

Dr. Steven M. Levine

Curriculum Vitae

Philosophy Department
University of Massachusetts, Boston
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Academic Employment: Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Boston, fall 2014–present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Boston, fall 2008–2014
Visiting Research Fellow, Philosophy Department, The New School for Social Research, fall 2007–spring 2008
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas, fall 2005–spring 2007

Education: The New School for Social Research, Ph.D., Philosophy, May 2005
University of Colorado, Boulder, B.A., Philosophy, May 1995

Areas of Specialty: Pragmatism (Classical and Contemporary)

Areas of Competence: Philosophy of Mind, Critical Theory, German Idealism

- Publications:**
- “Rorty, Davidson, and Representation” in *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Rorty*, ed. A. Malachowski, Wiley-Blackwell Press, forthcoming.
 - “The Principles of Psychology: The Phenomenological Reading,” in *The Oxford Handbook of William James*, ed. A. Klein, Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
 - “Rethinking Sellars’ Naturalism,” in *Responses to Naturalism: From Idealism and Pragmatism*, ed. P. Giladi, Routledge Press, forthcoming.
 - “Comment on Axtell’s *Objectivity*,” in S. F. Aikin (ed.) ‘Symposium on Guy Axtell’s *Objectivity*’, *Syndicate*, <https://syndicate.network/symposia/philosophy/objectivity/>, posted April 17, 2017.
 - “Sellars and Non-Conceptual Content,” *European Journal of Philosophy*, 24 (4), pp. 855-78, Dec. 2016.
 - “Intentionality: Bifurcated or Intertwined?,” *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 24 (4), pp. 551-8, Oct. 2016.
 - “Kantianism and Pragmatism: A Response to Margolis,” *Contemporary Pragmatism*, 13 (1), pp. 118-121, 2016.
 - “Hegel, Dewey, and Habits,” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 23 (4), April 2015, pp. 632-656.
 - “McDowell, Hegel, and Habits,” *Hegel Bulletin*, 36 (2), Oct. 2015, pp. 184-201.

- “Drones: Between Principle and Policy,” in *Opposing Perspectives on the Drone Debate*, ed. B. J. Strawser, Palgrave-Macmillan, 2014.
- “Does James Have a Place for Objectivity?: A Response to Misak,” Symposium on Cheryl Misak’s *The American Pragmatists*, in the *European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy*, Jan. 2014.
- “Norms and Habits: Brandom on the Sociality of Action,” *European Journal of Philosophy*, 23 (2), online May 2012, print edition June 2015, pp. 248–272.
- “Brandom’s Pragmatism,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 48 (2), spring 2012, pp. 125–140.
- “Truth and Moral Validity: Habermas’ Domesticated Pragmatism,” *Constellations*, 18 (2), June 2011, pp. 244–259.
- “Rehabilitating Objectivity: Rorty, Brandom, and the New Pragmatism,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 40 (4), December 2010, pp. 567–589.
- “Habermas, Kantian Pragmatism, and Truth,” *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, 36 (6), July 2010, pp. 677–695.
- “Rorty, Davidson, and the New Pragmatists,” *Philosophical Topics*, 36 (1), 2008, pp. 167–192 (published spring 2010).
- “Expressivism and I-beliefs in Brandom’s *Making it Explicit*,” *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 17 (1), February 2009, pp. 95–114.
- “The Place of Picturing in Sellars’ Synoptic Vision,” *Philosophical Forum*, 38 (3), fall 2007, pp. 247–269.
- “Sellars’ Critical Direct Realism,” *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 15 (1), March 2007, pp. 53–76.
- “The Logical Method of Metaphysics: Peirce’s Meta-critique of Kant’s Critical Philosophy,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 40 (3), June 2004, pp. 457–476.

Edited Works:

- Guest Editor, *Philosophical Topics*, “Pragmatism,” *Philosophical Topics*, 36 (1), 2008 (published spring 2010).
- Editor, *On Heidegger’s Being and Time*, by Reiner Schürmann and Simon Critchley, Routledge, fall 2008.

