

Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts  
University of Chicago  
Gates-Blake Hall  
5845 S Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60637  
osultanescu@uchicago.edu

ALEXANDRA-OLIVIA SULTANESCU

*Curriculum Vitae*  
September 2020

#### EDUCATION

PhD in Philosophy (April 2019), York University  
Dissertation title: *Semantic Scepticism and the Possibility of Meaning*  
Committee: Claudine Verheggen (chair), Henry Jackman, Kristin Andrews, William Child (external examiner)

MA in Philosophy (June 2011), York University

BA in Philosophy (June 2008), University of Bucharest

#### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind, Donald Davidson

#### AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics, Epistemology, Logic, Ethics

#### EMPLOYMENT

September 2019 – August 2023: Harper-Schmidt Fellow in the Society of Fellows & Collegiate Assistant Professor in the Humanities Division, University of Chicago

#### EDITED COLLECTIONS

2020 *Book Symposium: Donald Davidson's Triangulation Argument* (Editor), *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review*, vol 59 (2).

#### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

2019 "Davidson's Answer to Kripke's Sceptic." Co-authored with Claudine Verheggen. *The Journal for the History of Analytic Philosophy* vol 7 (2): 8-28. <https://doi.org/10.15173/jhap.v7i2.3487>.

2015 "Bridging the Gap: A Reply to Hutto and Satne." *Philosophia* vol 43 (3): 639–649. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11406-015-9625-3>.

2013 “Are Apes’ Responses to Pointing Gestures Intentional?” Co-authored with Kristin Andrews.  
*Humana.Mente Journal of Philosophical Studies* 24: 53-77.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO VOLUMES

- 2020 “Meaning, Evidence, and Objectivity.” Forthcoming in *Donald Davidson on Action, Mind and Value*, edited by Syraya Chin-mu Yang and Robert Myers. Springer (Logic in Asia: Studia Logica Library).
- 2020 “Introduction.” *Book Symposium: Donald Davidson’s Triangulation Argument. Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review*, vol 59 (2), 157-164. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0012217320000116>.
- 2020 “Introduction.” (French version) *Book Symposium: Donald Davidson’s Triangulation Argument. Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review*, vol 59 (2), 165-173. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0012217320000190>.

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “The Possibility of Meaning.” *Weissbourd Fall Symposium 2019* (Panel: Meaningful images, meaningless language?), 18 October 2019, University of Chicago
- “Contenus Sémantiques et Interactions Triangulaires.” *Congrès international triennal 2018 de la Société de Philosophie Analytique* (Table ronde: *Variétés de non-réductionnisme: sémantique et moral*), 2-5 July 2018, Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium)
- “In Defence of the Coherence of the Semantic Sceptic.” *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress 2018*, 4-7 June 2018, Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada)
- “Ginsborg’s Solution to Kripke’s Problem.” *9<sup>th</sup> European Congress in Analytic Philosophy*, 21-26 August 2017, Munich (Germany)
- “Ginsborg’s Solution to Kripke’s Problem.” *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress*, 28-31 May 2017, Ryerson University, Toronto (Canada)
- “Meaning Facts, Natural Facts, and Normativity.” *Congrès international triennal 2015 de la Société de Philosophie Analytique* (Table ronde: *Intentionnalité, Normativité, Réductionnisme*), 17-20 June 2015, Montreal (Canada)
- “Some Reflections on the Natural Origins of Content.” *The Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division)*, 1-4 April 2015, Vancouver (Canada)
- “Must the Constitutive Question Receive a Substantive Answer?” *Perspectives on Intentionality* (conference organized under the auspices of the project *Representationalism or Anti-representationalism? Perspectives on Intentionality from Philosophy and Cognitive Science* supported by the Norwegian Research Council), 23-26 September 2014, Vinstra (Norway)
- “Primitive Normativity and Justification.” *Cracow Workshop in Analytic Philosophy: Normativity of Meaning, Belief, and Knowledge*, 4-6 June 2014, Cracow (Poland)
- “Normativité et Dispositions.” *Congrès de la Société de Philosophie du Québec* (Symposium: *La normativité : découverte ou invention?*), 12-15 May 2014, Concordia University, Montreal (Canada)
- “Is There Genuine Intentionality in Perception? An Examination of Burge’s View.” *7<sup>th</sup> Latin Meeting in Analytic Philosophy*, July 1-3, 2013, Institut Jean Nicod, Paris (France)
- “Animal Consciousness and The Second Person Perspective.” *Animal Pain and Consciousness Workshop*, January 11, 2013, York University (Canada)
- “Are Apes’ Responses to Pointing Gestures Intentional?” *From Grooming to Speaking: Recent Trends in Social Primatology and Human Ethology*, September 10-12, 2012, University of Lisbon (Portugal).
- “On Reading Minds.” *Minding Animals Conference*, July 4-6, 2012, Utrecht University (The Netherlands)
- “Do Animals Have Beliefs?” *Minding Animals Conference*, July 4-6, 2012, Utrecht University (The Netherlands)
- “Concepts, Judgments and Normativity.” *Animal Cognition: Behavioral Studies and Theory Formation*, June 28-30, 2012, Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Germany)

