

## Catherine S. Sutton

Department of Philosophy  
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### Academic Employment

Virginia Commonwealth University  
Associate Professor, 2016–present  
Assistant Professor, 2008–2016  
Moravian College, Visiting Assistant Professor, 2007–2008

### Education

Ph.D. in philosophy, University of Virginia, 2008  
Dissertation: *Objects and Their Parts*; Advisor: Trenton Merricks  
M.A. in philosophy, Texas A&M University, 2002  
B.A. in philosophy, Asbury University (Wilmore, Kentucky), 1998

**Area of Specialization:** Metaphysics

**Areas of Competence:** Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology,  
Ancient Greek and Medieval Philosophy, Modern Philosophy, Logic

### Publications

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Sutton, C. S. "Reducing Constitution to Composition," *Metaphysica* 23, no. 1 (2022): 81–94.

Sutton, C. S. "Almost One, Overlap, and Function," *Analysis* 75, no. 1 (2015): 45–52.

Sutton, C. S. "Against the Maximality Principle," *Metaphysica* 15, no. 2 (2014): 381–390.

Sutton, C. S. "The Supervenience Solution to the Too-Many-Thinkers Problem," *Philosophical Quarterly* 64, no. 257 (October 2014): 619–639.

Sutton, C. S. "Colocation, Tally-Ho: A Solution to the Grounding Problem," *Mind* 121, no. 483 (July 2012): 703–730.

#### Book Review

Sutton, C. S. Review of *Persons, Animals, Ourselves*, by Paul Snowdon, *Philosophical Quarterly* 66, no. 263 (April 2016): 429–432.

### **Research-Level Talks**

"Parity Arguments in Ontology"

- Virginia Philosophical Association, October 2021

"On Substance Sortals and Human Beings"

- Texas A&M University Davenport Memorial Lecture, April 2018

"Reducing Constitution to Composition"

- American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, January 2017

"Can a Part Be as Big as the Whole?"

- Amherst College, Lecture in the Series "Perspectives on Identity," February 2016

"The Supervenience Solution to the Too-Many-Thinkers Problem"

- Young Philosophers Lecture Series, SUNY Fredonia, March 2014
- Theistic Metaphysics and Naturalism Conference (SCP Eastern Div.), October 2013
- University of Virginia's Blandy Farm Colloquium, October 2013

"Against the Maximality Principle"

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

"A Person and a Mass of Matter: A Story of Two Objects in the Same Place at the Same Time"

- Virginia Philosophical Association, October 2009
- International Conference on Persons, University of Nottingham, August 2009

"Colocation, Tally-Ho: A Solution to the Grounding Problem"

- Saint Louis University, February 2008
- Virginia Commonwealth University, January 2008
- University of Virginia's Blandy Farm Colloquium, September 2007

"Can Two Things Exist in the Same Place at the Same Time?"

- State University of New York, New Paltz, January 2008
- Moravian College, April 2007

"Why Composition Is Not Identity"

- Metaphysics Without Apology (conference in honor of E. J. Lowe), University at Buffalo, April 2006

"The Clay and the Copper: A Critique of Burke's Metaphysics of One Object to a Place"

- Syracuse University Graduate Student Conference, March 2002
- Midsouth Philosophy Conference, February 2002

### **Introductory-Level Talks**

"Personal Identity," VCU Philosophy Club, September 2020 and October 2021

"Will You Have a Body and a Soul in the Afterlife?" Scholé House, January 2019

"The Self Defined," Episode of the Brainwaves Podcast

"Can Two Things Exist in the Same Place at the Same Time?"

- Young Philosophers Lecture Series, SUNY Fredonia, March 2014
- Berglund Seminar Series, VCU Honors College, February 2014

"A Philosophical History of Belief in an Afterlife"

- VCU Religious Studies Society, Fall 2009

"Empiricism, Skepticism, and Hume's Legacy"

- Cory Brown's Poetics class, Ithaca College, April 2006

### **Comments (Invited, Prepared Responses to Conference Papers)**

On David Pitt's "Objects and Their Phases"

Metaphysics on the Mountain Conference, July 2020

On A. Arturo Javier-Castellanos's "Two 3D Cohabitants Are One Too Many Thinkers"

American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division meeting, March 2018

On Irem Kurtosal's "Modally Plenitudinous Endurantism"

American Philosophical Association, Central Division meeting, February 2015

On Joungbin Lim's "Are We Essentially Animals?"

