

## BENJAMIN P. KOZUCH

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[Website](#)

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION** Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Mind  
**AREAS OF COMPETENCE** Logic, Neuroethics, Normative Ethics, Philosophy of  
Psychiatry, Philosophy of Science

### PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Alabama 2015-present  
Adjunct Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Arizona 2013-2015

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Arizona, Cognitive Science minor May 2013  
M.A., Philosophy, University of Arizona May 2010  
B.A., English, Penn State University, Economics minor May 1993

### PUBLICATIONS

- “Consciousness and mental causation: Contemporary empirical cases for epiphenomenalism,” forthcoming in *Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of Consciousness* ([Link](#))
- “The received method for ruling out brain areas from being NCC undermines itself,” *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 2015 ([Link](#))
- “Dislocation, not dissociation: The neuroanatomical argument against visual consciousness driving motor action,” *Mind and Language*, 2015 ([Link](#))
- “Correlation, causation, constitution: On the interplay between the science and philosophy of consciousness,” (with Uriah Kriegel), *The Constitution of Consciousness*, (Ed., Miller, S.), 2015 ([Link](#))
- “Free will, moral responsibility, and mental illness,” (with Michael McKenna), *Philosophy and Psychiatry: Problems, Intersections and New Perspectives* (Eds. Gala, G. & Moseley, D.), 2015
- “Prefrontal lesion evidence against higher-order theories of consciousness,” *Philosophical Studies*, 2014 ([Link](#))
- “Review of *Consciousness as a Scientific Concept*, Elizabeth Irvine,” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 2014 ([Link](#))
- “Awareness of unawareness: Folk psychology and introspective transparency,” (with Shaun Nichols), *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 2011

## AWARDS

Riesen Prize, Best Graduate Student Paper, University of Arizona Phil. Dept. (2011)  
Cognitive Science Fellowship (Spring 2007, Fall 2009)

## ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

“Gorillas in the missed (but not the unseen): Reevaluating evidence for attention being necessary for consciousness”

“Illusory illusions: Is it the world or experience that is misrepresented in visual illusions?”

“No pain, no gain (in Darwinian fitness): Finally, a candidate for what pain represents”

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Reports of the Death of Dual Visual Systems Theory Have Been Greatly Exaggerated”  
Science of Consciousness Conference. Tucson AZ, April 2016

“Gorillas in the missed (but not the unseen): Reevaluating evidence for attention being necessary for consciousness”

Mississippi Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Starkville MS, March 2016

“No pain, no gain (in Darwinian fitness): Finally, a candidate for what pain represents”

Tulane University Philosophy Colloquium, New Orleans LA, February 2015

University of Alabama Philosophy Colloquium, Tuscaloosa AL, January 2015

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Charleston SC, February 2014

“Report skepticism in a science of consciousness”

University of Arizona Philosophy Colloquium Series. Tucson AZ, November 2013

Toward a Science of Consciousness. Tucson AZ, April 2012

“Results of lesions to the prefrontal cortex cast doubt on higher-order theories of consciousness”

Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Boulder CO, June 2012

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Savannah GA, April 2012

University of Arizona Philosophy Colloquium Series. Tucson AZ, November 2010

Toward a Science of Consciousness. Tucson AZ, April 2010

“Does visual form agnostic DF use unreportable conscious experiences to direct her motor actions?”

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. New Orleans LA, February 2011

Texas Tech Graduate Student Conference. Lubbock TX, April 2010

Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference. Salt Lake City UT, March 2010

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“Using eliminative methodology to find the neural correlates of phenomenal consciousness”

Cognitive Science Brown Bag. Tucson AZ, November 2009

The CUNY Cognitive Science Symposium. New York NY, November 2009

“Consciousness is involved in motoric action, sort of”

Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference. Tucson AZ, April 2008

Mind, Language, and Cognitive Science Conference. Western Ontario CA, June 2008

## COURSES TAUGHT

### *Instructor*

PHIL 462: Neural Basis of Consciousness

PHIL 450: Philosophy of Mind

PHIL 347: Neuroethics (*online and in-person*)

