

Jorge Morales

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RESEARCH AREAS

PSYCHOLOGY & NEUROSCIENCE

Perception, Attention, Metacognition, Consciousness

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy of Mind; Philosophy of Psychology & Neuroscience; Philosophy of Science

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2022– Assistant Professor
 Department of Psychology & Department of Philosophy
 Northeastern University
- 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
- 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

- 2021 Travel Award Vision Sciences Society Meeting 2021
- 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

1. 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*.

Articles

4. MORALES, J. (Forthcoming) Introspection Is Signal Detection. *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.
5. Morales, J., Bax, A., & Firestone, C. (2021). Perspectival interference up close. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118, e2025440118.
6. MORALES, J., Bax, A. & Firestone, C. (2020) Sustained Representation of Perspectival Shape. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(26): 14873-14882.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.

Book Chapters

13. MORALES, J., Odegaard, B. & Maniscalco, B. (2019) The Neural Substrates of Conscious Perception without Performance Confounds. In Felipe De Brigard & Walter Sinnott-Armstrong (Eds.), *Neuroscience and Philosophy*. MIT Press.

14. MORALES, J. & Lau, H. (2020) Confidence Tracks Consciousness. In Josh Weisberg (Ed.) *Qualitative Consciousness: Themes from the Philosophy of David Rosenthal*. Cambridge University Press.
15. 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

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

INVITED COLLOQUIA

2022 November	University of Wisconsin-Madison	"Big Questions" Speaker Series
2022 September	Yale University	Cognitive & Developmental Speaker Series
2021 March	University of Antwerp	Centre for Philosophical Psychology
2020 November	CUNY, Graduate Center	Cognitive Science Speaker Series
2020 October	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Psychology Department
2020 January	Washington U. in St Louis	Philosophy Department
2020 January	Carnegie Mellon University	Philosophy Department
2020 January	Johns Hopkins University	Foundations of Mind Group
2018 November	Sacred Heart University	Philosophy Department Colloquium
2018 November	Sacred Heart University	Critical Thinking Speaker Series
2018 May	NYU	Consciousness Group
2018 March	Johns Hopkins University	Vision Science Seminar
2017 February	University College London	Metacog Lab Meeting
2016 February	Universidad Panamericana	Philosophy Department Colloquium
2015 April	CUNY, City College	Philosophy Club
2014 April	CUNY, Graduate Center	Cognitive Science Speaker Series
2014 March	Universidad de Córdoba	Philosophy Department Colloquium
2013 August	UNAM	Associate Students' Seminar
2013 August	U. Autónoma Metropolitana	Perceptual Experience Group

INVITED CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP TALKS

2020 September	<i>Mind in Moab Workshop</i> , Moab, Utah [postponed due to COVID-19]
2020 August	<i>Summer Mind Workshop</i> , Columbia University, New York [postponed due to COVID-19]
2019 July	A Signal Detection Theoretical Framework for Introspection. Plenary Symposium, 23 rd Meeting of the <i>Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness</i> , Western Ontario University, London, Canada

- 2019 June Does the World Look Flat? Sustained Representation of Perspectival Shapes. *Predictive Vision Philosophy Workshop*, York University, Toronto, Canada
- 2017 November Domain-specific Patterns of Activity Support Metacognition in Prefrontal Cortex. *Interdisciplinary Metacognition & Uncertainty Workshop*, CUNY, Graduate Center, New York
- 2014 March Reading Monkey Metacognition from the Brain. *Animal Cognition Workshop*, Universidad de Córdoba, Córdoba, Argentina
- 2012 April Consciousness, Attention, and Subjective Reports. (with comments by Carla Merino-Rajme & Carlos Montemayor) 5th Meeting of the *American Association of Mexican Philosophers*, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey
- 2009 April The Nonconceptualist Meets the Animal Psychologist. 2nd Meeting of the *American Association of Mexican Philosophers*, CUNY, City College, New York

CONTRIBUTED CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 July The Perception of Absences (with C. Firestone). Talk at the 46th Meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*.
- 2021 May Attention to Absences (with C. Firestone). Poster at the 21st Meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*.
- 2020 October Eliminating Fear: Challenges for Decoded Neurofeedback, *Neuromatch 3.0*
- 2019 September Does the World Look Flat? Vision Science as Experimental Philosophy (with C. Firestone). Talk at the 27th Meeting of the *European Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Athens, Greece
- 2019 July Does the World Look Flat? Vision Science as Experimental Philosophy. (with C. Firestone) 45th Meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, University of California, San Diego, California
- 2019 July ‘You’re My Doctor?!’: Social Stereotypes Impair Recognition of Incidental Visual Features (with A. Baker & C. Firestone). Poster presentation at the 45th Meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, University of California, San Diego, California
*** Best Poster Prize**
- 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

2020 *Guest Lecturer (Online):*
 U. of Nebraska – Limits of Consciousness (Joseph McCaffrey)
 U. of Kansas – Philosophy & Cognitive Science (Sarah Robbins)
 U. Buenos Aires – Introduction to Cognitive Science (Guillermo Solovey)
 U. Panamericana – Philosophy of Aesthetics (Luis-Xavier López-Farjeat)

2019 spring Graduate level independent study on Ancient Theories of the Mind, *Rutgers University*, Department of Philosophy.

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, Ágora*

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

Leadership

2021-2024 Executive Committee Member: Society for Philosophy and Psychology

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 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

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)

