

ALFREDO VERNAZZANI

E-Mail: alfredo-vernazzani@daad-alumni.de

Address: Universitätsstraße 150, GA-FO 04/620, Institut für Philosophie II, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, 44801, Bochum, Deutschland

RESEARCH AREAS

AOS: Philosophy of Mind & Perception, Philosophy of Cognitive Science

AOC: Metaphysics, Epistemology, Early Modern Philosophy, Aesthetics.

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor & Managing Director of the Msc in Cognitive Science Program and Student Consultant | *Ruhr-Universität Bochum*

Since May 2019 -
Institut für Philosophie II
Chair: Prof. Albert Newen

Research Associate | *Ruhr-Universität Bochum*

October 2018- April 2019
Chair: Prof. Albert Newen

Lecturer | *Ruhr-Universität Bochum*

April 2018- September 2019
Chair: Prof. Albert Newen

VISITING APPOINTMENTS

Visiting Scholar | *Harvard University*

March 2020
Sponsor: Prof. Catherine Z. Elgin

Visiting Scholar | *Harvard University*

September 2019
Sponsor: Prof. Catherine Z. Elgin

Visiting PhD Student | *University of Cambridge*

October 2015 – March 2016
Sponsor: Prof. Tim Crane

EDUCATION

PhD | **Ruhr-Universität Bochum** | Philosophy | May 2018

Dissertation: *The Problem of Psychoneural Isomorphism*

Final grade: *summa cum laude*

Committee: Prof. Tobias Schlicht, Prof. Marcin Miłkowski, Prof. Albert Newen, Prof. Peter Brössel.

Master of Arts | **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin** | Philosophy | August 2012

Thesis: *Filling-In und Phänomenologie*

Final grade: *1,5* (sehr gut) [excellent]

Supervisor: Prof. Tobias Rosefeldt

Bachelor of Arts | Università di Napoli «Federico II» | Philosophy | September 2009
Thesis: *Il problema dell'ontologia dell'esperienza in The Conscious Mind di David Chalmers*
Final grade: *110 cum laude/110* [highest honors]
Supervisor: Prof. Renata Viti Cavaliere

FURTHER EDUCATION

Spring School in Social Cognition, Emotion and Joint Action | March 6-10, 2017
Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Master Class: Predictive Coding and the Mind | March 3-4, 2017
Instructor: Jakob Hohwy
Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Neo-Aristotelian Approaches to the Metaphysics of the Mind | September-October 2016
The Harry-Wilks Study Center, Bacoli (IT), University of Oxford.

Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind | August 2013
Center for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen

PUBLICATIONS

- **JOURNAL ARTICLES** † = invited; * = non-peer reviewed
(under review) “Saving Representational Formats” | with Dimitri Coelho Mollo
(under review) “Visual Habits” | with Francesco Marchi
(under review) “How Artworks Modify our Perception of the Everyday”
forth. “Do We See Facts?” | *Mind & Language* | DOI: 10.1111/mila.12336
2019 “The Structure of Sensorimotor Explanation” | *Synthese* 196, pp. 4527-4553
DOI: 10.1007/s11229-017-1664-9
2016b “Fenomenologia naturalizzata nello studio dell'esperienza cosciente” | *Rivista di filosofia* 107(1), pp. 27-48 | DOI: 10.1413/82722.
2016a* “Psychoneural Isomorphism and Content-NCCs” | *Gestalt Theory* 38(2-3), pp. 177-190.
- **PROCEEDINGS**
2015 “Manipulating the Contents of Consciousness” | In Noelle, D. C., Dale, R., Warlaumont, A. S., Yoshimi, J., Matlock, T., Jennings, C. D., & Maglio, P. P. (Eds.). *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2487-2492). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
2014 “Sensorimotor Laws, Mechanisms, and Representations” | In Bello P., Guarini M., McShane M. & Scassellati B. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 3038-3042). Austin TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- **BOOK CHAPTERS**
forth.† “Psychoneural Isomorphism: from Metaphysics to Robustness” | In M. Viola & F. Calzavarini (eds.) *New Challenges in the Philosophy of Neuroscience*. Springer.
2011†* “Die europäische Identität / L'identità europea” | In G. Vogt-Spira et al. (eds.) *Die Zukunft Europas*. Franz Steiner Verlag.

