

MICHAEL J RAVEN

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

metaphysics • ground; fundamentality; essence; social items; time; change

language/mind • *de re* thought; mental states; aesthetic judgment

epistemology • explanation; epistemic relativism

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor, [Philosophy, University of Victoria](#) 2021–

Affiliate Professor, [Philosophy, University of Washington](#) 2018–

Associate Professor, [Philosophy, University of Victoria](#) 2013–2021

Visiting Scholar, [Philosophy, University of Washington](#) 2016-2017, 2012-2013

Assistant Professor, [Philosophy, University of Victoria](#) 2009-2013

Instructor, [Philosophy, New York University](#) 2008-2009

EDUCATION

PHD, Philosophy, New York University 2009 [Kit Fine (chair), Ted Sider, Crispin Wright]

MA, Philosophy, New York University 2007 [Ned Block (adviser)]

BA, Philosophy, Reed College 2002 [Mark Hinchliff (adviser)]

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Connection Grant (\$15,640), Social Science & Humanities Research Council 2020

Humanities Faculty Fellowship (course release), University of Victoria 2020

Insight Grant (\$152,589), Social Science & Humanities Research Council 2018-2022
[principal investigator: 2021-2022, collaborator: 2018-2020; co-applicant with Kathrin Koslicki]

Connection Grant (\$15,965), Social Science & Humanities Research Council 2018

Internal Research Grants (\$29,428 total), University of Victoria 2010-2014, 2016, 2020

Conference Grant (\$2000 - declined), Canadian Journal of Philosophy 2014

Scholarly Travel Grants (\$11,200 total), University of Victoria 2011-2019

Learning & Teaching Development Grant (\$7500), University of Victoria 2010

Standard Research Grant (\$52,039), Social Science & Humanities Research Council 2011
[principal investigator: James Young]

Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship (tuition/stipend), New York University 2003-2008

Dean's Supplementary Fellowship (\$1000), New York University 2003

Humanistic Studies Fellowship (\$17,500), Mellon Foundation 2003

HONORS & AWARDS

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, New York University 2009

Graduate Forum Fellow, New York University 2007-2008

Phi Beta Kappa Society 2002

Edwin N. Garlan Memorial Prize in Philosophy, Reed College 2002

Commendation for Academic Excellence, Reed College 1998-2002

Chase Youth Award for Entrepreneurship 1998

Xerox Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences 1998

Spokane Scholars Award: 1st Excellence in Social Sciences 1998

Phi Delta Kappa Grant for Prospective Educators 1998

Elks National Foundation "Most Valuable Student" Award 1998

Washington State Honors Award 1998

Washington State Principal's Scholars Award 1998

National Merit Scholarship Finalist 1998

SCHOLARLY IMPACT

- philpeople.org: 90th pctl publication volume; 94th pctl citations
- [Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com): citations = 676, h-index = 9, i10-index = 9
- Erdős number = 3 (Erdős→Pomerance→Crandall→Raven)

EDITED BOOKS

The Routledge Handbook of Essence, w/K. Koslicki. New York: Routledge (forthcoming). [37]

The Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding. New York: Routledge (2020). [36]

ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

"Physicalism and its Challenges in Social Ontology" in S. Collins, B. Epstein, S. Haslanger [35] & H. B. Schmid (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Social Ontology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (forthcoming).

"A Problem for Immanent Universals in States of Affairs", *American Philosophical Quarterly* [34] 59.1 (2022): 1-9.

"A Puzzle for Social Essences", *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* (forthcoming). [33]

"Explaining Essences", *Philosophical Studies* 178 (2021): 1043-1064. [32]

"Is Logic Out of this World?", *The Journal of Philosophy* 117.10 (2020): 557-577. [31]

"Introduction" in M. Raven (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding*. New [30] York: Routledge (2020).

"Hylomorphism without Forms? A Critical Notice of Simon Evnine's *Making Objects and Events*", *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 49.5 (2019): 652-669. [29]

"(Re)discovering Ground" in K. Becker & I. D. Thomson (eds.), *Cambridge History of [28] Philosophy, 1945 to 2015*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (2019).

