

Michael Barkasi

Philosopher and Cognitive Scientist

Curriculum Vitae

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Toronto | Canada

michael.barkasi@gmail.com | michaelbarkasi.com

Education

- 2015. Ph.D. Philosophy. [Rice University](#).
- 2011. M.A. Philosophy. [Rice University](#).
- 2009. B.A. Philosophy, minors in Maths and Physics. [Kutztown University of Pennsylvania](#).

Academic Appointments

- 2022–P. [Centre for Philosophy of Memory at the Université Grenoble Alpes](#): Associate Member.
- 2022. [University of British Columbia](#): Philosophy Lecturer.
- 2020–21. [York University](#): Philosophy and Cognitive Science Instructor.
- 2018–20. [University of Toronto](#): Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Network for Sensory Research.
- 2018. [Lebanon Valley College](#): Philosophy Instructor.
- 2016–17. [Kutztown University of Pennsylvania](#): Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy.
- 11–12, 16. [Lone Star College](#): Philosophy Instructor.
- 2012–13. [Rice University](#): Research Assistant for The Senses Project at Rice.
- 2011. [Houston Community College](#): Philosophy Instructor.

Industry Positions

- 2021–22. [Performance Sonification Corp](#): Founder and Lead Technology Developer.

Academic-Industry Partnerships

- 2021–22. [Using sonification to train people's movements](#), Performance Sonification Corp. and Harris Multisensory Integration Lab at York University, Toronto.

Research Areas

- philosophy of perception, cognitive neuroscience, psychophysics, phenomenology.
- perception, memory, dreams, hallucination, motor control, multimodal perception, and phenomenal consciousness.

Skills

- C++, R, LaTeX, mathematical logic (modal, many-valued, model theory), KiCad, FreeCAD, PCB design, digital sound synthesis, advanced geometry and motion representations.

Academic Publications

- 2022. Barkasi, Michael and Sant'Anna, André, "[Reviving the naïve realist approach to memory](#)", *Philosophy and the Mind Sciences*, 3(14): 1–30. [10.33735/phimisci.2022.9192](https://doi.org/10.33735/phimisci.2022.9192)
- ‡2021. Barkasi, Michael, "[Memory as sensory modality, perception as experience of the past](#)", *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*. [10.1007/s13164-021-00598-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13164-021-00598-7)
- 2021. Barkasi, Michael, "[What blindsight means for the neural correlates of consciousness](#)", *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 28(11–12): 7–30. [10.53765/20512201.28.11.007](https://doi.org/10.53765/20512201.28.11.007)

2021. Rosen, Melanie G. and Barkasi, Michael, “What makes a mental state feel like a memory: Feelings of pastness and presence”, *Estudios de Filosofía*, 64: 95–122. [10.17533/udea.ef.n64a05](https://doi.org/10.17533/udea.ef.n64a05)
2021. Barkasi, Michael, “Are there epistemic conditions necessary for demonstrative thought?”, *Synthese*, 198(7): 6111–6138. [10.1007/s11229-019-02453-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-019-02453-w)
2021. Barkasi, Michael, “What should the sensorimotor enactivist say about dreams?”, *Philosophical Explorations*, 24(2): 243–261. [10.1080/13869795.2021.1908575](https://doi.org/10.1080/13869795.2021.1908575)
2021. Barkasi, Michael, “Does what we dream feel present? Two varieties of presence and implications for measuring presence in VR”, *Synthese*, 199: 2525–2551. [10.1007/s11229-020-02898-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-020-02898-4)
2020. Barkasi, Michael, “Some hallucinations are experiences of the past”, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, 101(3): 454–488. [10.1111/papq.12320](https://doi.org/10.1111/papq.12320)
2020. Barkasi, Michael and Rosen, Melanie G., “Is mental time travel real time travel?”, *Philosophy and the Mind Sciences*, 1(1): 1–27. [10.33735/phimisci.2020.1.28](https://doi.org/10.33735/phimisci.2020.1.28)
2019. Barkasi, Michael, “The role of experience in demonstrative thought”, *Mind & Language*, 34(5): 648–666. [10.1111/mila.12228](https://doi.org/10.1111/mila.12228)
- †2008. Holowchak, M. Andrew with Barkasi, Michael, “An impromptu visit to Rien-à-Faire: A tribute to Bernard Suits”, *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport*, 35(2): 111–119. [10.1080/00948705.2008.9714733](https://doi.org/10.1080/00948705.2008.9714733)

† Special issue introduction

‡ Runner up, [Philosophy of Memory Essay Prize](#) (2021), Centre de Philosophie de la Mémoire (Centre for Philosophy of Memory), Université Grenoble Alpes

Academic Papers in Progress

- *202x. Barkasi, Michael, “Remembering without causal links”, invited submission for *Reference and Remembering* (Synthese Topical Collection), edited by James Openshaw, Kourken Michaelian, and Denis Perrin.
- *202x. Barkasi, Michael, “When is now? How temporally shifting dreams illuminate the feeling of pastness”, in *Dreaming and Memory: Philosophical Issues*, edited by Daniel Gregory and Kourken Michaelian. Springer. (Under Contract)
- 202x. Barkasi, Michael, “The fluent-sign theory of phenomenal consciousness”, under review.
- 202x. Barkasi, Michael, “Is phenomenal character object-dependent?”, in preparation.
- 202x. Barkasi, Michael and James Openshaw, “Perceiving objects the brain doesn’t represent”, in preparation.

* Invited

General Audience Publications

- *2022. Barkasi, Michael, “Perceiving is imagining the past”, *The Junkyard: A Scholarly Blog Devoted to the Study of Imagination*, January 12.
2021. Barkasi, Michael, “What dreams and smartphones can teach VR developers about presence”, *LinkedIn*, August 12.
2021. Barkasi, Michael, “How digital fluency isolates us”, *Medium*, March 16.

* Invited

Academic Presentations

- *2022. “Remembering what your brain doesn’t”, Bochum-Grenoble Memory Colloquium, Ruhr Universität Bochum and Université Grenoble Alpes. Virtual Talk. April 12.
- *2022. “Audiotactile sensory substitution: A test case for acquaintance”, Mind and Perception Group Speaker Series, Washington University in St. Louis. Virtual Talk. January 28.

- *2021. “[Sonifying explosive sport movements: How, why, and what it shows about bodily awareness](#)”, Cognition, Action, & Perception Speaker Series, University of Cincinnati. Virtual Colloquium Talk. October 29.
- 2021. “[Perception as experience of the past](#)”, The 95th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association. Open Session. Virtual Conference. July 16–18.
- 2021. “[Some hallucination is experience of the past](#)”, American Philosophical Association (APA) Pacific Division Meeting. Colloquium paper. Virtual Conference. April 5–10.
- *2021. “[The nonimmersive feeling of pastness as the phenomenal manifestation of remembering](#)”, *Dreaming and Memory*, a conference hosted jointly by the Philosophy of Neuroscience Group (Tübingen) and the Centre for Philosophy of Memory (Université Grenoble Alpes). Virtual Conference. February 22–23.
- 2021. “[Does what we dream feel present? Two varieties of presence](#)”, American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting. Colloquium paper. Virtual Conference. January 15.
- 2020. “[Is mental time travel real time travel?](#)”, w/ Melanie G. Rosen, 112th Annual Meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SSPP). Contributed Session: Memory. Virtual Conference. December 3–5.
- 2019. “[Conscious blindsight—but still unconscious sight](#)”, 45th Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP). Contributed Session: Consciousness and Cognition. San Diego, California. July 10–13.
- 2019. “[What should the externalist say is missing from dream experience?](#)”, *Dreams, Hallucinations and Imagination*, a workshop by the Centre for the Study of Perceptual Experience. University of Glasgow. Glasgow, Scotland. February 23–24.
- 2019. “[The role of visual representations in seeing](#)”, American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting. Colloquium paper. Denver, Colorado. February 20–23.
- 2016. “[Distinguishing perception and cognition via the perceptual landscape](#)”, *Rice Summer Workshop on the Interface Between Perception and Thought*. Rice University. Houston, Texas. May 5–6.
- 2014. “[An argument for naïve realism from demonstrative thought](#)”, American Philosophical Association (APA) Pacific Division Meeting. Colloquium paper. San Diego, California. April 16–20.
- 2014. “[A user’s guide to epistemic modals](#)”, American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting. Colloquium paper. Chicago, Illinois. February 26–March 1.
- 2013. “[Introducing objects for thought: or, why we need to revisit an old argument for naïve realism](#)”, *Perception and Concepts*, the 9th International Symposium of Cognition, Logic and Communication. University of Latvia. Riga, Latvia. May 16–18.
- 2011. “[Getting straight on epistemic modals](#)”, The Arché/CSMN Graduate Conference. University of St Andrews. St Andrews, Scotland. October 8–9.
- 2008. “[Plato’s generation of number in the *Parmenides*](#)”, The 26th annual joint meeting of Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy (SAGP) with the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy (SSIPS). New York, New York. October 24–26.

As Commentator

- *2021. Commentator on “There are no object files” by Bence Nanay, Neural Mechanisms Online. Virtual Workshop Talk. March 19.
- 2019. Commentator on “Cognitive abilities and the Clarkian extended mind” by Caroline King, American Philosophical Association (APA) Pacific Division Meeting. Vancouver, British Columbia. April 17–20.

* Invited

Service

- ad hoc.* [Journal referee](#) for the *Journal of Philosophy*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, *Mind & Language*, *Thought*, *Synthese*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Dialectica*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, and *Grazer Philosophische Studien*. Conference referee for the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*.
2019. Co-organized [Experiencing What's Not There: A Workshop on Hallucinations, Dreams, Imagination, and Virtual Reality](#), w/ Mohan Matthen, as part of the Network for Sensory Research. Hosted at the University of Toronto (St. George campus). June 7–8.
2019. Technology demo session chair for [Thoughts and Reactions](#), an interdisciplinary workshop on how technology and multi-modal perception are implicated in learning. Hosted at the University of Toronto (Mississauga campus). March 6–7.
2018. Organized a [philosophy of mind reading group](#) at the University of Toronto (St. George campus). Fall semester.
2017. Philosophy committee representative to the [Technology Committee](#) of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania. Spring semester.
- 2014, 16. Judge for the [Houston High School Ethics Bowl](#). Hosted by the Rice University Department of Philosophy.
- 2013–15. Graduate representative to the Rice philosophy faculty.
2014. [Symposium chair](#) at the American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting. Philadelphia. December 27–30.
2013. Co-organized [How Perception Makes Things Available for Thought](#), w/ Casey O'Callaghan, as part of the Senses Project at Rice. Hosted at Rice University. November 8–9.
- 2012–13. Co-organized, w/ Casey O'Callaghan, a [philosophy of mind and perception reading group](#) at Rice University. Fall 2012 to fall 2013.
2010. Organized the Rice Department of Philosophy [work-in-progress talk series](#). Fall semester.

University Teaching

Courses listed by the last term taught, not all sections at all schools listed. All courses taught at the undergraduate level.

- 2022s. Phil 446: [Philosophy of Psychology](#) (University of British Columbia).*
- 2021s. Cogs/Phil 3750: [Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence](#) (York University).*
- 2020f. Cogs/Phil 2160: [Minds, Brains, and Machines](#) (York University).*
- 2018s. Phil 110: [The Examined Life](#) (Lebanon Valley College).
- 2017s. Phi 280: [American Philosophy: Pragmatism](#) (Kutztown University of Pennsylvania).
- 2017s. Phi 030: [Introduction to Philosophy](#) (Kutztown University of Pennsylvania).
- 2016f. Phi 235: [Topics in Moral Theory: Virtue Ethics](#) (Kutztown University of Pennsylvania).
- 2015s. Fwis 129: [Objectivity in Perception](#) (Rice University).
- 2014r. Phil 106: [Logic](#) (Rice University).
- 2011f. Phil 2306: [Introduction to Ethics](#) (Lone Star College).

* online course, s = spring/winter term, f = fall term, r = summer term

Continuing and Extracurricular Education

2019. [Predictive Vision Philosophy Workshop](#), hosted by the York University Department of Philosophy. June 9.
2019. [Neural Mechanisms Online Webinar Series 2019](#), sponsored by the Center for Logic, Language and Cognition and the University of Turin. Spring to summer.

- 2013. [5th Graduate International Summer School in Cognitive Sciences and Semantics](#) (ISSCSS) on perception, co-organized by the Center for Cognitive Sciences and Semantics at the University of Latvia and the Department of Philosophy at McMaster University and hosted by the University of Latvia. July 19–29.
- 2012. [5th North American Summer School in Logic, Language and Information](#) (NASSLLI), organized by the Association for Logic, Language and Information (FoLLI) and hosted by the University of Texas, Austin. June 18–22.
- 2010. [22nd European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information](#) (ESSLLI), organized by the Association for Logic, Language and Information (FoLLI) and hosted by the University of Copenhagen. August 9–20.
- 2010. [Carnegie Mellon Summer School in Logic and Formal Epistemology](#). June 7–25.

Awards

- 2021. Runner up, [Philosophy of Memory Essay Prize](#), Centre de Philosophie de la Mémoire (Centre for Philosophy of Memory), Université Grenoble Alpes. “Memory as sensory modality, perception as experience of the past”
- 2015. [Robert Alan and Kathryn Dunlevie Hayes Dissertation Completion Fellowship](#). Department of philosophy, Rice University.
- 2014. [Travel Stipend](#) for APA Central. Rice Humanities Resource Center.
- 2013. [Travel Stipend](#) for ISSCSS (Riga, Latvia). Rice Philosophy Department.
- 2012. [Travel Stipend](#) for NASSLLI (Austin, Texas). Rice Philosophy Department.
- 2011. [Full Travel Stipend](#) for Arché/CSMN Graduate Conference (St. Andrews, Scotland). Arché.
- 2010. [Travel Stipend](#) for ESSLLI (Copenhagen, Denmark). Rice Philosophy Department.
- 2009. [Levi Gresh Research Scholarship](#). Honors Program, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.
- 2009. [Dr. Carlson R. Chambliss Academic Achievement Award](#) (Silver). Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.
- 2008. [Helen Marcks Scholarship](#) for undergraduate thesis. Honors Program, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.

References

- Laurence Harris. Professor. Department of Psychology, York University.
harris@yorku.ca
- Kourken Michaelian. Professor. Institut de Philosophie de Grenoble, Université Grenoble Alpes.
kourken.michaelian@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr
- Casey O’Callaghan. Professor. Department of Philosophy, Washington University in St. Louis.
casey.ocallaghan@wustl.edu
- Mohan Matthen. Professor. Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto.
mohan.matthen@utoronto.ca
- Alex Morgan. Assistant Professor. Department of Philosophy, Rice University.
alex.morgan@rice.edu