- **EDITOR**

2018-2020 “The Structure of Perceptual Objects” | *SI Synthese* | with Tobias Schlicht & Blazej Skrzypulec

- **REVIEWS**

2013 Review of: Marco Sgarbi (ed.) *The Kant-Weymann Controversy*. Verona: Aemme Edizioni (2010) | *Rivista di filosofia*

PRESENTATIONS

- **INVITED**

- 2020
October 15-16 “How Artworks Modify Our Perception of the Everyday”
1st RUB – UFMG Workshop
Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (Webinar)
- 2020
October 7-8
[postponed!] TBA
The Methodology of Situated Cognition
Universität Kassel, Kassel, Germany
- 2020
October 1 “Saving Representational Formats” with *Dimitri Coelho Mollo*
Philosophy & the Life Science
Mississippi State University
- 2020
September 30 “The Metaphysical Opacity of Seeing”
1st International Conference on Philosophy of Mind and Cognition
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (Webinar)
- 2020
July 16 “Saving Representational Formats” with *Dimitri Coelho Mollo*
Science of Intelligence
Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- 2020
March 2-4 “Understanding Appearances”
Bochum-Rutgers-Workshop in Philosophy.
Rutgers University, New Burnswick, NJ, USA
- 2019
January 17 “Visual Arts and the Aesthetic Depth of Seeing”
London Mind Group.
Senate House, University of London, London, UK
- 2018
June 30 – July 2 “Visualizing Vision: Pictures and Visual Perception”
Philosophers’ Rally
University of Łódź, Łódź, Poland.
- 2018
April 6 “The Structure of Sensorimotor Explanation.”
Neural Mechanisms Online.
Webinar on Neural Mechanisms, IUSS Pavia.
With responses from Mazviita Chirimuuta (Pittsburgh)
Dan Burnston (Tulane University), and Luis Favela (Florida)
- 2017
November 22 “Embodied Cognition: A Guide for the Perplexed.”
CEPERC-ILCB.
Aix-Marseille Université, Aix-en-Provence.
- 2017
May 19-20 “Do We See Facts?”
Second Bochum-Rutgers-Workshop in Philosophy.
Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Bochum, Germany.
- 2016
November 24-26 “Perception and Speculative Materialism”
The New Faces of Realism.
Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany.
- 2013
March 27-28 “Das Isomorphismusproblem zwischen personalem und subpersonalem Niveau in der visuellen Wahrnehmung.”
Doktorandentagung Wissenschaftsphilosophie.
Leibniz-Universität Hannover, Germany.

• **REFEREED TALKS**

- 2019
May 22-24 “The Aesthetic Depth of Seeing”
AISC Midterm Conference
IMT School of Advanced Studies, Lucca, Italy
- 2018
October 5-6 “A Mechanistic Framework for the Neural Correlates of Conscious Visual Object perception”
Neural Mechanisms Online, Webconference
- 2018
June 25-27 “The Structure of Sensorimotor Explanation”
AISC Midterm Conference
University of Genoa, Italy
- 2017
October 20 “Philosophy of Perception as Model-Building”
Ockham Society
University of Oxford, UK
- 2017
September 24-27 “Is There Scientific Evidence That We See Facts?”
XXIV. Kongress der deutschen Gesellschaft für Philosophie
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany
- 2017
September 21-23 “Philosophy of Perception as Model-Building”
Fourth Philosophy of Language and Mind Conference
Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany
- 2017
August 21-26 “The Structure of Sensorimotor Explanation”
9th European Congress of Analytic Philosophy
Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität, Munich, Germany
- 2017
August 21-26 “Trope Representationalism and Mental Mechanisms”
9th European Congress of Analytic Philosophy
Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität, Munich, Germany
- 2016
June 23-25 “Visual Perception, Trope Similarity, and Intentional Mechanisms”
Mechanistic Integration and Unification in Cognitive Science
Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland
- 2015
August 3-8 “The Neural Correlates of Conscious Content from a Mechanistic Standpoint”
15th Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science
University of Helsinki, Finland
- 2015
June 9-13 “Looking for the Mechanisms of the Contents of Consciousness”
Toward a Science of Consciousness
University of Helsinki, Finland
- 2015
May 21-23 “Psychoneural Isomorphism and Intentional Mechanisms”
19th Scientific GTA Convention “Body, Mind, Expression”
University of Parma, Italy
- 2015
February 26-28 “Mechanisms and the Intentional Content of Experience”
Rudolf-Carnap Lecture 2015: John Campbell
Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany
- 2014
September 4-6 “Representations and Sensorimotor Explanation”
SOPhiA 2014
University of Salzburg, Austria
- 2014
August 28- Sep.2 “Explaining Consciousness Without Gaps”
8th European Congress of Analytic Philosophy
University of Bucharest, Romania
- 2014
July 11- 13 “Vividness and the Levels of Consciousness”
88th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association
Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge, UK
- 2014
April 24- 26 “Mechanisms and First-Person Accounts of Consciousness”
12th Annual Meeting of the Nordic Society for Phenomenology
University of Helsinki, Finland

