

# HENRY TAYLOR

Department of Philosophy, ERI Building,  
University of Birmingham, Edgbaston,  
B15 2TT.  
j.h.taylor.1@bham.ac.uk  
henrytaylorphilosophy.com

*Specialisation:* Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Metaphysics

*Competence:* Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Language, Logic

## EMPLOYMENT

---

- Birmingham Fellow. University of Birmingham. 2017-present.
- Leverhulme Early Career Fellow. University of Cambridge (2015-2017) and University of Birmingham (2017-2018).

## EDUCATION

---

*PhD Philosophy. University of Durham. 2011-2015*

- Thesis title: *Consciousness and the Heterogeneity of Attention*
- Examiners: Ned Block (NYU) and Robin Hendry (Durham)

*MPhil Philosophy, University of Cambridge. 2010-2011*

*BA (Hons, First Class) Philosophy, University of Durham. 2007-2010*

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### *Journal Papers*

- (forthcoming) Redundancy masking and the identity crowding debate. *Thought*. Co-authored with Bilge Sayim.
- (2020) Fuzziness in the mind: can perception be unconscious? *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.
- (2020) The relation between subjects and their conscious experiences. *Philosophical Studies*.
- (2019) Letters lost: capturing appearance in peripheral vision reveals a new kind of masking. *Psychological Science*. Co-authored with Bilge Sayim.
- (2019) Powerful problems for powerful qualities. *Erkenntnis*.
- (2019) Whales, fish and Alaskan Bears: interest-relative taxonomy and kind pluralism in biology. *Synthese*.
- (2019) Modal combinatorialism is consistent with S5. *Thought*.
- (2018) Is panpsychism simple? *Analysis*.
- (2018) Emotions, concepts and the indeterminacy of natural kinds. *Synthese*.
- (2018) Crowding, attention and consciousness: in support of the inference hypothesis. *Mind and Language*. Co-authored with Bilge Sayim.

- (2018) Attention, psychology and pluralism. *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.
- (2017) Powerful qualities, phenomenal concepts and the new challenge to physicalism. *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.
- (2017) Powerful qualities and pure powers. *Philosophical Studies*.
- (2017) Conceptual fragmentation and the rise of eliminativism. *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. Co-authored with Peter Vickers.
- (2016) Powerful qualities, the conceivability argument and the nature of the physical. *Philosophical Studies*.
- (2015) Against unifying accounts of attention. *Erkenntnis*.
- (2013) Is the grain of vision finer than the grain of attention? Response to Block. *Thought*. NB: For a response to this paper, see Block, N. (2013). Seeing and windows of integration. *Thought*.
- (2013) Is attention necessary and sufficient for phenomenal consciousness? *Journal of Consciousness Studies*.

#### *Book chapter*

- (2019) A powerful new anomalous monism. In Guta, M. (ed). *Ontology and Consciousness*. (Routledge).

#### *Book Reviews*

- (2019) *Consciousness and Meaning* by Brian Loar. *Philosophy*.
- (2017) *From the Knowledge Argument to Mental Substance: Resurrecting the Mind* by Howard Robinson. *Times Literary Supplement*.
- (2015) *Sensory Integration and the Unity of Consciousness* by David Bennett and Christopher Hill (eds.) *Analysis*.
- (2013) *After Physicalism* by Benedikt Paul Göcke (ed.). *Mind*.

## **FUNDING AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

---

#### *Academic Awards*

- Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship (£100,982) from the Leverhulme Trust and Isaac Newton Trust. 2015-2018.
- Jacobsen Studentship (£8,000) from the Royal Institute of Philosophy. 2014-2015.
- Durham Doctoral Studentship (£35,196) for study of a PhD in Philosophy, University of Durham. 2011-2014.
- Offered tuition fees waiver (£4,530) for an MA in Philosophy, University of Durham. 2010.

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

---

(NB: All materials available at: <https://henrytaylorphilosophy.com/public-outreach/>)

#### *Popular Articles*

- (2021) What is the relationship between your conscious mind and yourself? Blogpost.

- (2020) Visual illusion that may help explain consciousness: new study. *The Conversation*. Co-authored with Bilge Sayim. Reads on *The Conversation*: over 143,000. **Total reads: over 1,715,300**
- (2020) Blindsight: a strange neurological condition that could help us explain consciousness. *The Conversation*. Reads on *The Conversation*: over 159,000. This paper was translated into Arabic.
- (2019) What is a species? The most important concept in all of biology is a complete mystery. *The Conversation*. Reads on *The Conversation*: over 27,000.
- (2019) Microbiology and the species problem: response to Jerry Coyne. *Medium*.

#### *Radio Interviews*

- Aristotelian metaphysics and Islamic philosophy. *Voice of Islam*. January 2021.
- Emotions and ethics. *Voice of Islam*. October 21st 2020.

#### *Public Lecture*

*What can zombies teach us about consciousness?* Royal Institute of Philosophy Public Lecture. December 2016. Darwin College, Cambridge.

