

Robert M. Kelly ♦ *Curriculum Vitae*

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Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Medicine (Addiction), Metaphysics (Free Will), Bioethics

Areas of Competence

Action Theory, Applied Ontology, Critical Thinking, Logic, Ethical Theory, Experimental Philosophy

Education

Ph.D., Philosophy | University at Buffalo | June 2021

Thesis: “Understanding Addiction”

Committee: David Hershenov (Chair), Barry Smith, Neil Williams

M.A., Philosophy | University at Buffalo | September 2016

Thesis: “The Foundationalism in Environmental Pragmatism”

B.A., Philosophy (*cum laude*) | California State University, Northridge | June 2014

Honors Thesis: “Are the Folk (In)Compatibilists? Free Will and Experimental Philosophy”

Academic Work Experience

Bakersfield College | Department of Philosophy

Assistant Professor (IT), September 2022-Present

Adjunct Instructor, August 2021-May 2022

University College London | Centre for Behaviour Change

Applied Ontology Consultant, Human Behaviour Change Project, September 2021-January 2022

Massachusetts Institute of Technology | Lincoln Laboratory

Applied Ontology Consultant, DOD-Funded Contract, August 2020-September 2021

Daemen College | Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Adjunct Instructor, September 2018-December 2018

University at Buffalo | Department of Philosophy

Graduate Instructor, September 2015-July 2018

Graduate TA/RA, September 2014-May 2019

Courses Taught (*online also, †online only)

Bakersfield College

PHIL B6a: Introduction to Philosophy*

PHIL B7: Introduction to Logic

PHIL B9: Critical Thinking and Advanced Composition*

PHIL B10: Introduction to Ethics*

PHIL B12: Ethics of Living and Dying*

PHIL B35: Identity and Diversity in a Shared World

MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Introduction to Applied Ontology Lecture Series† (co-taught)

Daemen College

PHI 321: Medical Ethics

University at Buffalo

PHI 107: Introduction to Ethics*

PHI 237: Social and Ethical Values in Medicine*

Publications

- [1] **Robert Kelly** (2022). Towards a dispositionalist (and unifying) account of addiction. *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*. ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [2] **Robert Kelly**, Janna Hastings, and Robert West (2022). How an addiction ontology can unify competing conceptualizations of addiction. In N. Heather, M. Field, A. Moss, and S. Satel (Eds.), *Evaluating the brain disease model of addiction* (pp. 483-495). Routledge. ([Info from Publisher](#))
- [3] Stephen Kershner and **Robert Kelly** (2022). Responsibility-foundation: Still needed and still missing. *Science, Religion and Culture*. ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [4] David Kasmier, Eric Merrell, **Robert Kelly**, Barry Smith, Curtis Heisey, Donald Maki, Marc Brittain, Ronald Ankner & Kevin Bush (2021). Ontology of Plays for Autonomous Teaming and Collaboration. *Proceedings of the 14th Seminar on Ontology Research in Brazil* (OntoBras). ([Access at OntoBras](#))
- [5] Eric Merrell, **Robert Kelly**, David Kasmier, Barry Smith, Marc Brittain, Ronald Ankner, Evan Maki, Curtis W. Heisey & Kevin Bush (2021). Benefits of realist ontologies to systems engineering. *Proceedings of the 8th International Workshop on Ontologies and Conceptual Modelling* (OntoCom). ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [6] Eric Merrell and **Robert Kelly** (2021). Improving biomedical data by improving the Information Artifact Ontology. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Biomedical Ontologies 2021* (ICBO 2021), pp. 70-73. ([Access from ICBO Page](#))
- [7] Stephen Kershner and **Robert Kelly** (2020). The right-based criticism of the doctrine of double effect. *International Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 34(2), 215-233. ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [8] **Robert Kelly**, David Limbaugh, and Barry Smith (July 2020). Review of: Ontologies relevant to behavior change interventions. *Wellcome Open Research*, 5(126), 1-12. ([Access from WOR](#))
- [9] Stephen Kershner and **Robert Kelly** (August 2019). Rights and consent in mixed martial arts. *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport*, 47(1), 105-120. ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [10] **Robert Kelly** and Barry Smith (September 2018). Commentary on Bozzi's Untimely Meditations on the Relation Between Self and Non-self. In I. Bianchi & R. Davies (Eds.), *Paolo Bozzi's experimental phenomenology* (pp. 125-129). Routledge. ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [11] David Limbaugh and **Robert Kelly** (March 2018). Libet and freedom in a mind-haunted world. *American Journal of Bioethics Neuroscience*, 9(1), 42-44. ([Access on PhilPapers](#))
- [12] Claire White, **Robert Kelly**, and Shaun Nichols (January 2016). Remembering past lives. In H. De Cruz & R. Nichols (Eds.), *Advances in religion, cognitive science, and experimental philosophy* (pp. 169-195). Bloomsbury.