- **SELECTED NON-REFEREED TALKS**

- 2018
July 23 “Do We See Facts?”
*First Bochum Graduate Workshop in Philosophy of Mind and of Cognitive Science
Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany (main organizer)*
- 2017
May 22-23 “Model-Building in the Philosophy of Perception”
*Naturalistic Approaches to Content and Consciousness
Polish Academy of Sciences*
- 2016
February 16 “Do We See Facts?”
*New Directions in the Study of the Mind
Peterhouse, University of Cambridge, UK*

- **REFEREED POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

- 2017
June 27-29 “Phenomenological Models of Perceptual Content”
*The Human Mind Conference
The Møller Centre, University of Cambridge, UK*
- 2016
August 10-13 “Do We Perceive Facts?”
*24th Annual Meeting of the ESPP,
St. Andrews, Scotland*
- 2015
July 22-25 “Manipulating the Contents of Consciousness”
*CogSci 2015: 37th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society
Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, California, USA*
- 2014
July 23-26 “Sensorimotor Laws, Mechanisms, and Representations”
*CogSci 2014: 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society
Québec City Convention Center, Québec City, Canada*

- **COMMENTS (INVITED)**

- 2019
May 31 On: A. Wajnerman Paz’s “The Global Neuronal Workspace as an Efficient
Broadcasting Network”
*Neural Mechanisms Online
Webinar on Neural Mechanisms, IUSS Pavia*
- 2018
December 14 On: M. Grasso’s “IIT vs Russellian Monism”
*Neural Mechanisms Online
Webinar on Neural Mechanisms, IUSS Pavia*
- 2018
June 1 On: L. Kästner’s “On the Mechanistic Triad”
*Neural Mechanisms Online, Webconference
Webinar on Neural Mechanisms, IUSS Pavia*

- **ATTENDED WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES (SELECTION)**

- 2016
May 20-21 “Mental Representations: Naturalistic Approaches”
Organized by Prof. Nicholas Shea
*Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Studies
[winner of a scholarship]*

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

- **HONORS**

- 2011
July 6-7 Die Zukunft Europas/Il futuro dell’Europa [The Future of Europe]
*I was invited to personally meet the German Federal President Christian Wulff and
the Italian President Giorgio Napolitano along with 28 other young researchers from
Italy and Germany. The meeting was preceded by a workshop on European Issues “Il
futuro dell’Europa/Die Zukunft Europas”
Villa Vigoni, Deutsch-Italienisches Zentrum für europäisches Exzellenz, Italy*

- **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING**

- 2019 Funding Application to the DFG for the organization of EuroCogSci 2019
c. 20,000€ - with Prof. Albert Newen

2014-2016 November-October	Barbara-Wengeler Foundation PhD Scholarship 26,400€
2010-2011 October-December	DAAD: One-year scholarship award to pursue a MA degree in Berlin 12,000€
2009-2009 February-March	Goethe-Institut Scholarship for a free 2-months language course c. 1500€

• **CONFERENCE SUBSIDIES AND MINOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

2019	Travel Bursary for the Invited Talk at the London Mind Group <i>London Mind Group</i>
2018	Travel and Accommodation for the Philosophers' Rally <i>University of Łódź</i>
2017	Travel and Accommodation for the invited talk <i>Aix-Marseille Université, Aix-en-Provence.</i>
2016	Travel and Accommodation for the invited talk <i>Bergische Universität Wuppertal</i>
2016	Winner of a Travel Stipend for the Workshop on Mental Representations <i>Arts and Humanities Research Council(AHRC)</i>
2015	Conference Subsidy for the CLMPS 2015 <i>Barbara-Wengeler-Stiftung</i>
2015	Conference Subsidy for the CogSci 2015 <i>Barbara-Wengeler-Stiftung</i>
2015	Winner of a Travel Subsidy for the 19 th Scientific Gestalt Convention <i>Society for Gestalt Theory and Its Applications</i>
2015	Winner of a Travel Subsidy for the 2015 Carnap Lecture <i>Ruhr-Universität Bochum</i>
2014	Winner of a Travel and Accommodation Subsidy for the 88 th Joint Session <i>Aristotelian Society</i>

