

# Dr. Alexander Thorsten Steinberg

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Areas of Specialisation/Competence

- AOS Philosophy of Logic and Language (especially Modality), Metaphysics (especially Supervenience and Grounding)
- AOC Elementary Formal Logic, Critical Thinking, Epistemology, History of Analytic Philosophy (especially Frege and Bolzano)

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### Employment

- 2015–present *Assistent* (post-doctoral research assistant), University of Zurich
- 2013–2015 Lecturer, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
- 2010–2013 Post-doctoral researcher at the *Phlox* research group, HU Berlin/Universität Hamburg
- 2008–2010 Doctoral researcher at the *Phlox* research group, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 2006–2008 Research Assistant to Prof. Tim Crane within the EU's 6<sup>th</sup> Framework NEST project REFCOM at University College London

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### Education

- 2005–2011 **PhD**, *University College London*.
- 2003–2005 **MPhil**, *University College London*.
- 2000–2003 **Magister**, *Universität Hamburg*.

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### Degrees

PhD (Philosophy), UCL

- Thesis *A Chance for Possibility. An Investigation into the Grounds of Modality*
- Awarded March 2011
- Supervisor Prof. Mark Eli Kalderon
- Examiners Prof. Dorothy Edgington (Oxford and BBK) and Prof. Fraser MacBride (Glasgow)
- Description I argue for the thesis that truths about possible worlds supervene on modal truths, which in turn supervene on truths about objective chances. An account of possible worlds as pleonastic entities is developed and defended as well as an analysis of natural language possibility ascriptions as ascriptions of non-zero objective chances.  
  
received the ontos-award of the *Gesellschaft für Analytische Philosophie* (Society for Analytic Philosophy)

MPhil (Philosophy), University of London

- Thesis *Strange Goings On? Events and their Place in Reality*

Awarded June 2005  
Supervisors Prof. Mike Martin and Prof. Tim Crane  
Examiners Prof. John Hyman (Oxford) and Prof. Mark Textor (King's College London)  
MPhil Papers Frege, Epistemology, Metaphysics  
received a letter of commendation from the head of the MPhil board of examiners

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## Publications

### Book

2013 *A Chance for Possibility. An Investigation into the Grounds of Modality*. Berlin: de Gruyter/ontos.

### Edited Book

2013 *Varieties of Dependence. Ontological Dependence, Grounding, Supervenience, Response-Dependence*. Editor (with M. Hoeltje and B. Schnieder). Munich: Philosophia Verlag. Contributors include: L. deRosset, C. Jenkins, K. Koslicki, J. Lowe.

### Articles

forthcoming *Adequate Counterpart Translations*, forthcoming in *Mind*

forthcoming *Supervenienz (Supervenience)*, in Schrenk, M. (ed.): *Handbuch Metaphysik*, Stuttgart/Weimar: Metzler.

2015 *Without Reason?* (with B. Schnieder), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* early view

2015 *Priority Monism and Part/Whole Dependence*, *Philosophical Studies* 172, 2025–2031.

2014 *Defining Global Supervenience*, *Erkenntnis* 79, 367–380.

2013 *Supervenience: A Survey*, in Hoeltje, M., B. Schnieder and A. Steinberg (2013), 123–166.

2013 *Pleonastic Possible Worlds*, *Philosophical Studies* 164, 767–789.

2013 *Explanation by Induction?* (with M. Hoeltje and B. Schnieder), *Synthese* 190, 509–524.

2012 *Der Satz vom Grunde (The Principle of Sufficient Reason)*, in Nida-Rümelin, J. and E. Özmen (eds.): *Welt der Gründe* (= Deutsches Jahrbuch Philosophie 4), Hamburg: Meiner, 84–94.

2010 *What Might Be and What Might Have Been* (with B. Schnieder and M. Schulz). In Conrad, S.-J. and S. Imhof (eds.): *P. F. Strawson – Ding und Begriff / Object and Concept*. Frankfurt: Ontos Verlag, 135–62.

