

廖顯禕 Shen-yi Liao / CV

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Research Interests

primary cognitive science & philosophy of mind; social philosophy (esp. racism); aesthetics
secondary bioethics; experimental philosophy; classical Chinese philosophy; philosophy of language

Academic Positions

2024– *Professor*, University of Puget Sound
2023–2024 *Visiting Faculty Fellow*, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University
2018–2024 *Associate Professor*, University of Puget Sound
2016–2018 *Assistant Professor*, University of Puget Sound
2014–2015 *Marie Curie International Incoming Fellow*, University of Leeds
2013–2015 *Assistant Professor*, Nanyang Technological University
2011–2013 *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Kansas State University

Education

2011 PhD, Philosophy, University of Michigan
2005 BA, Philosophy, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

Publications

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

in press N. Hansen* and S. Liao*, “[Measuring Conceptual Inflation: the Case of ‘Racist’](#)”, *Ergo: An Open Access Journal of Philosophy*.
in press S. Liao* and N. Hansen*, “[Conceptual Inflation](#)”, *EurAmerica*.
in press S. Liao, “[Environmental Microaggressions in Medicine](#)”, *Journal of Medical Ethics*.
2023 S. Liao* and V. Carbonell*, “[Materialized Oppression in Medical Tools and Technologies](#)”, *American Journal of Bioethics* 23(4): 9–23.

* = (co-)lead and/or equal authorship

- 2023 S. Liao* and N. Hansen*, “Extremely Racist’ and ‘Incredibly Sexist’: An Empirical Response to the Charge of Conceptual Inflation”, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 9(1): 72–94.
- 2022 D. Friedell* and S. Liao*, “How Statues Speak”, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 80(4): 444–452.
- 2021 S. Liao* and B. Huebner, “Oppressive Things”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 103(1): 92–113.
- 2021 S. Liao, “Bittersweet Food”, *Crítica* 53: 71–93.
- 2021 S. Liao, “Diverse Philosophies: (What) Are They? (What) Do We Want Them To Be?”, *The Philosophers’ Magazine* 93(2): 64–70.
- 2021 F. Cova*, B. Strickland*, ..., S. Liao, ..., “Estimating the Reproducibility of Experimental Philosophy”, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology* 11: 9–44.
- 2020 S. Liao*, A. Meskin*, and J. Knobe*, “Dual Character Art Concepts”, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 101(1): 102–128.
- 2020 S. Liao*, A. Meskin*, and J. Fletcher, “The Vanity of Small Differences: Empirical Studies of Extrinsic Factors and Artistic Value”, *Aesthetic Investigations* 4(1): 412–427.
- 2018 A. Meskin* and S. Liao*, “Experimental Philosophical Aesthetics as Public Philosophy”, in S. Réhault and F. Cova (eds.), *Advances in Experimental Philosophy of Aesthetics*, 309–326.
- 2017 S. Liao* and A. Meskin*, “Aesthetic Adjectives: Experimental Semantics and Context-Sensitivity”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 94(2): 371–398.
- 2017 M. Krishnamurthy*, S. Liao*, M. Deveaux*, and M. Dalecki*, “The Underrepresentation of Women in Prestigious Ethics Journals”, *Hypatia* 32(4): 928–939.
- 2016 S. Liao*, L. McNally, and A. Meskin, “Aesthetic Adjectives Lack Uniform Behavior”, *Inquiry* 59(6): 618–631.
- 2016 S. Liao, “Are Philosophers Good Intuition Predictors?”, *Philosophical Psychology* 29(7): 1004–1014.
- 2016 S. Liao, “Imaginative Resistance, Narrative Engagement, Genre”, *Res Philosophica* 93(2): 461–482.
- 2014 S. Liao* and T. Doggett*, “The Imagination Box”, *The Journal of Philosophy* 111(5): 259–275.
- 2014 S. Liao*, N. Strohming, and C. S. Sripada, “Empirically Investigating Imaginative Resistance”, *British Journal of Aesthetics* 54(3): 339–355.
- 2014 S. Liao, “Explanations: Aesthetic and Scientific”, *Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement* 75: 127–149.
- 2014 S. Liao, “Collective *De Se* Thoughts and Centered Worlds”, *Ratio* 27(1): 17–31.
- 2014 J. S. Phillips*, S. Nyholm, and S. Liao, “The Good in Happiness”, in T. Lombrozo, S. Nichols, and J. Knobe (eds.), *Oxford Studies in Experimental Philosophy* 1, 253–293.
- 2013 S. Liao* and S. Protasi*, “The Fictional Character of Pornography”, in H. Maes (ed.), *Pornographic Art and the Aesthetics of Pornography*, 100–118.
- 2013 S. Liao, “Moral Persuasion and the Diversity of Fictions”, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 94(3): 269–289.
- 2012 S. Liao, “What Are Centered Worlds?”, *The Philosophical Quarterly* 62: 294–316.

