

James Nguyen

Curriculum Vitae

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Specialisation

AOS Philosophy of Science

AOC Aesthetics, Philosophy of Language, Logic, Rational Choice Theory (including Formal Epistemology)

Academic Appointments

2022– **Assistant Professor**, *Department of Philosophy*, Stockholm University.

2018– **Research Associate**, *Institute of Philosophy*, University of London.

2016– **Research Associate**, *Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science*, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

2022 **Adjunct Associate Professor**, *London Summer Program*, University of Notre Dame in England.

2018–2021 **Jacobsen Fellow**, *Department of Philosophy*, University College London (UCL), and *Institute of Philosophy*, University of London.

2016–2018 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, *History and Philosophy of Science Program*, University of Notre Dame.

Education

2012–2016 **PhD Philosophy**, LSE, Thesis: How Models Represent.

Supervisor: Roman Frigg. Examiners: Catherine Z. Elgin (Harvard) and Phyllis Illari (UCL).

2010–2011 **MA Philosophy**, King's College London (KCL).

2007–2010 **BA Philosophy**, Girton College, University of Cambridge.

Publications (co-authored work is fully collaborative unless indicated otherwise)

Books

2022 *Scientific Representation* (with Roman Frigg, James Nguyen is first author), Cambridge Elements in the Philosophy of Science, Cambridge: CUP

2020 *Modelling Nature: An Opinionated Introduction to Scientific Representation* (with Roman Frigg), Synthese Library - Studies in Epistemology, Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, Cham: Springer

Journal Articles

- 2021 Do Fictions Explain?, *Synthese*, 199 pp. 3219-3244
- Mathematics is not the only Language in the Book of Nature (with Roman Frigg, James Nguyen is first author), *Synthese*, 198 pp. S5941-S5962
 - Mirrors without Warnings (with Roman Frigg), *Synthese*, 198 pp. 2427-2447
- 2020 Judgement Aggregation in Scientific Collaborations: The Case for Waiving Expertise (with Alexandru Marcoci), *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 84 pp. 66-74
- Unlocking Limits (with Roman Frigg, James Nguyen is first author), *Argumenta* 6(1) pp. 31-45
 - It's Not a Game: Accurate Representation with Toy Models, *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 71(3) pp. 1013-1041
 - Why Surplus Structure is not Superfluous (with Nicholas J. Teh and Laura Wells), *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 71(2) pp. 665-695
- 2019 The Limitations of the Arrovian Consistency of Asymmetric Domains, *Theory and Decision* 87(2) pp. 183-199
- Objectivity, Ambiguity, and Theory Choice (with Alexandru Marcoci), *Erkenntnis* 84(2) pp. 343-357
- 2018 The Turn of the Valve: Representing with Material Models (with Roman Frigg), *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* 8(2) pp. 205-224
- 2017 Scientific Representation and Theoretical Equivalence, *Philosophy of Science* 84(5) pp. 982-995
- 2016 On the Pragmatic Equivalence between Representing Data and Phenomena, *Philosophy of Science* 83(2) pp. 171-191
- The Fiction View of Models Reloaded (with Roman Frigg), *The Monist* 99(3) pp. 225-242

Book Chapters

- Forthcoming Maps, Models, and Representation (with Roman Frigg, James Nguyen is first author), in I. Lawler, K. Khalifa, and E. Shech (eds.) *Scientific Understanding and Representation: Modelling in the Physical Sciences*, Routledge
- DEKI and the Mislocation of Justification: A Response to Millson and Risjord (with Roman Frigg), in I. Lawler, K. Khalifa, and E. Shech (eds.) *Scientific Understanding and Representation: Modelling in the Physical Sciences*, Routledge
- 2022 Scientific Modeling, in V. P. Glăveanu (ed.) *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of the Possible*, Cham: Palgrave Macmillan
- 2021 Seven Myths About the Fiction View of Models (with Roman Frigg), in A. Cassini and J. Redmond (eds.) *Models and Idealizations in Science*, Cham: Springer, pp. 133-157
- 2020 Models and Denotation (with Fiora Salis and Roman Frigg, Fiora Salis is first author), in J. Falguera and C. Martínez-Vidal (eds.) *Abstract Objects: For and Against*, Cham: Springer, pp. 197-219

- 2017 Scientific Representation is Representation as (with Roman Frigg), in H-K. Chao and J. Reiss (eds.) *Philosophy of Science in Practice: Nancy Cartwright and the Nature of Scientific Reasoning*, Cham: Springer, pp. 149-179
- Scientific Rationality by Degrees (with Alexandru Marcoci), in M. Massimi, J-W. Romeijn, and G. Schurz (eds.) *EPSA15 Selected Papers*, Berlin and New York: Springer, pp. 321-333
- Of Barrels and Pipes: Representation As in Art and Science (with Roman Frigg), in O. Bueno, G. Darby, S. French, and D. Rickles (eds.) *Thinking about Science and Reflecting on Art: Bringing Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Science Together*, London and New York: Routledge, pp. 41-61. Reprinted in (2019) S. Wuppuluri and D. Wu (eds.) *On Art and Science: Tango of an Eternally Inseparable Duo*, Cham: Springer, pp. 181-202