### Book Review

2009 J.C. Beall (ed.): *Revenge of The Liar. New Essays on the Paradoxes*. *Philosophy* 84, 454–458.

### In Preparation

*Pleonastic Propositions and the Face Value Theory*

*Propositions and That-Clauses*

*A Note on Surplus Content*

*Holism about Moral Reasons and the Determination Constraint*

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## Talks and Presentations

### Peer Reviewed

- September 2016 *Adequate Counterpart Translations*, XII Conference of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy (SIFA), Pistoia
- August 2016 *Saving Strict Adequacy*, Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible IV, Bratislava, Slovakia
- June 2016 *Saving Strict Adequacy*, Fifth Italian Conference in Analytic Ontology, Padua, Italy
- September 2015 *Syntactic Arguments against 'that'-clause reference*, GAP.09, Osnabrück, Germany
- October 2013 *Holism about Moral Reasons and the Determination Constraint*, Fundamentality and Grounding in Metaphysics and in Ethics, Bogacizi University, Istanbul
- September 2012 *Defining Global Supervenience*, GAP.8, University of Konstanz
- November 2010 *Pleonastic Possible Worlds*, 14th Annual Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference, University of Oxford
- September 2010 *Pleonastic Possible Worlds*, Amsterdam Graduate Philosophy Conference 2010, University of Amsterdam
- September 2010 *Explanation by Induction?* (with M. Hoeltje), 9th National Conference of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy, University of Padua
- May 2009 *A New Counterexample to the Entailment Claim*, Stockholm Philosophy Graduate Conference, Stockholm University
- August 2008 *Might There Be No Ambiguity?*, ECAP '08, Jagiellonian University, Krakow
- July 2008 *Strong and Global Supervenience*, *εἶδος* Metaphysics Conference, University of Geneva
- May 2008 *Might There Be No Ambiguity?*, Fifth London-Berkeley Graduate Conference, University of London
- July 2007 *Lowe, Quantum Mechanics, and Some (Alleged) Indeterminate Identities*, British Postgraduate Philosophy Conference, University of East Anglia, Norwich

### Invited

- December 2016 *Propositions and that-clauses*, Early Lunch Talks, Konstanz
- September 2015 *Realism about Numbers*, SOPhIA Affiliated Workshop *Talking about Numbers*, Salzburg
- July 2015 *Adequate Counterpart Translations*, workshop: Topics in Analytical Metaphysics, Mainz
- September 2014 *Propositions and That-Clauses*, Fourth Paris-Hamburg Ontology Workshop, Paris
- July 2014 *On Priority Monism*, workshop: Wissen – Sprache – Welt, Mainz
- June 2014 *Lewis's Konzeption möglicher Welten* (Lewis's account of possible worlds), Mainz
- June 2014 *On Constancy*, Topics in Explanation, Dependence and Understanding, Essen
- May 2014 *Was sind mögliche Welten?* (What are possible worlds?), Forum für Philosophie, Frankfurt
- January 2013 *Derivativer Platonismus (Derivative Platonism)*, Mittelbaukolloquium, Essen
- May 2012 *Ways of Supervening*, IIPMW Second PERSP Metaphysics Workshop, Barcelona
- September 2011 *Zum Satz vom Grunde* (On the principle of sufficient reason), Deutscher Kongress für Philosophie, Munich

- May 2008 *Strong and Global Supervenience*, UCL/Birkbeck Philosophy Graduate Conference, Cumberland Lodge
- September 2007 *Modal Predicates, Essentialism, and Metaphysical Modality*, Workshop on Reference & Predication, University of Turku
- September 2006 *Are Modal Predicates Referentially Transparent?*, UCL Graduate Philosophy Conference, London
- Replies
- November 2012 *Reply to Nick Hughes' 'Iterated Moorean Conjunctions'*, LEMMING graduate conference, Cologne
- March 2007 *Reply to Tim Pritchard's 'The Meaning of "The"'*, University of London Philosophy Graduate Conference, London
- September 2006 *Reply to Panu Raatikainen's 'What Are the Principal Points of the New Theory of Reference'*, Workshop on Reference & Predication, Universität Hamburg
- July 2006 *Reply to Charlie Pelling's 'Against Williamson's Anti-Luminosity Argument'*, National Postgraduate Analytic Philosophy Conference, University of Warwick

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## Teaching Experience

### Classes

- 2016 UG Seminar: *Frege's Logische Untersuchungen* (in preparation)
- 2016 UG Seminar: Proper Names, UZH
- 2015/16 UG Seminar: Carnap's *Aufbau*, UZH
- 2015 Lecture: Introduction to modern logic, JGU Mainz
- 2015 UG Seminar: Introduction to modern logic, JGU Mainz
- 2015 UG Seminar: Saul Kripke's *Naming and Necessity*
- 2014/15 PG Seminar: Truth Relativism, JGU Mainz
- 2014/15 UG Seminar: Tools for Philosophical Argumentation, JGU Mainz
- 2014 UG Seminar: The Problem of Induction, JGU Mainz
- 2014 UG Seminar: Introduction to formal logic, JGU Mainz (3 courses)
- 2013/14 UG Seminar: The Origins of Modern Philosophy of Language, JGU Mainz
- 2013/14 UG Seminar: Informal Logic, JGU Mainz
- 2013 PG Seminar: Fundamentality, Universität Hamburg
- 2012 Lecture: Introduction to Logic (with S. Krämer), Universität Hamburg
- 2011/12 PG Seminar: Frege's Foundations of Arithmetic (with B. Schnieder and K. Felka), Universität Hamburg
- 2010/11 PG Seminar: The Principle of Sufficient Reason (with B. Schnieder), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 2010 PG Seminar: Dependence (with M. Hoeltje), HU Berlin
- 2009 PG Seminar: Modality (with N. Haverkamp, M. Hoeltje, B. Schnieder and M. Schulz), HU Berlin
- 2008/09 Lecture: Introduction to Epistemology (with N. Haverkamp, B. Schnieder and M. Schulz), HU Berlin
- 2008 Tutorial for 'Introduction to the Philosophy of Language', HU Berlin
- 2006/07 Undergraduate Tutor (on Frege), University College London