OVERVIEWS, COMMENTARIES, ETC.

- 2024 E. S. Mikalonytė, R. Doran, and S. Liao*, “[Experimental Philosophy of Art and Aesthetics](#)”, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
- 2024 S. Liao* and V. Carbonell*, “[Oppressive Medical Objects and Spaces: Response to Commentaries](#)”, *American Journal of Bioethics* 24(4): W13–W18.
- 2024 S. Liao, “[The Art of Immoral Artists](#)”, in C. Fox and J. Saunders (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy and Media Ethics*, 193–204.
- 2023 J. Shim* and S. Liao, “[Ethics and Imagination](#)”, in J. Harold (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Ethics and Art*, 709–727.
- 2022 S. Liao, “[Parks and Recreation](#)”, *APA Studies on Feminism and Philosophy* 22(1): 3–7.
- 2021 V. Carbonell* and S. Liao, “[Materializing Systemic Racism, Materializing Health Disparities](#)”, *American Journal of Bioethics* 21(9): 16–18.
- 2019 S. Liao* and T. S. Gendler, “[Imagination](#)”, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
- 2018 S. Liao* and A. Meskin, “[Morality and Aesthetics of Food](#)”, in A. Barnhill, M. Budolfson, and T. Doggett (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Food Ethics*, 658–679.
- 2016 A. Ichino*, K. Miyazono*, and S. Liao*, “[Imagination and Belief](#)”, in D. Pritchard (ed.), *Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy*.
- 2016 K. Miyazono* and S. Liao*, “[The Cognitive Architecture of Imaginative Resistance](#)”, in A. Kind (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Imagination*, 233–246.
- 2016 T. S. Gendler and S. Liao*, “[The Problem of Imaginative Resistance](#)”, in J. Gibson and N. Carroll (eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Literature*, 405–418.
- 2015 F. Cova*, A. Garcia, and S. Liao, “[Experimental Philosophy of Aesthetics](#)”, *Philosophy Compass* 10(12): 927–939.
- 2011 S. Liao* and T. S. Gendler, “[Pretense and Imagination](#)”, *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science* 2(1): 79–94.

Recent-ish Talks on Unpublished Works (2022–)

- 2025 may S. Liao* and N. Hansen*, “Reclaiming Slurs Over (Apparent) Time”
EPITHETS & STAL-2025 Workshop, University of Genoa
- 2024 apr S. Liao, “The Right to Play”
Undergraduate Philosophy Conference [keynote], Southern Utah University
2024 apr *Philosophy Department Colloquium*, Union College
2022 jun *Social Justice and E-Cognition: Paths Forward*, Online
- 2023 dec S. Liao* and J. Holroyd, “Material Praise”
Remembering Injustice Symposium, Nanyang Technological University
- 2023 sep S. Liao, “Thermoreception and the Aesthetics of Food”
Food Justice, Aesthetics, and Morality Workshop, Hamilton College
- 2023 mar S. Liao, “The Right to Not Be Imagined?”
Pacific American Philosophical Association Meeting, San Francisco

Honors and Grants

2025	<i>Faculty Research Grant</i> , University of Puget Sound
2023	<i>University Center of Human Values Visiting Fellowship</i> , Princeton University
2022	<i>Faculty Research Grant</i> , University of Puget Sound
2021	<i>Bartanen Faculty Research Award</i> , University of Puget Sound
2020	<i>Burlington Northern Curriculum Development Grant</i> , University of Puget Sound
2019	<i>Undergraduate Philosophy Workshop Mentor</i> , Princeton University
2018	<i>Faculty Research Grant</i> , University of Puget Sound
2017	<i>Philosophy Summer Institute Speaker</i> , American Society of Aesthetics
2016	<i>Trimble Asian Studies Professional Development Grant</i> , University of Puget Sound
2014–2015	<i>Marie Curie Fellowship</i> , European Commission [with Aaron Meskin]
2014	<i>Connections Grant</i> , British Society of Aesthetics [with Aaron Meskin]
2014	<i>Cultural and Creative Industries Exchange Ignite Grant</i> , University of Leeds
2005–2011	<i>Rackham Merit Fellowship</i> , University of Michigan
2009	<i>Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant</i> , University of Michigan
2005	<i>Jacob Cooper Award in Philosophy</i> , Rutgers University