Applied and Interdisciplinary Experience**Research Affiliate | National Center for Ontological Research Lab | January 2020 - Present**

Member of *Addiction Working Group* contributing to the development of an Addiction Ontology through the use and extension of existing biomedical ontologies ([NCOR Lab Homepage](#))

Research Affiliate | Romanell Center for Clinical Ethics & the Philosophy of Medicine | 2014 - Present

Member of Autonomy, Addiction, and Accountability working group and regular participant in annual conference as well as monthly blog discussions, lectures, and workshops ([Romanell Homepage](#))

Research Collaborator | AddictO Addiction Ontology | Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

Collaborating with Janna Hastings and Robert West to develop and extend the AddictO ontology initiative aimed at facilitating the management and synthesis of addiction-relevant research and data stemming from various disciplines/fields ([AddictO Homepage](#))

Volunteer Researcher | UB Research Institute on Addictions | October 2016 - January 2018

Part of research team studying various aspects of addiction and its treatment – reviewed active RIA clinical studies, conducted literature reviews, attended workshops on addiction and clinical ethics

Graduate Participant | Free Will and Consciousness Summer School, Riga, Latvia | July 2016

Selected from international applicant pool (grads, post-docs, Jr. profs) for two-week summer school organized by the Moscow Center for Consciousness Studies, taught by Derk Pereboom, Leigh Vicens, and Patrick Todd, culminating in a research presentation ([Conference Homepage](#))

Research Coordinator | Cognitive Science of Religion Lab, CSUN | Fall 2013 - Spring 2014

Led a research group on social psychology projects, conducted literature reviews, constructed and delivered experimental surveys, collected and analyzed data, and published a co-authored study ([Lab Homepage](#))

Selected Presentations

- [1] “Reasons-responsiveness in addiction: Some worries and concessions,” *Philosophy Department Colloquium Series*, California State University, Northridge (April 2023)
- [2] “Defining ‘addiction’: Conceptual issues and practical implications,” *Ostapenko Center for Ethics in Medicine and Healthcare Fall Lecture Series*, Niagara University (November 2021)
- [3] “Graded addiction: Why reasons-responsiveness fails the test,” *2021 Romanell Conference on Bioethics and Philosophy of Medicine*, University at Buffalo (November 2021)
- [4] “A Bratman-based account of collaborative behavior,” *Lecture for Collaborative Behavior Ontology Project*, MIT Lincoln Laboratory (virtual, January 2021)
- [5] “Outcomes-based research and the need for an ontology of metacognition” (with Kristin Muller), *Complexity and Cognition: A satellite symposium of the Conference on Complex Systems 2020*, Complex Systems Society (virtual, December 2020)
- [6] “The elephant in the room: Towards a dispositionalist account of addiction,” *Romanell Center for Clinical Ethics and the Philosophy of Medicine Fall 2020 Lecture Series*, University at Buffalo (virtual, November 2020)
- [7] “Lecture 2: The Common Core & common ontology mistakes,” *Lecture Series on Building Ontologies with BFO*, MIT Lincoln Laboratory (virtual, October 2020)
- [8] “Information, intentions, and plans,” *Lecture for Collaborative Behavior Ontology Project*, MIT Lincoln Laboratory (virtual, September 2020)
- [9] “Addiction is not a brain disease,” *Eastern APA* (Poster Session), New York, NY (January 2019)
- [10] “Control and addictive agency,” *Graduate Student Philosophy Conference on Philosophy of Agency*, University of California, Riverside (January 2018)
- [11] “Implicit racial bias and the intrinsicity claim,” *Ethics and Political, Social and Legal Annual Conference*, Center for Cognition and Neuroethics, University of Michigan-Flint (November 2016)
- [12] “The dispositional account of implicit bias,” *Tenth Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress* (Poster Session), University of Colorado, Boulder (August 2017)
- [13] “Wakefield on Lewis on addiction: Who is the real winner?” *2018 Romanell Conference on Bioethics and Philosophy of Medicine*, University at Buffalo (July 2018)
- [14] “Addiction is compatible with determinism, and why this matters,” *Blameless Buffalo? Conference on Free Will and Moral Responsibility*, University at Buffalo (June 2018)
- [15] “Practical philosophy: Getting your hands dirty and cleaning things up,” *IX CSUN Student Philosophy Conference* (Alumnus Keynote), California State University, Northridge (April 2018)
- [16] “Addiction is not a brain disease,” *Romanell Workshop on Bioethics and Philosophy of Medicine*, University at Buffalo (February 2018)

