

# Andrew del Rio

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## EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin

PhD Philosophy (expected 2022)

Biola University

MA Philosophy, *summa cum laude* (2015)

MA Biblical Studies, *magna cum laude* (2015)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

BA Philosophy (2008)

## DISSERTATION

Committee: David Sosa (supervisor), Sinan Dogramaci (supervisor), Miriam Schoenfield, Roy Sorensen, and Thomas Kelly. My dissertation explores the nature of the agnostic's doxastic attitude: *suspension*. Some have proposed that suspension is just some kind of degree of belief (credence). Others have proposed that suspension is an attitude of inquiry toward a question. Finally, a minority view is that suspension is a higher-order belief, for example the belief that one isn't in a position to know whether  $p$ . I argue that each of these views is incorrect. In their place, I argue that suspension, belief, and disbelief are all *fundamental* doxastic attitudes. Each is one of three mutually exclusive ways that we make alethic judgments. Belief is a positive alethic judgment, disbelief is a negative alethic judgment, and suspension is a neutral alethic judgment.

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

AOS: Epistemology, Ethics

AOC: Philosophy of Religion

## PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

(2021) "Why undermining evolutionary debunkers is not enough."  
*Synthese*. [doi.org/10.1007/s11229-021-03123-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-021-03123-6)

## WORKS UNDER REVIEW OR REVISION

R&R. A paper on suspension and credences at *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.

R&R. A paper on suspension in the absence of evidence at *Analysis*.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

- A paper on a new account of the agnostic attitude
- A paper on the features and failures of a higher-order belief account of suspension
- A paper on the fundamental nature of traditional doxastic attitudes
- A paper on new challenges to (anti-)interrogative accounts of suspension
- A paper on suspension, vagueness, and the inadequacy of credences
- A paper on the relationship between doubt and suspension
- A paper on the rational conditions for and consequences of suspending
- A paper on irrelevant influences, suspension, and having no reason to believe
- A paper on atheism, deism, and agnosticism
- A paper on moral agnosticism and moral error theory
- A paper on moral testimony and knowledge by acquaintance
- A paper on the coherence of Kant's moral theory and ancient eudaimonism

## PRESENTATIONS

- “Suspension without Inquiry” ERGo (March 1, 2021), *University of Texas at Austin*
- “How to Use a Bad Argument” World Congress of Philosophy (August 19, 2018), *China National Convention Center/Peking University*
- “The Uses of Argument” ERGo (October 16, 2017), *University of Texas at Austin*
- “A Weaker, Better Evolutionary Debunking Argument” ERGo (March 8, 2017), *University of Texas at Austin*
- “Higher-Order Defeaters and an Evolutionary Debunking Argument” ERGo (October 24, 2016), *University of Texas at Austin*
- “Anti-Luminosity and an Internalist Advantage” Texas Spring Conference (April 30, 2016), *University of Texas at Austin*
- “Anti-Luminosity and the Privilege of Internalist Norms” ERGo (April 6, 2016), *University of Texas at Austin*
- “Permissivism and the Intellectual Virtues” Talbot Philosophical Society Meeting (November 24, 2014), *Biola University*
- Comments on Dennis Bray’s “God’s Diffusive Goodness: A Critique and Re-Evaluation of the Dionysian Principle in the Work of Thomas Aquinas” at the Talbot Philosophical Society Spring Conference (March 29, 2014), *Biola University*
- “Scientific Antirealism and the Trojan Intuition of a ‘Better Theory’” Talbot Philosophical Society Meeting (September 30, 2013), *Biola University*
- “WAMs, SPAMs, and the Invariantist Project: An Appraisal of DeRose’s Defense” Talbot Philosophical Society Meeting (April 16, 2013), *Biola University*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor

Intro to Philosophy of Religion, *University of Texas at Austin*, Fall 2021  
Intro to Ethics, *University of Texas at Austin*, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020  
Problems of Knowledge and Valuation, (honors course in epistemology and ethics) *University of Texas at Austin*, Fall 2017

### Teaching Assistant

Problems of Knowledge and Valuation, (honors course in epistemology and ethics) *University of Texas at Austin*, 2018-2019, 2021  
Intro to Philosophy of the Arts, (aesthetics) *University of Texas at Austin*, 2017  
Intro to Philosophy, *University of Texas at Austin*, 2015-2016  
Intro to Ethics, *Biola University*, 2013-2014

### Guest Lecturer

Intro to Philosophy of Religion, *University of Texas at Austin*, 2018  
Intro to Philosophy of Religion, *University of Texas at Austin*, 2017

## TEACHING DEVELOPMENT

UT Faculty Innovation Center Inclusive Course Design Institute, 2021  
AAPT & APA Teaching Hub, Central Division Meeting, 2021  
UT Seminar on Teaching Philosophy, 2017

## TEACHING INTERESTS

*Logic* (introductory courses in Deductive Logic and Inductive/Probabilistic Logic)  
*Metaphysics* (introductory courses)  
*Epistemology* (including seminars in Traditional Epistemology, Bayesian Epistemology, Social Epistemology, Religious Epistemology, Moral Epistemology, and Early Modern Epistemology)  
*Ethics* (including seminars in Value Theory, Normative Ethics, Metaethics, Bioethics, Ethics of Technology, Ancient Ethics, and Kantian Ethics)  
*Philosophy of Mind* (introductory courses)  
*Philosophy of Religion* (including seminars in Theistic and Atheistic Arguments, Agnosticism, Faith and Reason, Science and Religion, topics in Philosophical Theology, and Early Modern Philosophy of Religion)  
*Philosophy of Science* (introductory courses)  
*Early Modern Philosophy* (introductory courses)  
*Aesthetics* (introductory courses)

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The Cogburn Prize, *University of Texas at Austin*, to be awarded in 2022  
Graduate School Fellowship, *University of Texas at Austin*, 2021  
Professional Development Travel Award, *University of Texas at Austin*, 2018  
William M. Bass Memorial Scholarship Award, *Biola University*, 2015  
The Charles Lee Feinberg Award, *Biola University*, 2014  
The Gordon Johnson Scholarship Award, *Biola University*, 2014  
Fieldstead MA Philosophy Grant, *Biola University*, 2013, 2014  
MA Philosophy and Ethics Scholarship, *Biola University*, 2013  
Biola Philosophy Endowed Scholarship, *Biola University*, 2013  
Talbot MA Scholarship, *Biola University*, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014  
Talbot Dean's Scholarship, *Biola University*, 2011

## MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association

## REFERENCES

*David Sosa* (supervisor)  
Professor and Chair  
University of Texas at Austin  
[david\\_sosa@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:david_sosa@austin.utexas.edu)

*Sinan Dogramaci* (supervisor)  
Associate Professor  
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[sinan.dogramaci@utexas.edu](mailto:sinan.dogramaci@utexas.edu)

*Thomas Kelly*  
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Princeton University  
[tkelly@princeton.edu](mailto:tkelly@princeton.edu)

*Miriam Schoenfield*  
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University of Texas at Austin  
[mschoenfield@utexas.edu](mailto:mschoenfield@utexas.edu)

*Roy Sorensen*  
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University of Texas at Austin  
[roy.sorensen@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:roy.sorensen@austin.utexas.edu)

*Matthew Evans* (teaching reference)  
Associate Professor  
University of Texas at Austin  
[evansmatt@utexas.edu](mailto:evansmatt@utexas.edu)