

Sarah Robins

skrobins@ku.edu

www.sarahkrobins.org

Wescoe Hall 3072

Philosophy Dept.

University of Kansas

Lawrence, KS 66045

Academic Positions

August 2018–present	Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Kansas
Fall 2013–July 2018	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Kansas
Spring 2015–present	Affiliate Faculty, Program in Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Psychology Department, 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	<i>A Constructive Trace Theory of Memory</i> Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology (PNP) Washington University in St. Louis
B.A. 2002	Philosophy and Psychology (<i>magna cum laude</i> , distinction in both majors) Hendrix College

PUBLICATIONS

In Philosophy

Journal Articles

Robins, S.K. (forthcoming). Memory and Optogenetic Intervention: Separating the engram from the ecphory. *Philosophy of Science*.

Robins, S.K. (2017). Confabulation and Constructive Memory. *Synthese*. doi:10.1007/s11229-017-1315-1

Robins, S.K. (2017). Contiguity and the Causal Theory of Memory. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 47, 1–19. doi:10.1080/00455091.2016.1209964

Robins, S.K. (2016). Representing the Past: Memory Traces and the Causal Theory of Memory. *Philosophical Studies*, 173(11), 2993–3013. doi:10.1007/s11098-016-0647-x

Robins, S.K. (2016). Optogenetics and the Mechanism of False Memory. *Synthese*, 193, 1561–1583. doi:10.1007/s11229-016-1045-9

Robins, S. K. (2016). Misremembering. *Philosophical Psychology*, 29, 432–447. doi:10.1080/09515089.2015.1113245

Robins, S. K. (2014). Mindreading and tacit knowledge. *Cognitive Systems Research*, 28, 1–14. doi:10.1016/j.cogsys.2013.07.002

Robins, S. K. & Craver, C. F. (2011). No Nonsense NeuroLaw. *Neuroethics*, 4, 195–203. doi: 10.1007/s12152-010-9085-1

Books, Edited

P. Calvo, S.K. Robins, & J. Symons, Eds. (Under Contract). *Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Psychology*, 2nd Edition.

Book Chapters

Michaelian, K., & Robins, S.K. (2018). The Causal Theory of Memory at 50. *New Directions in the Philosophy of Memory*. K. Michaelian, D. Debus, & D. Perin, Eds. (pp. 13–32). Routledge.

Robins, S.K. (2017). Memory Traces. In S. Bernecker and K. Michaelian (Eds.) *Routledge Handbook of the Philosophy of Memory* (pp. 76–87). Routledge.

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., & 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.

Commentaries, Reviews

Robins, S.K. (2018). Confabulation and Epistemic Authority. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*. doi:10.1017/S0140525X17001492

Robins, S.K. (2017). In defense of Vasubandhu’s approach to episodic phenomenology. *Australasian Philosophical Review*, 1(4), 416–419. doi:10.1080/24740500.2017.1411148

Robins, S.K. (2016). Book Review: *Memory: A History* (D. Nikulin, Ed.). *Memory Studies*, 9(3), 358–360. doi: 10.1177/1750698016645437

Robins, S. K. (2015). A Mechanism for Mental Time Travel? A Critical Review of Michael Hasselmo’s *How We Remember: Brain Mechanisms of Episodic Memory*. *Philosophical Psychology*, 28, 903–915. doi:10.1080/09515089.2013.877243

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

In Psychology

Journal Articles

Treiman, R., Decker, K., Robins, S., & Ghosh, D. (2018). Parent-child conversations about literacy: A longitudinal, observational study. *Journal of Child Language*, *45*, 511-525.

