

Ori Simchen

Department of Philosophy
University of British Columbia
1866 Main Mall, E370
Vancouver, BC V6T1Z1 Canada

Email: ori.simchen@ubc.ca

URL: <https://orisimchen.net>

Appointments

- 2012– Professor, Department of Philosophy, UBC
- 2021–2022 Visiting Professor, CNRS / Jean Nicod Institute
- 2006–2012 Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, UBC
- 2004 Visiting Professor, Department of Philosophy, UCLA
- 2002–2006 Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, UBC
- 1999–2002 Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Yale University

Education

- 1999 PhD, Philosophy, Harvard University
- 1993 MA, Philosophy of Science, *summa cum laude*, Tel Aviv University

Writings

BOOKS

- 2017 *Semantics, Metasemantics, Aboutness* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
- 2012 *Necessary Intentionality: A Study in the Metaphysics of Aboutness* (Oxford: Oxford University Press); paperback 2015

ARTICLES

- forthcoming “Instrumentalism About Structured Propositions”, in A. Murray and C. Tillman (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Propositions* (New York: Routledge Press)

- 2021 “Narrow Content and Parameter Proliferation”, *Analytic Philosophy*
- 2021 “The bang was not as loud as I had expected”, *Philosophical Investigations*
- 2020 “Modeling Truth for Semantics”, *Analytic Philosophy* 61: 28-36
- 2019 “Realism and Instrumentalism in Philosophical Explanation”, *Metaphysics* 2: 1-15
- 2018 “The Hierarchy of Fregean Senses”, *Thought* 7: 255-261
- 2017 “Metasemantics and Singular Reference”, *Noûs* 51: 175-195
- 2015 “Metasemantics and Legal Interpretation”, in G. Pavlakos and V. Rodriguez-Blanco (eds.), *Reasons and Intentions in Law and Practical Agency* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press): 72-92
- 2013 “Token-Reflexivity”, *Journal of Philosophy* 110: 173-193
- “The Barcan Formula in Metaphysics”, *Theoria* 78: 375-392
- 2012 “Necessity in Reference”, in W. Kabasenche, M. O’Rourke, and M. Slater (eds.), *Reference and Referring* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press): 209-233
- 2010 “Polyadic Quantification via Denoting Concepts”, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic* 51: 373-381
- 2008 “Comment on David Enoch’s ‘Luck Between Morality, Law and Justice’”, *Theoretical Inquiries in Law* 9: 8-11
- 2007 “Metasemantics and Objectivity”, in Enrique Villanueva (ed.), *Law: Metaphysics, Meaning, and Objectivity* (Netherlands: Brill Publishers): 215-234
- 2006 “Actualist Essentialism and General Possibilities”, *Journal of Philosophy* 103: 5-26
- 2004 “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, *Journal of Philosophy* 101: 527-54
- 2003 “Meaningfulness and Contingent Analyticity”, *Noûs* 37: 278-302
- “Law” (with J. Coleman), *Legal Theory* 9: 1-41
- 2001 “Rules and Mention”, *Philosophical Quarterly* 51: 455-73
- 1999 “Quotational Mixing of Use and Mention”, *Philosophical Quarterly* 49: 325-36

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

- 2006 “Hilary Putnam”, in S. Sarkar and J. Pfeifer (eds.), *The Philosophy of Science: An Encyclopedia* (New York: Routledge Press): 620-627

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2012 Barry Lee (ed.), *Philosophy of Language: The Key Thinkers* (London: Continuum, 2011), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*

OTHER

- 2017 “Past Possibility Cross-Linguistically” (with S. Chen, V. Hohaus, R. Laturnus, M. Louie, L. Matthewson, H. Rullmann, C. Turner, and J. Vander Klok), in A. Arregui, M. Rivero, and A. Salanova (eds.), *Modality Across Syntactic Categories*, Oxford Studies in Theoretical Linguistics (Oxford: Oxford University Press): 235-287

UNPUBLISHED

“The Content Program Through an Instrumentalist Lens”

“On Performatives Being Statements Too”

Philosophical Representation: A Defence of Attitudinal Instrumentalism

Talks (since 2002)

- 2020 “‘The bang was not as loud as I had expected’: Formal Semantics and Natural Language”, 4th Annual TiLPS History of analytic Philosophy Workshop, University of Tilburg
- “Metaphilosophical Instrumentalism”, Center for Logic, Language, and Cognition, University of Turin (webinar)
- “Metaphilosophical Instrumentalism”, Philosophy Mountain Workshop, Banff (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- “Replies to Critics”, Author Meets Critics session on *Semantics, Metasemantics, Aboutness*, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division
- 2019 “Realism and Instrumentalism in Philosophical Explanation”, Research Seminar, Mind, Language, and Action Group (MLAG), University of Porto
- 2018 *Philosophical Explanation*, 3-part lecture series, Cukier-Goldstein-Goren Center for Mind, Cognition, and Language, Tel Aviv University
- “Realism and Instrumentalism in Philosophical Explanation”, Department of Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz