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

---

#### *Invited*

- (November 2019) Naïve Realism without disjunctivism. University of Oxford.
- (November 2019) Naïve realism without disjunctivism. *Royal Institute of Philosophy Seminar Series*. Keele University.
- (July 2019) Wakeful consciousness. (Symposium chair. Speakers: Professor Matthew Soteriou and Dr James Stazicker). *Joint Session of the Mind Association and the Aristotelian Society*. University of Durham.
- (May 2019) Peripheral vision, attention and consciousness. Glasgow University.
- (November 2018) A powerful new anomalous monism. Umeå University.
- (July 2018) Modal combinatorialism is consistent with S5. Dubrovnik Metaphysics Conference.
- (August 2017) Powerful Qualities and Pure Powers. *Powers, Qualities and the Mind*. University of Durham.
- (January 2016) Powerful Qualities and Pure Powers. *Moral Sciences Club*. University of Cambridge.
- (March 2015) Powerful Qualities and Consciousness. *Powers and Human Agency*. University of Durham.
- (May 2014) Peripheral Vision, Attention and Fineness of Grain. *(Sense) Perception in the North*. University of York.

#### *Refereed*

- (September 2019) The mystery of the missing letter: resolving the identity crowding debate. *European Society for Philosophy and Psychology*. Athens.
- (July 2019) A new visual effect reveals the relation between attention and consciousness. *Joint Session of the Mind Association and the Aristotelian Society*. University of Durham
- (September 2018) Two notions of kindhood: is disjunctivism inconsistent with psychology? *European Society for Philosophy and Psychology*. University of Rijeka.
- (January 2018) Russellian monism without panpsychism *Eastern APA*. Savannah, Georgia. Commentator: Nicholas Rimell.

- (August 2017) Colour Constancy, Cerebral Achromatopsia and Perception as a Natural Kind. *European Society for Philosophy and Psychology*. University of Hertfordshire.
- (August 2017) Conscious experiences as Kimian Events. *European Congress of Analytic Philosophy*. LMU Munich.
- (July 2016) Pure Powers and Consciousness. *Joint Session of the Mind Association and the Aristotelian Society*. University of Cardiff.
- (June 2015) Identity Crowding does not Demonstrate Consciousness without Attention. *Toward a Science of Consciousness*. University of Helsinki.
- (April 2014) Attention and Consciousness: asking the right questions.” *Toward a Science of Consciousness*. Tucson, Arizona.
- (December 2012) Indeterminacy and visual experience. *MINDGRAD*. University of Warwick.  
Respondent: Professor Matthew Nudds.

## TEACHING

---

*PhD supervision 2017-present (University of Birmingham)*

Date of supervision	Contribution	Topic
2018-present	60%	Metametaphysics, logic, modality.
2019-present	60%	Attention, Perception.
2018-present	20%	Colour perception.
2019-present	20%	Mental health classification
2020-present	30%	Consciousness
2018-2020	20%	Perception, colour.
2018-2020	20%	Causation in physics.

*Teaching 2017-present (University of Birmingham)*

**Module Convenor:** Metaphysics (MA). 2017-2019.  
Philosophy of Language (MA). 2017-2020.  
Key Readings (First year undergraduate). 2019-2020.

**Module Co-convenor:** Philosophy of Mind (MA). 2019-2020.  
Fantastic Beasts and how to understand them: topics in the philosophy of biology (Third year undergraduate). 2018-2020.

**Other Teaching:** MA and undergraduate dissertation supervision.

*Teaching 2015-2017 (University of Cambridge)*

Metaphysics (Third year undergraduate), MPhil and undergraduate supervision.

*Teaching 2012-2015 (University of Durham)*

Philosophy of Mind (Second year undergraduate), Philosophical Logic (Second year undergraduate), Knowledge and Reality (First year undergraduate), Ethics and Values. (First year undergraduate).

## **ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANISING ACTIVITIES**

---

*Admin roles. (University of Birmingham)*

- Postgraduate Senior Tutor (2018-2020).
- Assessment and Progress Lead (2019).
- Philosophy Society organiser (2018-2019).

*Undergraduate Admissions. (University of Cambridge).*

- Undergraduate admissions interviewer for Queens' College. (2015).

*Conference and Workshop organisation*

- *Consciousness in challenging cases: Toward an interdisciplinary methodology.* Sole organiser. Supported by the Institute of Advanced Studies. January 2021. University of Birmingham.
- *Objects and Properties: generating dialogue.* June 2018. University of Cambridge
- *E. J. Lowe memorial conference.* Joint organiser. July 2014. University of Durham.
- *Perceiving the light workshop.* Joint organiser. March 2014. University of Durham.
- *Attention and consciousness.* Joint organiser. June 2013. University of Durham.
- *Concept acquisition and language.* Joint organiser. July 2013. University of Durham.
- *Eidos postgraduate conference.* Sole organiser. July 2012. University of Durham.

For these conferences, I have secured a variety of external funding from e.g. *The Mind Association, The Aristotelian Society, The Analysis Trust, The Centre for Academic Development.*

*Journal Work*

Referee for: *Mind, Mind & Language, Thought, The Philosophical Quarterly, Synthese, Dialectica, Erkenntnis. The Journal of Consciousness Studies, Philosophical Psychology, Acta Analytica.*

## **REFEREES**

---

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Professor Tim Crane<br>Central European University<br>timcrane@ceu.edu   | • Dr Peter Vickers<br>University of Durham<br><a href="mailto:peter.vickers@durham.ac.uk">peter.vickers@durham.ac.uk</a>      |
| • Professor David Papineau<br>King's College London and CUNY<br><a href="mailto:david.papineau@kcl.ac.uk">david.papineau@kcl.ac.uk</a> | • Professor David Pitt<br>California State University, L.A.<br><a href="mailto:dpitt@calstatela.edu">dpitt@calstatela.edu</a> |