CONTACT Mailing Address: Email: shamikd@berkeley.edu **INFORMATION** Department of Philosophy Webpage: www.shamik.net 314 Moses Hall MC2390 Berkeley, CA 94720-2390 **SPECIALIZATION** Metaphysics, Philosophy of Science, Value Theory **COMPETENCE** Epistemology, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Physics 2016-**EMPLOYMENT** University of California, Berkeley **Associate Professor** ongoing **Princeton University Associate Professor** 2015-16 **Assistant Professor** 2009-15 **EDUCATION New York University** 2003-9 Ph.D., Philosophy Dissertation: "Symmetry as a Guide to Reality". Advisors: Kit Fine (chair), Hartry Field, Stephen Schiffer. King's College London 2001-3 MPhil, Philosophy; distinction **University College London** 1996-9 BSc, Biology; first class honors National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship HONORS AND 2016-17 One-year fellowship awarded for the project 'Empirical Rationalism', **AWARDS** William G. Bowen Presidential University Preceptor 2014-17 Preceptorships are endowed positions at Princeton "awarded to outstanding assistant professors for the furtherance of their teaching and scholarship". Winner of the Oxford Studies in Metaphysics Younger Scholar Prize 2011 Awarded annually. Dean's Outstanding Dissertation Award in the Humanities 2010 Awarded annually to one NYU doctoral dissertation in the humanities. James Arthur Fellowship 2008-9 Awarded annually to one final-year graduate student at NYU. Honorary Fellow at The Humanities Initiative, NYU 2008-9 Awarded annually to three humanities graduate students at NYU. AHRB Postgraduate Scholarship 2002-3 Arts and Humanities Research Board, United Kingdom **PUBLICATIONS** "Objectivity as a Normative Notion", forthcoming in Normative Realism, edited by Paul Boghossian and Chris Peacocke. "Quietism and Normative Symmetry", forthcoming in Analysis.

- "From Plotinus to Rorty: A History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps", in *Extreme Philosophy: Bold Ideas and a Spirit of Progress* (2024), edited by Stephen Hetherington (Routledge), pp. 29-46.
- "School in the Time of Covid", *Monash Bioethics Review* (2022): <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s40592-022-00161-9">https://doi.org/10.1007/s40592-022-00161-9</a>.
- "Symmetry and Superfluous Structure: A Metaphysical Overview", in *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Physics* (2021), edited by E. Knox and A. Wilson (Routledge), pp. 551-563.
- "How to Be a Relationalist", Oxford Studies in Metaphysics: Volume 12 (2021): 113-163.
- "Privilege in the Construction Industry", *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 98.2 (2019): 489-496.
- "Realism and the Absence of Value", The Philosophical Review 127.3 (2018): 279-322.
- "Essentialism and the Nonidentity Problem", *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 96.3 (2018): 540-570.
- "Normative Non-Naturalism and the Problem of Authority", *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* 117.3 (2017): 297-319.
- "Constitutive Explanation", Philosophical Issues 27 (2017). 74-97.
- "Can We Do Without Fundamental Individuals? Yes", and (with J. Turner) "Postscript", in *Current Controversies in Metaphysics* (2017), edited by E. Barnes (Routledge), pp. 7-24. (Previous titled "Quality and Structure".)
- "Metaphysical Rationalism", *Nous* 50.2 (2016): 379-418. Selected for inclusion in *The Philosopher's Annual* 2016.
- "Symmetry as an Epistemic Notion (Twice Over)", The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science 67.3 (2016): 837-878.
- "Inexpressible Ignorance", The Philosophical Review 124.4 (2015): 441-480.
- "Substantivalism vs. Relationalism About Space in Classical Physics", *Philosophy Compass* 10.9 (2015): 601-624.
- "The Possibility of Physicalism", The Journal of Philosophy, 111.9 (2014): 557-592.
- "On the Plurality of Grounds", Philosophers' Imprint 14.14 (2014): 1-28.
- "Absolutism vs. Comparativism About Quantities", *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics: Volume 8* (2013): 105-148. (Winner of the 2011 Younger Scholar Prize.)
- "The Bare Necessities", Philosophical Perspectives 25 (2011): 115-159.
- "Individuals: An Essay in Revisionary Metaphysics", *Philosophical Studies* 145.1 (2009): 35-67.
- "Range Occupancy and Endangerment: A Test With a Butterfly Community" (with D. Goehring, G. Daily, and P. Ehrlich), *The American Midland Naturalist* 157 (2006): 106-120.
- "Ecosystem Services" (with G. Daily), in The Encyclopedia of Biodiversity (2001): 353-