Treiman, R. Schmidt, J., Decker, K., Robins, S., Levine, S.C. and Demir, Ö. E. (2015). Parents talk about letters with their young children. *Child Development*, *86*, 1406–1418.
doi:10.1111/cdev.12385

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. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2014.00632

Robins, S., Treiman, R., Rosales, N. (2014). Letter knowledge in parent–child conversations. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, *27*, 407–429.
doi:10.1007/s11145-013-9450-7

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., & Treiman, R. (2009). Talking about writing: What we can learn from conversations between parents and their young children. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, *30*, 463–484.
doi:10.1017/S0142716409090237

Book Chapters

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).

PRESENTATIONS

In Philosophy

*= refereed †= invited (no job talks)

Fixed Engrams and Reconsolidation: Memory as a Dynamic Process

Symposium on *Neural Dynamics and Cognitive Ontology* (with Jessica Cohen, Felipe De Brigard, Bryce Gessell, and Colin Klein)

Philosophy of Science Association, Seattle, WA, November 2018*

- The Neurophilosophy of Memory: Reconciling Stable Engrams and Neural Dynamics
Colloquium: Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Minnesota, September 2018†
Conference: Fitting the Mind to the Brain: Deliberations on Cognitive Ontology, Washington University in St. Louis, October 2018†
- The Mnemonic Puzzle
 Morris Colloquium, University of Colorado Boulder, June 2018†
- Mnemonic Confabulation
 Project PERFECT Confabulation Workshop, St. Anne's College, Oxford May 2018†
- A Particular Concern for Glennan's *New Mechanical Philosophy*
 Author Meets Critics session on Stuart Glennan's *New Mechanical Philosophy* (with Ken Aizawa, Stuart Glennan, and Tom Polger)
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, San Antonio, TX, March 2018*
- Veridical Confabulation
 Philosophical Perspectives on Memory, Adelaide, South Australia, Dec 2017†
- Memory at its Best
 Issues in Philosophy of Memory, Cologne, Germany Jul 2017†
- Mechanisms with a Past: Causal History and Compositional Explanation
 Workshop on The Ontology of Compositional Explanation , Rutgers University (Newark) Newark, NJ May 2017†
- Memory and Optogenetic Intervention: Separating the Engram from the Ecphory
 Symposium on *Intervention and Progress: Optogenetics and Control Over Neural Systems* (with John Bickle, Carl Craver, and Jacqueline Sullivan)
Philosophy of Science Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2016*
- Finding Phenomenological Differences Between Episodic Simulations
6th International Conference on Memory, Budapest, Hungary, July 2016*
- Breaking Memory's Causal Chains
Memory and Subjectivity, Grenoble, France, June 2016†
- Philosophy Through Conversation: Designing an Introductory Course Around Oral Presentations
 American Association of Philosophy Teachers, Group Meeting, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, March 2016*

- Is Memory (a form of) Episodic Simulation? [Presented with Joseph McCaffrey]
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Louisville, KY, March 2016*
Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Austin, TX, June 2016*
- Optogenetics and the Mechanism of False Memory
Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Duke University, June 2015*
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA, April 2015*
- 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
 Colloquium, 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*
- Memory, Engrams, and the Personal/Subpersonal Distinction
Saint Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association, St. Louis, MO, 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*

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*

Is There Such a Thing as Episodic Memory?

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

Presented Comments (invited)

Comments on Aaron Henry's "Agentialism and the Objection from Attention Capture"

Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, Savannah, GA, 2017

Comments on Nicolas Porot's "Boundary extension, Representational Momentum, and the Content of Memories of Images"

Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA, 2015

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 (invited)

The Philosophy of Neuroscience: How Optogenetics is Revolutionizing the Study of Memory.