- [“New Work for a Theory of Ground”](#), *Inquiry* 60.6 (2017): 625-655. [27]
- [“Against the Semantic Orientation towards Aesthetic Judgements”](#) in J. Young (ed.), [\[26\]](#)
Semantics of Aesthetic Judgement. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2017).
- [“Fundamentality without Foundations”](#), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 93.3 (2016): [25]
607-626.
- [“Ground”](#), *Philosophy Compass* 10.5 (2015): 322-333. [24]
- [“Is Ground a Strict Partial Order?”](#), *American Philosophical Quarterly* 50.2 (2013): 191-199. [23]
- [“Subjectivism is Pointless”](#), *Logos & Episteme* 4.1 (2013): 733-748. [22]
- [“Is Lewis’s Mixed Theory Mixed Up?”](#), *Theoria* 79.1 (2013): 57-75. [21]
- [“In Defence of Ground”](#), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 90.4 (2012): 687-701. [20]
- [“Attesting the Aristotelian Future”](#), *Philosophia* 39.4 (2011): 751-757. [19]
- [“Can Time Pass at the Rate of 1 Second per Second?”](#), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 89.3 [18]
(2011): 459-465.
- [“There is a Problem of Change”](#), *Philosophical Studies* 155.1 (2011): 23-35. [17]
- [“Cryptographic Hash Functions Based on Artificial Life”](#), w/M. A. Bedau & R. Crandall. [16]
PSIPRESS (2010).
- [“Problems for Testimonial Acquaintance”](#), *NOÛS* 42.4 (2008): 727-745. [15]
- [“A General Framework for Evolutionary Activity Statistics”](#), w/M. A. Bedau, in W. Banzhaf, [14]
et al. (eds.), *Advances in Artificial Life – ECAL 2003*. Berlin: Springer-Verlag (2003).
- [“Collective Intelligence of the Artificial Life Community on its Own Successes, Failures, \[13\]](#)
[and the Future”](#), w/S. Rasmussen, G. N. Keating & M. A. Bedau, *Artificial Life* 9 (2003):
207-235.
- [“Visualizing Adaptive Evolutionary Activity of Allele Types and of Phenotypic \[12\]](#)
[Equivalence Classes of Alleles”](#), w/M. A. Bedau, in E. Bilotta, et al. (eds.), *ALife VIII*
Workshops. Sydney (2002).

REVIEWS

- [T. Sattig, *The Double Lives of Objects*](#), *Philosophical Review* 127.1 (2018): 140-144. [11]
- [F. Correia & B. Schnieder \(eds.\) *Metaphysical Grounding: Understanding the Structure of \[10\]*](#)
[Reality](#), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2013).
- [D. Chalmers, D. Manley & R. Wasserman \(eds.\), *Metametaphysics: New Essays on the \[9\]*](#)
[Foundations of Ontology](#), *Philosophy in Review* 30.3 (2010).

OTHER (ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES, LAB REPORTS)

- [“Kit Fine”](#), *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2020). [8]
- [“The Essential Glossary of Ground”](#), w/K. Fine, in M. Raven (ED.), [\[7\]](#)
The Routledge Handbook of Metaphysical Grounding. New York: Routledge (2020).
- [“Metaphysical Grounding”](#), in D. Pritchard (ed.), [\[6\]](#)
Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy. New York: Oxford University Press (2019).

- “Ontology” and “Substance”** in J. Lachs & R. Talisse (eds.), [*American Philosophy: An Encyclopedia*](#). New York: Routledge (2007). [5]
[4]
- “Consensus-building Tools for Post-wildfire Geographical Information System (GIS) Design”**, w/G. N. Keating & S. Rasmussen. LANL License No. LA-13894-MS (2002). [3]
- “Use of Web-based Consensus Building and Conflict Clarification Process for the Navajo Nation Governmental Efficiency Evaluation”**, w/G. N. Keating, S. Rasmussen, E. Tso, J. Cocq & P. Dotson. *Appendix to ETD Environmental Consulting, Report of the Navajo Nation Council Evaluation*. LANL Report LA-UR-01-6207 (2001). [2]
- “Web-based Consensus Building and Conflict Clarification Tool for EES Division’s Strategic Planning Process”**, w/G. N. Keating & S. Rasmussen. LANL License No. LA-UR-02-3830 (2001). [1]

