

Alessandra BUCCELLA
Curriculum Vitae
<https://alessandrabuccella.com/>

Department of Philosophy
University at Albany - SUNY
Humanities 257
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222

abuccella2@albany.edu // alessandra.buccella@outlook.com
+1 (412)-877-4806

AOS: Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Cognitive (Neuro)Science.

AOC: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence, General Philosophy of Science, Phenomenology, Existentialism.

Additional teaching competence and research interests: Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Sport, Ethics of Technology.

EMPLOYMENT

2023 – present Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, UAlbany - SUNY

2021 – 2023 Postdoctoral Researcher, The Brain Institute, Chapman University

2020 – 2021 Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, Wesleyan University

2020 Part-Time Instructor, Philosophy Department, University of Pittsburgh

2014 – 2020 PhD student and Teaching assistant, Philosophy Department, University of Pittsburgh

EDUCATION

2020 PhD in Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh (USA).

Dissertation title: Perceptual Constancy.

Committee: Mazviita Chirimuuta (chair), Wayne Wu, Anil Gupta, Robert Brandom.

2019 Visiting scholar, Department of Philosophy, University of Cincinnati (USA).

2013 M.A. in Philosophical Sciences, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy).

2013 M.A. in Analytic Philosophy, Universitat de Barcelona (Spain).

2011 B.A. in Philosophy, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy).

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles:

Ashktorab, Z., **Bucella, A.**, D’Cruz, J., Fowler, Z., Gill, A., Leung, K. Y., Magnus, P. D., Richards, J. & Varshney, K. R. (2026). Who’s Sorry Now: User Preferences Among Rote, Empathic, and Explanatory Apologies from LLM Chatbots. *Transactions on Computer-Human Interactions (TOCHI)*.

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3793679>

Bucella, A. (2025). Ethically Charged Decisions and the Future of ‘AI Ethics’. *AI & SOCIETY*, online first.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-025-02573-7>

- Magnus, P.D., **Buccella, A.** & D’Cruz, J. & (2025). Chatbot Apologies: Beyond Bullshit. *AI & Ethics* 5(4), 5517-5525. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43681-025-00800-x>
- Buccella, A.**, Maoz, U. & Mudrik, L. (2024). Towards and interdisciplinary ‘science of the mind’: a call for enhanced collaboration between philosophy and neuroscience. *European Journal of Neuroscience*, 60(5), 4771 – 4784. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejn.16451>
- Springle, A. A. & **Buccella, A.** (2024). Practical Perceptual Representations: a Contemporary Defense of an Old Idea. *Synthese*, 203, 74. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-023-04463-1>
- Buccella, A.** & Dominik, T. (2023, January). Free Will is Only an Illusion if You Are, Too. *Scientific American*. URL: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/free-will-is-only-an-illusion-if-you-are-too/>
- Buccella, A.** (2023). ‘AI for all’ is a matter of social justice. *AI & Ethics*, 3, 1143–1152. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43681-022-00222-z>
- Buccella, A.** & Springle, A. A. (2023). Phenomenology: What’s AI got to do with it? *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, 22(3), 621-636. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11097-022-09833-7>
- Buccella, A.** (2022). Perceptual Science and the Nature of Perception. *Theoria. An International Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science*, 37(2), 149–162. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1387/theoria.22650>
- Buccella, A.**, & Chemero, A. (2022). Reconsidering perceptual constancy. *Philosophical Psychology*, 35(7), 1057–1071. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2038122>
- Buccella, A.** (2021). The problem of perceptual invariance. *Synthese*, 199,13883–13905. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-021-03402-2>
- Buccella, A.** (2021). Enactivism and the “problem” of perceptual presence. *Synthese*, 198(1), 159–173. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-020-02704-1>
- Buccella, A.** (2020). Olympians and Vampires - Talent, practice, and why most of us “don’t get it.” *Argumenta*, 7(2), 525-535. <https://doi.org/10.14275/2465-2334/20200.buc>
- Buccella, A.** (2017). Naturalizing Qualia. *Phenomenology and Mind*, 12 SE-Submitted Contributions. https://doi.org/10.13128/Phe_Mi-21114
- Buccella, A.** (2014). Suoni. *Aphex – Portale Italiano di Filosofia Analitica (www.aphex.it)*, 9, 83-111.
- Buccella, A.** (2012). Music and Emotion. The Dispositional or Arousal theory. *Rivista Italiana di Filosofia Analitica Junior*, 3 (1), 19 – 36.
- Book chapters:
- Buccella, A.** (2026). “Some Reflections on Language Games...and ChatGPT”. In C. Sachs (ed.), *Interpreting Sellars: Critical Essays*. Cambridge University Press.
- Buccella, A.**, & Chirimuuta, M. (2023). “Shine of Bronze and Sound of Brass: The Relational Perceptual

Constructs of Timbre and Gloss". In A. Mroczko-Wąsowicz & R. Grush (eds.), *Sensory Individuals: Contemporary Perspectives on Modality-specific and Multimodal Perceptual Objects*. Oxford University Press.

