

Sarah Robins

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Wescoe Hall 3070

Philosophy Dept.

University of Kansas

Lawrence, KS 66045

Academic Positions

- Spring 2015–present Affiliate Faculty, Program in Cognitive and Brain Sciences,
Psychology Department, University of Kansas
- Fall 2013–present Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Kansas
- Fall 2012–Spring 2013 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Texas at El Paso
- Summer 2012 Post-doctoral Researcher, Reading and Language Laboratory
Psychology Department, Washington University in St. Louis

Education

- Ph.D. 2012 *A Constructive Trace Theory of Memory*
Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology (PNP)
Washington University in St. Louis
Committee: Carl Craver (chair), John Heil, John Doris, Julia Driver, Roddy
Roediger, and Rebecca Treiman
- B.A. 2002 Philosophy and Psychology (*magna cum laude*, distinction in both majors)
Hendrix College

Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Mind and Philosophy of the Cognitive Sciences

Areas of Concentration: Moral Psychology, Developmental Psychology, and Biomedical Ethics

Publications

Robins, S. K. (2014). Mindreading and tacit knowledge. *Cognitive Systems Research*, 28, 1–14.

Robins, S. K. (2014). Memory Traces, Memory Errors, and the Possibility of Neural Lie Detection. In Charles T. Wolfe (Ed.) *Brain Theory: Essays in Critical NeuroPhilosophy* (pp. 171–191). Palgrave MacMillan.

Robins, S. K. (2014). A Mechanism for Mental Time Travel? A Critical Review of Michael Hasselmo's *How We Remember: Brain Mechanisms of Episodic Memory*. *Philosophical Psychology*. doi:[10.1080/09515089.2013.877243](https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2013.877243)

Robins, S. K., Ghosh, D., Rosales, N. and Treiman, R. (2014). Letter knowledge in parent-child conversations: Differences between families differing in socio-economic status. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5, 1–11.

Robins, S., Treiman, R., Rosales, N. (2014). Letter knowledge in parent–child conversations. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 27, 407–429.

Robins, S., Treiman, R., Rosales, N., & Otake, S. (2012). Parent–child conversations about letters and pictures. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 25, 2039–2059
doi:10.1007/s11145-011-9344-5

Robins, S. K. & Craver, C. F. (2011). No Nonsense NeuroLaw, *Neuroethics*, 4, 195–203.

Robins, S., & Treiman, R. (2009). How Parents Speak to Children About Writing: Clues to the nature of Print in Young Children’s Environments, *Applied Psycholinguistics*, 30, 463–484.

Robins, S. K., & Craver, C. F. (2009). Biological Clocks: Explaining with Models of Mechanisms. In J. Bickle (ed.) *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Neuroscience*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Robins, S., & Treiman, R. (2009). Early Informal Learning About Writing, in D. Aram & I. Korat (Eds.) *Literacy Development and Enhancement Across Orthographies and Cultures*. New York: Springer (pp. 17–30).

Doris, J., & Robins, S. (2007). Review of *Psychiatry in the Scientific Image* by Dominic Murphy. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*.

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

Confabulation and Constructive Memory

Early Career Scholars Conference in Philosophy of Psychiatry: Overcoming Mind-Brain Dualism in 21st Century Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2014

Constructive Memory and Neural Mechanisms

Neurons, Mechanisms, and the Mind: The History and Philosophy of Cognitive Neuroscience, 30th Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, Boulder, CO, October 2014

The Retrieval Problem for Mechanistic Accounts of Memory

PHILOGICA III: Colombian Conference on Logic, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Science, Bogotá, Colombia, February 2014

A Mechanism for Mental Time Travel?

Presentation in Symposium: “Making the Self Empirically Tractable” (along with Kristin Andrews and Serife Tekin)
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Charleston, SC, February 2014

Remembering, Relearning, and (Temporarily) Forgetting

Invited Talk, Wake Forest University Philosophy Department, Winston-Salem, NC, 2013

Misremembering and Memory Traces

Mentoring Workshop for Pre-tenure Women Faculty in Philosophy, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2013

The Extended Mind and the Constructive Memory Challenge

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Austin, Texas, 2013

The Constructive Trace Theory of Memory

Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Boulder, Colorado, 2012

Remembering the Dinosaur: The Role of Memory Traces in an Account of Constructive Memory

American Philosophical Association, Pacific Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2012

What Letters do Parents and Children Talk About?

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading, Montreal, Canada, 2012

Parent-Child Conversations as a Source of Early Letter Knowledge

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading, St. Pete Beach, Florida, 2011

Memory, Engrams, and the Personal/Subpersonal Distinction

Saint Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association, St. Louis, MO, 2010

Learning about Writing Begins Informally: How Parents and Children Talk about Letters

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading, Berlin, Germany, 2010

Two Ways to Break it Down: The Relation Between Functional and Constitutive Decomposition in the search for Neurocognitive Mechanisms

International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences of Biology, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, 2009

Simulation and Tacit Knowledge: What's Really at Issue in the Folk Psychology Debate

Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 2008

The Threat of Collapse and the Simulation Alternative

Panel on Themes in Alvin Goldman's Work

Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Alvin Goldman, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada, 2007

Metalinguistic Awareness in Reading Development and Human Cognition

US-China joint workshop, *Memory and Language: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, 2007.

