

RUSONG HUANG | Curriculum Vitae
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS HELD

Adjunct Lecturer	8/2023-8/2024
Department of Philosophy, University of Florida (UF)	
Visiting Scholar	9/2012-9/2014
Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh (PITT)	
Advisor at PITT: Robert Brandom	

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Florida (UF)	2023
Ph.D., Philosophy, Beijing Normal University (BNU)	2016
M.A., Economics, Beijing Normal University (BNU)	2010
B.A., Economics, Huzhou University (HU)	2007

RESEARCH AREAS

AOS: Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language
AOC: M & E, Metaethics, Philosophy of Economics

CERTIFICATE

IBM Python for Data Science, AI & Development Certificate	2026
Google AI Essentials Specialization Certificate	2025

AWARDS AND HONORS

Postdoctoral Invitation to the Department of Philosophy at Universität Heidelberg	2016
Advisor: Anton Friedrich Koch	
Distinguished Dissertation (BNU)	2016
GRE: Quantitative Reasoning score, 170/170	2015
Distinguished Graduate (HU)	2007
The Third University Mathematics Competition (HU), First Prize	2005

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Pittsburgh School on Normativity	12/2021-
Collaborator: Hong Li (professor at BNU)	
Scholarship (by Chinese Scholarship Council)	9/2012-9/2014

PUBLICATIONS

1. "Three Strategies for Physicalism: Toward an Anti-Representational Account of Mind," *Journal of Contemporary Chinese Philosophy*, forthcoming.
2. "The Sellarsian Philosophy of Mind with a Rationality Key," *Journal of Contemporary Chinese Philosophy*, 2(1): 72-100, 2026. [Link Here](#)
3. "Is Rationality Essential to Mind?" forthcoming, in Y. Jiang (Ed.), *Analytic Philosophy in China 2026*. Zhejiang University Press, 2026. [Link Here](#)
4. "The Very Idea of Mental Anti-Representationalism," in *Philosophy International Journal*, 7(4): 1-6, 2024. DOI: [10.23880/phij-16000342](https://doi.org/10.23880/phij-16000342)
5. "An Inferentialist Account of Proper Names," *Studia Semiotyczne (Semiotic Studies)*, 37(1): 25-44, 2023. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26333/sts.xxxviii.03>
6. *Mental Anti-Representationalism: Prospects for a Noncognitivist Account of Psychological Discourse*. (University of Florida ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2023. 30490881. [Link Here](#))
7. *Experience as a Synthesis of the Intuitionist and the Conceptual: An Investigation of the Pittsburgh School*. (Beijing Normal University Dissertation, 2016. [Link Here](#))
8. "Inference Prior to Representation: On Robert Brandom's Inferential Semantics," with Hong Li, *Studies in Dialectics of Nature*, 31(6): 44-49, 2015.

EDITORIAL WORK

Guest Editor. Special issue of *Journal of Contemporary Chinese Philosophy* / Brill. "Mind without Inner Representation? Psychological Discourse, Rationality, and Mental Anti-Representationalism." Submissions due March 1, 2027. [Link Here](#)

Confirmed or provisionally confirmed contributors: William Lycan, Paul Horwich, Adam Toon, Willem deVries, Jesse Prinz, Peter Mandik, James O'Shea, Simon Blackburn, and Robert Matthews.

WORKS UNDER REVIEW

1. "Recalcitrant Emotions as Norm Conflicts"
2. "Rationality First: The Real Lesson of the Theory Theory-Simulation Theory Debate"
3. "Mentality Attributions: Fictionalizing or Rationalizing"
4. "The Pittsburgh School on Experience"
5. "The Subset View of Realization and Nonreductive Physicalism"

BOOK PROJECT

Mind as Rational Relation: An Anti-Representationalist Account of Mind

In this project, I introduce and defend what I call the Relational View of Mind. According to this view, the mind is not an entity, a state/property, or a container of them, but a relation — a rational, dynamic, patterned set of engagements that an organism sustains with its world, others, and itself. This view reorients our understanding of mind away from representationalism and reification, toward a model that is normative, embedded, emergent, or ecological.

CONFERENCE OR WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

Papers Presented

“Recalcitrant Emotions as Norm Conflicts” APA, Eastern Division Meeting, New York	1/2025
“Mental Simulationism Defended” FSU-UF Graduate Conference	3/2023

Invited Talks

“On Logical Positivism” M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management, UF	1/2023; 1/2024
“Robert Brandom on Representation” Department of Philosophy, BNU	10/2014

Commentator

Nicholas Danne, “Mathematical Realism from Reflectance Physicalism” South Eastern Graduate Philosophy Conference, SEGPC, UF	4/2021
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Coordinator

Lecture Series on Philosophy of Normativity Four lectures by Robert Brandom Beijing Normal University	4/2024
South Eastern Graduate Philosophy Conference, SEGPC, UF Keynote Address: Sarah McGrath (Princeton University) Capstone Address: Lyndal Grant (UF)	4/2023

Participation

PEER Conference Perceptual Experience and Empirical Reason: The Subjective Dimension of Experience University of Pittsburgh	12/2025
The 49th Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy University of Florida	11/2024
Varieties of Philosophical Expressivism Universität Mannheim, Germany	5/2022
St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR) University of Missouri-Saint Louis	5/2017
47th UNC Colloquium in Philosophy University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	11/2013
APA, Eastern Division, Atlanta, GA	12/2012

