

# Chris Dorst | Curriculum Vitae

cdorst@ufl.edu | www.chrisdorst.com

---

## Academic Positions

<b>University of Florida</b> Assistant Professor	Aug 2019 - Present
<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> Visiting Assistant Professor	Feb 2023 - May 2023
<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b> Lecturer in Philosophy	Aug 2018 - June 2019

## Education

<b>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</b> Ph.D. in Philosophy Dissertation: The Best Predictive System Account of Laws of Nature Committee: Marc Lange (Chair), Ned Hall, John Roberts, Matt Kotzen, and Laurie Paul	May 2018
M.A. in Philosophy Thesis: Entrenchment and the Kripke-Wittgenstein Paradox Committee: Marc Lange (Chair), Matt Kotzen, and John Roberts	May 2014
<b>Harvard University</b> Visiting Fellow in Philosophy	Aug 2016 - May 2018
<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b> B.A. in Philosophy and Biology: Neuroscience	Aug 2008 - May 2012

## Areas

**Specialization:** Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Physics

**Competence:** History of Analytic Philosophy, Logic, Metaphysics

## Publications

### Philosophy

Forthcoming. "Productive Laws in Relativistic Spacetimes." *Philosophers' Imprint*.

<https://journals.publishing.umich.edu/phimp/article/id/3923/>

Forthcoming. "Does the Best System Need the Past Hypothesis?" *Philosophy of Science*.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/psa.2023.152>

2023. "Predictive Infelicities and the Instability of Predictive Optimality." In *Humean Laws*

*for Human Agents*, Siegfried Jaag, Christian Loew, and Michael Hicks, eds. Oxford University Press.

2022. (with Kevin Dorst) “Splitting the (In)Difference: Why Fine-Tuning Supports Design.” *Thought*. 11: 14-23.
2022. “Laws, Melodies, and the Paradox of Predictability.” *Synthese*. 200:1-21.
2021. “There Is No Measurement Problem for Humeans.” *Noûs*. 57: 263-289.
2020. “Why do the Laws Support Counterfactuals?” *Erkenntnis*. 87: 545-566.
2019. “Humean Laws, Explanatory Circularity, and the Aim of Scientific Explanation.” *Philosophical Studies*. 176: 2657-2679
2019. “Towards a Best Predictive System Account of Laws of Nature.” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 70: 877-900.
2017. “Bet Accepted: A Reply to Freitag.” *Philosophical Quarterly*. 68: 175-183.
2016. “Evidence, Significance, and Counterfactuals: Schramm on the New Riddle of Induction.” *Erkenntnis*. 81.1: 143-154.

### Book Reviews

2020. Review of *Laws and Explanations; Theories and Modal Possibilities* by Arnold Koslow. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*.
2017. “In All Probability, Quite Handy.” (Review of the *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Probability*, edited by Alan Hajek and Christopher Hitchcock.) *Metascience*. doi: 10.1007/s11016-017-0282-y.

### Molecular Biology

2012. (With K. Kirby, B. Marchand, et. al.) “Structural and Inhibition Studies of the RNase H Function of Xenotropic Murine Leukemia Virus-Related Virus Reverse Transcriptase.” *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*. 56.4: 2048-61.
2010. (With R. C. Durk, K. Singh, et. al.) “Inhibitors of Foot and Mouth Disease Virus Targeting a Novel Pocket of the RNA-Dependent RNA Polymerase.” *PLoS ONE* 5.12: e15049. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0015049.

### Presentations, Commentaries, and Panels

- “Metaphysical Presuppositions of the Quantum Measurement Problem” Nov 2023  
*UF Physics Colloquium, Gainesville FL*
- “Superfluous Ideological Superstructure (or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love” Jun 2023