TEACHING

• **RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM**

† : taught in German

SS 21	Kant: <i>Die Kritik der reinen Vernunft</i> † [Kant: Critique of Pure Reason] <i>Graduate Seminar (BA Phil)</i>
	Philosophy of Perception: Disjunctivism <i>Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil, Msc CogSci)</i>
WS 20/21	Epistemology: Understanding in Science and the Arts. Discussing Catherine Z. Elgin's <i>True Enough</i> <i>Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil, Msc CogSci)</i> <i>Includes a Webinar with C.Z. Elgin</i>
	Einführung in die Wissenschaftsphilosophie † [Introduction to the Philosophy of Science] <i>Graduate Seminar (BA Phil)</i>
	Philosophische Werkstatt <i>[Philosophical Workshop]</i> <i>Two-days workshop training in Philosophy writing and reading for BA students</i> <i>Co-organized with Elmarie Venter (11th and 13th of December)</i>
SS 20	René Descartes: Skeptizismus, Methode und das Cogito † [Descartes: Skepticism, Method and the Cogito] <i>Graduate Seminar (BA Phil)</i>

- Wilfried Sellars and the Myth of the Given
[Introduction to the Philosophy of Science]
Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil, Msc CogSci)
- WS 19/20 John McDowell's *Mind and World*
Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil, Msc CogSci)
- Analytische Bewusstseinstheorien †
[Analytic Theories of Consciousness]
Graduate Seminar (BA Phil)
- SS 19 Eine Einführung in die Wahrnehmungsphilosophie †
[An Introduction to the Philosophy of Perception]
Graduate Seminar (BA Phil)
- Philosophy of Attention: Sebastian Watzl's *Structuring Mind*
Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil, Msc CogSci)
- SS 18 Philosophische Probleme wissenschaftlicher Modelle †
[Philosophical Problems of Scientific Models]
Graduate Seminar (BA Phil)
- Teleosemantics: Karen Neander's A Mark of the Mental
Taught with Prof. Tobias Schlicht
Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil, Msc CogSci)
- **RHEINISCHE FRIEDRICH-WILHELMS UNIVERSITÄT BONN**
- WS 16/17 Philosophie der Wahrnehmung: Eine Einführung †
[Philosophy of Perception: An Introduction]
Postgraduate Seminar (MA Phil)
- Wahrnehmungsgehalt †
[Perceptual Content] *January 31*
Ringvorlesung "Einführung in die Philosophie" (BA and MA Phil)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSIONS

- **ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS**

Nordic Society for Phenomenology (NSoP), Aristotelian Society, European Society for Early Modern Philosophy (ESEMP), Cognitive Science Society, Society for the Philosophy of Information, Société de philosophie analytique (SoPhA), The Cambridge Moral Sciences Club (2015-2016), Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice (SPSP), European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP), Associazione Italiana di Scienze Cognitive (AISC)

- **REVIEWER**

Journals: Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences, Philosophical Psychology, Philosophical Explorations, Synthese, Open Philosophy, TOPOI, Lo sguardo.

Publisher: Oxford University Press, Springer.

Workshops and Events (2019): Carnap Lecture (RUB), Philosophical Perspective on Medical Knowledge (Genoa), Fiction, Imagination and Epistemology (RUB), EuroCogSci 2019 (RUB), Mental representations in a Mechanical World (RUB). (2018): Carnap Lecture (RUB), New Challenges in Philosophy of Neuroscience (Universities of Pavia-Milano), Research School Plus (RUB). (2017): Carnap Lecture (RUB), 4th Philosophy of Language and Mind Conference (RUB), Evolving Enactivism (RUB).

- **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED**

2021 From Appearances to Beliefs
May 25-26 *First organizer, with Dr. Francesco Marchi (Antwerp) and Prof. Albert Newen*
Keynote speakers: Ned Block (NYU), E.J. Green (MIT), Bence Nanay (Antwerp),
Ophelia Deroy (LMU), Heather Logue (Leeds), Eric Mandelbaum (NYU)
Ruhr-Universität Bochum