KU Medical Center Seminar for Molecular and Integrative Physiology, October 2018

KU Neuroscience Graduate Program Seminar, November 2017

Honors Contracts: A Creative Way to Maximize Resources (with Martin Bergee, Anne Dotter,
and John Younger)

Teaching Summit, University of Kansas, August 2016

Contiguity and the Causal Theory of Memory

Colloquium Series, Philosophy Department, University of Kansas, March 2016

Confabulation and Constructive Memory

Colloquium Series, Philosophy Department, University of Kansas, January 2015

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

Public Presentations (invited)

Interview, "On Memory Errors" *Imperfect Cognitions Blog* (imperfectcognitions.blogspot.com)

Posted October 20, 2016, <http://imperfectcognitions.blogspot.co.uk/2016/10/on-memory-errors-interview-with-sarah-k.html>

Presenter, Research Speed Dating Event for *Free State Arts & Culture Festival*, Lawrence, KS
June 2016

Guest Post, "Misremembering" *Imperfect Cognitions Blog* (imperfectcognitions.blogspot.com)

Posted May 3, 2016,

<http://imperfectcognitions.blogspot.com/2016/05/misremembering.html>

Panelist, "World of Hurt" episode of Central Standard (daily news and culture program on
Kansas City Public Radio, KCUR), September 2015

Presentations In Psychology (refereed)

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

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

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

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

External Funding

"Investigating Memory Structure with iEEG" Primary Investigator, with Arjen Stolk (University of California, Irvine) and Sara Aronowitz (Princeton University), Awarded: \$7700, July 2018-June 2019.

Competitive sub-award available to fellows of the Summer Seminar in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP), which is funded by the John Templeton Foundation. Sub-awards granted by Walter Sinnott Armstrong and Felipe De Brigard, SSNAP co-directors. This award supports experimental design, pilot data collection, and data analysis training on a collaborative, interdisciplinary research project.

"Localizing Representations in the Brain with Neuroimaging Technologies" with Jesse Wright, (Primary Investigator, Stanford University), Robyn Repko Waller (Iona College), and Petra Vetter (Royal Holloway, UK) Awarded: \$15,000, July 2018-June 2019.

Competitive sub-award available to fellows of the Summer Seminar in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP), which is funded by the John Templeton Foundation. Sub-awards granted by Walter Sinnott Armstrong and Felipe De Brigard, SSNAP co-directors. This award supports an interdisciplinary research conference on the concept of representation in neuroscience and philosophy, to be held at Stanford University, May 2019.

Honors and Awards

Research Excellence Fund, "Memory Dynamics", \$2,000, University of Kansas, Summer 2018

General Research Fund, "Memory and Optogenetics: Separating the Engram from the Ecphory", \$1,036, University of Kansas, Summer 2017

General Research Fund, "Neuroimaging and the Nature of Memory," \$5,888, University of Kansas, Summer 2016

General Research Fund, "Optogenetics and False Memory," \$5,888, University of Kansas, Summer 2015

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/Associate Professor, Philosophy Department***

PHIL 140: Introduction to Philosophy – F14, S15
 PHIL 141: Introduction to Philosophy, Honors – F13
 PHIL 150: Philosophical Communication – F15, S16, F17, S18, F18
 PHIL 386: Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant – S14, F14, S16
 PHIL 620: Philosophy of Natural Science – S15, S18
 PHIL 654: Philosophy of Mind – F13, F17
 PHIL 870: Topics in Metaphysics: Causal Powers – F15
 PHIL 877: Topics in Mind: Memory – S14, F18

Graduate Committees

Ph.D., Dissertation Committee

Brandon Gillette, Philosophy, defended November 2013
 Matt Baldwin, Psychology, defended April 2015
 Jennifer Kittlaus, Philosophy, defended May 2016

Ph.D., Portfolio Committee

John Wells, History, October 2013

Ph.D., Prospectus Defense

Jennifer Kittlaus, September 2014
 Doug Fischel, May 2015
 Anastasia Seals, May 2015
 Kamuran Osmanoglu, December 2015
 Michael Otteson, May 2017
 Polo Camacho, May 2017
 Vasfi Özen, Dec 2017
 Hassan Alsharif, December 2018
 Nadia Ruiz, December 2018
 David Tamez, December 2018

