pp. 264-273.
2012	"Underdetermination as a Path to Structural Realism", with Katherine Brading, in <i>Structural Realism: Structure, Object, and Causality</i> , eds. Elaine Landry and Dean Rickles, Dordrecht: Springer, pp. 99-115.
2009	"Trogdon on Monism and Intrinsicality", <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> , 87 (1), pp. 149-154.

- Under review

Revise and resubmit "Emergence Reinflated", The Philosophical Quarterly.

- Book reviews

2014

"Review of Correia and Schnieder's *Metaphysical Grounding: Understanding the Structure of Reality*", *Analysis*, 74, pp. 543-546.

Selected presentations (* = invited; ** = refereed)

- Talks

"Existence and Intrinsicality"

Uppsala University (Fall 2015)*

"Getting Grounded"

- King's College London (Spring 2015)*
- Varano Borghi, Italy Workshop on Objections to Kit Fine (Summer 2013)**
- New Orleans, USA Central APA (Spring 2013)**
- SUNY Fredonia Young Philosophers Lecture Series (Spring 2012)**
- Rutgers University Graduate colloquium series (Spring 2011)*

"What is Metaphysical Explanation?"

- Koç University (Spring 2015)*
- Dresden University of Technology (Fall 2014)*

"Essence as Generalized Identity"

- ANU 4th Annual Kioloa Metaphysics Workshop (Fall 2014)*
- University of Geneva Workshop on Grounding and Existence (Fall 2014)*

"How Truth is Grounding in Reality (Really)" / "Some Solutions to Some Puzzles of Ground"

- University of Geneva PhilEAs seminar (Fall 2013)*
- Western Michigan University, USA WMU Metaphysics Workshop (Fall 2013)*
- University of Hamburg 2nd Hamburg Summer Course: Fine's Truthmaker Semantics (Summer 2013)*
- University of Barcelona PERSP seminar (Spring 2013)*

"Against Grounding Necessitarianism"

- University of Montreal 41st Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy (Spring 2013)**
- University of València III PERSP Metaphysics Workshop (Fall 2012)*

"How Metaphysics Can Increase Your Friends a Millionfold"

- SUNY Fredonia – Young Philosophers Lecture Series (Spring 2012)*

"The Primitive and the Pure"

- CUNY – Workshop on Grounding and Fundamentality (Fall 2011)*

"Vagueness, Counting, and Composition"

- NYU Graduate colloquium (Spring 2011)*
- ANU 1st Annual Kioloa Metaphysics Workshop (Fall 2010)*

"Grounding Wholes in Their Parts"

- University of Massachusetts, Amherst – Graduate Conference in Metaphysics (Spring 2009)**

"Underdetermination as a Path to Ontic Structural Realism"

- Wheaton College – Philosophy of Physics Workshop (Summer 2008)*

- Commentaries

Comments on Elizabeth Barnes's "Constructing Disability"

- Arizona Ontology Conference, Tucson AZ (Spring 2014)

Comments on Michael Raven's "Is Ground a Strict Partial Order?"

- Pacific APA, San Francisco CA (Spring 2013)

Comments on Sam Cowling's "Instantiation as Location"

- Central APA, Chicago IL (Spring 2012)

Comments on Joshua Spencer's "Natural Ways to Be"

- 4th Annual INPC: Aristotelianism in Contemporary Metaphysics, Boise State University (Spring 2011)

Comments on Dan Giberman's "Is There No End to Priority Monism?"

- Central APA, Minneapolis MN (Spring 2011)

Comments on L.A. Paul's "How is The World Built?"

