

Jorge Morales

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RESEARCH AREAS

Perception, Attention, Metacognition, Consciousness, Philosophy of Psychology & Neuroscience

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2019–2021 Provost’s Postdoctoral Research Fellow
 Johns Hopkins University
- 2018– Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Psychological and Brain Sciences Department
 Chaz Firestone’s Perception & Mind Laboratory
 Johns Hopkins University

EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D., Philosophy, Columbia University
 Committee: John Morrison (chair), Christopher Peacocke, Elliot Paul, Wayne Wu
 & Hakwan Lau
 Dissertation: *The Strength of the Mind: Essays on Consciousness and Introspection*
- 2010 M.A. (with honors), Philosophy, UNAM
 Thesis: *Animal Cognition and Non-Conceptual Contents*
- 2006 B.A. (with honors), Philosophy, Universidad Panamericana

VISITING POSITIONS AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS

- 2014-15 Visiting Academic, Center for Neural Science, NYU. Sponsor: Steve Fleming
- 2011-2018 Affiliate, Hakwan Lau’s Consciousness & Metacognition Lab. Columbia University
(2011-2014) & UCLA (2014-2018)
- 2009 spring Visiting Student, Department of History & Philosophy of Science / Center for the
Integrative Study of Animal Behavior, Indiana University, Bloomington. Sponsor:
Colin Allen
- 2008-2010 Associate Student, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, UNAM

GRANTS

2018-2019 Summer Seminars in Neuroscience and Philosophy (SSNaP), \$30,000
 Duke University: Philosophy Department & Institute for Brain
 Sciences. “The Functions of Consciousness: On the Initiation of
 Action” (co-PI with Megan Peters, Brian Maniscalco, Brian Odegaard)

AWARDS

2019 Best Poster Prize, Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting
 2017 Travel Award for the Logic and Cognitive Science Initiative Conference on Higher-
 Order Cognition, North Carolina State University, NC
 2014 David H. Siff Philosophy of Science Essay Award, Columbia University
 2011 Philosophy Master’s Thesis National Award, Mexican Association of Philosophy
 2009 National Essay Prize “Reading Science for Everyone,” Fondo de Cultura Económica
 Publishers (Biology category)
 2007 Philosophy Undergraduate Thesis National Award · Mexican Association of
 Philosophy (runner-up)

FELLOWSHIPS

2019-2021 Johns Hopkins University Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellowship (NIH-level salary +
 \$10,000 for research and professional development)
 2016-2018 John Kluge Fellowship, Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program
 2011-2015 Doctoral Fellowship, CONACYT
 2010-2016 Doctoral Fellowship, Columbia University
 2009 Fellowship for studying one semester abroad, UNAM/CONACYT
 2008 Summer Research Fellowship, Mexican Academy of Sciences
 2007-2009 M.A. Fellowship, UNAM/CONACYT
 2002-2006 Undergraduate Scholarship, Universidad Panamericana

PUBLICATIONS

Preprints

- MORALES, J. & Lau, H. (2020) [Confidence Tracks Consciousness](#)
 [Forthcoming as a book chapter in *Qualitative Consciousness: Themes from the Philosophy of David Rosenthal*, Josh
 Weisberg (Ed.), Cambridge University Press.]
- Maniscalco, B., Graham Castaneda, O., Odegaard, B., MORALES, J., Rajananda, S. & Peters, M.
 (2020) [The Metaperceptual Function: Exploring Dissociations Between Confidence and Task
 Performance with Type 2 Psychometric Curves](#). *PsyArXiv*.

3. MORALES, J., Odegaard, B. & Maniscalco, B. (2019) [The Neural Substrates of Conscious Perception without Performance Confound](#). *PsyArXiv*.
[Forthcoming as a book chapter in *Anthology in Neuroscience and Philosophy*, Felipe De Brigard & Walter Sinnott-Armstrong (Eds.), MIT Press.]