In progress, under review, and preprints:

Buccella, A. (under review). "Interaction, not Dissection: Reframing AI Interpretability". Preprint available: https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/a8m9d_v2

Buccella, A. (in progress). "On the significance of Large Language Models as computational models of cognitive processing" (this title is tentative).

Buccella, A., Castillo, N. & Faye, M. (in progress). "Five Faces of AI-enabled Oppression".

Buccella, A. (in progress). "Against AI intentionality" (the title is tentative).

Buccella, A. (in progress). "Optimal grip: a hypothesis about the phenomenology of situated perception".

Buccella, A. & Maoz, U. (preprint). Making Decision Support Systems Intelligible: Explainability or Interpretability? https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/mn9bk_v1

TALKS and LECTURES (selection)

Peer-reviewed:

- 2026** • "Interaction, not Dissection: Reframing AI Interpretability", Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SSPP), February 26-28, Atlanta (GA).
- 2025** • "Optimal grip: a hypothesis about the phenomenology of situated perception", Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf, September 27th, Pensacola Beach (FL).
- 2023** • "Brains, algorithms and the aims of computational cognitive neuroscience", Philosophy and Neuroscience at the Gulf, September 28th, Pensacola Beach (FL).
 - "'AI for all' is a matter of social justice", APA Central division meeting, February 25th, Denver (CO).
- 2020** • "Constructivism, computation, and content", 10th European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP), Utrecht, The Netherlands. [conference moved online]

Invited:

- 2026** • "Can AI do science?", Teaching Artificial Intelligence, Science, and Infectious Disease workshop, Virginia Tech, April 14th (*the talk was given virtually*).
- 2025** • "Making Decision Support Systems Intelligible: Explainability or Interpretability?", Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Cognitive Science Colloquium series, March 12th.
 - "Optimal Grip: The Phenomenology of Situational Perception", APA Eastern division meeting, New York City, January 8th.
- 2024** • "Ethical decisions and the future of 'AI Ethics'", SUNY New Paltz Philosophy Colloquium series, October 21st.
 - "Making ethical decisions with AI: why it is not (just) a technical problem", SUNY FACT² AI Symposium, University at Buffalo, May 21st.
- 2023** • "Quando il computer inventa la legge: ChatGPT e le professioni legali" ("When computers invent

the law: ChatGPT and the legal professions”), Professional training lecture for the Varese, Italy Bar Association. (*in Italian*)

- 2022 • “La capacità di intendere e di volere: cosa dicono le neuroscienze?”, Professional training lecture for the Varese, Italy Bar Association. (*in Italian*)
- 2021 • “Phenomenology: What’s AI got to do with it?”, Reassessing the Relationship between Explanation and Phenomenology Workshop, Leipzig, October 4th-6th (Hybrid).
 - “Enactivism and the ‘problem’ of perceptual presence”, CLEA Seminar Series, July 9th.
 - “Perceptual Science and the Nature of Perception”, ENSO (ENActive Seminars Online) Seminar Series, May 6th.

MEDIA COVERAGE & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- 2026 • **Article** in *The Conversation*. Title: AI cannot automate science – a philosopher explains the uniquely human aspects of doing research”. URL: <https://theconversation.com/ai-cannot-automate-science-a-philosopher-explains-the-uniquely-human-aspects-of-doing-research-272477>
- 2025 • **Interview** with The Great Dane Blog (Blog of the University at Albany Graduate School). Published: 10/06/2025. URL: <https://www.albany.edu/graduate/news/2025-beyond-algorithm-philosophys-role-shaping-ai-era>
 - **Interview** with Spectrum Local News, Albany (NY). Aired: 02/14/2025. URL: <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/capital-region/news/2025/01/20/university-at-albany-preps-students-with-ai-skills>
- 2024 • **Invited Speaker** at Annual conference for HR Professionals organized by the Capital Region Human Resource Association (CRHRA), Clifton Park NY, 12/11/2024.
 - **Invited Speaker** “Artificial intelligence and Society”, Adult STEM Workshop series, Albany Public Libraries (Albany, NY), 10/23/2024.
- 2023 • **Invited Guest** on *Many Voices, One Call* podcast (SUNY Schenectady). Episode recorded on 10/04/2023. URL (Spotify): <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2fLkOgkIJ6LmExHw9wfzXu?si=932cf402d4884656>
 - **Blog Post:** “AI and Social Justice: The latest technological ‘revolution’ and the Capability Approach”. *Blog of the American Philosophical Association*. Published online on 06/20/2023. URL: <https://blog.apaonline.org/2023/06/20/ai-and-social-justice-the-latest-technological-revolution-and-the-capability-approach/>
- 2020 • **APA Member interview**, blog of the American Philosophical Association. Published online on 11/27/2020. URL: <https://blog.apaonline.org/2020/11/27/apa-member-interview-alessandra-buccella/>
 - “Il clima filosofico”, **interview** with Italian magazine *Vivere con Filosofia*, issue 4, Sprea editori.
 - **Blog Post:** “Perché la scienza merita la nostra fiducia”(review of *Why Trust Science?* By Naomi Oreskes). *Climalteranti*. URL: <https://www.climalteranti.it/2020/05/27/perche-la-scienza-merita-la-nostra-fiducia/>
- 2017 • **Blog Post:** “Integrating intentionality” (with Alison A. Springle). Book symposium on Carl Sachs, *Intentionality and the Myths of the Given*. Philosophy Syndicate. URL: <https://syndicate.network/symposia/philosophy/intentionality-and-the-myths-of-the-given/>