Teaching

UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

2025 spring	Topics in Knowledge and Reality: Critical 4E Cognition	
2018 fall	Topics in Knowledge and Reality: Philosophical Methodology	
2024 fall	Philosophy of Cognitive Science	[every other year]
2019 fall	Philosophy of Language	
2022 fall	Race and Philosophy	[every other year]
2025 spring	Classical Chinese Philosophy	[every year]
2025 spring	Basics of Bioethics	[every year]
2023 spring	Formal Logic	[every other year]
2020 fall	Moral Philosophy	
2024 fall	Ethics in Practice	
2022 fall	Language, Knowledge, and Power	[every year]
2017 fall	Introduction to Philosophy	

PEDAGOGY DEVELOPMENT

2022–2023	<i>Recentering the Curriculum Across the University</i> , University of Puget Sound
2018 summer	<i>Writing Pedagogy Workshop</i> , University of Puget Sound
2010 winter	<i>Graduate Teacher Certificate</i> , University of Michigan

Service

PROFESSION

- 2018– (Associate) Editor, *Philosophers' Imprint*
2018– Area Editor, *Ergo*
2020– Editorial Board, *British Journal of Aesthetics*
2011– Referee, Oxford University Press (2x); Routledge; *Analysis* (5x); *American Philosophical Quarterly* (4x); *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (6x); *British Journal of Aesthetics* (4x); *Debates in Aesthetics*; *Dialogue*; *Ergo* (7x); *Estetika*; *Ethics* (2x); *Ethical Perspectives*; *European Journal of Philosophy*; *Feminist Philosophical Quarterly*; *Hypatia*; *Inquiry* (3x); *Journal of American Philosophical Association* (3x); *Journal of Applied Philosophy* (2x); *Journal of Moral Philosophy*; *Journal of Social Philosophy*; *Journal of World Philosophies*; *Mind* (4x); *Mind and Language* (2x); *Philosophers' Imprint* (2x); *Philosophical Explorations*; *Philosophical Papers* (2x); *Philosophical Psychology* (10x); *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (3x); *Philosophy Compass* (2x); *Res Philosophica*; *Semantics and Pragmatics* (4x); *Soochow Journal of Philosophical Studies*; *Teorema*; *The Philosophical Quarterly* (5x); *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* (3x); *Thought* (2x); *Translation Studies*; Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme; Research Foundation Flanders (2x); Kansas Philosophical Society; Society for Philosophy and Psychology (2x)
2010–2022 Leaf Editor, *PhilPapers*
2023 MA Thesis Examiner, Ryan Timms (University of Kwazulu-Natal)
2022 MA Thesis Examiner, Bing-cheng Huang (National Taiwan University)

UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

- 2024 Summer Research Advisor, Alysiana Sar (“Fetishization of Asian Women in Video Games”)
2021 Summer Research Advisor, Hannah Stockton (“The Role of Thought in Enactivism”)
2019 Honors Thesis Advisor, Samantha Lilly (“Epistemic Injustice and Suicidality”)
2020– Faculty Advisory Board, Gender and Queer Studies
2019– Faculty Advisory Board, Neuroscience
2018– Faculty Advisory Board, Asian Studies
2018– Faculty Advisory Board, Bioethics
2017– Advisor, Asian Student Club
2021–2024 Member, Susan Resnick Pierce Lectures Committee
2017– Chair, Brown and Haley Lectures Committee
2024– Member, University Enrichment Committee
2022–2023 Member, Faculty Committee on Academic Standards
2020–2021 Member, Faculty Committee on Student Life
2018–2019 Member, Faculty Committee on the Use of Student Evaluations
2017–2018 Member, Faculty Committee on Diversity
2019–2020 Member, Faculty Advisory Board on Student Accessibility and Accommodation
2016–2019 Program Committee, Race and Pedagogy Conference