

# KYLE DARBY O'DWYER

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## EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Pacific Lutheran University	2025-
Instructor, Philosophy, University of Washington-Seattle	2022-2025
Instructor, Philosophy, Chemeketa Community College	2019

## EDUCATION

Ph.D, Philosophy, University of Washington-Seattle	2025
Dissertation: <i>Deflationary Challenges &amp; Essentialism</i>	
Committee: Colin Marshall (Chair), Michael J. Raven (Co-Chair), Sosseh Assaturian, Paul Franco	
M.A., Philosophy, University of Washington-Seattle	2022
Grad Student, Philosophy, University of California-Santa Barbara	2017-2018
M.A., Philosophy, Brandeis University	2016
Thesis: <i>Metaphysical Modality Undiminished: A Critique of Modal Normativism</i> , Advisor: Eli Hirsch	
B.A., Philosophy, Biola University	2014

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

AOS: Epistemology, Metaphysics  
AOC: Philosophy of Language, Ethics

## PUBLICATIONS

**Explanatory Challenges and Neo-Aristotelian Essentialism**, (2025) *Synthese*, 205, 130, [10.1007/s11229-025-04925-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-025-04925-8)

## WORK IN PROGRESS (drafts available upon request)

“Reasoning with Finite Persons” (draft)  
“Modality Undiminished: A Critique of Modal Normativism” (draft)  
“Naive Realist Access Denied: A Critique of Bengson’s Third Realm Access” (draft)  
“Essence Deflationism in Explanatory Shortfall” (draft)

“The Contours of Thought: Surmounting the Explanatory Challenge for Essentialism” (draft)

## PAPERS PRESENTED

### **Reasoning with Finite Persons: Non-Paternalistic Distrust in Rational Persuasion**

University of Washington WIP Series

02/2024

### **An Explanatory Challenge for Neo-Aristotelian Essentialism**

74th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference

11/ 2023

Epistemology of Essence Workshop

07/ 2023

### **Metaphysical Modality Undiminished: A Critique of Modal Normativism**

Brandeis Graduate Speaker Series

11/ 2015

## COMMENTS

### **“Examining the Stability of Disjoint Worlds” Comments on Raja Rosenhagen’s “Dual Character Concepts: Related But Independent?”**

74th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference

11/2023

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE (‡ = upper division)

### **Sole Instructor**

#### **PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

Ethics and The Good Life (J-term 2026)

The Examined Life (J-term 2025)

Business Ethics (Spring 2025 x2, Spring 2026 x2)

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON-SEATTLE**

Introduction to Philosophy (Summer 2022, Summer 2023, Summer 2025)

Introduction to Epistemology‡ (Winter 2024)

Introduction to Ethics (Summer 2024, Fall 2024)

#### **CHEMEKETA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Introduction to Philosophy (Winter 2019 x2, Spring 2019)

Bioethics (Spring 2019)

## Teaching Assistant

### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON-SEATTLE

Introduction to Ethics (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

Ethics of Persuasion (Spring 2023)

Existentialism and Film (Winter 2023, Fall 2021, Fall 2020)

Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Winter 2022, Winter 2021, Winter 2020)

Philosophy of Science (Spring 2021, Fall 2019)

### BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Business Ethics (Fall 2015)

Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2015)

### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Philosophy (Summer 2015)

## PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

**Topics in Teaching Philosophy II** (10-week seminar)

Winter 2022

University of Washington, Department of Philosophy

**Topics in Teaching Philosophy I** (10-week seminar)

Fall 2019

University of Washington, Department of Philosophy

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

**Philosophy Writing Center Supervisor**

Fall 2024-Spring 2025

University of Washington-Seattle

**Research Associate** for Colin Marshall

Summer 2024

**Session Chair, "Contingentist Qualitativism and  
Primitive Pluralities,"** Jonas Werner, Pacific APA, Portland, OR

Spring 2024

**Co-Organizer**, University of Washington Graduate Conference  
on Philosophy of Race, (online)

Spring 2021

## AWARDS

**Graduate School Top Scholar Award**

2019-2020

University of Washington-Seattle

**Graduate Fellowship**

2017-2018

University of California-Santa Barbara

**Merit Scholarship**  
Brandeis University

2014-2016

**Dean's List**  
Biola University

2011

## REFERENCES

[Colin Marshall](#)

*Professor of Philosophy*  
University of Washington  
crmarsh@uw.edu

[Michael J. Raven](#)

*Professor of Philosophy*  
University of Victoria  
mike@raven.site

[Eli Hirsch](#)

*Charles Goldman Professor of Philosophy*  
Brandeis University  
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[Anthony Fisher](#)

*Assistant Professor*  
Gonzaga University  
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