PRESENTATIONS, COMMENTARIES, AND PANELS

- “Is Physicalism Possible?”**, University of Manitoba 2021; Northwest Philosophy Conference 2021
- Comments: Deke Gould’s “Possibilities and Propositions: Concrete Modal Realism, Platonism, and Similarity”**, Northwest Philosophy Conference 2021
- Comments: Mark Hinchliff’s “Truth in Fiction—A Sequel”**, Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference 2021
- Panelist: Kit Fine’s “What is Truthmaker Semantics?”**, Peking University Mathematical Philosophy 2020
- “Re-evaluating Social Essences”**, Humanities Faculty Fellowship Lecture 2020
- “A Puzzle for Social Essences”**, Social Metaphysics Workshop 2020; Union College 2020; Social Ontology 2018
- Comments: Justin Clarke-Doane’s *Mathematics and Morality***, Canadian Philosophical Association Conference 2019
- Comments: Wes Simcoe’s “Grounding and A Priori Epistemology”**, Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference 2019
- “A Problem for Immanent Universals in States of Affairs”**, Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible VI 2018
- Comments: Moritz Baron’s “Can Williamson’s Counterfactual-based Epistemology of Modality Explain our Knowledge of Mathematical Necessity?”**, Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible VI 2018
- Comments: Martin Glazier’s “The Standpoint Challenge to the PSR”**, Principle of Sufficient Reason: Then and Now 2018
- “Hylomorphism without Forms? On Simon Evnine’s *Making Objects and Events*”**, Author-Meets-Critic, Eastern APA 2018
- Comments: Justin Zylstra’s “Essence and Grounding Connections”**, Society for the Metaphysics of Science Conference 2017
- Comments: Bob Beddor’s & Simon Goldstein’s “Believing Epistemic Contradictions”**, Formal Epistemology Workshop 2017

Comments: Dana Goswick's "Hylomorphism Without Primitive Modality", Canadian Metaphysics Collaborative 1st Annual Conference 2017

Comments: Jessica Wilson's "Grounding-based Formulations of Physicalism", 21st SOFIA Conference 2017

"Deriving Ought from Is", University of Washington PhilLunch Series 2016

"Challenges of Teaching Metaphysics", Situating Core Analytic Philosophy within the Liberal Arts Curriculum Workshop 2016

Comments: Nina Emery's "Against Radical Quantum Ontologies", Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference 2016

Comments: David Kovacs's "Priority Monism and the Notion of Dependence", Central APA 2016

"Taking to be as Making to be", LOGOS, University of Barcelona, 2015; Artifacts and Metaphysical Explanation 2015

"Expressing the Truth, Describing the World", Truth and Grounds Conference (eidos), 2015; Simon Fraser University 2015; University of Alberta 2014

"Fundamentality without Foundations", Institut Jean Nicod 2015; Northwest Philosophy Conference 2015; Reed College 2013; eidos Workshop in Metaphysics and Mathematics 2013; Australian National University 2013; University of Melbourne 2013; University of Sydney 2013

Comments: Tom Donaldson's "The Grounding of Arithmetic", Pacific APA 2015

Comments: Sean Crawford's "Propositions and the Multiple Relation Theory of Belief: Wittgenstein and Russell Reconciled", Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference 2014

"Vindicating Testimonial Acquaintance", Canadian Philosophical Association Congress 2013; Pacific APA 2013; Northwest Philosophy Conference 2011

"Is Ground a Strict Partial Order?", Pacific APA 2013

"Aesthetic Relativisms and Realities", Aesthetic Judgment Workshop 2012

"Reintroducing Fundamental and Derivative", University of St. Andrews 2012; University of Edinburgh 2012

"Science Cannot Disprove (or Prove) Free Will", Philosophy vs. Psychology Debate, University of Victoria 2012

Comments: Kenneth Vernon's "The Normativity of Truth", Northwest Philosophy Conference 2011

"Avoiding Incoherence in Ontology", Vienna Forum for Analytic Philosophy, 2011; Beijing Normal University 2011

Comments: Michael Hick's "Know-who and Testimony Mediated Acquaintance", Pacific APA 2011

"There is a Problem of Change", Keynote Address, Western Canadian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference 2010

"Ontology, from a Fundamentalist Point of View", Vancouver Island University 2009; University of Victoria 2009; New York University Graduate Forum 2008

"Is Quantifier Variance Metaphysically Relevant?", Rhodes College 2009; Arché/CSMN Graduate Conference 2008; UC Davis Graduate Conference 2008