- ANU Fundamentality Conference (Fall 2010)

Comments on Sean Walsh's "Modal Mereology and Modal Supervenience"

- Pacific APA, San Francisco CA (Spring 2010)

Comments on Kelly Trogdon's "Grounding, Border-Sensitivity, and Intrinsicality"

- Central APA, Chicago IL (Spring 2010)

Comments on Jonathan Schaffer's "Grounding as the Primitive Concept of Metaphysical Structure"

- CU-Boulder Dependence Workshop (Spring 2009)

Conference organization

First-order and Second-order Metaphysics – Ovronnaz, Switzerland; funded by the Conférence universitaire de Suisse occidentale (CUSO). Speakers include Ricki Bliss, Kris McDaniel, and Tatjana von Solodkoff.

Workshop on Grounding and Existence – University of Geneva, 26-28 September. 2014. Co-organized with Jan Plate; funded by the Swiss NSF. Speakers include Michael J. Clark, Nikk Effingham, Akiko Frischhut, Kevin Mulligan, Jan Plate, Francesca Poggiolesi, Gideon Rosen, Alexander Skiles, Jonathan Tallant, and Nathan Wildman.

Explanation in Metaphysics – University of Neuchâtel, 22-23 June 2013. Co-organized with Fabrice Correia; funded by the Swiss NSF. Speakers include Kit Fine, Carrie Ichikawa Jenkins, Marie Kaiser, Stephan Leuenberger, Jon Litland, Kevin Mulligan, Benjamin Schnieder, and Brad Weslake.

Workshop in Metaphysics and Mathematics – University of Geneva, 20 June 2013. Speakers include Thomas Donaldson, Michael Raven, Bradley Rettler, and Jennifer Wang.

Teaching experience

- Lecturer (University of Neuchâtel, M.A./Ph.D. level, responsible for all aspects of the course)

Spring 2016 Séminaire II: The Concept of God in Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz

Fall 2015 Séminaire II: Buddhist Metaphysics—East Meets West

Fall 2014 Séminaire II: The Nature of Existence

- Tutor (Collége du Léman International School)

Fall 2014 – Assorted subjects (physics, mathematics, history, English as a second language, etc.)

- Lecturer (University of Notre Dame, undergraduate level, responsible for all aspects of the course)

Spring 2012 PHIL 20101 Introduction to Philosophy (two sections)
Fall 2011 PHIL 20101 Introduction to Philosophy (two sections)

Spring 2010 PHIL 10101 Introduction to Philosophy

- Lecturer (Rutgers University, undergraduate level, responsible for all aspects of the course)

Summer 2011 PHIL 103 Introduction to Philosophy
Spring 2011 PHIL 201 Introduction to Formal Logic

- Teaching assistant (University of Notre Dame, undergraduate level, responsible for grading and tutorials)

Spring 2008 PHIL 30302 History of Modern Philosophy

Fall 2007 PHIL 20602 Medical Ethics

Spring 2007 PHIL 20214 Ancient Wisdom and Modern Love

Fall 2006 PHIL 10101 Introduction to Philosophy

Selected awards and fellowships (not including institutional travel grants)

2010 - 2011	The Kaneb Pre-Doctoral Teaching Fellowship, University of Notre Dame
2010	Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts Award, University of Notre Dame
2009	Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies
2005 - 2010	Lilly Presidential Fellowship, University of Notre Dame
2004	Phi Beta Kappa, University of Georgia
2004	Dean William Tate Scholar, University of Georgia

Research assistantships, professional service, etc.

2012 –	Editorial committee member for Dialectica		
2011 –	Referee for American Philosophical Quarterly, Australasian Journal of Philosophy (2x),		
	Canadian Journal of Philosophy (2x), Dialectica (many), Ergo (2x), Erkenntnis (2x),		
	European Journal of Analytic Philosophy, European Journal for Philosophy of Science,		
	Inquiry (2x), International Journal for Philosophy of Science, Mind (3x), Pacific		
	Philosophical Quarterly (2x), Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophia (2x), Philosophical		
	Quarterly (4x), Philosophical Studies (2x), Res Philosophica, Studia Philosophica Estonia		
	(2x), Synthese (3x), Topoi		
2009 –	PhilPapers, section editor: "Fundamentality"		
2009 - 2010	Founder and organizer of University of Notre Dame Graduate Colloquium Series		
2007 - 2008	Research assistant to Katherine Brading, "Structuralist Approaches to Physics" (National		
	Science Foundation Grant SES-0724383 Brading 201201)		
2006 – 2008	Student representative, Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame		

