

Tamler Sommers

Curriculum Vitae

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Employment

2008-present. Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Houston.
2005-2008. Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Minnesota, Morris.

Education

2000-2005 Duke University. Ph.D. in Philosophy. (Dissertation: *Beyond Freedom and Resentment: An Error Theory of Free Will and Moral Responsibility*.)
Awarded December 31, 2005

1988-1992 University of Pennsylvania. B.A. English. *Cum Laude*. May 1992.

Areas of Specialization: Ethics, Moral Psychology, Free Will/Moral Responsibility.

Areas of Competence: Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Science, Professional Ethics, Philosophy of Law, Political Philosophy.

Publications

Peer Reviewed:

- “The Two Faces of Revenge: Moral Responsibility and the Culture of Honor.”
Biology and Philosophy. Forthcoming. (Available OnlineEarly).
- “More Work for Hard Incompatibilism.” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.
Forthcoming.
- “The Objective Attitude.” *The Philosophical Quarterly*. 57, 28 (2007): 321-342
- “The Illusion of Freedom Evolves.” In *Distributed Cognition and the Will*,
David Spurrett, Harold Kincaid, Don Ross, Lynn Stephens (eds). MIT Press. 2007.
- “Darwin’s Nihilistic Idea: Evolution and the Meaninglessness of Life,” (with Alex Rosenberg).
Biology and Philosophy. 18: 653-668. November 2003.
- “Of Zombies, Color Scientists, and Floating Iron Bars,” *Psyche: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Consciousness* 8(22). November 2002.

Reviews and Other Publications:

- “Moral Animals: an Interview with Frans de Waal.” September, 2007. *The Believer*.
- “A Review of The Self, edited by Galen Strawson.” *The Times Literary Supplement*
January 6, 2006. P. 26.
- “Morally Dumbfounded: An Interview With Jonathan Haidt.” August 2005. *The Believer*.

Publications cont'd.

- “A Review of Can God Be Free? by William T. Rowe.” *The Times Literary Supplement*. January 21, 2005. P. 26
- “Diane Decides: A Review of Justice, Luck, and Knowledge, by S.L. Hurley.” *The Times Literary Supplement*. May 7, 2004. P. 6.
- “Rightly Determined: A Review of Deontic Morality and Control, by Ishtiyaque Haji.” *The Times Literary Supplement*. October 17, 2003. P. 8.
- “Darwin and Morality: An Interview with Michael Ruse.” *The Believer*. July 2003: 66-78.
- “The Buck Stops—Where? An Interview with Galen Strawson.” *The Believer*. March 2003: 78-87.

Presentations

- “Metaskepticism About Moral Responsibility.”
- Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress. University of Colorado, Boulder. Aug 7-10, 2008.
 - (Invited) Colloquium Series. University of Haifa. January 8, 2008.
 - (Invited) Conference on Responsibility, Agency, and Persons. University of San Francisco. October 26-27, 2007.
- “The Two Faces of Revenge: Moral Responsibility and the Culture of Honor.”
- (Invited) Philosophy Research Seminar. School of History, Philosophy, Religion, and Classics. University of Queensland. Brisbane, Australia. May 17, 2007.
 - International Society for Research on the Emotions (ISRE) 2006 Conference. Atlanta, GA. August 6-10, 2006.
 - The Society of Philosophy and Psychology.” 2006 Meeting. Washington University, St. Louis. June 1-4, 2006.
- “The Illusion of Freedom Evolves: How Darwinism Supports an Error Theory of Free Will and Moral Responsibility.”
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Invited Speaker, Fall Colloquium. September 30, 2005.
 - The Society of Philosophy and Psychology.” 2005 Meeting. Wake Forest University. June 9-12, 2005.
 - The Second Conference of the Mind AND World Working Group. Distributed Cognition and the Will: Individual Volition and Social Context. University of Alabama at Birmingham. March 18-21, 2005.
- “Denying Free Will: A Response to P.F. Strawson.” South Carolina Society for Philosophy, North Carolina Philosophical Society 2002 Joint Conference. College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina. February 2002.
- “Replicators and Reductionism.” VISU: Vienna Summer University: Scientific World Conceptions. Vienna, Austria. July 2001.
- “Of Zombies, Color Scientists, and Floating Iron Bars.” Fifth Meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness. Duke University. Durham, North Carolina. May 2001.