Articles

4. MORALES, J., Bax, A. & Firestone, C. (2020) [Sustained Representation of Perspectival Shape](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(26): 14873-14882.
5. Phillips, Ian & MORALES, J. (2020) [The Fundamental Problem with No-Cognition Paradigms](#). *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 24(3): 165-167.
You can read Ned Block's response here.
6. Michel, M. & MORALES, J. (2020) [Minority Reports: Consciousness and the Prefrontal Cortex](#). *Mind & Language* 35: 493-513.
This paper was featured in the Brains Blog's Mind & Language Symposium on December 2019 with commentaries by Professors Liz Irvine, Benji Kozuch, and Michael Pitts & Kevin Ortego, and our response.
7. MORALES, J., Lau, H., & Fleming, S. (2018) [Domain-general and Domain-specific Patterns of Activity Support Metacognition in Human Prefrontal Cortex](#). *The Journal of Neuroscience*, 38(14): 3534-3546.
8. MORALES, J., Mouradi Y., Sergent C., Block N., Taschereau-Dumouchel, V., Rosenthal, D., Grimaldi, P. & Lau, H. (2017) [Measuring Away an Attentional Confound?](#) *Neuroscience of Consciousness*, 3(1): 1-3.
9. MORALES, J., Chiang, J., & Lau, H. (2015) [Controlling for Performance Capacity Confounds in Neuroimaging Studies of Conscious Awareness](#). *Neuroscience of Consciousness*, 1(1): 1-11.
10. MORALES, J., Solovey, G., Maniscalco, B., Rahnev, D., de Lange, F. P., & Lau, H. (2015) [Low Attention Impairs Optimal Incorporation of Prior Knowledge in Perceptual Decisions](#). *Attention, Perception & Psychophysics*, 77(6): 2021–2036.
11. MORALES, J. (2011). [Animal Reasoning: Negation and Representations of Absence](#). *Revista Argentina de Ciencias del Comportamiento*, 3 (1): 20–33. [*in Spanish*]

Book Chapters

12. MORALES, J. & Lau, H. (2020) [The Neural Correlates of Consciousness](#). In U. Kriegel (Ed.) *Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of Consciousness*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Reviews

13. MORALES, J. (2013). [Review of *Consciousness and Introspection*](#), D. Smithies & D. Stoljar (Eds.), New York, Oxford University Press, 2012. *Metapsychology*, 17(9).

WORK IN PROGRESS

1. Introspection Is Signal Detection * *under review*
2. Mental Strength: The Degrees of Conscious Experience **under review*
3. “You Are My Doctor?!”: Social Stereotypes Impair Recognition of Incidental Visual Features (with Austin A. Baker & Chaz Firestone) **under review*
4. Seeing What’s Not There: The Perception of Absences
5. When the Brain Goes Haywire: Anti-Bayesian Updating in Perception (with Steven Gross and Chaz Firestone), in *Expected Experiences: The Predictive Mind in an Uncertain World*, Tony Cheng and Jakob Howhy (Eds.). (commissioned)
6. Decoding Fear: Advances in Decoded Neurofeedback & Challenges for the Philosopher and the Clinical Psychologist
7. Confidence & Action Initiation: An fMRI project (with Brian Maniscalco, Olenka Castaneda Graham, Brian Odegaard & Megan Peters)

INVITED COLLOQUIA

2020 November	CUNY, Graduate Center	<i>Cognitive Science Speaker Series</i>
2020 October	University of Wisconsin-Madison	<i>Psychology Department</i>
2020 January	Washington U. in St Louis	<i>Philosophy Department</i>
2020 January	Carnegie Mellon University	<i>Philosophy Department</i>
2020 January	Johns Hopkins University	<i>Foundations of Mind Group</i>
2018 November	Sacred Heart University	<i>Philosophy Department Colloquium</i>
2018 November	Sacred Heart University	<i>Critical Thinking Speaker Series</i>
2018 May	NYU	<i>Consciousness Group</i>
2018 March	Johns Hopkins University	<i>Vision Science Seminar</i>
2017 February	University College London	<i>Metacog Lab Meeting</i>
2016 February	Universidad Panamericana	<i>Philosophy Department Colloquium</i>
2015 April	CUNY, City College	<i>Philosophy Club</i>
2014 April	CUNY, Graduate Center	<i>Cognitive Science Speaker Series</i>
2014 March	Universidad de Córdoba	<i>Philosophy Department Colloquium</i>
2013 August	UNAM	<i>Associate Students’ Seminar</i>
2013 August	U. Autónoma Metropolitana	<i>Perceptual Experience Group</i>