American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division meeting, December 2012

On Joungbin Lim's "A Dilemma for the Eliminativist Ontology for Brains"

Virginia Philosophical Association, October 2010

On Ivan Welty's "Singularity and Identity of Persons"

International Conference on Persons, University of Nottingham, August 2009

On Kevin Feagan's "The Death of JTB [Justified, True Belief]"

Yale & UConn Graduate Philosophy Conference, November 2007

On Matthew Flamm's "Rival Naturalisms? Prelude to an Analysis of the Aesthetic Treatment of Human Individuality in the Work of George Santayana and John Dewey"

Midsouth Philosophy Conference at the University of Memphis, February 2002

### **Teaching**

Virginia Commonwealth University

Metaphysics (2009–2011, springs 2014–2016, 2021; falls 2016–2021)

Logic (springs 2014–2020, 2022; falls 2021–2022)

Philosophy of Mind (fall 2022)

Ancient & Medieval Western Philosophy (2008–2012, falls 2013–2020, spring 2021)

Epistemology (falls 2012, 2013, 2014, spring 2018–2020)

Senior Seminars: The Meaning of Life (spring 2022); The Nature of Persons (fall 2015, spring 2017); Freedom of the Will (fall 2008)

Faith & Life Sciences, co-taught with Anthony Ellis (springs 2011, 2012)

Directed Independent studies: Causation (2012); Personhood (2017); Ontology (2018); Ontology (2020)

Moravian College

Modern Philosophy (fall 2007)

Introduction to Philosophy (2 sections, fall 2007)

Metaphysics (spring 2008)

Logic (spring 2008)

Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (spring 2008)

Directed independent study on free will (spring 2008)

Previous Courses Taught

Augustine and Descartes: Philosophy in the First Person (Cornell Univ., spring 2007)

Academic Writing II: Issues in Death & Dying (Ithaca College, 6 classes, 2005–2006)

Introduction to Philosophy (University of Virginia, summer 2004)

Intro. to Academic Writing: Western Attitudes toward Death (Univ. of Virginia, 2 classes, 2003–2004)

### **Other Work Experience**

Editor, Wesleyan Publishing House (Indianapolis, Indiana), 1998–2000

### **Department Service**

Philosophy Search Committee, 2022 (search chair), 2019–2020, 2019 (search chair), 2018–2019, 2017–2018 (2 searches), 2016–2017 (2 searches, chair for one), 2014, 2012–2013

Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2022

Third-Year Review Committees, 2022, 2020

Philosophy Department Webmaster, 2009–2020

Philosophy Club Advisor, 2012–2013, 2010–2011

Art Committee, 2021–2022

Advising for a dozen to twenty philosophy majors per year, 2008–2013

### **College and University Service**

Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund (HEETF) committee member, 2010–present

Learning Management System Committee, 2019–2020

Catalyst Awards Ranking Panel, 2018

P&T Committee Member for Mathematics, Fall 2017, Fall 2021

Undergraduate Academic Committee, College of Humanities and Sciences, Fall 2015

Member of Sandra Burke's dissertation committee (Media, Art, and Text), May 2014

Reader, William Kinney Thompson's M.A. thesis committee (mathematics), May 2012

Reader, Nisreen Bukhary's M.A. thesis committee (mathematics), May 2010

### **Professional Service**

Virginia Philosophical Association President (2018), Vice-President (2017), Secretary (2016)

Panel member for the journal *Thought* (2015–present)

Referee for the following journals: *Acta Analytica* (2019, 2015), *Analysis* (2020, 2018, 2017), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2020, 2015), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (2019), *Dialectica* (2013), *Ergo* (2018), *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy* (2016), *Journal of Philosophical Research* (2015, 2014), *Journal of Philosophy* (2021, 2018), *Neuroethics* (2017), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (2016, 2015), *Philosophia: Philosophical Quarterly of Israel* (2019, 2015, 2014), *Philosophical Papers* (2016), *Philosophical Quarterly* (2020, 2014), *Philosophical Studies* (2017, 2014), *Res Philosophica* (2021), *Southern Journal of Philosophy* (2020), *Synthese* (2018, 2016)

Judge for High School Ethics Bowl, Virginia (2016–present)

Chair of APA session on Identity and Intention, Eastern Division Meeting, January 2022, Baltimore, MD

Chair of APA session on Intuition and Perception, Eastern Division Meeting, January 2016, Washington, DC

Chair of APA session on Masses, Central Division Meeting, April 2011, Minneapolis, MN