Graduate-level coursework (* = audited; ♥= invited summer course; all at Notre Dame unless noted otherwise)

- Contemporary metaphysics

Spring 2006

- Contemporary metaphysics			
Summer 2015	Ontology and Metaontology♥ (CEU)	M. Balaguer, S. Bernstein, K. Koslicki,	
		T. Horgan, N. Markosian, M. Sullivan	
Summer 2014	The Easy Approach to Ontology♥ (Hamburg)	A. Thomasson	
Summer 2012	Metaphysical Mayhem♡ (Rutgers)	K. Hawley, J. Hawthorne, J. Schaffer,	
		T. Sider, D. Zimmerman	
Spring 2012	Time in Metaphysics and Logic*	M. Sullivan	
Fall 2011	Ontology and Metaontology*	P. van Inwagen	
Spring 2011	Dependence* (Rutgers)	J. Schaffer	
Fall 2010	Metaphysics of Material Objects* (ANU)	D. Korman	
Fall 2009	Metaontology*	M. Rea	
Spring 2009	Universals*	M. Rea	
Spring 2008	Monism in Contemporary Metaphysics	S. Newlands	
Spring 2006	Metaphysics	P. van Inwagen	
Fall 2004	Dispositions and Causal Powers (UGA)	R. Clarke	
Fall 2004	Time and Persistence (UGA)	Y. Balashov	
- Contemporary epistemology and philosophy of science			
Fall 2008	Structuralism in Philosophy of Physics*	K. Brading	
Spring 2007	Foundations of Space and Time	K. Brading	
Fall 2006	Philosophy of Science	D. Howard	
Summer 2006	Descrying the World in Physics* (CEU)	D. Albert, B. Loewer, T. Maudlin	

D. Howard

M. David, T. Warfield

Spring 2006 Epistemology - Contemporary philosophy of mind and language

Summer 2013	Truthmaker Semantics♥ (Hamburg)	K. Fine
Summer 2010	Perception* (ANU)	S. Schellenberg
Spring 2008	Philosophy of Language*	J. Speaks
Spring 2007	Language and Mind	J. Speaks
Fall 2006	Topics in Philosophy of Mind	A. Plantinga, T. Warfield

Historical Foundations of Quantum Theory

Fall 2005 Physicalism and Dualist Alternatives J. Kim

- Logic

Fall 2005 Intermediate Logic II T. Bays
Fall 2005 Philosophy of Logic* P. Blanchette
Spring 2004 Problems in Logic: Modality (UGA) C. Cross
Fall 2003 Model Theory (UGA) C. Cross
Spring 2003 Deductive Systems (UGA) C. Cross

- History of philosophy

Fall 2009Early Modern Metaphysics: Modality*S. NewlandsSpring 2008Philosophy of Mind in Duns ScotusR. CrossSpring 2007SpinozaS. NewlandsFall 200620th Century EthicsD. SolomonFall 2005Aristotle's MetaphysicsM. Loux

References

Fabrice Correia <u>fabrice.correia@unine.ch</u>

Professor

Chair of Logic and Contemporary Philosophy Institut de Philosophie, Université de Neuchâtel

Kris McDaniel krmcdani@syr.edu

Professor

Department of Philosophy, Syracuse University

Samuel Newlands snewlands@nd.edu

Associate Professor

Co-Director, Center for Philosophy of Religion Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

Michael Rea <u>mrea@nd.edu</u>

Professor

Co-Director, Center for Philosophy of Religion Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

Jonathan Schaffer jonathan.schaffer@rutgers.edu

Professor (level I)

Department of Philosophy, Rutgers University