Ph.D., Qualifying Paper Committee

Cynthia Siew, Psychology, November 2014-July 2015

M.A., Committee Chair

Rebecca Fensholt, May 2017

M.A., Committee Member

Deborah Williams, December 2014
 Anastasia Seals, May 2014
 Raisa Akram, May 2014
 Christopher Stratman, May 2015

Kamuran Osmanoglu, May 2015
Arthur Carlyle, April 2016
Michael Otteson, May 2016
James Gilchrist, May 2016
Vasfi Özen, May 2017
Nadia Ruiz, December 2017
Gareth Fuller, December 2017
Minxing Huang, January 2018
Hassan Alsharif, May 2018

External Thesis Advising

Dissertation Committee member, Andre Sant'Anna, "Perception and Memory: Beyond Representationalism and Relationalism", Ph.D. University of Otago, Oct 2018 (Ph.D. supervisor: Kourken Michaelian)

Teaching Development

Diversity Scholars Program, Center for Teaching Excellence, Sept 2017-June 2018
Best Practices Institute, Center for Teaching Excellence (University of Kansas), May 2014
KU Teaching Summit attendee, 2013-2016

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

Philosophy of Mind – F12
Philosophy of Science – F12
Philosophy and Psychology (graduate course) – S13
Basic Philosophical Issues: Memory (graduate course) – S13

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

Biomedical Ethics – Summer 10
Logic (first order logic w/ identity) – Summer 08, 09
Intro to the Philosophy of Cognitive Science – Summer 06

Webster University, Adjunct Instructor, Philosophy Department

Do Animals Think? – S10
Introduction to Philosophy – S10, S11
Informal Logic – F07, F09
Critical Thinking – S08, Summer 09

SERVICE

Professional Service

Editorial Board, Member

Frontiers in Psychology—Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology
Journal of Mind and Behavior

Executive Council, Member, *Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, 2018-present

Book Review Editor, *Memory Studies*

Co-editor, Special Issue, *Essays in Philosophy*

Issue: "The Philosophy of Memory" (with Ian O'Loughlin, Pacific University)

Program Committee

Society for the Metaphysics of Science, 2015 Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland

American Philosophical Association, Central Meeting, 2020, Chicago, Illinois

Referee, Conferences/Workshops/Etc.

Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 2012-present

Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, 2012-present

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

Referee, Journal Manuscripts

Ergo; Erkenntnis; Neuroethics; Philosophy of Psychology; Philosophy of Science; Philosophy, Theory in Biology; Philosophical Quarterly; Synthese; Theoria; Topoi; Philosophical Studies; Essays in Philosophy

Referee, Book Proposals

Cambridge University Press, MIT Press, Routledge, Westview Press,

Referee, Book Manuscripts

MIT Press, Oxford University Press

Referee, Textbook

W.W. Norton, Oxford University Press, Routledge

University Service, University of Kansas

Faculty Senate, Faculty Research Committee, 2017-present

Hall Center Executive Committee, 2016-present

Judge for *Image of Research* competition, KU Libraries, Feb-March 2016

Faculty Advisor, Hall Center Book Discussion Group, November 2015

Award Reviewer, Center for Undergraduate Research, November 2015

College Service, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas

CLAS Faculty Mentor Program, S16, S17, F17, S18

Departmental Service, Philosophy Department, University of Kansas

Director of Graduate Studies, July 2018-present

Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:

Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, 2016-present
Committee on Graduate Recruitment, 2015-present
Admissions and Awards, 2015-present
Visiting Lecturer Committee, 2013-2018

Search Committees

Visiting Assistant Professor Search, Spring 2015

Departmental Service, Philosophy Department, University of Texas at El Paso

Department Chair Search Committee, 2012-2013
Coordinator, Philosophy Talk Series, 2012-2013
Advisor, UTEP Philosophy Club, 2012-2013

Professional Affiliations

American Philosophical Association
Imperfect Cognitions Network
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