- 2019 June Optimizing Matched-Performance, Different-Awareness Stimuli to Experimentally Isolate Awareness from Performance Confounds (with B. Maniscalco [presenter], O. Graham Castaneda, S. Rajananda, B. Odegaard & M. A. K. Peters). Poster at the 23rd Meeting of the *Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness*, Western Ontario University, London, Canada
- 2019 May Does the World Look Flat? Sustained Representation of Perspectival Shapes (with C. Firestone). Talk at the 19th Meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete's Beach, Florida
- 2019 May "You're My Doctor?": Social Stereotypes Impair Recognition of Incidental Visual Features (with A. Baker [presenter] & C. Firestone). Poster at the 19th Meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete's Beach, Florida
- 2017 June Introspection and Mental Strength. Talk at the 43rd Meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2016 June Multivoxel Pattern Analysis Reveals Specific Metacognitive Content in Pre-Frontal Cortex (with H. Lau & S. Fleming). Talk at the 20th Meeting of the *Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness*, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2016 April When Behavior is Not Enough: Reading Monkey Metacognition from the Brain. Poster presentation at the *Rethinking the Taxonomy of Psychology Workshop*, Western Ontario University, London, Canada
- 2014 April Controlling for Performance Capacity When Searching for the Neural Correlates of Consciousness. 30th Annual *Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science: Neurons, Mechanisms, and the Mind*, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado
- 2014 June Metacognition and the Fate of Unattended Stimuli. Poster presentation at the 40th Meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- 2013 April Self-Deception, Epistemic Tension, and Self-Knowledge (with comments by Kathryn Pogin). Talk at the 4th *Northwestern/Notre Dame Epistemology Annual Conference*. Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana
- 2012 April Probability Integration Effects of Attention: Anti-Bayesian Results. Talk at the 4th *Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference on Consciousness*, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts
- 2012 May Violation of Bayesian Cue Integration Principle Under Attentional Cueing (with D. Rahnev [presenter] & H. Lau). Poster at the 12th Meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete's Beach, Florida
- 2010 June Animal Rationality: Negation and Representations of Absence. Talk at the 36th *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon

- 2010 January Animal Rationality and Proto-Logic: The Problem of Negation (with comments by Alvaro Peláez). Talk at the 15th International Conference of the *Mexican Philosophical Association*, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2009 April A Philosophical Case of Misuse of the Animal Psychology Literature. Poster presentation at the 16th Annual *Animal Behavior Conference*, CISAB / Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
- 2008 April Is Animal Perception a Buzzing Blooming Confusion? Talk at the 15th Annual *Animal Behavior Conference*. CISAB / Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
- 2008 June Against the Impossibility of Animal Perception in McDowell's *Mind and World*. Poster presentation at the 34th *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

- 2020 July Interview about my work by Elizabeth Fernandez for her podcast *Spark Dialogue*
- 2020 April London-based artist Cathryn Shilling took the stimuli and fMRI images from my *Journal of Neuroscience* article on metacognition and created a splendid art installation called *Metacognition in Glass*.
- 2018 August Interview about my work by Richard Brown for his YouTube series *Consciousness Live!* also available as a *podcast*
- 2017 January You Can Be in Pain Without Knowing It. Talk at *The Night of Philosophy & Ideas*, Brooklyn Library/French Embassy, New York

MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2020 Selection of media coverage by different news outlets of my *PNAS* paper "Sustained Representation of Perspectival Shape"
- Forbes Magazine* | *Nautilus Magazine* | *The Skeptics' Guide to the Universe* | *Público* (Portuguese National Daily Newspaper) | *El Tiempo* (Colombian National Daily Newspaper) | *ZME Science* | *Futurity*

MENTORING

- 2019 spring Axel Bax (Sophomore), Johns Hopkins. Psychology project internship that resulted in a high-impact co-authored publication in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

TEACHING

2019 spring Independent study with a graduate student in philosophy at *Rutgers University* on Ancient Theories of the Mind.

