

# ANDREW RICHMOND

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## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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<b>Philosophy of Cognitive Science</b>	Neuroscience, Psychology, AI
<b>Philosophy of Mind</b>	Computation, Representation, Teleology, Naturalism
<b>Philosophy of Science</b>	Scientific Explanation, Metaphysics of Science

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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Philosophy of Humor, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Biology, Neuroethics, Kant, Metaphysics

## EMPLOYMENT

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**Rotman Institute, University of Western Ontario** (2022-present)  
Postdoctoral Associate and [EMRG Lab](#) Coordinator

## EDUCATION

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**Columbia University, Department of Philosophy**  
PhD (2022), MPhil (2020), MA (2018)

**University of Toronto**  
BA (highest honours), Philosophy (2016)

**University of Lethbridge**  
Work towards BA (2010–2012)

## DISSERTATION

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### **Methods in Mind: Explanation in Cognitive Science**

Committee: John Morrison (advisor), Jenann Ismael, Chris Peacocke, Frances Egan, Rosa Cao

My dissertation developed scientifically informed accounts of computation and representation in cognitive science. It extended those accounts to argue for a radical externalism about cognitive scientific theories, a change in our approach to the philosophy of mind, and a number of positions on cognitive scientific methodology. Most importantly, it defended a *methodologically nominalist* approach to the philosophy of cognitive science: one that investigates scientific explanation by setting aside the kinds or properties that scientific concepts might refer to, and focuses instead on the concepts themselves and their role in cognitive science's explanatory economy — what they help scientists do, and how.

## PUBLICATIONS

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Richmond, A. (forthcoming). How Computation Explains. *Mind & Language*. [Arxiv](#)

Richmond, A. (2023). Commentary: Investigating the concept of representation in the neural and psychological sciences. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14:1259808. doi: [10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1259808](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1259808)

## PREPRINTS

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“What Is a Theory of Neural Representation For?” [Arxiv](#)

“What Really Lives in the Swamp? Kinds and the Illustration of Scientific Reasoning.” [Arxiv](#)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### As Primary Instructor

Ethics, PHIL 3701	Summer 2022
Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence, PHIL 3870	Spring 2022
Metaphysics, PHIL 3601	Summer 2020

### As TA

Symbolic Logic, PHIL 3413	2021
Philosophy of Cognitive Science, PHIL 2655	2021
Company Failure, PS 5510	2020
Philosophy of Psychology, PHIL 3654	2020
Ethics, PHIL 3701	2019
Kant, PHIL 3251	2019
Metaphysics, PHIL 3601	2018
Introduction to Logic, PHIL 1401	2018
Philosophy of Language and Mind, PHIL 3252	2017
<i>Tutor</i> , Philosophy Student Resource Center	2011–2012
<i>Grader</i> , Symbolic Logic I, LOGIC 2003	2011

### Individual Supervision

Paola Fabian, Research Assistant: “Addiction and the Evolution of Free Will”	2022
Paola Fabian, Research Assistant: “Neuroethics: Research into Consent and Addiction”	2021
Hannah de Jesus, Research Assistant: “Neuroscience and Moral Responsibility”	2021
Ryan Carrasco, Research Assistant: “The Neuroscience of Free Will”	2020

### Certifications

Columbia Teaching Development Program, Advanced Track <i>(Multi-year pedagogy course through Columbia’s Center for Teaching and Learning)</i>	2022
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## PRESENTATIONS

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“Another Negative Program for Experimental Philosophy” CSHPS, York University	2023
“What Really Lives in the Swamp? Kinds and the Illustration of Scientific Reasoning” CPA, York University	2023
“How Computation Explains” Neuromatch 5.0	2022
12th Principia International Symposium: Models and Modeling in the Sciences, USFC	2021
“What Is a Theory of Neural Representation For?” Central APA	2022
Neuromatch 4.0	2021
Columbia-Mount Sinai Brain Symposium	2021
Young Scholars Pragmatism Conference, Cambridge University	2021
Neuroscience at the Gulf IV	2021
5th International Conference on Interactivity, Language & Cognition, University of Warsaw	2021
Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science	2021
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy	2021
“Computational Externalism” Information and Computing in Nature, Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences	2022
Rudolf Carnap Lectures, Ruhr-Universität Bochum	2019

“What Makes Representations ‘Useful’?” (with Alessandro Achille, Ben Baker, Rosa Cao, Nikolaus Kriegeskorte, Richard Lange, Xaq Pitkow, Nick Shea, Odelia Schwartz) Cognitive Computational Neuroscience	2021
“Naturalistic Philosophy of Mind: Taking Scientific Explanation Seriously” Sciences of the Origin	2021
“Complexity and Computational Explanation” Complexity in the Humanities and Sciences, University of Memphis	2019
<b>Invited Commentary</b>	
“The Overly Modular Mind”, Eastern APA	2022
“Computation in Context”, CU-NYU Graduate Conference	2021
“Communication about Death and Loss”, Lighthearted Philosophers Society	2018
<b>Other Conferences, Workshops, Etc.</b>	
<i>Chair</i> , Eastern APA, “A Husserlian/Fodorian Approach to Deep Learning”	2022
<i>Chair</i> , Eastern APA, Book symposium on Sebastian Watzl’s <i>Structuring Mind</i>	2021
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Mentoring the Mentors, APA	2021
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Philosophy and Physical Computing, Virginia Tech	2019
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Center for Vision Research Workshop, York University	2019
<i>Participant (refereed)</i> , Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind, University of Oslo	2018

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS

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Teaching Scholars Fellowship, Columbia University <i>Won a year’s funding to teach a course on Philosophy and AI</i>	2021–2022
Teaching Development Grant, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning	2020
David H. Siff Philosophy of Science Award <i>Annual prize for best essay in philosophy of science by a Columbia graduate student</i>	2019, 2020, 2021
Senior Lead Teaching Fellowship, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning <i>Supervised 7 teaching fellows and held a two-week pedagogy workshop</i>	2021–2022
Lead Teaching Fellowship, Columbia Center for Teaching and Learning <i>Held pedagogy events and worked as liaison for the Center</i>	2019–2020
Benjamin Wolstein Fellowship	2017–2018
Columbia Dean’s Fellowship	2016–2021

## SERVICE AND OUTREACH

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Member of the <i>Rotman Advisory Committee</i>	2023–2024
Interview on <i>Merging Minds</i>	2024
Mentor with the <i>Ethics in Computing Network</i>	2023–present
Organizer of the <i>Rotman Writing Group</i>	2023–present
Interview on <i>Dialexicon</i>	2023
Advisor for <i>The Ethics of Metaverse</i> , a student documentary series	2021
Co-organizer of the Columbia AAPT Teaching Workshop	2020
Mentor with <i>BRAINYAC</i> , a Zuckerman Institute organization	2020–2022
Volunteer with <i>Rethink</i> , a Columbia organization	2020–2022
Organizer for <i>PopRocks Early Career Philosophy of Psychology Workshop</i>	2019–2021
Teacher with <i>Corrupt the Youth</i>	2018–2019
Co-organizer of the <i>Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference</i>	2017
Organizer of the <i>Columbia Graduate Student Workshop</i>	2017
Various service for <i>Columbia Minorities and Philosophy</i> : mentor, panelist, etc.	2016–2022
<b>Reviewer/Referee</b>	
<i>Philosophical Topics, Bloomsbury, Synthese, SSPP</i>	2023–2024

Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference  
Columbia Minorities and Philosophy, various workshops

*2018–2022*  
*2016–2018*

## **REFERENCES**

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Available on request