- [17] “Understanding addictive agency: What it is, not how it works,” *Blameless Buffalo? Conference on Free Will and Moral Responsibility*, University at Buffalo (May 2017)
- [18] Comments on “Punishing intentions and neurointerventions” by David Birks and Alena Buyx, *Ninth Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress*, University of Colorado, Boulder (August 2016)
- [19] “The foundationalism within environmental pragmatism,” *Ninth Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (Poster Session)*, University of Colorado, Boulder (August 2016)
- [20] “Manipulation and compatibilism: Why health is not the cure,” *Blameless Buffalo? Conference on Free Will and Moral Responsibility*, University at Buffalo (June 2016)
- [21] “Remembering past lives: Intuitions about memory and personal identity in U.S. spiritual seekers” (with Claire White & Shaun Nichols), *40th Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (Poster Session)*, University of British Columbia (June 2014)

Service and Leadership Roles

Journal Referee: *Addiction; Ethical Theory and Moral Practice; Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology*
 Voting Member, *Curriculum Committee*, Bakersfield College (2022-2024)
 Co-Founder/-Organizer, *Buffalo Undergraduate Philosophy Club*, University at Buffalo (2015-2018)
 Co-Organizer, *Blameless Buffalo?* (free will reading group), University at Buffalo (2015-2018)
 President, *Graduate Philosophy Association (GPA)*, University at Buffalo (2017-2018)
 Member, *Undergraduate Recruitment Committee* (part of GPA), University at Buffalo (2015-2018)
 Co-Organizer, *Buffalo Annual Experimental Philosophy Conference*, University at Buffalo (2015-2018)
 Chair, *Technology and Social Media Committee* (part of GPA), University at Buffalo (2016-2017)
 Temporary Administrative Assistant, *Department of Philosophy*, University at Buffalo (Spring 2016)
 Research Coordinator, *Personal Identity Project*, Cognitive Science of Religion Lab, CSU Northridge (2013-2015)

Grants and Awards

Perry Award for Best Dissertation, Department of Philosophy, University at Buffalo (2020-2021)
 NIH Summer Training Grant in Bioinformatics, University at Buffalo (May 2021 - June 2021)
 Best Non-Ethics Graduate Paper, Department of Philosophy, University at Buffalo (2020-2021)
 Full Tuition Waiver and Living Stipend, University at Buffalo (August 2014 - May 2018)
 Dean’s Scholarship (Additional \$5,000 Yearly Grant), University at Buffalo (August 2014 - May 2018)
 Best Graduate Paper in Ethics, Department of Philosophy, University at Buffalo (2016-2017)
 Department Citizenship Award, Department of Philosophy, University at Buffalo (2016-2017)
 Outstanding Graduate TA/RA, University at Buffalo (2016-2017)
 Philosophy Department Award for Outstanding Student, CSU Northridge (2012-2013)
 Best Student Paper, Philosophy Department Colloquium, Bakersfield College (2011)
 Philosophy Department Award for Outstanding Student, Bakersfield College (2010-2011)