GRANT FUNDING

- 2024 **SUNY Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG)** –Interdisciplinary learning community on

AI literacy and AI adaptation in learning, teaching, tutoring, research, and assessment across the curriculum. Role: Co-PI (PI: Dr. Babette Faehmel). Dates: 07/2024 – 08/2024.

Other

2020 EU Mobilitas Plus postdoctoral researcher grant for the project “A philosophical framework to understand perceptual objects as relational constructs”, European Regional Development Fund & Estonian Research Council. [*declined due to timing conflict*].

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2025 AI & Society Faculty Engagement Fellowship – Project title: “Thinking like a Philosopher”. Awarded by University at Albany’s AI & Society Research Center. Dates: 09/2025 – 08/2026.

2019 Connected Academics Fellowship, Graduate Institute for the Engaged & Public Humanities, Georgetown University.

2018 Diversity award, Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP).

TEACHING

Courses offered

University at Albany - SUNY

Spring 2026: AI in Society: Ethical and Legal Issues.

Fall 2025: Ethics and Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence; Philosophy of Science.

Spring 2025: The Mind & the World; Perception in Philosophy and Psychology.

Fall 2024: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence; Philosophy of Mind.

Spring 2024: Existentialism; The Mind and the World.

Fall 2023: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence (Graduate seminar)

Chapman University

Spring 2022 & Spring 2023: Philosophy of Mind.

Wesleyan University

Spring 2021: Phenomenology & Existentialism; Philosophy of Perception.

Fall 2020: Philosophy of Psychology; Bodies & Experiences (First Year Seminar).

Ph.D students supervised

Daniel Coutu. Role: Committee chair. Graduation year: 2027 (expected).

Christian Carrozzo. Role: Committee member.

Andrew Gill. Role: Committee member.

Colby Harvish. Role: Committee member.

MA students supervised

Lyla Zusman. Role: Master’s Thesis advisor. Graduation year: 2026 (expected).

SERVICE

Departmental

2025 – 2027 CAS Faculty Council representative

2024 – present Placement director.
2023 – 2024 Member of Exams Committee.

College (CAS)

2025 Member – CAS Academic Grievances ad-hoc committee
2024 Reviewer – Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Awards, UAlbany College of Arts & Sciences.

University at Albany

2026 Invited panelist – *Hallucination in Generative AI*, New Trends in Informatics Research Conference, University at Albany, 4/23/2026.
2025 Invited panelist - *GradEdge: Workshops for Student Success*, UAlbany Graduate School.
2025 – 2026 Faculty mentor - *AI Plus CoRE* (AI plus Collaborative Research Experience), supported by Special Competitive Studies Project (SCSP), AI Plus Institute and AI & Society Research Center.
'Freshmen Seminar' Instructor, First Year Experience (FYE), University at Albany.
2025 – present Advisory board member, AI & Society College.
2024 Search Committee Member, Director of UAlbany's AI+ Institute search. Summer 2024.

SUNY-wide

2024: Member of SUNY 'STRIVE' AI Task Force (Society and AI working group).

Professional

Ongoing: Journal referee for *AI & Ethics*, *Ergo*, *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, *Synthese*, *Minds & Machines*, *PhiMiSci*.

2025-2026 Philosophy Executive Board member, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SSPP).

2025 Book proposal reviewer for MIT press.

Program co-chair (Philosophy), Annual Meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SSPP), April 3-5, Mobile, AL.

2023 Organizer of "Practical Mental Representations" workshop, Philosophy Department, Chapman University, February 16th-17th.

2021 Organizer and chair of "Teaching Sustainability" session, AAPT-APA *Teaching Hub* @ APA Eastern division meeting, January 8th, online.

Other

2023 Judge for the 2023 Southern California Regional High School Ethics Bowl, February 4th.

OTHER TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

2022 • Online course "**The Inclusive STEM Teaching Project**" (learning.edx.org) – Certificate of completion.

2020-2021 Member of the **Scientific Committee** of Italian Blog *Climalteranti*

(<https://www.climalteranti.it/>).

- 2019 • Invited participant at **Gathering of Higher Ed Changemakers**, November 15-16, Wayfinding Academy, Portland, OR, USA.
 - **Graduate Certificate in Engaged & Public Humanities**. Graduate Institute for the Engaged & Public Humanities, Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA.
- 2017 • **Achievement in Pedagogy badge**. University Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pittsburgh. Concentrations: Pedagogy, Diversity, Educational Technology.

LANGUAGES

Italian (native language), English (excellent), Spanish (beginner).