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

M.A. Program	2016-2017
Department of Philosophy University of Missouri-Saint Louis, UMSL	
Philosophy Summer School: Philosophy of Action	2016
Instructors: John Hyman, Alvarez Maria, Anton Ford, and Douglas Lavin Department of Philosophy, Shenzhen University	
Philosophy Summer School: German Idealism	2012
Instructors: John Callanan, Lucy Allais, Wayne Martin, Robert Stern, and Daniel Whistler Department of Philosophy, Jilin University	

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Professional Affiliations

Member, <i>The Florida Philosophical Association</i>	2024-
Member, <i>The Society for Exact Philosophy</i>	2024-
Member, <i>American Philosophical Association</i>	2012-

Journal Refereeing

Mind and Matter, Journal of Contemporary Chinese Philosophy, Philosophy International Journal

MISCELLANEOUS

Book Draft Done: <i>Introduction to Philosophy</i> (in Chinese, twenty chapters) (https://rusonghuang.com/zh/research/intro-to-philosophy/)	2023-2026
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

University of Florida

PHI3681: Ethics, Data, and Technology

Spring 2024

PHI2010: Intro. to Philosophy (Online)

Fall 2023

PHI2010: Intro. to Philosophy

Fall 2023; Spring 2022

Teaching Assistant

University of Florida

2017-2023

PHI 3130: Symbolic Logic; PHI 3681: Ethics, Data, and Technology; IDS 2935:

Conflict of Ideas; IDS 2935: The Idea of Happiness; PHI 2630: Contemporary Moral
Issues; PHI 2010: Introduction to Philosophy

Teaching Assistant / Tutor

University of Missouri–St. Louis

2016-2017

PHI 1030: Present Moral Problems; MATH 1100: Basic Calculus; ECON 1001:
Principles of Microeconomics

SELECTED GRADUATE COURSEWORK AND ADVANCED STUDY

Audited courses and seminars are marked with an asterisk.

Rationality, Normativity, Ethics, and Political Philosophy

Ethical Theory; PPE; Social and Political Philosophy; Intro. to Ethics*; Dealing with
Evil*; Seminar in Ethics*; Political Philosophy*; Chinese Marxism and Contemporary
World

Philosophy of Mind, Action, and Mental Representation

Philosophy of Mind; Physicalism; Philosophy of Action*; Seminar in John McDowell's
Mind and World; Proseminar in Group Thinking

Epistemology, Truth, and Justification

Epistemology; Seminar in the Gettier Problem; Truth*; Reasoning*

Philosophy of Language, Meaning, and Analytic Philosophy

Philosophy of Language; Individual Work: Philosophy of Language; Individual Work:
Theories of Meaning I & II; Seminar in Carnap and Quine*; Seminar in Wittgenstein*;
Foundations of Analytic Philosophy; History of Early Analytic Philosophy*; Frontier
Studies in Philosophy; Frontiers of Contemporary Western Philosophy.

Logic, Metaphysics, and Formal Philosophy

Formal Logic; Modal Logic; Seminar in Logic*; Metaphysics; Seminar in Constitution
and Composition.

Kant, Hegel, Sellars, and the Pittsburgh School

Seminar in Kant; Seminar in Hegel*; Seminar in Wilfrid Sellars*

Ancient, Modern, and Chinese Philosophy

Seminar in Plato; Seminar in Aristotle; Seminar in Descartes and Leibniz; Seminar in Hume; Chinese Philosophy: Neo-Confucianist Hsiung Shih-li*; Chinese Philosophy: Taoism*; Chinese Philosophy: *Book of Changes (Zhouyi)*; Chinese Philosophy: Alchemy.

DISSERTATION AT UF

Title: “Mental Anti-Representationalism: Prospects for a Noncognitivist Account of Psychological Discourse”

Committee: Gene Witmer (Chair), John Biro, Amber Ross, Jonathan Edelmann

Abstract: In my dissertation, I argue that psychological sentences are not representational. I call this view *Mental Anti-Representationalism* (MAR). The meaning of a psychological sentence is commonly understood principally or exclusively in terms of the representational relations between the sentence and what it represents (a fact). MAR rejects it. According to MAR, psychological sentences are categorically different from physical sentences which are representational. My main argument is that psychological sentences are in fact rationality sentences, and rationality sentences are not representational; therefore, psychological sentences are not representational. Finally, I apply MAR to address some perennial problems faced by simulationists, expressivists, and physicalists.

Dissertation (UF, 2023): *Mental Anti-Representationalism: Prospects for a Noncognitivist Account of Psychological Discourse*. (Huang, Rusong. University of Florida ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2023. 30490881. [Link Here](#))

DISSERTATION AT BNU

Title: “Experience as a Synthesis of the Intuitional and the Conceptual: An Investigation of the Pittsburgh School”

Committee: Hong LI (Chair), Yi JIANG, Chengbing WANG, Xutong QU, Qian OUYANG

Abstract: The dissertation defends John McDowell’s view of experience, namely, that the content of experience is conceptual. Empiricism seems unable to escape Wilfrid Sellars’s critique of the Myth of the Given. Robert Brandom’s inferentialism thus dismisses empiricism completely. I argue that Brandom’s inferentialism is unsatisfactory in various ways. I follow McDowell and argue that saving empiricism is possible. The key is to insist that experience is always already conceptualized. The real challenge is to understand the meaning of the conceptual. I argue that McDowell’s propositional understanding is unsatisfactory in various ways. McDowell later gives up the propositional understanding and turns to the intuitional understanding. However, I argue, giving up the propositional understanding does not mean giving up conceptualized experience. I propose that we should understand McDowell’s experience as a synthesis of the intuitional and the conceptual.

REFERENCES

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