PHIL 346: Cognitive Science

PHIL 345: Philosophy and Psychiatry

PHIL 305: Philosophy of Science (*online and in-person*)

PHIL 260: Mind and Nature

PHIL 214: Consciousness and Cognition

PHIL 210: Moral Thinking

PHIL 202: Symbolic Logic

PHIL 110: Logic and Critical Thinking (*online and in-person*)

PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy

### *Teaching Assistant*

PHIL 346: Cognitive Science

PHIL 150A: Perspectives on the Individual

TRAD 104: Intro to Ancient Philosophy

INDV 101: Intro to Philosophy

## DISSERTATION

**Title:** *Merging the Philosophical and Scientific Studies of Consciousness*

**Committee:** Uriah Kriegel (chair), Terence Horgan, Shaun Nichols, Mary Peterson

**Abstract:** This dissertation aims to forge mutually beneficial connections between the philosophical and neuroscientific studies of consciousness. The first chapter uses brain lesion data to evaluate higher-order theories (like those of William Lycan and David Rosenthal), arguing that lesions to frontal, executive parts of the brain fail to produce the kind of deficits we would expect, were some higher-order theory true. The second chapter argues that the oft-defended philosophical thesis that visual consciousness drives skilled motor action is belied by the neuroanatomy of the visual system. More specifically, there appears to be no visual brain area producing representations that both are conscious and

feed into motor action. The third chapter points out a problem faced by neuroscientific research into consciousness, arguing that the possibility of there being mental states both phenomenally conscious and inaccessible (like those described by Ned Block) means that we might never accomplish the ultimate goal of this research, that of finding the neural natural kind of consciousness.

## SERVICE

<b>Referee:</b>	<i>Philosophical Psychology</i>	Fall 2016, Summer 2016
		Summer 2015, Fall 2013
	<i>Philosophy and the Cognitive Sciences</i>	Summer 2015, Spring 2015
	<i>Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews</i>	Spring 2014, Fall 2009
	<i>Philosophy of Science</i>	Spring 2013
	<i>Society for Psychology and Philosophy</i>	Spring 2012
	<i>The Constitution of Consciousness</i> (anthology)	Spring 2012

## Session Chair:

*Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference*, University of Arizona (April 2010, April 2012)

*Conference on Phenomenal Intentionality*, University of Arizona (November 2008)

## REFERENCES

Terence Horgan

Professor of Philosophy, University of Arizona

[thorgan@email.arizona.edu](mailto:thorgan@email.arizona.edu)

Uriah Kriegel

Research Director, Jean Nicod Institute

[theuriah@gmail.com](mailto:theuriah@gmail.com)

Michael Mckenna (Teaching reference)

Keith Lehrer Chair of Philosophy, University of Arizona

[msmckenna63@gmail.com](mailto:msmckenna63@gmail.com)

Shaun Nichols

Professor of Philosophy, University of Arizona

[sbn@email.arizona.edu](mailto:sbn@email.arizona.edu)

Mary Peterson

Professor of Psychology, University of Arizona

[mapeters@u.arizona.edu](mailto:mapeters@u.arizona.edu)

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

### *Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Mind*

Moral Psychology (Nichols & Timmons, audited)  
Seminar on Intentionality (Kriegel, audited)  
Consciousness (Kriegel, audited)  
Seminar on Free Will (Nichols)  
Neuropsychology (Ryan)  
Philosophy and Psychology (Nichols)  
Philosophy of Mind (Kriegel)  
Visual Cognition (Peterson)  
Philosophy and Cognitive Science (Pollock)  
Computational Intelligence (Co-taught)  
Perception (Bogdan, at Tulane University)

### *History, M & E, Value Theory*

Decision Theory (Schmidtz)  
Ancient Ethics (Annas)  
Philosophy of Science (Lavine)  
Metaethics (Timmons)  
Seminar on David Hume (Owen)  
Epistemology (Pollock)  
Metaphysics (Ismael)  
Analytic Philosophy (Reimer)  
Aesthetics (Lehrer)