2002/03 Tutorials in Epistemology, Elementary Logic and Philosophy of Language, Universität Hamburg

#### Supervision

2015/16 Co-supervisor of an MA-thesis on modal fictionalism

2011-15 Co-supervision of a PhD thesis on mathematical realism

2012 Secondary examiner/supervisor for a BA thesis on spatio-temporal coincidence

2010 Secondary supervisor on a BA thesis on fictional entities, HU Berlin

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#### Grants and Awards

2012ontos-award of the German Foundation for Analytic Philosophy (GAP) for PhD thesis *A Chance for Possibility* (2000€ award + publication)

2008 UCL Graduate School Student Conference Fund (to present a paper at the *εἶδος* Metaphysics Conference)

2006–2008 Research Studentship from the FP6 inter-institutional grant, REFCOM – Origins of Referential Communication (maintenance)

2005–2008 Arts and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Award (fees)

2005 Letter of Commendation from the Head of the MPhil Board of Examiners, University of London (top of the MPhil class at the University of London)

2004 Wollheim Prize, Department of Philosophy, UCL (top of the MPhil class at UCL in the Wollheim exam)

2004 Grant to attend the Summer School in Analytic Philosophy in Venice

2003–2005 Arts and Humanities Research Board Postgraduate Award (fees)

2003–2006 UCL Graduate School Research Scholarship (maintenance)

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#### Academic Service

2016 Co-organizer of an international post-doc conference, University of Zurich

2016 Co-organizer of a workshop on Existence, University of Zurich

2015 Main organizer of the workshop *Topics in Analytical Metaphysics*, JGU Mainz

2014 Co-organiser of the workshop *Wissen – Sprache – Welt*, Mainz

2013 Co-organiser of the workshop *Rationalität und Überzeugung*, Mainz

2013 Main organiser of *Big vs. Small—Fundamentality in Things, Thought, and Language*, Universität Hamburg (speakers include: K. Bennett, M. Devitt, C. Dorr, K. Fine, M. Steup, J. Schaffer, Z. Szabó, J. Zalabardo)

2013 Co-organiser of the interdisciplinary workshop *Fiction and Its Use* at ZiF Bielefeld (speakers include: Melanie Green, U. Mäki, Raymond Mar, K. Walton)

2012 Co-organiser of a lecture series on *Truth and Fiction* at Universität Hamburg (speakers include: S. Friend, M. Kölbel, M. Textor)

2011 Co-organiser of *Phlox in Flux* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

2010 Co-organiser of *Because II: Grounding and Non-Causal Explanations* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Keynotes: K. Fine, S. Yablo; further speakers include: R. Cameron, S. Dasgupta, C. Jenkins, T. Sattig)

2010 Co-organiser of *Phloxshop III: Nothing But the Truth* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (speakers include: M. David, V. Halbach, M. Kölbel, D. Liggins)

2009 Co-organiser of *Phloxshop II: Modality* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Keynotes: D. Edgington, K. Hossack)

- 2009 Co-organiser of *Truth and Abstract Objects. Issues from Bolzano and Frege* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (speakers include: H.-J. Glock, A. Kemmerling, W. Künne, K. Mulligan, I. Rumfitt, M. Siebel, P. Simons, M. Textor, D. Wiggins)
  - 2008 Co-organiser of the launch workshop of *Phlox* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (speakers include: S. Barker, F. Correia, K. Farkas, O. Magidor)
- Reviewer for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Crítica*, *Dialectica*, *Erkenntnis*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Ratio*, *Synthese*

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### Third-Party Funding

- 2016 University of Zurich *Forschungskredit* (research loan) (2 years of funding for research project on theoretical entities)
- 2015 Marie Gretler Stiftung, funding for the *Existence* workshops and the Postdoc conference (with K. Felka; volume: 8.000 CHF)
- 2013 German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP), partial funding for the international workshop: *Big vs. Small – Fundamentality in Things, Thought and Language* (with M. Hoeltje; volume: 850 €).
- 2012 German Research Association (DFG), partial funding for *Big vs. Small* (with M. Hoeltje; volume: 14.400€).
- 2012 Körber-Fonds Nachwuchsforschung, partial funding for *Big vs. Small* (with K. Felka; volume: 9.110€)
- 2012 Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF, Bielefeld), grant for the interdisciplinary workshop *Fiction and its Use*, applicants: B. Schnieder & J. Eder (volume: 10.000€)
- 2011 DFG/ANR research group *Nominalizations*, applicant: B. Schnieder (volume: 375.000€)
- 2008 DFG Emmy Noether research group *Phlox*, applicant: B. Schnieder (volume: 800.000€)

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### Other

- 2012 Shortlisted (2<sup>nd</sup> place) for a *Junior Professorship* at the Department of Philosophy, University of Stuttgart