Other Writings:

- “Drones Threaten Democratic Decision Making,” 3quarksdaily Symposium on Drones, <http://www.3quarksdaily.com/3quarksdaily/2013/02/drones-threaten-democratic-decision-making.html>, posted February 25, 2013, reprinted in *Opposing Perspectives on the Drone Debate*, ed. B. J. Strawser, Palgrave-Macmillan, forthcoming 2014.
- “A Comment on Bilgrami,” Symposium on Akeel Bilgrami’s ‘Occidentalism: The Very Idea,’ <http://3quarksdaily.blogspot.com/3quarksdaily/2008/09/a-comment-on-bi.html>, posted September 8, 2008.
- Introduction to *On Heidegger’s Being and Time*, Routledge, fall 2008.
- “Kant, Freedom, and Evil,” *Southwest Philosophy Review*, July 2007.
- “What Went Wrong?: Nationalism, American Liberalism, and War,” *Radical Society*, March 2006.

- Review of *Present Dangers*, ed. Robert Kagan and William Kristol, *Radical Society*, October 2002 (co-written with Morgan Meis).

Book Reviews:

- Carl Sachs, *Intentionality and the Myths of the Given*, in *Philosophical Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- Chauncey Maher, *The Pittsburgh School of Philosophy: Sellars, McDowell, Brandom*, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/37094-the-pittsburgh-school-of-philosophy-sellars-mcdowell-brandom/>, posted January 23, 2013 (co-written with Jeremy Wanderer).
- R. A. Makkreel and S. Luft, eds., *Neo-Kantianism in Contemporary Philosophy*, in *the Pluralist*, 7 (2), summer 2012.
- Renaud Barbaras, *Desire and Distance: Introduction to a Phenomenology of Perception*, in the *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*, 30 (2), summer 2010.
- Christoph Menke, *Reflections of Equality*, in *Constellations*, 14 (3), September 2007.
- Jürgen Habermas, *Truth and Justification*, in *Constellations*, 12 (3), September 2005.
- Cristina Lafont, *Heidegger, Language, and World-Disclosure*, in the *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*, 23 (2), November 2002.
- Frederick Neuhauser, *Hegel's Social Theory*, in the *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*, 23 (1), January 2002.

Book Project:

I am currently working on a book entitled *Pragmatism, Objectivity, and Experience*. My argument is that the line of new pragmatic thought that runs from Sellars and Quine, through Rorty and Davidson, to Brandom, cannot articulate a satisfactory conception of objectivity because of its flawed theory of experience. Whereas the New Pragmatists think that objectivity is best conceived of in communicative-theoretic terms—meaning in terms that are cashed out by capacities that agents gain through taking part in linguistic communication—I argue that a satisfactory pragmatic account of objectivity must identify a more primitive form of objectivity that is conferred in our perceptual/motor engagement with the world. In this sense, my argument is that the New Pragmatism needs to rehabilitate the Classical Pragmatists rich theory of experience. The book attempts to do this not only by utilizing the insights of the Classical Pragmatists, but also by drawing upon affiliated contemporary work in the Philosophy of Perception, Phenomenology, and Cognitive Science.

Fellowships/Awards:

- Research Fellow, Centre d'études John Dewey, L'école des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, Spring 2015
- Dean's Travel Fund Award, 2011, 2012
- Dean's Fund Award, UMass Boston, spring 2010
- National Humanities Center Summer Fellow, Max Weber Institute, Erfurt, Germany, 2010
- National Humanities Center Summer Fellow, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 2009
- NEH Seminar Fellowship, "Pragmatism, a Living Tradition," 2007

- Hans Jonas Award for Best Dissertation in Philosophy, 2005
- Holocaust Memorial Stipend, September 2003–May 2004
- Dean's Fellowship, September 2002–May 2003
- Dissertation Fellowship, September 2002–May 2003
- Lang Teaching Fellowship, September 2001–January 2001
- University Scholarship, September 1998–May 2001