Columbia University (Instructor)

2016-18 Columbia Journey Seminar, Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program
*** Including curriculum development**

2017 summer Philosophy of Language & Mind

2016 summer Symbolic Logic

Columbia University (Teaching Assistant)

2016 spring Symbolic Logic (Achille Varzi)

2015 fall Methods and Problems of Philosophical Thought (David Albert)

2012 spring Methods and Problems of Philosophical Thought (Jessica Collins)

2011 fall Introduction to Logic (John Morrison)

Universidad Panamericana (Instructor)

2010 spring Philosophy of Perception, Senior Seminar (with L. X. López-Farjeat)

2006-2010 Introduction to Logic; Symbolic Logic; History of Civilization; Business Ethics for Engineers; History of Philosophy (Descartes to Kant & 20th century; online); Mind, Brains & Machines (online)

*** Including curriculum development for all online History of Philosophy Courses and the Philosophy of Mind, Brains & Machines Course**

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Ad Hoc Committees

2019 October Templeton World Charity Foundation, Advisor for the Adversarial Collaboration Project “Empirically Testing First vs Higher-Order Theories of Consciousness”, NYU, New York

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Psychology & Neuroscience: *Trends in Cognitive Sciences, eLife, Psychological Science, NeuroImage: Clinical, Scientific Reports, Neuroscience of Consciousness, Frontiers in Psychology, Revista de Psicología, Revista Argentina de Ciencias del Comportamiento*

Philosophy: *Philosophical Studies, Mind & Language, Philosophy of Science, Inquiry, Philosophical Psychology, Journal of Consciousness Studies, Crítica, Revista de Filosofía, Tópicos, Agora*

Conferences: *Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Minds Online Conference, Columbia-NYU Philosophy Graduate Conference*

Leadership

2014-2015 President: American Association of Mexican Philosophers

Comments & Charing

2019 January Chair, “Symposium: Perceptual Processing and Perceptual Consciousness,” Eastern APA, New York

2016 April On Mark Fortney’s “Attention and the Structure of Action,” Pacific APA, San Francisco, California

2015 March On Brandon Tinklenberg’s “Predictive Coding and the Direction of Attentional Control,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, Louisiana

2013 May On Fermin Fulda’s “An Ecological Account of Natural Normativity,” 6th Annual Conference of the American Association of Mexican Philosophers, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

2013 April On Jack Marley-Payne’s “Against Intellectualist Accounts of Belief,” Columbia-NYU Graduate Conference, NYU, New York

2013 February On Matteo Grasso’s “Integrated Information Theory and the Metaphysics of Consciousness,” 5th Online Consciousness Conference

Conference Organization

2015 Minds Online Conference (Brains Blog). Coordinator of the “Perception & Consciousness” Session

2015 8th Annual Conference of the American Association of Mexican Philosophers, Columbia University, New York. Host/Organizer

2010 Latin American Association of Analytic Philosophy Meeting, UNAM, Mérida, Mexico. Assistant to the President and Student Coordinator

Diversity & Minorities Empowerment

2013-2018 Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Initiative, Columbia University. Mentor

Coordination & Administration

2013-2014 Visual Perception University Seminar, Columbia University. Rapporteur

2012-2014 Consciousness & Metacognition Lab, Psychology Department, Columbia University. Research Assistant Coordinator

2008 *Crítica & Diánoia*, Journals of Philosophy, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, UNAM. Editorial Assistant

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Vision Sciences Society (VSS)

Society for Philosophy & Psychology (SPP)

European Society for Philosophy & Psychology (ESPP)

Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness (ASSC)

Philosophy of Science Association (PSA)

American Association of Philosophy (APA)

American Association of Mexican Philosophers (AAMP)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2019 & 2018 Trainee at Summer Seminars in Neuroscience and Philosophy, Duke University

2019 Brainstorm Bootcamp – EEG Workshop, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

2018 Trainee at CIFAR Winter School on the Neuroscience of Consciousness, Montreal, Canada

LANGUAGES & SOFTWARE

Spanish (native speaker), Italian (proficient), German (basic)

Python, HTML/CSS/JavaScript, MATLAB, Blender

REFERENCES

Psychology & Cognitive Neuroscience

Chaz Firestone
Psychological & Brain Sciences Department
Johns Hopkins University
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Stephen Fleming
Wellcome Centre for Human Neuroimaging
University College London
stephen.fleming@ucl.ac.uk

Hakwan Lau
Department of Psychology
University of California, Los Angeles
hlau@psych.ucla.edu

Philosophy

John Morrison
Department of Philosophy
Columbia University / Barnard College
jmorrison@barnard.edu

Wayne Wu
Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition
Carnegie Mellon University
waynewu@andrew.cmu.edu

Christopher Peacocke
Department of Philosophy
Columbia University
cp2161@columbia.edu

David Rosenthal
Department of Philosophy &
Cognitive Science Program
The Graduate Center, CUNY
davidrosenthal1@gmail.com