

WILLIAM NAVA

659 Ocean Ave. Apt. D1

Brooklyn, NY 11226

(347) 650-8791

williamnava@gmail.com

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests lie in the philosophy of logic, specifically questions related to the normativity of logic, vagueness, logical pluralism, natural language semantics, and the standards with which we evaluate the 'fit' between formal semantics and a given target phenomenon. I am especially influenced by the work of Catarina Dutilh Novaes, Graham Priest, Jc Beall, and Hartry Field. Though the philosophy of logic is my primary area of interest, I am also interested in Pyrrhonian skepticism, epistemic self-defeat, and formal epistemology.

EDUCATION

GRADUATE

Vagueness/Indeterminacy (4 credits)

- NYU Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Fall 2018; not for credit)
- Professors: Hartry Field and Kit Fine
- Final paper: "*Toward a Paraconsistent Transvaluationism about Vagueness*"
- 7,082 words

Frege (4 credits)

- CUNY Graduate Center (Fall 2017; not for credit)
- Professor: Saul Kripke

Vagueness (4 credits)

- CUNY Graduate Center (Spring 2017; not for credit)
- Professor: Graham Priest
- Final paper: "*Pragmatic Vagueness*"
- 5,998 words

UNDERGRADUATE

CUNY Brooklyn College (2006 – 2010)

- B.A. (May 2010)

- Graduate of the **Macaulay Honors College** program
- Double major: Political science, Film
- Philosophy GPA: 4.0 (8 courses, 26 credits)
- Section editor of *The Excelsior*, foremost college newspaper

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

The following Brooklyn College undergraduate courses were either philosophy courses or courses in other fields with a strong philosophical focus.

Political Science Capstone Senior Seminar (4 credits; writing intensive)

- Thesis title: "*Vague Language in the Bill of Rights and Its Effects on the Supreme Court's Role in American Politics*"
- 7435 words
- Advisor: Gaston Alonso
- Final grade: A

Independent study in political philosophy (3 credits)

- Thesis title: "*A Workable Definition and Application Scheme for Judicial Textualism*"
- 6769 words
- Advisor: Paisley Currah
- Final grade: A

Paradoxes and the Limits of Knowledge (3 credits)

- Final paper: "*Bertrand's Paradox*"
- 1949 words
- Course focus: Mark Sainsbury's *Paradoxes*
- Professor: Michael Hicks
- Final grade: A

Symbolic Logic (3 credits)

- Professor: Matthew Moore
- Final grade: A

Analytic Approaches to Political Problems (4 credits; writing intensive)

- Final paper: "*Love of the Present in Nietzsche and Oakeshott*"
- 1248 words
- Course focus: Philosophical defenses of political conservatism
- Professor: Corey Robin
- Final grade: A

Knowledge, Reality, and Values (3 credits)

- Final paper: "*Objections to Utilitarianism*"
- 2303 words

- Course focus: Plato's *Republic*, Descartes' *Discourse on the Method*, and an introduction to utilitarianism.
- Professor: Jonathan Adler
- Final grade: A (Honors)

Modern Political Thought (3 credits)

- Professor: Paisley Currah
- Course focus: Hobbes' *Leviathan*, Locke's *Second Treatise*, Rousseau's *Second Discourse* and *Social Contract*, Burke's *Reflections*, Bentham's *Principles*, Mill's *Utilitarianism*, Marx's *Capital*, and Nietzsche's *Genealogy*.
- Final grade: A+ (Honors)

Independent study in film theory (3 credits)

- Thesis title: "*Metaphysics in the Films of Ingmar Bergman*"
- 5105 words
- Advisor: Pamela Grace
- Final grade: A

EMPLOYMENT

Instructional Designer, Curriculum Developer, and Product Manager (May 2017 – Present) *Marginal Revolution University*

Description: Research economics education standards and create resources such as lesson plans, assessments, test questions, and classroom activities, all for use in high school and undergraduate economics classrooms. This work is done in collaboration with economists from George Mason University.

SAT and ACT Teacher and Tutor (all sections) (Sep. 2008 – May 2017)

A-List Education; The Ivy Key; Parker Academics; Ivy Global; Kaplan

Description: Prepare high school students for taking the SAT and ACT, both in one-on-one settings and in classrooms.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Philosophy Podcast Host

[*Who Shaves the Barber?*](#) (Jul. 2017 – Present)

A weekly in-depth philosophy podcast in which I've interviewed leading philosophers, primarily in the philosophy of logic, metaphysics, and epistemology. Interviews tend to be deep rather than wide: we focus on one or two ideas and dive into them in as much depth as possible given the constraints of the medium. Highlights:

- [Graham Priest](#): Unity and Regress; The Sorites Paradox
- [Kit Fine](#): Metaphysical Ground
- [Amie Thomasson](#): Ontology Made Easy
- [Timothy Williamson](#): Vagueness
- [Catarina Dutilh Novaes](#): Logic as Social Practice
- [David Ripley](#): Curry's Paradox and Substructural Logic
- [Jody Azzouni](#): Ontology without Borders
- [Stephen Read](#): Bradwardine's Solution to the Liar
- [Jc Beall](#): Logic of Christ
- [Peter Klein](#): Informatism and Pyrrhonism; Gettier Problems
- [David Papineau](#): Physicalism; Mary's Room
- [Greg Restall](#): Logical Pluralism
- [David Rosenthal](#): Mental Qualities; Consciousness
- [Michael Huemer](#): Skepticism and Direct Realism; Ethical Intuitionism

Philosophy Blogger (Jan. 2013 – Present)

williamnava.com

A semi-regular philosophy blog featuring both informal arguments on various philosophical topics as well as popular introductions to issues in contemporary analytic philosophy, particularly in the philosophy of logic.

Philosophy Group Leader

Praxis Philosophy Discussion Group (Apr. 2017 – Jan. 2018)

A bi-weekly online meetup to discuss philosophical issues. I, along with a co-host, created the group, set the topics, and moderated the discussions. Occasionally, we invited guest philosophers to lead discussions. These included:

- James Stacy Taylor: Metaphysics and Ethics of Death
- Timothy McGrew: Three Theistic Arguments
- Gary Chartier: Intro to Left-Libertarianism
- Graham Priest: Can Contradiction Be True?