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, University of Houston.

Phil 6336. Free Will and Moral Responsibility. Graduate seminar. Fall 2008.

Assistant Professor. University of Minnesota, Morris

Phil 4101 Ethical Theory: Readings in Contemporary Metaethics. Fall 2007.

Phil 4100 Moral Issues and Theories: Free Will and Moral Responsibility. Spring 2007.

Phil 4993 Topics in Existentialist Literature and Philosophy. Directed Study Spring 2007

Phil 3131 Political Philosophy. Fall 2006

Phil 2112 Professional Ethics. Fall 2005, 2006, 2007

Phil 4993 Moral Responsibility and the Emotions. Directed Study. Fall 2006.

Phil. 2111 Introductory Ethics Spring 2006, 2007, 2008.

Phil. 3200 Philosophy of Law. Spring 2006, 2008.

Phil. 4100 Moral Issues and Theories: Science and Ethics Fall 2005

Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Duke University

Phil. 44S: Introduction to Moral Philosophy (writing intensive). Spring 2005.

Phil. 195: Darwin and Morality. Summer 2004.

Phil. 197S: Free Will and Moral Responsibility Spring 2004.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, Duke University.

Phil. 151: Philosophy of Science (Andrew Janiak). Spring 2003

Phil. 101: History of Modern Philosophy (Tad Schmaltz). Fall 2002.

Phil. 41: Introduction to Philosophy--writing intensive (Michael Ferejohn). Spring 2002.

Phil. 180: Systematic Ethics (David Wong). Fall 2001

Honors and Awards

Research Enhancement Fund. "Neuroscience and Ethics." Travel to Boston, MA.

Office of International Programs, Travel Grant (for travel to University of Queensland.

Brisbane, Australia.) University of Minnesota. May 2007.

Research Enhancement Fund. "Metaskepticism about Moral Responsibility." University of

Minnesota, Morris. May 2007. Travel to Brisbane, Australia.

Research Enhancement Fund. "Folk Intuitions about Moral Responsibility: an Empirical

Investigation." University of Minnesota, Morris. January, 2007. Travel to Atlanta, GA.

Summer Research Fellowship. Graduate School. Duke University. 2005

Julian Price Fellowship. Duke University. 2004/2005

Kenan Instructorship in Ethics, Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke University, 2003/2004.

Summer Research Fellowship. Graduate School. Duke University. 2003.

Professional Service

Referee, *Philosophical Studies*. May, 2003. June 2008.

Referee *Mind*. May, 2008.

Organizer. 33rd Annual Midwest Philosophical Colloquium, featuring John Doris, Shaun Nichols, and Stephen Stich. 2007-2008.

Referee. *The Philosophical Quarterly*. May 2007 and August 2006

Referee. *The Journal of Philosophical Research*. February, 2007.

Service cont'd.

External Thesis Examiner for Daniel Cohen, The Australian National University.
Session Chair. American Philosophical Association. Central Division Meeting
Commentator. 9th Annual Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference. March, 2006
Advisory Board, Center for Naturalism, Somerville, MA, 2004-present (with Paul Bloom [Yale],
Daniel Dennett [Tufts], Owen Flanagan [Duke], Brian Leiter [Texas]).
Referee, The Society For Philosophy and Psychology. 2005 and 2006 Meeting.
Co-organizer. Robertson Scholar Colloquium on Ethics, featuring Allan Gibbard,
Justin D'Arms, Jonathan Haidt, Josh Greene, and Stephanie Preston. 2003/2004
Referee, *Psyche: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Consciousness*. 2002.

References

Alex Rosenberg, The R. Taylor Cole Professor of Philosophy. Duke University.
alexrose@duke.edu
David Wong. Professor. Duke University. dbwong@duke.edu
Owen Flanagan. James B Duke Professor of Philosophy. Duke University. ojf@duke.edu
Shaun Nichols. Professor. University of Arizona. sbn@email.arizona.edu
Derk Pereboom. Professor. Cornell University. dp346@cornell.edu
Galen Strawson. Professor. University of Reading. g.strawson@rdg.ac.uk