EDITED	Current Controversies in Philosophy of Science (2020), co-edited with Ravit Dotan and	
COLLECTIONS	Brad Weslake. Routledge Press.	
Collections	2144 116441611164466116661	
Invited	The Philosophy of Emptiness: Fine + Rorty = Nagarjuna?	
Presentations	Conference on Buddhism and Pragmatism, Banaras Hindu University	Dec 2024
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	Practical Nihilism	
	Colloquia, University of Michigan	March 2024
	Colloquia, University of Pittsburgh	Sept 2024
	Colloquia, Rutgers University	Nov 2024
	Comments on "Newtonian vs Gallilean Substantivalism" by Dan Marshall	_
	APA Pacific Meeting, Portland	March 2024
	Mental Representation and Alethic Joints	
	Conference on Consciousness, Meaning, Understanding; Kerala, India	Jan 2024
	Workshop on Alien Structure, Uppsala	May 2024
	Workshop on Idealism, Rationalism, and Explanation; UBC, Vancouver	Sept 2024
	Colloquia, Visva-Bharati University; Santiniketan, India	Dec 2024
	Science in the Time of Covid	
	Presentation at Covid Policy Workshop, Princeton University	April 2023
	Explanation for Anti-Realists	T 2022
	Conference on "Metaphysical Explanation: Theory, Applications, and Prospects",	June 2022
	Tel Aviv University (by zoom)	
	Obligation of New Con Nation	
	Objectivity as a Normative Notion	1.6 2022
	Workshop on Normative Realism, New York University	May 2022
	Seminar, Tel Aviv University	July 2022
	Colloquia, UC Irvine	Oct 2022
	Colloquia, UC Santa Cruz	Oct 2022
	Colloquia, UC Davis	Feb 2023
	Metaphysics on the Mountain Conference	March 2023
	Colloquia, Stanford University	April 2023
	Colloquia, Simon Fraser University	Sept 2023
	Colloquia, Harvard University	Nov 2023
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	The Semantics and Metaphysics of Quantities	_
	Colloquia, University of Bristol, Philosophy of Science group (by zoom)	March 2022
	Undoing the Truth Fetish: A Path to Pragmatism	
	Workshop on "Normativity in Philosophy", Hamburg	Aug 2018
	Colloquia, University of Wisconsin, Madison	Sept 2018
	Mind and Language Seminar, NYU	Feb 2019
	Colloquia, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	March 2019
	SoCal Metaphysics Network, UC Irvine	Dec 2019
	Steven Humphrey Lecture in Philosophy of Science, UC Santa Barbara	March 2020
	Colloquia, University of Nebraska, Lincoln (by zoom)	Feb 2022
	The Meta-Ethics of AI: Are Machines Beholden to Normative Joints?	_
	Colloquia, UT Austin	March 2018
	Conference on "Ethical Issues: Theoretical and Applied", Bled, Slovenia.	June 2018
	Keynote talk, University of Virginia Philosophy Department annual retreat.	Sept 2018
	Invited talk, Center for Human Friendly AI (CHAI) annual workshop.	May 2019
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Invited talk, workshop on Humanizing Machine Intelligence, Australian National University.	Aug 2019
Normative Non-Naturalism and the Problem of Authority The Aristotelian Society, London	June 2017
How To Be Authentic  Keynote address at the APA Pacific Meeting Pre-Conference: Themes in  Transformative Experience	April 2017
Physical Salience and Autonomy: Could Spacetime be an Emergent Phenomenon? Space and Time After Quantum Gravity project, UI Chicago	Nov 2016
Realism and the Absence of Value Colloquia, UNC Chapel Hill University of California, San Diego University of Ohio, Columbus Stanford University Conference on Kant and Metaphysics, University of Toronto	Sept 2016 Sept 2017 Oct 2017 Jan 2018 April 2018
Qualitativism and Haecceitism Conference on "Haecceitism and Individuals", University of Neuchatel	Aug 2016
Constitutive Explanation After Carnap Conference on "Metaphysics After Carnap", Leeds University	June 2016
Symmetry Principles: Why Use Them? Where Do They Lead? Conference on "Structure in Metaphysics", Oxford University	May 2016
Comments on John Roberts' "Comparativism and Absolutism About Quantities: Two Unsuccessful Arguments"  APA Pacific Division Meeting	April 2016
How To Be A Relationalist Colloquia, National Autonomous University of Mexico Physics as Metaphysics Workshop, Brown University Logic and Metaphysics Workshop, CUNY Metro Area Philosophers of Science (MAPS) Philosophy of Science Association, Invited Symposium Conference on Grounding and its applications, NC State University	March 2016 Nov 2015 Nov 2015 Nov 2015 Nov 2018 Sept 2019
Comments on Elizabeth Miller's "Local Qualities" Ranch Metaphysics Workshop	Jan 2016
Essentialism and the Nonidentity Problem ELLMM series, Yale University Colloquia, UCLA Colloquia, Cornell University Colloquia, CUNY	Sept 2015 May 2015 Nov 2014 Oct 2014
Structuralism and the Limits of Possibility  Keynote lecture, third annual Irvine-Pittsburgh-Princeton conference on the Mathematical and conceptual foundations of physics University of California, Berkeley Columbia University Workshop on Metaphysics and Philosophy of Physics, Rochester University Workshop on the Logic of Ground, Oslo	March 2015  Jan 2015  Jan 2015  Sept 2014  June 2014