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Ontario Graduate Scholarship (International), 2013-2014, 2015-2016, 2016-2017  
Graduate Student Stipend, *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, 2015  
Liberal Arts and Professional Studies (LA&PS) International Study Abroad Award, York University, 2012  
Best Presentation Award, *From Grooming to Speaking: Recent Trends in Social Primatology and Human Ethology*,  
September 10-12, 2012, University of Lisbon (Portugal)  
International Tuition Fee Scholarship, York University, 2010-2011, 2011-2017  
Graduate Entrance Scholarship, York University, 2010-2011, 2011-2012  
Elizabeth Bentham Prize (for the highest score in the comprehensive examination on core theoretical  
philosophy), 2011  
Undergraduate Scholarship, University of Bucharest, 2005-2008

## TEACHING

### UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities (Autumn 2019, Winter 2020, Spring 2020)

### YORK UNIVERSITY

Philosophy of Language (Course director), Winter 2016  
Introduction to Logic (Teaching assistant to prof. Judy Pelham), Fall 2018  
The Meaning of Life (Teaching assistant to prof. Muhammad Ali Khalidi), Winter 2018  
Minds, Brains, and Machines (Teaching assistant to prof. Muhammad Ali Khalidi), Winter 2017  
Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz (Teaching assistant to prof. David Jopling), Fall 2016  
Introduction to Philosophy of Mind (Teaching assistant to prof. Kristin Andrews), Fall 2015  
Introduction to Ethics (Teaching assistant to prof. Julie Allen), Winter 2015 & Summer 2015  
Introduction to Logic (Teaching assistant to prof. Julie Allen), Fall 2014  
Perception, Knowledge, and Causality (Teaching assistant to prof. Claudine Verheggen), Fall 2012, Winter &  
Summer 2013  
The Meaning of Life (Teaching assistant to prof. Henry Jackman), Summer 2012  
Introduction to Philosophy (Teaching assistant to prof. Brian Huss), Fall 2011 & Winter 2012

## GRADUATE COURSES (\* AUDITED)

Seminar: Donald Davidson's Triangulation Argument\* (Claudine Verheggen & Robert Myers)  
Research Seminar (Jagdish Hattiangadi & Robert Myers)  
Research Seminar (Claudine Verheggen & Alice MacLachlan)  
Issues in Contemporary Metaethics: Internal and External Reasons\* (Robert Myers)  
Metaphysics of Science: Reduction and Emergence\* (Muhammad Ali Khalidi)  
Philosophy of Action: Anscombe and Davidson\* (Robert Myers)  
Philosophy of Language: Wittgenstein and Davidson on Language and Thought\* (Claudine Verheggen)  
Philosophy of Mind: Mechanistic Explanation\* (Muhammad Ali Khalidi)  
Philosophy of Psychology: Tyler Burge's *Origins of Objectivity*\* (Jacob Beck)  
Philosophy of Cognitive Science: Folk Psychology\* (Kristin Andrews)  
Topics in Philosophy of Language: The Normativity of Meaning (Claudine Verheggen)  
Directed Reading: The Nature of Perceptual Content (Claudine Verheggen)  
Major Problems in the Philosophy of Mind: The Self (David Jopling)  
Philosophy of Cognitive Science: Animal Minds (Kristin Andrews)  
Seminar in Twentieth Century Continental Philosophy: Simone de Beauvoir (Lorraine Code)

Major Figures in the Philosophy of Language: Donald Davidson's Theory of Meaning (Claudine Verheggen)  
Philosophy of Science: The Nature of Mathematical Reasoning (Jagdish Hattiangadi)  
Philosophical Logic: Logical Pluralism (Judy Pelham)  
Introduction to Wittgenstein (Christopher Campbell)  
Core Practical Philosophy (Alice MacLachlan & Michael Giudice)  
Core Theoretical Philosophy (Muhammad Ali Khalidi & Christopher Campbell)  
History of Analytic Philosophy (Judy Pelham)

#### RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

September 2018 – December 2018

Research assistant to Prof. Alice MacLachlan for her project *Civility and Solidarity*, funded by a Social Science & Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Grant.

January 2017 – August 2017

Editorial assistant to Prof. Claudine Verheggen for her edited volume *Wittgenstein and Davidson on Language, Thought, and Action*, published by Cambridge University Press in October 2017.

July 2017 – August 2017

Research assistant to Prof. Alice MacLachlan for her project *Civility and Solidarity*, funded by a Social Science & Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Grant.

September 2013 – August 2014

Research & editorial assistant to Prof. Kristin Andrews for her book *The Animal Mind: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Animal Cognition*, published by Routledge in October 2014.

June 2011 – May 2012

Research & editorial assistant to Prof. Alice MacLachlan for her co-edited volume *Justice, Responsibility and Reconciliation in the Wake of Conflict*, published by Springer in December 2012.

#### SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Organizer of a symposium dedicated to the volume *Donald Davidson's Triangulation Argument: A Philosophical Inquiry*, by Robert Myers and Claudine Verheggen, at the *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress 2018*, 4-7 June 2018, Université de Québec à Montréal (Canada).

Co-organizer of York University Graduate Conferences in Philosophy:

*The Legacy of Donald Davidson*, 27-28 April 2017

*Reductionist and Anti-Reductionist Perspectives on Normativity*, 23-24 April 2015

*Naturalistic Approaches to Action, Mind, and Value*, 24-25 April 2014.

Referee for *Synthese*, *The Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Theoria*, *Dialogue*, *The International Journal for the Study of Scepticism*.

#### LANGUAGES

French, Romanian (native)