Textbook Quantum Mechanics)”	
<i>Syracuse Philosophy Annual Workshop and Network, Syracuse NY</i>	
Comments on “Strong Determinism,” by Eddy Keming Chen	Feb 2023
<i>Symposium Session, Central APA, Denver CO</i>	
“How Not to Disconfirm GRW (or, Does GRW Precipitate Collapses in Time?)”	Jan 2023
<i>SMS Group Session, Eastern APA, Montreal QC</i>	
Comments on <i>The Tools of Metaphysics and the Metaphysics of Science</i> , by Ted Sider	Jan 2023
<i>Author Meets Critics Session, Eastern APA, Montreal QC</i>	
Comments on Ryan Olsen, “Time Unknown”	Jan 2023
<i>Symposium Session, Eastern APA, Montreal QC</i>	
“Science and Pseudoscience in the Age of Covid”	July 2022
<i>Institute for Learning in Retirement at Oak Hammock, University of Florida</i>	
“Fine-Tuning Divine Indifference” (with Kevin Dorst)	Apr 2022
<i>Pacific APA, Vancouver BC</i>	
“Guess Who’s Back: The Philosophy of Time Travel”	Mar 2022
<i>Food &amp; Talk 2022, UF Philosophy, Gainesville FL</i>	
“Productive Laws in Relativistic Spacetimes”	Feb 2022
<i>Florida Philosophical Association, Miami FL</i>	
“Humeanism and the Paradox of Predictability”	Feb 2021
<i>Central APA, Virtual Conference</i>	
“Humeanism and the Paradox of Predictability”	Jun 2020
<i>Mount Holyoke Summer Philosophy Conference, Mount Holyoke MA</i>	
(Cancelled due to pandemic)	
“Predictive Infelicities and the Neo-Humean Conception of Laws”	Nov 2019
<i>Florida Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Gainesville FL</i>	
“Predictive Infelicities and the Neo-Humean Conception of Laws”	Jul 2019
<i>British Society for Philosophy of Science Annual Meeting, Durham UK</i>	
“Why are the Laws so Useful?”	Apr 2019
<i>St Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association Annual Meeting, St Louis MO</i>	
“Laws, Patterns, and Prediction”	Feb 2019
<i>Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville, Edwardsville IL</i>	
Panel Discussion: “The Neurological Basis of Consciousness and Free Will”	Nov 2018
<i>Synapse: Wash U Neuroscience Club, St Louis MO</i>	
“Why do the Laws Support Counterfactuals?”	Aug 2018
<i>Society for the Metaphysics of Science Annual Conference, Milan IT</i>	
Comments on Siegfried Jaag and Christian Loew’s “Humean Reductionism and	Aug 2018

(Iterated) Counterfactuals”	
<i>Society for the Metaphysics of Science Annual Conference, Milan IT</i>	
Comments on David Kinney’s “Bayesian Networks and Multi-Level Causation”	Feb 2018
<i>Central APA, Chicago IL</i>	
“Laws of Nature, Prediction, and Reductionism”	Jan 2018
<i>Eastern APA, Savannah GA</i>	
“Why are the Laws so Useful?”	Oct 2017
<i>33<sup>rd</sup> Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, Boulder CO</i>	
“A Tension in the Best System Account of Laws”	Apr 2017
<i>Pacific APA, Seattle WA</i>	
“Contemporary Perspectives on the DN Model of Scientific Explanation”	Apr 2017
<i>Guest Lecture at Salem State University, Salem MA</i>	
Comments on Katie Elliott’s “The Applicability Problem for Chance Explanation”	Nov 2015
<i>UNC Philosophy of Science Conference, Chapel Hill NC</i>	
Comments on Lynn Chiu’s “An Ecological Challenge Against the Propensity Interpretation of Fitness”	Apr 2015
<i>Pacific APA, Vancouver BC</i>	
Comments on Guy Hetzroni’s “Causation and Unification in Quantum Explanations”	May 2014
<i>Hebrew University–UNC Joint Conference in Philosophy, Chapel Hill NC</i>	
“The Conventionality of the Brain’s Functional Topography”	Mar 2014
<i>Pitt–CMU Graduate Conference in Philosophy of Science, Pittsburgh PA</i>	

## Teaching

### Instructor of Record

PHI 3930: Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics (UF)	Fall 2023
PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophy (UF)	Fall 2023
PHH 4930: Seminar in a Major Philosopher: Wittgenstein	Fall 2022
PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophy (UF)	Fall 2022
PHI 6406: Graduate Seminar in Philosophy of Science: Laws and Time (UF)	Spring 2022
PHI 3930: Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics (UF)	Spring 2022
PHI 5935: Graduate Proseminar (UF)	Fall 2021
PHI 3400: Philosophy of Natural Science (UF)	Fall 2021
PHI 5135: Graduate Logic (UF)	Spring 2021
PHI 3930: Philosophy of AI (UF)	Spring 2021