Inexpressible Ignorance	
Workshop on Robert Pasnau's Metaphysical Themes: 1274-1671	Feb 2015
Jowett Society, Oxford	May 2014
Conference on "Metaphysics", Columbia University Metaphysics on the Mountain conference, organized by Boise State University	April 2014 March 2014
Colloquia, University of Syracuse	Nov 2013
Empirical Rationalism	- 110 / 10 - 10
Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University	May 2014
Workshop on metaphysics, University of Syracuse	Nov 2013
Metaphysical Rationalism	
Conference on "Explanation in Metaphysics", University of Neuchatel	June 2013
Colloquia, MIT Colloquia, University of Rochester	Nov 2012 Nov 2012
Carolina Metaphysics Workshop	June 2012
Comments on L.A. Paul's "The Dynamic Ontology of Phenomenal Character"	Jan 2013
Ranch Metaphysics Conference	jan 2013
The Possibility of Physicalism	
Conference on "The Philosophy of Kit Fine", NYU	Jan 2013
Colloquia, Dartmouth University	Jan 2013
Pacific APA, Invited Symposium on Fundamentality (given under title "The Status Of Ground")	April 2011
Status Of Ground	
Symmetry as an Epistemic Notion (Twice Over)	Sept 2012
Conference on Structuralism, Bristol University	
Comments on Katia Vavova's "Confidence, Evidence, and Disagreement" Pacific APA	April 2012
Structuralism as a Grounding Thesis	Feb 2011
Ontological Dependence Workshop, Bristol University	
Absolutism vs. Comparativism About Quantities	
Jowett Society, Oxford University	Jan 2011
Leeds University	Jan 2011
California State University, Los Angeles	Nov 2010
On the Planelite of Consumb	
On the Plurality of Grounds	
Albritton Society, UCLA	Dec 2010
	Dec 2010 Sept 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood"	
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin	Sept 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood"  Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference	Sept 2010 Aug 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood"	Sept 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference  Comments on Anthony Eagle's "Location and Multiple Location" Carolina Metaphysics Workshop  Comments on James Ladyman's "Structuralism and the Ontology of Quantum	Sept 2010 Aug 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference  Comments on Anthony Eagle's "Location and Multiple Location" Carolina Metaphysics Workshop  Comments on James Ladyman's "Structuralism and the Ontology of Quantum Mechanics"	Sept 2010 Aug 2010 July 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference  Comments on Anthony Eagle's "Location and Multiple Location" Carolina Metaphysics Workshop  Comments on James Ladyman's "Structuralism and the Ontology of Quantum Mechanics" Conference on "Philosophical Issues in Cosmology, Quantum Theory, and Time",	Sept 2010 Aug 2010 July 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference  Comments on Anthony Eagle's "Location and Multiple Location" Carolina Metaphysics Workshop  Comments on James Ladyman's "Structuralism and the Ontology of Quantum Mechanics"	Sept 2010 Aug 2010 July 2010
Albritton Society, UCLA "Because II" conference, Berlin  Comments on Ted Sider's "Against Parthood" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference  Comments on Anthony Eagle's "Location and Multiple Location" Carolina Metaphysics Workshop  Comments on James Ladyman's "Structuralism and the Ontology of Quantum Mechanics" Conference on "Philosophical Issues in Cosmology, Quantum Theory, and Time",	Sept 2010 Aug 2010 July 2010