ADVISING

SUPERVISOR	Thomas Oberle, PhD, University of Alberta 2020– William Arrett, MA, University of Victoria 2020 Pat Reilly, MA, University of Victoria 2019 Carolyn Garland, MA, University of Victoria 2014
COMMITTEE (NON- SUPERVISOR)	Andrew Park, MA, University of Victoria 2014 Adrienne Canning, MA, University of Victoria 2013 Soroush Moghaddam, MA, University of Victoria 2013
EXTERNAL EXAMINER	Julio Brotero de Rizzo, PhD, University of Hamburg 2019 James Norton, PhD, University of Sydney 2017 Justin Zylstra, PhD, University of Alberta 2016
MENTOR	Alec Oakley, Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award, University of Victoria 2019-2020

TEACHING

GRADUATE COURSES	Based & Baseless Truths; Language & Attitude Problems; Definition & Essence; Naïve Metaphysics; Modality & Essence; Metaphysical Explanation; Reference & Existence; Metametaphysics; Meaning; Pro-seminar; Time, Tense, Change & Persistence; Directed Studies
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES	Introduction to Philosophy; Metaphysics, History of Analytic Philosophy, Philosophy of Language; Logic; Philosophy of Language; Belief, Truth & Knowledge; Philosophy of Mind; History of Ancient Philosophy
TEACHING ASSISTANCE	Central Problems of Philosophy; Ethics; History of Modern Philosophy; Metaphysics

SERVICE

ADMIN	Co-Founder & Steering Committee, Metaphysics Collaborative 2015– Co-Editor-in-Chief, Metaphysics 2016– Editorial Panel, <i>Thought: A Journal of Philosophy</i> 2020– HUMS Grants Board, University of Victoria 2020– Co-Section Editor, “Essence”, philpapers.org 2019– Graduate Coordinator, University of Victoria 2011-2016,2018– Committee on Committees, University of Victoria 2015-2016 Colloquium Committee, University of Victoria 2013-2016,2017– Graduate Adviser, University of Victoria 2014 Curriculum Committee, University of Victoria 2010-2012 Admissions Committee, University of Victoria 2009– Hiring Committee, University of Victoria 2010,2015,2017,2018,2019
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- EVENTS**
- Organizer**, Re-evaluating Social Essences Workshop 2021
 - Co-organizer**, Language and Essence Workshop 2018
 - Program Committee**, Pacific APA 2015-2018,2021-2024
 - Metaphysics Coordinator**, Canadian Philosophical Association 2012-2013
 - Co-organizer**, Columbia/NYU Graduate Philosophy Conference 2003-2004
 - Session Chair**, Metaphysics on the Mountain 2020; Canadian Metaphysics Collaborative 2019; Pacific APA 2019; Vancouver Summer Philosophy 2017; Metaphysics on the Mountain 2014; Eastern APA 2013; Bellingham Summer Philosophy 2010
- SOCIETIES**
- Regular Member**, American Philosophical Association
- OUTREACH**
- Contributor**, Wi-Phi: Open Access Philosophy
- CONSULTING**
- Masters Capital Management, L.L.C.** 2006-2007
- REFEREE**
- Journals** • *Acta Analytica* ×2; *American Philosophical Quarterly* ×2; *Analysis* ×6; *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* ×7; *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* ×7; *dialectica*; *Ergo* ×2; *Erkenntnis* ×9; *Frontiers of Philosophy in China*; *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* ×4; *Journal of Philosophical Research* ×2; *The Journal of Philosophy, Inquiry* ×2; *Mind* ×9; *NOÛS*; *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* ×2; *Philosopher's Imprint* ×4; *Philosophical Papers*; *Philosophical Quarterly* ×6; *Philosophical Studies* ×11; *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* ×3; *Philosophy of Science*; *Ratio* ×2; *Synthese* ×7
- Books** • Cambridge University Press; Emond Montgomery; Oxford University Press ×7; Polity; Routledge ×4; Wiley-Blackwell
- Grants** • Israel Science Foundation; Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Conferences** • Canadian Philosophical Association ×2; Canadian Metaphysics Collaborative ×3; Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference ×3; Western Canadian Philosophical Association

REFERENCES

Kit Fine, New York University, 📞 (212) 998-3558 ✉ kit.fine@nyu.edu

Sally Haslanger, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 📞 (617) 253-4458 ✉ shaslang@mit.edu

Kathrin Koslicki, University of Neuchâtel, 📞 (780) 492-3307 ✉ kathrin.koslicki@unine.ch

Jonathan Schaffer, Rutgers University, 📞 (848) 932-0411 ✉ jonathan.schaffer@rutgers.edu

Theodore Sider, Rutgers University, 📞 (848) 932-9861 ✉ sider@rutgers.edu

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