How Parents Speak to Children About Writing: Clues to the Nature of Print in Children's Environments

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading, Prague, Czech Republic, 2007

Is There Such a Thing as Episodic Memory?

Interdisciplinary Meeting on Memory Research, University of Arkansas Little Rock, 2006

Presented Comments

Comments on Corey Maley's "Understanding the Chinese Room"

Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, Savannah, GA, 2012

Comments on J. Robert Thompson's "Picking Perner's Puzzle to Pieces"

Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, Atlanta, GA 2010

Comments on Benedicte Veilet, The Child and the Scientist

Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, Atlanta, GA, 2007

Local Presentations

The Retrieval Problem

Colloquium Series, Psychology Department, University of Kansas, October 2014

Representing the Past

Colloquium Series, Philosophy Department, University of Kansas, May 2014

Reviving the Causal Theory of Memory

Colloquium Series, Philosophy Department, University of Texas at El Paso, 2012

Connecting Philosophy and Psychology: Learning and Memory

Colloquium Series, Psychology Department, University of Texas at El Paso, 2012

Remembering the Dinosaur: The Constructive Trace Theory of Memory

Colloquium Series, Philosophy Department, Washington University in St. Louis, 2011

Residual Normality and Cognitive Development: Why Developmental Disorders do not support Massive Modularity

Works in Progress Series (WIPS), PNP Program, Washington University in St. Louis, 2007

Children's Understanding of the Concept of Print

Aging and Development Brown Bag Series, Psychology Department, Washington University in St. Louis, 2006

Honors and Awards

New Faculty General Research Fund, "The Future of Memory," \$8,000, University of Kansas, Summer 2014

Finalist, Kemper Award for Excellence in Teaching, Webster University, 2012

Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence, Washington University in St. Louis, 2009

Student Travel Award, *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences of Biology*, 2009 Meeting, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

National Science Foundation Science & Society grant recipient (co-written with Carl Craver and Don Goodman-Wilson) \$25,000 for *Future Directions in Genetic Studies* workshop, 2008

Student Travel Award, National Science Foundation, for US-China Joint Workshop *Memory and Language: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, Tsinghua University, Beijing China, 2007

TEACHING

University of Kansas, Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department

Philosophy of Mind – Fall 2013
 Introduction to Philosophy – Fall 2014, Spring 2015
 Introduction to Philosophy, Honors – Fall 2013
 Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant – Spring 2014, Fall 2014
 Topics in Mind: Memory (graduate course) – Spring 2014

Graduate Committees

Ph.D. Dissertation Committee (Brandon Gillette), defended November 2013
 Ph.D. Portfolio Committee in History (John Wells), October 2013
 Ph.D. Prospectus Defense (Jennifer Kittlaus), September 2014
 M.A. Committee Member (Anastasia Seals), May 2014
 M.A. Committee Member (Raisa Akram), May 2014
 M.A. Committee Member (Deborah Williams), December 2014
 Ph.D. Preliminaries, Psychology (Cynthia Siew), November 2014

University of Texas at El Paso, Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department

Philosophy of Mind – Fall 2012
 Philosophy of Science – Fall 2012
 Philosophy and Psychology (graduate course) – Spring 2013
 Basic Philosophical Issues: Memory (graduate course) – Spring 2013

Washington University in St. Louis, Instructor, Philosophy Department (University College)

Biomedical Ethics – Summer 2010
 Logic (first order logic w/ identity) – Summer 2008 and Summer 2009
 Intro to the Philosophy of Cognitive Science – Summer 2006

Webster University, Adjunct Instructor, Philosophy Department

Do Animals Think? – Spring 2010
 Introduction to Philosophy – Spring 2010/Spring 2011
 Informal Logic – Fall 2009/Fall 2007
 Critical Thinking – Spring 2008/Summer 2009

SERVICE

Professional Service

Paper Referee, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Spring 2012, Spring 2013

Paper Referee, Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, Fall 2012, Fall 2013

Co-organizer, 2013, Student Session at the annual meeting of the *New Mexico West Texas Philosophical Society*, University of Texas at San Antonio

Article Referee for: *Erkenntnis*, *Neuroethics*, *Philosophy of Psychology*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Theoria*.

Book Proposal Referee: Cambridge University Press, MIT Press, Westview Press

Book Manuscript Referee: MIT Press

Textbook Referee: W.W. Norton, Oxford University Press

Departmental Service

Library Liaison, Philosophy Department, University of Kansas, 2013-present

Visiting Lecturer Committee, Philosophy Department, University of Kansas, 2013-present

Department Chair Search Committee, Philosophy Department, University of Texas at El Paso, 2012-2013

Coordinator, Philosophy Talk Series, Philosophy Department, University of Texas at El Paso, 2012-2013

Advisor, UTEP Philosophy Club, University of Texas at El Paso, 2012-2013

Professional Affiliations

American Philosophical Association

International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology

Philosophy of Science Association

Society for Philosophy and Psychology

Southern Society for the Philosophy and Psychology

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading