

Eric D. Berg, Ph.D.

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Current Position: Postdoctoral Fellow at Florida Atlantic University

Center Director: Susan Schneider

In a dual appointment to the College of Sciences - Psychology Department - and the Center for the Future of AI, Mind & Society I am researching the different mechanisms acting upon beliefs formed through online environments, with a special emphasis on user exposure to politically charged chat-bots and other automated content. This research is being conducted through social surveys where the survey participants have interactions with an LLM embedded into the survey itself.

Areas of Specialization:

Philosophy of Technology (AI Ethics)
Radicalization and Extremism
Propaganda Studies

Areas of Competence:

Philosophy of Language
Social and Political Epistemology
Africana Philosophy

Education:

Ph.D. Philosophy (2024)
University of Connecticut
Major Advisor: Michael Lynch

Thesis: "Hacking Reality: Propaganda and Epistemology
in Online Environments"

Masters Philosophy (2020)
University of Connecticut

Masters Philosophy (2016)
University of Chicago
Advisor: Micheal Kremer

Bachelors (2014)
University of Minnesota
Advisor: Roy T. Cook

Publications:

- (Forthcoming) Eric D Berg and Michael Lynch, "The Epistemic Harms of Cyberprop." In *Vices of the Mind: Mis/Disinformation and Other Epistemic Pathologies*, Cambridge University Press.
- Eric D Berg and Roy T. Cook, "The Propositional Logic of Frege's *Grundgesetze*: Semantics & Expressiveness." *Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy* 5.6 (2017).

Conferences and Presentations:

- Commentary paper for the "Slurring Terms" session at the APA - Pacific. (2025)
- "Hacker-Propaganda and Three Issues with Generative AI," *Mindfest* conference, Florida Atlantic University.
- "Gamer Communities And Online Propaganda: The Philosophical account of Gamer-gate's Cyber-propaganda," *AFK in Florida* conference, Florida Atlantic University. (2025)
- "The Hacker-Propagandist Approach to Online Radicalization," welcome talk at the Center for Future Mind, Florida Atlantic University. (2024)
- "Propagandists as Hackers," invited speaker for the PhilMod Research Group speaker series. (2024)
- Invited Participant for the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute's workshop on White Supremacy, Wellness Culture, and Womanhood (2024)

- “Propaganda as Hacking,” *Varieties of Misinformation* workshop at the University of Valencia, Spain. (2023)
- “Propaganda as Act and Process,” UCONN Philosophy Graduate Student Association’s *Bleen Bag* conference. (2023)
- “On Redpilling and Conspiracy,” Filolab’s *Polarization and Social Change* workshop at the University of Granada, Spain. (2022)
- “Logical Revenge and Privilege,” panel presentation on Neoliberal Concepts in Everyday Culture at the Popular Culture Association/ACA National Conference in Washington D.C. (2018)
- “New Epistemic Real-Idealism,” Minnesota Philosophical Society’s undergraduate conference at Normandale Community College. (2010)

Public Philosophy and Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecture, “Conspiracies and Hostile Epistemic Environments,” for Dr Garrett Mindt’s Introduction to Philosophy courses (2 courses) (2025)
- Presentation to the Philosophy Club at FAU, “Propaganda, Social Hacking, and Bad Faith Communication.” (2025)
- TEDxDelray Beach talk, “Online Propaganda and the Responsibility Gap” (2025) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAjK1oNZmAU>
- “Defining Horror: Epistemic, Cultural, or Value Violations,” FAU’s Philosophy Department Halloween Event. (2024)
- Guest lecture, “Conspiracies and Bullshit,” Dr Garrett Mindt’s Introduction to Philosophy course. (2024)
- Guest lecture, “Cyberspace, Tactical Algorithms, and Epistemic Agency,” for Dr. Maya Dworsky-Rocha’s Introduction to Cultural Anthropology course. (2020 and 2021)
- Podcast, “Anarchism,” *Tent Talks* with Dr. Cody Turner (episode 53) (2020)
- Presentations to the Undergraduate Philosophy Society at UCONN: Anarchism (2019) and Online Propaganda (2021)

Teaching and Academic Positions:

Courses Taught (Instructor of Record)

- Contemporary Issues in Computer Science and Engineering (UCONN, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)
- Philosophy and Social Ethics (UCONN, Summer 2021, 2023)
- Ethics (MassBay, Fall, 2019)
- Critical Thinking (MassBay, Spring 2018)

Teaching Assistant (UCONN):

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Philosophy and Logic | • Non-western/Comparative Philosophy |
| • Philosophy and Social Ethics | • Foundations of Cognitive Science |

Graduate Assistant: University of Connecticut Humanities Institute (UCHI)

Fall 2022 - Spring 2024

UCHI is an interdisciplinary research institute with year long research fellowships for internal and external scholars. Selected roles and duties;

- Facilitated grant funded speaker series for the Virtual International Consortium for Truth Research (VICTR) for the 2022 and 2023 academic years, and the Social Epistemology Working Group (SEW) for 2023.
- Collected, organized, and analyzed data on the research production of current and former fellows for administration reports and institute publications.
- Coordinated hybrid online/in-person events including the conference on Truth and Politics in 2022, VICTR's summer conference 2023, and weekly fellows presentations.

Research Assistant for Dr. Mitch Green

Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Other Positions:

- University of Minnesota (Twin Cities): Course Grader
Spring 2016
- Logic Tutor for Undergraduate Logic Students at the University of Minnesota:
Summer 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015

Service:

- UCONN Philosophy Department Climate Committee - Graduate Student Representative (2022-2024)
- Graduate Employee Union (UAW Local 6950)
Sergeant-at-Arms (2022-2024)
Steward (2020-2022)
- Philosophy Graduate Student Association (PGSA) - Treasurer (2020)

Honors and Achievements:

- Recognition for diversity in a syllabus, UCONN Philosophy Department Climate Committee (2021)
- Recognition for Teaching Excellence based on student surveys, UCONN College of Liberal Arts (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2021)
- Honorary Undergraduate Fellow: Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science (MCPS) (Fall 2014, Spring and Summer 2015)
Fellowship at MCPS for undergraduates is reserved for those invited by a full professor.
- Undergraduate Member of the Foundations Interest Group (FIG) at the Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science (MCPS) (Fall 2014, Spring and Summer 2015)

Other Skills:

L^AT_EX-Typesetting

Qualtrics Survey Platform

Open Source Investigation

References:

Susan Schneider

William F. Dietrich Distinguished Professor of Philosophy
Founding Director, Center for the Future of AI, Mind & Society (AIMS)
Florida Atlantic university
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Micheal Lynch

Provost Professor of the Humanities
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University of Connecticut
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Lewis Gordon

Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Global Affairs
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Lynne Tirrell

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University of Connecticut
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