Surveys

- 2017 Models and Representation (with Roman Frigg), in L. Magnani and T. Bertolotti (eds.) *Springer Handbook of Model-Based Science*, Cham: Springer, pp. 49-102
- 2016 Scientific Representation (with Roman Frigg), in E-N. Zalta (ed.) *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2016 Edition, minor correction Spring 2020 Edition)

Popular

- 2021 What Are ‘Scientific Models’, And How Much Confidence Can We Place In Them? (with Roman Frigg), *LSE Festival 2021*, <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/covid19/2021/02/10/what-are-scientific-models-and-how-much-confidence-can-we-place-in-them/>
- 2018 Modelling Life in Art and Science, *Institute of Arts and Ideas*, <https://iainews.iai.tv/articles/modelling-life-in-art-and-science-auid-1185>

Teaching

- Summer 2022 Primary Instructor, Philosophy of Art, Notre Dame in England
- Spring 2021 External PhD Examiner, University of Bristol
- Fall 2019 Primary Instructor, Art and Value, Birkbeck
- Joint Primary Instructor (with Tim Button), Senior Seminar, UCL
- Spring 2018 Primary Instructor, Philosophy of Science, Notre Dame
- Fall 2017 Primary Instructor, Further Topics in the Philosophy of Science, Notre Dame
- “Hours” Mentor, Masters of Fine Art Program, Notre Dame
- Spring 2017 Primary Instructor, Models and Representation, Notre Dame
- Independent study on Representation in Science and Art, Notre Dame
- Fall 2016 Primary Instructor, Philosophy of Science, Notre Dame
- 2015 Guest Lecturer, Philosophy of Science, LSE
- 2014–15 GTA, Philosophy of Science (Bryan Roberts), LSE
- 2012–16 GTA, Introductory Logic (John Worrall), LSE

2013 GTA, Philosophy of Biology (Armin Schulz), LSE

Awards

- 2019 British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award
— Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park Postdoctoral Award
- 2018 Jacobsen Fellowship, University of London
— Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship, University of Barcelona (declined in favour of the Jacobsen)
- 2016 Popper Prize (the prize is awarded biennially to an LSE graduate student for distinguished work in an area in which Karl Popper made significant contributions), LSE
— Class teacher award (for excellence in class teaching), LSE
- 2015 Honourable commendation for excellence in class teaching, LSE
— Graduate travel grant, 8th MuST Conference on Objectivity in Science, Tilburg
- 2014–16 Postgraduate travel fund (multiple), LSE
2014 BSPS Graduate travel bursary
- 2012–15 AHRC Doctoral Awards Scheme, LSE
- 2010–11 AHRC Research Preparation Master's Scheme, KCL

Activities (selected)

- 2020 Co-organiser, Philosophy and Conservation Meet Workshop, University of London
- 2019 Convener, Seminar series on Epistemological Pluralism, University of London
- 2018 Convener, Reading group on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Climate Science, Notre Dame
- 2016 Co-organiser, The Hole Shebang: New Perspectives on the Hole Argument, LSE
— Co-convener, All London HPS reading group on the Applicability of Mathematics
— Co-organiser, Explanation, Normativity, and Uncertainty in Economic Modelling, LSE
- 2015 Co-organiser, Symposium on Theory Choice meets Social Choice with Wulf Gaertner, Michael Morreau, Samir Okasha, Nicolas Wüthrich, EPSA15
— Co-organiser, Eighth Workshop in Decisions, Games and Logic, LSE
- 2014 Co-organiser, Fourth Graduate Conference in Philosophy of Probability, LSE

Presentations

Invited (selected)

- 2021 October, Idealization and Modelling in Science and the Aristotelian Tradition, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum)
Modelling and Idealisation in the Philosophy of Science

- June, First Workshop on the Aesthetics of Scientific Experiments, University of Cambridge (online)
Learning From (Literary) Fiction
 - February, Cognition, Values, Behaviour Lab Meeting, University of Munich (online)
Modelling a Crisis
 - 2020 December, Colloquium, Institute of Philosophy, University of Bern (online)
Learning From (Literary) Fiction
 - October, FraMEPhys Idealized Models Workshop, University of Birmingham (online)
Why (At Least Some) Idealisations Aren't False
 - May, History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium, University of Leeds (online)
How Fictions Explain
 - 2019 September, Philosophy of Science Today: Celebrating 60 years of the BSPS & 70 years of the BJPS, LSE
The Future of Philosophy of Science (Roundtable Participant)
 - September, Mathematics and its Applications: Philosophical Issues, University of Leeds
Modelling and Mathematics
 - February, CamPoS Seminar, University of Cambridge
Non-literal Model Interpretations
 - 2018 November, Philosophy of Physics Thursday Seminar, University of Oxford
Interpreting Models: A Suggestion and its Payoffs
 - October, Lakatos Award Workshop, LSE
Data, Models, and Data Models
 - 2017 July, Models and Explanations in Economics, University of Rostock
Mathematics is not the only Language in the Book of Nature
 - 2016 June, Models and Explanations in Economics, University of Innsbruck
Models, Fictions, and Scientific Representation (with Roman Frigg)
 - June, Bristol-LSE Formal Epistemology Workshop, University of Bristol
Moving Beyond Arrow's Theorem: Social Choice and Theory Choice
 - May, Choice Group, LSE
Moving Beyond Arrow's Theorem: Social Choice and Theory Choice
 - 2015 June, Describing the Abstract and Representing the Real, Cyprus
Scientific Representation, Structuralism, and Pragmatics (with Roman Frigg)
- Peer Reviewed**
- 2021 May, New Directions in Metaphilosophy, University of Kent (online)
Understanding Philosophy (with Michael Hannon)
 - 2018 November, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Seattle
Idealisation, Abstraction, and (Mis)Representation