Presentations:

- “James, *The Principles of Psychology*, and Intentionality,” Workshop on Pragmatism and Phenomenology, University of Waterloo, March 2017.
- Presentation on Dewey’s 1932 *Ethics*, Chapter 17, Workshop on Dewey’s 1932 *Ethics*, Umass Boston, October 2016.
- “Work, Freedom, and Virtue,” Panel Discussion, Oakland Book Festival, Oakland California, May 2016.
- “James and Phenomenology,” The William James Society, Western APA, San Francisco, March 2016.
- “Intentionality: Bifurcated or Intertwined?,” Panel on Sach’s *Intentionality and the Myths of the Given*, Eastern APA, Washington D.C., Jan. 2016.
- “Dewey and the McDowell/Dreyfus Debate,” Inaugural Conference of the New England Pragmatist Forum, Green Mountain College, Vermont, Oct. 2015.
- “Hegel, Dewey, and Habits,” Idealism and Pragmatism: Convergence or Contestation?, Institute for Philosophy, London England, July 2015.
- “Kantianism and Pragmatism: a Response to Margolis,” Summer Institute in American Philosophy, University College Dublin, Dublin Ireland, June 2015.
- “McDowell, Hegel and Habits,” International Congress: Hegel and McDowell in Dialogue, University of Minas Geras, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, May 2015.
- “Sellars’ Naturalism with a Normative Turn: Two Views,” Thinking the Plural: Richard J Bernstein’s Contribution to American Philosophy,” Stony Brook University, September 2014.
- “Prehistory of the Given: James and Lewis,” Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy, Central APA, Chicago, February 2014.
- “Hegel, Habit, and Final Ends,” Response to Terry Pinkard’s *Hegel’s Naturalism: Mind, Nature, and the Final Ends of Life*, author-meets-critics session, Eastern APA, Baltimore, December 2013.
- “Sellars and Non-Conceptual Content,” New England Neo-Pragmatist Reading Group, Boston, March 2013.
- “Sellars and Non-Conceptual Content,” Sellars Centenary Conference and Workshop, Dublin, Ireland, June 2012.
- “Norms and Habits: Brandom on the Sociality of Action,” Wittgenstein Workshop, New School for Social Research, April 2012.
- “The Tenability of Sellars’ Naturalism with a Normative Turn,” Conference on the Normativity of Meaning: Sellarsian Perspectives, Prague International Colloquium, Prague, Czech Republic, May 2011.

- “Dewey, Motivation, and the Speculative Identity of Self and Act,” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Conference, Spokane, Washington, March 2011.
- “Dewey, Motivation, and the Speculative Identity of Self and Act,” Eastern APA Panel Presentation, Boston, December 2010.
- “Action, Sociality, and the Practical Myth of the Given,” SAIS Summer Institute on Action Theory, Max Weber Center for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies, Erfurt, Germany, August 2010.
- Response to “The Upsurge of Spontaneity: The Role and Place of Merleau-Ponty in the Dreyfus-McDowell Debate,” Central APA, Chicago, February 2009.
- “Truth and Moral Validity: On Habermas’ Domesticated Pragmatism” Conference of the Society of European Philosophy, University College, Dublin, Ireland, August 2008, (accepted, not delivered).
- Panel Discussion, “Richard Rorty: an Appreciation,” New School for Social Research, New York, April 2008.
- “Habermas, Moral Validity, and Truth,” Department of Philosophy, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield CT., March 2007.
- “Sellars, Normativity, and the Mind,” NEH Seminar, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque NM., Summer 2007.
- Response to “The Intelligible World and Practical Standpoint,” Southwestern Philosophical Society Meeting, Nashville, November 2006.
- “The Place of Picturing in Sellars’ Synoptic Vision,” Dept. of Philosophy, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, November 2005.
- Response to Jacob Pyetranker’s “Is Kantian Pragmatism Kantian?,” Pragmatism in the Twenty-First Century Conference, New School for Social Research, New York, April 2003.
- “Humanitarian Interventionism,” Socialist Scholars Conference, Cooper Union, spring 2003.
- “System and Subject in Brandom’s *Making it Explicit*,” Department of Philosophy, New School for Social Research, New York, November 2003.