2020 October 15-16	1 st RUB-UFGM Philosophy of Mind Workshop <i>Co-organized with Dr Felipe Nogueira de Carvalho (UFGM)</i> <i>Online event</i>
2020 June 18-19	Main organizer of the 3 rd Bochum ECR Workshop in Phil of Mind and of CogSci <i>Keynote speakers: Prof. Rob Rupert (Boulder), Dr Sanneke de Haan (Tilburg)</i> <i>Ruhr-Universität Bochum</i>
2019 September 2-4	Scientific Manager for EuroCogSci 2019 <i>Co-organized with Prof. Albert Newen</i> <i>Ruhr-Universität Bochum</i>
2019 June 13-14	Co-organizer of the 2 nd Bochum ECR Workshop in Phil of Mind and of CogSci <i>Keynote speakers: Prof. Onur Güntürkün (RUB), Dr Rebekka Hufendiek (Basel)</i> <i>Ruhr-Universität Bochum</i>
2018 July 23-24	Founder and main organizer of the 1 st Bochum ECR Workshop in Phil of Mind and of CogSci <i>Keynote speakers: Prof. Jim Pryor (NYU), Dr Eva Schmidt (UZH)</i> <i>Ruhr-Universität Bochum</i>
2015 July 21-25	Student volunteer in the organization of CogSci 2015 [selected upon application] <i>Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, California, USA</i>

SKILLS AND TRAINING

- **LANGUAGES**

Italian (mother tongue), *English* (fluent), *German* (fluent), *French* (reading only), *Spanish* (reading only), *Latin* (reading), *Ancient Greek* (basics)

- **ACADEMIC TRAINING**

2016 March 18	Training on Lecturing Performance. Trainer: Stewart Theobald <i>University of Cambridge, UK</i>
2016 January	Interview training Workshop. Trainer: Alan Fawcitt <i>University of Cambridge, UK</i>
2015 October	Interview on Teaching Skills. Trainer: Dr. Arif Ahmed. <i>University of Cambridge, UK</i>

OTHER NON-ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- **NON-ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS**

Member of ANPI Deutschland (since 2014) [National Association of Italian Partisans]
President of ANPI Deutschland (2016-2017, 2020)

- **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

2015 April 17	Interviewed by Agnese Franceschini (RadioColonia) http://www.funkhauseuropa.de/sendungen/radio_colonia/il_tema/partisan_en100.html
2015 June 9	Interviewed by Agnese Franceschini (RadioColonia) - Birlikte http://www.funkhauseuropa.de/sendungen/radio_colonia/il_tema/keupstra_sse190.html
2013 October 11	Interviewed by Giulio Pitroso (GenerazioneZero Sicilia) http://www.generazionezero.org/blog/2013/10/11/alfredo-fa-ricerca-in-germania-la-locomotiva-deuropa-raccontata-da-un-campano/
2012 February 10	Interviewed by Patricia Liberatore (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung) /http://kas-aquaedukt.de/ich-moechte-wieder-stolz-sein-auf-das-bild-italiens-in-der-welt/

• **EVENTS ORGANIZES AS PRESIDENT OF ANPI DEUTSCHLAND**

- 2016
November 12 Theatre piece «Canto dei deportati»
with Maria Filigrasso and Giulio Bufo
ANPI Deutschland – Interkulturelles Zentrum ,offene Welt‘
- 2016
May 31 Celebration of the ‘Festa della Repubblica’
Invited speaker: Dr. Michela Ponzani.
ANPI Deutschland – Italian Cultural Institute – Italian Consulate in Cologne
- 2015
April 17 Celebration of the 70th Anniversay of Italian Liberation
Invited speakers: Tullio Monzagna (ANPI), Prof. Filippo Focardi (University of Padoa), Prof. Rudolf Lill (University of Cologne). Introduction by MP Laura Garavini (Democratic Party), Dr. Lucio Izzo (IIC), Dr. Emilio Lolli (General Consul)
ANPI Deutschland – Italian Cultural Institute – Italian Consulate in Cologne
- 2015
March Project with high-school students “Italian Literature and Resistenza”
Alfredo Vernazzani lecturing on Elio Vittorini’s «Uomini e no»
Francesca Polistina lecturing on Beppe Fenoglio’s «Il partigiano Johnny»
Gabriele Rasi lecturing on Italo Calvino’s «Il sentiero dei nidi di ragno»
ANPI Deutschland – Liceo Linguistic “Italo Svevo“ Cologne, Germany

REFEREES

Prof. Dr. Tobias Schlicht

Institut für Philosophie II
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Universitätsstraße 150, GA 3/29
44780, Bochum 00-330,
Deutschland
Tel. + 49 (0)176 32248946
tobias.schlicht@rub.de

Prof. Marcin Milkowski

Institute of Philosophy & Sociology
Polish Academy of Sciences
Ul. Nowy Swiat 72
Warszawa
Poland
Tel. +48 607 589 979
mmilkows@ifispan.waw.pl

Prof. Dr. Albert Newen

Institut für Philosophie II
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Universitätsstraße 150, GA 3/152
44780, Bochum
Deutschland
Tel. +49 234 32 221 39
Albert.Newen@rub.de