	Symmetry and the Undetectable University of Pittsburgh University of Iowa Yale University Barnard College, Columbia University of Texas, Austin University of Southern California Claremont College Simon Fraser University	Feb 2009 Feb 2009 Feb 2009 Feb 2009 Feb 2009 Jan 2009 Jan 2009 Jan 2009
TEACHING	Graduate Teaching	
	PHIL 290 Pragmatism UC Berkeley	Spring 2021
	PHIL 295 Dissertation Seminar UC Berkeley	AY 2019-20
	PHIL 200 First Year Seminar UC Berkeley; co-taught with John MacFarlane	Fall 2018
	PHIL 290 Why is there anything except physics? UC Berkeley; co-taught with Geoffrey Lee	Spring 2018
	PHI 540 Metaphysics Princeton University; co-taught with Boris Kment	Fall 2015
	PHI 599 Dissertation Seminar Princeton University	Fall 2014
	PHI 531 Philosophy of Science: Symmetry, Structure, and Spacetime Princeton University	Spring 2014
	PHI 540 Metaphysics: Medieval, Early Modern, and Contemporary Work on Substance Princeton University; co-taught with John Morrison (Barnard College, Columbia)	Spring 2013
	PHI 540 Hyperintensional Metaphysics Princeton University; co-taught with Boris Kment	Spring 2011
	PHI 540 Metaphysics: The Structure of the Physical World Princeton University	Fall 2009
	Undergraduate Teaching	
	PHIL 100 Philosophical Methods UC Berkeley	Fall 2022
	PHIL 128 Philosophy of Science UC Berkeley	Fall 2022
	PHIL 100 Philosophical Methods UC Berkeley	Fall 2021
	PHIL 128 Philosophy of Science UC Berkeley	Fall 2020
	PHIL 5 Science and Human Understanding	Fall 2020

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PHIL 128 Philosophy of Science UC Berkeley	Spring 2020
PHIL 5 Science and Human Understanding UC Berkeley	Spring 2020
PHIL 100 Philosophical Methods UC Berkeley	Fall 2019
PHIL 100 Philosophical Methods UC Berkeley	Spring 2019
PHIL 125 Metaphysics UC Berkeley	Spring 2019
PHIL 128 Philosophy of Science UC Berkeley	Spring 2018
PHIL 5 Science and Human Understanding UC Berkeley	Fall 2017 Fall 2018
PHI 321 Philosophy of Science Princeton University	Spring 2016
FRS 187 Philosophical Analysis Using Argument Maps Princeton University; co-taught with Simon Cullen	Fall 2014
PHI 203 Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology Princeton University	Spring 2014
PHI 318 Metaphysics Princeton University	Fall 2013
PHI 201 Introductory Logic Princeton University	Fall 2012
PHI 321 Philosophy of Science Princeton University	Spring 2012
PHI 203 Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology Princeton University	Fall 2011
PHI 201 Introductory Logic Princeton University	Spring 2011
PHI 203 Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology Co-taught with Gideon Rosen	Fall 2009
To the department	
Equity Advisor UC Berkeley	Fall 2018- ongoing
Search Committee (chair) UC Berkeley	Fall 2022 Fall 2020 Fall 2019

	Fall 2017
Target of Opportunity Committee (chair) UC Berkeley	Fall 2016
Placement Committee UC Berkeley	Fall 2016
Director of Placement Princeton University	2015-16
Placement Committee Princeton University	2013-14
Climate Committee Princeton University	2011-13
Colloquia Committee Princeton University	2010-11
To the university	
Graduate Council UC Berkeley	2017-19
To the profession	
Associate Editor, Nous	2016- ongoing
Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Editorial Board Co-editor for Metaphysics	2018- ongoing
Pacific APA Program Committee	2017-19
Article Referee  Analysis  Australasian Journal of Philosophy British Journal for the Philosophy of Science Canadian Journal of Philosophy Ergo Erkennsis European Journal of Analytic Philosophy Foundations of Physics Inquiry International Studies in the Philosophy of Science Journal of Philosophy Mind Nous Oxford Studies in Metaphysics Pacific Philosophical Quarterly Philosophy Compass Philosophical Quarterly Philosophical Quarterly Philosophical Review	

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**Book Referee** Oxford University Press

## **Grant Referee**

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