- March, Models and Simulations 8, South Carolina
It's not a Game: Accurate Representation with Toy Models
- February, American Philosophical Association Central Division Annual Meeting, Chicago
Scientific Consensus without Inconsistency
- 2017 October, What to Make of Highly Unrealistic Models Workshop, Helsinki
It's not a Game: Accurate Representation with Toy Models
 - July, British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, Edinburgh
Scientific Consensus without Inconsistency
- 2016 November, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Atlanta
Scientific Representation and Theoretical Equivalence
 - June, Central European Program in Economic Theory Annual Workshop, Udine
Arrovian Consistency of Asymmetric Domains
 - May, Models and Simulations 7, Barcelona
From Hydraulic Machines to Immortal Rabbits
- 2015 December, Modelling and Representation: How to Make World(s) with Symbols, San Sebastián
Scientific Representation is Representation-As
 - September, European Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Düsseldorf
On the Rationality of Theory Choice (with Alexandru Marcoci)
 - September, European Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Düsseldorf
Scientific Representation is Representation-As (Poster session)
 - June, 8th Munich-Sydney-Tilburg Conference on Objectivity in Science, Tilberg
Ambiguity of Scientific Virtues in the Social Choice Framework
- 2014 November, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Chicago
van Fraassen's Wittgensteinian Move
 - September, First London Philosophy of Science Graduate Workshop, UCL
Should the Virtue Pluralist fear Arrovian Nihilism?
 - July, British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, University of Cambridge
van Fraassen's Wittgensteinian Move
 - June, Mathematizing Science: Limits and Perspectives II, UEA
Why Data Models do not Provide the Target-end Structures Required by Structuralist Accounts of Scientific Representation

Presented by co-authors (selected)
- 2019 February, Scientific Understanding and Representation, Bordeaux
Unlocking Limits (presented by Roman Frigg)
- 2018 November, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Seattle
Scientific Consensus without Inconsistency (presented by Alexandru Marcoci)

- November, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Seattle
Field Dressing Don't Stitch (presented by Nicholas J. Teh)
- 2017 August, Ninth European Congress of Analytic Philosophy, Munich
Why Surplus Structure is not Superfluous (presented by Laura Wells)
- 2016 May, Models and Simulations 7, Barcelona
The Turn of the Valve: Representing with Material Models (presented by Roman Frigg)
- 2015 March, Pitt-CMU Graduate Conference in Philosophy, Carnegie Mellon University
On the Rationality of Theory Choice (presented by Alexandru Marcoci)
- 2014 June, Mathematising Science: Limits and Perspectives II, UEA
Mathematisation and Representation (presented by Roman Frigg)

Service

- Reviewer *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science; Philosophy of Science; Studies in History and Philosophy of Science; Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics; European Journal for Philosophy of Science; International Studies in the Philosophy of Science; Foundations of Physics; Journal for General Philosophy of Science; Big Data & Society; Journal of Economic Methodology; Techné; Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics; Theoria: An International Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science; Philosophers' Imprint; Philosophical Studies; The Monist; Synthese; Erkenntnis; Philosophy Compass; Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy; Kriterion - Journal of Philosophy; Oxford University Press; Bloomsbury; Polity; Routledge; National Science Foundation, USA (NSF); National Fund for Scientific Research, Belgium (FNRS); National Science Centre, Poland (NCN)*
- Programme British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference 2018-2022;
- Committee German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP.10) Best Paper Award 2018;
- Member Fifth LSE Graduate Conference in Philosophy of Probability 2017; Explanation, Normativity, and Uncertainty in Economic Modelling 2016; Third LSE-Bayreuth Student Philosophy Conference 2015; Fourth LSE Graduate Conference in Philosophy of Probability 2014; Second LSE-Bayreuth Student Philosophy Conference 2014
- Departmental Chair of, and PhD student representative on, the Student-Staff Liaison Committee of the Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method 2015-2016

References

Prof. Roman Frigg

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Scientific Method

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Prof Emeritus. Nicholas Baigent

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