

# ALIYA RUMANA

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CONTACT	<a href="mailto:aliyarumana@arizona.edu">aliyarumana@arizona.edu</a> <a href="http://aliyarumana.com">aliyarumana.com</a> (she/her)	Center for Philosophy of Science University of Pittsburgh 1117 Cathedral of Learning 4200 5th Ave, Pittsburgh PA, USA, 15260
SPECIALIZATIONS	general philosophy of science philosophy of neuroscience & cognitive science philosophy of artificial intelligence	
COMPETENCIES	philosophy of biology ethics (including metaethics & neuroethics) philosophy, politics, & economics (PPE)	
EMPLOYMENT	<b>Assistant Professor</b> (deferred to 2025) Department of Philosophy University of Texas at El Paso  <b>Postdoctoral Associate</b> (2024–2025) Centre for Philosophy of Science University of Pittsburgh  <b>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</b> (2023–2024) Centre for Philosophy & Artificial Intelligence Research University of Erlangen-Nuremberg	
EDUCATION	PhD     Philosophy, neuroscience (doctoral minor), & cognitive science (doctoral minor), University of Arizona (2017–2023)  <i>Dissertation title:</i> “Robust normativity in complexity science” <i>Committee:</i> Sara Aronowitz (co-chair), Mark Timmons (co-chair), Jonathan Weinberg, Allen Buchanan.  MA     Philosophy, York University (2015–2016)  BBA     Schulich School of Business, York University (2010–2014)	
JOURNAL ARTICLES	<b>Anatomy’s role in mechanistic explanations of organism behaviour.</b> <i>Synthese</i> , 203.47 (2024). [ <a href="#">doi</a> ]  <b>In praise of animals. (with Rhys Borchert)</b> <i>Biology &amp; Philosophy</i> , 38.24 (2023). [ <a href="#">doi</a> ]  <b>Metacognitive control in single- vs. dual-process theory.</b> <i>Thinking &amp; Reasoning</i> , 29.2: 177–212 (2023). [ <a href="#">doi</a> ]  <b>Arbitrating norms for reasoning tasks.</b> <i>Synthese</i> , 200: 502 (2022). [ <a href="#">doi</a> ]  <b>Anthropomorphism and anthropectomy as friendly competitors.</b> <i>Philosophical Psychology</i> , 30.7: 970–91 (2017). [ <a href="#">doi</a> ]	

**A dual systems theory of incontinent action.**

*Philosophical Psychology*, 30.7: 925–44 (2017). [doi]

BOOK CHAPTERS

**Conflict as an entry point to decision-making. (first author; coauthored with Corey Allen & Katherine Boere)**

Forthcoming in F. De Brigard & W. Sinnott-Armstrong (Eds.), *Neuroscience & Philosophy*, Vol. 2, MIT Press (2025).

BOOK REVIEWS

**Balancing the evidential scale for the mental unconscious.**

Review of *Open minded: Searching for the truth about the unconscious mind* by B. R. Newell & D. R. Shanks. *Philosophical Psychology* (2024): 1–5. [doi]

COMMENTARIES

**Pressing Christie et al.’s (2023) objection: Why single out selected effects?**

*Australasian Philosophical Review*, 6(4): 412–7 (2024). [doi]

**Categorizing judgments as likely to be selected by intuition or deliberation.**

*Behavioral & Brain Sciences*, 46.E118 (2023). [doi]

**Reframing single- and dual-process theories as cognitive models:**

**Commentary on De Neys (2021).**

*Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 16.6 (2021): 1428–31. [doi]

GRANTS, HONOURS,  
& AWARDS

**Summer Seminar in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNAP), Duke University**

2023 Co-principal investigator on “*A multilevel neural framework of self-processing*” project, an fMRI experiment at Marco Iacoboni’s lab at the University of California, Los Angeles, USA (\$30,000 USD)

2023 Co-principal investigator on “*Temporal dynamics of conflict detection in moral decision-making*” project, an EEG experiment at Olav Krigolson’s lab at the University of Victoria, Canada (\$20,000 USD)

2023 Fellowship (\$1,000 USD)

**Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University**

2023 Junior Fellowship (\$6,000 USD)

2022 George W. Gibbs Grant (\$6,000 USD)

2018–2022 Graduate Fellowships (\$11,500 USD)