PHI 5935: Graduate Proseminar (UF)	Fall 2020
PHI 4542: Philosophy of Space and Time (UF)	Fall 2020
PHI 4905: Independent Study (UF)	Fall 2020
PHI 2100: Logic (UF)	Summer 2020
PHI 3633: Bioethics (UF)	Spring 2020
PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophy (UF)	Spring 2020
PHI 3400: Philosophy of Natural Science (UF)	Fall 2019
PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophy (UF)	Fall 2019
PHI 233F: Biomedical Ethics (WUSTL)	Spring 2019
PHI 120: Problems in Philosophy (WUSTL)	Spring 2019
PHI 120: Problems in Philosophy (WUSTL)	Fall 2018
PHI 100G: Logic and Critical Analysis (WUSTL)	Fall 2018
PHI 101: Introduction to Philosophy (Online, UNC)	Summer 2018
PHI 165: Bioethics (Online, UNC)	Summer 2017
PHI 100: Introduction to Philosophy (Salem State University)	Spring 2017
PHI 105: Critical Thinking (Online, UNC)	Summer 2016
PHI 229: 20th-Century Western Philosophy (UNC)	Spring 2016
PHI 155: Introduction to Mathematical Logic (UNC)	Fall 2015
PHI 155: Introduction to Mathematical Logic (UNC)	Summer 2015
PHI 101: Introduction to Philosophy (UNC)	Summer 2014

### Teaching Assistant

Philosophy 155: Introduction to Mathematical Logic (UNC)	Spring 2015, Spring 2014
Philosophy 150: Philosophy of Science (UNC)	Fall 2014
Philosophy 112: Making Sense of Ourselves (UNC)	Fall 2013
Biology 3058: Physiological Control Systems (Washington University)	Spring 2012, Spring 2011
Biology 404: Laboratory of Neurophysiology (Washington University)	Fall 2011
Biology 2970: Genetics (Washington University)	Fall 2010

### Academic Awards

UF Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund	Summer 2021
UNC Dissertation Completion Fellowship	Aug 2017 - May 2018
Bertha Williams Fellowship	Aug 2016 - May 2017
UNC Graduate School Travel Award	Apr 2015
Mary Williams Fellowship	Aug 2012 - Aug 2013
Nishi Luthra Prize for Excellence in Philosophy	May 2012

## Professional Activities

Webmaster for UF Philosophy Department (phil.ufl.edu)	Aug 2019 - Present
Undergraduate Committee (UF)	2023 - Present
Robert Long Essay Competition Committee (UF)	2021 - Present
Humeanism and the Pragmatic Turn Virtual Conference, Organizer	May 2021
2020 Harvard Humean Laws Workshop, Organizer	June 2020
2019 Harvard Humean Laws Workshop, Organizer	May 2019
WUSTL First-Year Reading Program Faculty Discussion Leader	Jan 2019
WUSTL History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine Group Coordinator	Dec 2018 - June 2019
WUSTL Undergraduate Philosophy Club Faculty Liaison	Aug 2018 - June 2019
WUSTL Work-In-Progress Talk Coordinator	Aug 2018 - Dec 2018
Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl - National Competition	Apr 2016
Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl - Regional Competition	Jan 2016
President, UNC Philosophy Graduate Student Association	Aug 2015 - Aug 2016
UNC Outreach Volunteer at Southpoint Atria Assisted Living	Sep 2015 - May 2016
Volunteer at LEAP for Education in Salem, MA	May 2016 - Present

Referee: *Philosophical Review*, *Mind*, *Noûs*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Foundations of Physics*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Analysis*, *Erkenntnis*, *Synthese*, *dialectica*, *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Ergo*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Acta Analytica*

## References

### Marc Lange

Theda Perdue Distinguished Professor, UNC Chapel Hill  
mlange@email.unc.edu

### Edward Hall

Norman E. Vuilleumier Professor of Philosophy, Department Chair, Harvard University  
ehall@fas.harvard.edu

### John Roberts

Professor, UNC Chapel Hill  
jtrosap@email.unc.edu

**Matthew Kotzen**

Associate Professor, Department Chair, UNC Chapel Hill  
kotzen@email.unc.edu

**Michael Mulnix (Teaching Reference)**

Professor, Salem State University  
mmulnix@salemstate.edu