Teaching Experience:

- Space, Body, and the Self
UMass, Boston, spring 2013
- Meaning and Being (Phenomenology and Existential Phenomenology)
UMass, Boston, fall 2012
- Hegel and German Idealism
UMass, Boston, spring 2011, fall 2013
- Philosophy of Perception: Analytical and Phenomenological Approaches
UMass, Boston, spring 2010
- Epistemology
UMass, Boston, fall 2009
- Pragmatism
UMass, Boston, spring, 2009 2013
- Continental Philosophy: Phenomenology

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, spring 2007

- Pragmatism
Graduate Seminar, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, fall 2006
- Nineteenth Century Philosophy: Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, spring 2006
- Classical Ethics: Aristotle, Hume, Kant
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, fall 2005
- Pragmatism and the Possibility of Epistemology
Eugene Lang College, The New School for Social Research, fall 2004
- Mind, Language, Perception
Eugene Lang College, The New School for Social Research, spring 2003
- Hegel's 'Phenomenology of Spirit', TA for Jay Bernstein
The New School for Social Research, fall/spring 2002–2003
- Philosophy and Tragedy
C. W. Post, summer 2002
- Ethics: Kant and Hegel
Eugene Lang College, The New School for Social Research, fall 2001
- Modern Philosophy (Descartes to Kant)
Marymount Manhattan College, spring 2000

Service:

Dept./University:

- Executive Committee, Faculty Staff Union, 2012–present
- Senate Executive Committee, Faculty Senate, UMass Boston, 2009–2010, 2012–present
- Faculty Senate, UMass Boston, 2009–present
- Dept. U-direct liaison, 2014–present
- Philosophy Department Secretary, 2009–present
- Curriculum Committee, Philosophy Dept., UMass Boston, 2009–present
- Department Website Sub-committee, 2011–present
- Student Evaluation Committee, 2012–present
- Personnel Committee, Philosophy Dept., UMass Boston, 2008–present
- Masters Thesis Committee Member, University of Arkansas, 2006–7
- Director of the Philosophy Graduate Pro-seminar at the Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science, New School, September 2001–January 2001
- Student Representative, Philosophy Department, Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science, New School, September 2000–May 2002

Professional:

- Co-organizer of Panel, “Between Analytic Philosophy and American Pragmatism: C. I. Lewis and Wilfrid Sellars,” Central APA, Chicago IL, February 2014
- Co-organizer, New England Neo-Pragmatist Reading Group, spring 2013
- Referee, philosophical project proposal, American Academy in Berlin, January 2013
- Chair of Session, Sellars Centenary Workshop, Dublin, June 2012

- Referee, multiple book proposals, MIT Press, December 2011, May 2012
- Referee, book manuscript, Columbia University Press, January 2012
- Referee, book proposal, Bloomsbury Press, Fall 2014
- Referee, Book manuscript, Routledge Press, July 2015
- Referee, Book proposal, Routledge Press, December 2015, Aug. 2016
- Referee, multiple articles for *Constellations*, March 2012, July 2013
- Chair of Session, 'McDowell and Brandom on Observational Knowledge', Workshop on Phenomenology, Perception and Normativity, University of Pittsburgh, June 2011
- Referee for *Philosophia*, March 2010, October 2015 *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, Dec. 2013, June 2015 *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, Jan. 2014, Aug. 2014, *Synthese*, March 2014, June 2016, *European Journal of Social Theory*, Spring 2015, *Phenomenology and Cognitive Science*, Dec. 2015, *Florida Philosophical Review*, Spring 2016, *European Journal of Philosophy*, Oct. 2015, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, June 2016, *Criterion*, April 2016.
- Regular ongoing referee for the *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 2009–present
- Senior Editor, *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*, 1999–2004

Languages:

- French, German (reading)