2018 Hayek Travel Grant (\$400 USD)

**Philosophy of Animal Minds & Behaviour Association (PAMBA)**

2023 Best Essay Prize for “*In praise of animals*” with Rhys Borchert (\$3,000 CAD)

**Moral Narratives Workshop, Princeton University**

2022 Fellowship (\$500 USD)

**Herbert Carter Travel Award, University of Arizona**

2022 award for interdisciplinary presentation (\$400 USD)

**Centre for the Philosophy of Freedom, University of Arizona**

2017 Doctoral Fellowship (\$8,500 USD)

**Government of Ontario, Canada**

2017 Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000 CAD, declined)

**Kitty & Lou Newman Memorial, York University**

2016 Graduate Scholarship (\$12,000 CAD)

**Graduate Scholarship, York University**

2015–2016 Graduate Scholarship (\$9,000 CAD)

**Department of Mathematics, York University**

2013–2014 Chair's Honour Roll

SELECTED TALKS

(\*) Invited

**Explaining behaviour as reasons responsive.**

*\*Decentering the Human in the Human Sciences*, Center for Philosophy and History of Science, Boston University, MA, May 2025.

*Central Division of the American Philosophical Association*, New Orleans, LA, Feb 2024.

**What in the world is resource-rational analysis committed to?**

*Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology*, Mobile, AB, April 2025.

*\*3rd Luxembourg Workshop on AI & Epistemology*, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, Jun 2024.

*Issues in Philosophy of Memory 3.5*, online, Oct 2023.

**Task-Optimised Modelling as Task-Based Analysis**

*\*Center for Philosophy of Science*, University of Pittsburgh, PA, March 2025.

*Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology*, Cincinnati, OH, March 2024.

**Task-based explanation in behavioural neuroscience.**

*\*Center for Philosophy of Science*, University of Pittsburgh, PA, Nov 2024.

*International Society for the Philosophy of the Sciences of the Mind*, online, Nov 2024.

*Deep South Philosophy & Neuroscience Workgroup*, Pensacola, FL, Oct 2024.

*\*Concepts for Understanding Brain Organization*, City University Paris, Paris, Jun 2024.

**Conflict as an entry point to decision-making. (presenting with Corey Allen)**

*\*Summer Seminars in Neuroscience & Philosophy*, Duke University, Durham, NC, August 2024.

**Ideological propositions and ideology critique. (presenting with Anna-Bella Sicilia)**

*Social Ontology*, Duke University, Durham, NC, July 2024.

**Anatomy's role in behavioural explanation.**

*International Society for the Philosophy of the Sciences of the Mind*, online, Nov 2023.

*Philosophy of Science Association*, Pittsburgh, PA, Nov 2022.

*Society for Philosophy & Psychology*, online, Jun 2021.

**Can animals be moral agents? (presenting with Rhys Borchert)**

*\*Philosophy of Animal Minds & Behaviour Association*, Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, New Orleans, LA, Feb 2024.

**(Basal) memory as sensitivity to backward-facing concerns. (presenter, co-authored with Urté Laukaitytė)**

Unconventional Memory Workshop, *Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy*, LMU Munich, Munich, Sep 2023.

**Prediction and planning in complex political systems. (presenter, co-authored with Travis Quigley)**

\*Political Theory Seminar, *University of Bamberg*, Bamberg, DE, Oct 2023.

\*Junior Fellowship Workshop, *Institute for Humane Studies*, Raleigh, North Carolina, May & Aug 2023 [two sessions].

\*Graduate Workshop, *Institute for Humane Studies*, online, Apr 2022.

\*Graduate Workshop, *Institute for Humane Studies*, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, Oct 2019.

**In praise of animals (presenting with Rhys Borchert).**

*Philosophy of Animal Minds & Behaviour Association*, Madrid, Apr 2023.

**Irreducible normativity in biological functions.**

*Society for Metaphysics of Science*, Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, Montréal, QC, Jan 2023.

**Reasoning improvements after cognitive control: Frontoparietal network under phasic inhibition through the hyperdirect pathway.**

*Society for Neuroscience*, San Diego, CA, Nov 2022 [poster].