- 2016 “Semantic Determinacy”, Workshop on Intentionality and Modality,
University of Turin
- “On Conflating Representation and Represented”, Workshop on Logic,
Meaning and Language, Hebrew University
- “Semantic Determinacy”, Department of Philosophy, Stockholm University
- 2015 “Semantic Determinacy”, Department of Philosophy, University of Victoria
- “Metasemantics and Semantic Ascent”, Banff Metaphysics Workshop
- “Metasemantics and Semantic Ascent”, 1st Epistemology of Metaphysics
Workshop, University of Helsinki
- 2014 “Semantic Endowment”, Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta
- 2013 “Semantic Endowment”, Department of Philosophy, Princeton University
- “Replies to Critics”, Author Meets Critics session on *Necessary Intentionality*,
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division
- “Semantic Endowment”, Department of Philosophy, Tel Aviv University
- “Semantic Endowment”, Department of Philosophy, Lund University
- “Semantic Endowment”, Department of Philosophy, Bar Ilan University
- “Semantic Endowment”, Research Seminar, Cogito, University of Bologna
- “Things of Semantic Value”, Workshop on Things, UC Santa Cruz
- 2012 “Interpreting the Barcan Formula”, Department of Philosophy, Lewis and Clark
College
- “Interpreting the Barcan Formula”, Department of Philosophy, CUNY
- “Token-Reflexivity”, Department of Philosophy, Yale University
- “*De Re* and *De Dicto*”, Department of Linguistics, UBC
- 2010 “Necessity in Reference”, Workshop on Reference, University of Parma
- “Necessity in Reference”, Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference
- “Polyadic Quantification Via Denoting Concepts”, *Principia Mathematica* @ 100,
McMaster University
- “Generic Belief”, Department of Philosophy, Tel Aviv University
- 2009 “Modal Fact Realism”, Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta
- 2008 “How to Be a Realist About Modality”, Department of Philosophy, Tel Aviv
University
- “The Intentionality of Words”, Department of Linguistics, UBC
- 2007 “Cognitive Relations”, Department of Philosophy, University of Manitoba
- “Cognitive Relations”, Department of Philosophy, Ben-Gurion University

- “Cognitive Relations”, Department of Philosophy, Hebrew University
- “Cognitive Relations”, Department of Philosophy, University of Haifa
- “What the Philosophy of Language Can Contribute to the Philosophy of Law”,
Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University
- “*De Dicto* Attitudes from Above”, Cognitive Science Forum, Hebrew
University
- 2006 “Disagreement about the Grounds of Law”, Yale Center for Law and
Philosophy, Yale Law School
- 2005 “Coordination and Disagreement in Law, Language, and Mind”
(with J. Coleman), Department of Philosophy, Rutgers University
- “Actualist Essentialism and General Possibilities”, Western Canadian
Philosophical Association Meeting
- 2004 “Marcus’s Robust Sense of Reality”, Philosophy of Language Workshop, UCLA
- “Cognitive Relativity”, Department of Philosophy, Ben-Gurion University
- “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Department of
Philosophy, UC Santa Barbara
- “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Department of
Philosophy, UCLA
- “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Department of
Philosophy, University of Calgary
- 2003 “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Northwest
Philosophy Conference, Reed College
- “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Department of
Philosophy, Simon Fraser University
- “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Department of
Philosophy, Tel Aviv University
- “On the Impossibility of Nonactual Epistemic Possibilities”, Department of
Philosophy, Western Washington University
- “Metasemantics and Objectivity”, Keynote Address, Sofia Conference,
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- 2002 “Meaningfulness and Contingent Analyticity”, Department of Philosophy,
University of Vermont
- “Acknowledging Cavell”, Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University
- “Law’ and Other Common Nouns” (with J. Coleman), Yale Law School

“How Does the Social Environment Contribute to Semantic Content?”, Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference

“How Does the Social Environment Contribute to Semantic Content?”, Department of Philosophy, UT Austin

“How Does the Social Environment Contribute to Semantic Content?”, Department of Philosophy, UBC

Comments

- 2019 Juhani Yli-Vakkuri and John Hawthorne, *Narrow Content*, Author Meets Critics, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division
- 2017 Ephraim Glick, “Cross-Contextual Semantics”, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division
- 2014 Jeremy Wyatt, “The Paradox of Truth-Aptness and the Meaning of “True””, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division
- 2010 Joseph Almog and Antonio Capuano, “From Having in Mind to Direct Reference”, Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference
- 2009 Stephen Neale, “The Intentionalism of Textualism”, Law and Philosophy Workshop, University of Michigan
- Joseph LaPorte, “Pessimism Sustained: Psychophysical Identities”, Colorado Conference on Dependence
- 2008 Timothy Williamson, “Is Logic a Neutral Arbiter?”, MetaMetaphysics Conference, LOGOS, University of Barcelona
- 2007 David Enoch, “Luck Between Morality, Law and Justice”, Law and Philosophy Forum, Hebrew University
- 2005 Gideon Rosen, “Three Conceptions of Culpability”, Western Canadian Philosophical Association
- Sven Bernecker, “Rule-Following and Externalism”, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division
- 2004 David Kaplan, “*De Re* Belief”, Philosophy of Language Workshop, Queen’s University
- 2003 Stavroula Glezakos, “The *A Priority* of True Name-Containing Identity Sentences”, Northwest Philosophy of Conference, Reed College

Grants, Fellowships, Awards

- 2017 Killam Research Prize, VP Research and Innovation, UBC
- 2017-2021 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Insight Grant
- 2010-2014 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Research Grant
- 2005-2009 Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Research Grant
- 2006 Faculty Fellowship, Cegla Center for Interdisciplinary Research of the Law, Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University
- 2006 Just Desserts Award for Excellence in Teaching, UBC Alumni Association, UBC
- 2003-2004 Hampton Fund Research Grant, Large Grant Award, UBC
- 2002-2003 Hampton Fund Research Grant, Bridging Grant Award, UBC
- 1998 Martin Prize, Department of Philosophy, Harvard University
- 1996-1997 Program for the Study of Law, Philosophy, and Social Theory Doctoral Fellowship, NYU School of Law
- 1992-1993 Visiting Scholar, Philosophy, Columbia University
- 1990-1993 Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students (full tuition waver and living stipend), Tel Aviv University