**Normativism in moral psychology.**

*Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology*, Mobile, AL, Mar 2022.

*Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association*, online, Jan 2022.

Graduate Workshop, *Institute for Humane Studies*, online, Mar 2021.

**Astrobiological reasons for climate change.**

*Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress*, Boulder, CO, Aug 2022.

**Metacognitive control in single- vs. dual-process theory.**

*Society for Judgment & Decision-Making*, online, Feb 2022 [poster].

*Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology*, online, Dec 2020.

**A realist answer to the relevance question.**

*USC/UCLA Annual Graduate Conference*, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, Mar 2019.

*Canadian Philosophical Association*, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, QC, Jun 2018.

**Autonomy without a self.**

*Uehiro Graduate Philosophy Conference*, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI, Mar 2018.

*Canadian Philosophical Association*, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, May 2016.

**Metacognitivism.**

\*Graduate Workshop, *Institute for Humane Studies*, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, Nov 2017.

*Morality, Moral Philosophy, & the Humanities in the Age of Neuroscience*, Kent State University, Kent, OH, Nov 2016.

**Anthropomorphism and anthropectomy as friendly competitors.**

\**Philosophy Graduate Conference*, York University, Toronto, ON, Apr 2016.

**An integrated theory of knowledge how.**

*Canadian Society for Epistemology*, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC, Nov 2015.

TEACHING

**Lead Instructor** (all online courses)

Law & morality (*1 session*: winter 2022)

Neuroethics (*4 sessions*: fall 2019–2022, winter 2021)

Consciousness & cognition (*3 sessions*: summer 2018, 2022, spring 2020)

Moral thought (*2 sessions*: winter 2019, spring 2021)

Ethics & economics (*10 sessions*: winter 2018; summer 2019–2022)

**Teaching Assistant** (all in-person courses)

Ethics & economics of wealth creation; Mario Villareal-Diaz (fall 2018)

Mind, matter, & God; Christopher Maloney (fall 2017, spring 2019)

Logic & critical thinking; Jonathan Weinberg (fall 2017)

Introduction to ethics; Julie Allen (summer 2017)

Introduction to philosophy; Alexandru Manafu (2016–2017)

**Supervisor**

Ibifuro Jaja, PhD philosophy, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (Jan 2024–current) (with Vincent C. Müller)

SERVICE

**Co-Editor**

Müller, V. C., Rumana, A., Dung, L., & Löhr, G. (Eds.). *Philosophy of artificial intelligence: The state of the art*. Forthcoming at Synthese Library. Berlin: Springer Nature (2024).

**Co-Organizer**

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting by the International Society for the Philosophy of the Sciences of the Mind (ISPSM), online (Nov 2025).

5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on “*Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence*”, PAIR Centre, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Erlangen, Bavaria, Germany (Dec 2023) (with Vincent C. Müller, Leonard Dung, Guido Löhr)

**Editorial Assistant** (with Mark Timmons), *Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics* (spring 2022, 2023)

**Mentoring**

Surraiya Baloch, philosophy, MA, University of Karachi (2022–2023)

Shramana Pramanik, philosophy, MA, Jadavpur University (2022–2023)

**Organizing Committee** (reviewer and commentator), *Arizona Feminist*

*Philosophy Graduate Conference*, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA (spring 2019, 2022, 2023)

**Research Assistant** (with Muhammad Ali Khalidi), philosophy of memory research project (2015–2016)

REVIEWING

**Journal**

Philosophical Psychology, Perspectives in Psychological Science, Minds & Machines, Phenomenology & the Cognitive Sciences, Synthese

## Conference

Society for the Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence (SPAI), Southern Society for Philosophy & Psychology (SSPP), International Society for the Philosophy of Minds & Brain (ISPSM)

## REFERENCES

### **Sara Aronowitz**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Philosophy  
University of Toronto  
[s.aronowitz@utoronto.ca](mailto:s.aronowitz@utoronto.ca)

### **Carl Craver**

Professor  
Department of Philosophy  
Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology Program  
Washington University in St. Louis  
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### **Tom Christiano** (teaching)

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### **Mark Timmons**

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### **Kristin Andrews**

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