

# Keith DeRose

*Yale University  
Dept. of Philosophy  
P.O. Box 208306  
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## **Personal:**

Born, April 24, 1962; married; two grown children

## **Areas of Specialization:**

Epistemology, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Religion

## **Areas of Competence:**

History of Modern Philosophy

## **Academic Positions:**

- Yale University
  - April 2005-present: Allison Foundation Professor of Philosophy
  - July 2000-present: Professor of Philosophy
  - July 1998-June 2000: Associate Professor of Philosophy
- Rice University
  - July 1996-June 1998: Associate Professor of Philosophy
  - July 1993-June 1996: Assistant Professor of Philosophy
- New York University: Sept. 1990-June 1993: Assistant Professor of Philosophy
- UCLA: Sept. 1985-June 1990: Teaching Assistant, Associate, Fellow

## **Education:**

- UCLA, 1984-1990: M.A., Philosophy, 1986; Ph.D., Philosophy, 1990
  - Dissertation: "Knowledge, Epistemic Possibility, and Scepticism"; Advisor: Rogers Albritton
  - Awards: Carnap Essay Prize, 1990; Griffin Fellowship, 1990; Carnap Essay Prize (co-winner), 1989; Robert M. Yost Prize for Excellence in Teaching, 1988
- Calvin College, 1980-1984: B.A., with honors, Philosophy major, 1984

## **Courses Taught at Yale, Rice, NYU, UCLA:**

Graduate: Epistemology – basic graduate epistemology course and many seminars on particular topics, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Religion, History of Modern Philosophy (seminars on single and on multiple philosophers, covering Descartes, Berkeley, Hume, and Reid), Metaphysics (all multiple times), Teaching College Philosophy (taught to first-time TA's at UCLA)

Upper Division: Epistemology – basic undergraduate epistemology course and many topics courses; History of Modern Philosophy (Descartes to Kant survey course, topics courses, single figure courses); Philosophy of Religion; Topics in Metaphysics and Epistemology; Philosophy of Language; Metaphysics (all multiple times)

Lower Division: Introduction to Philosophy; Philosophy track of DS (Yale's Directed Studies program for freshman); Symbolic Logic; Skepticism and Rationality; Contemporary Moral and Legal Issues; (all multiple times); Humanities Core Course (Rice); Free Will, God and Evil; Critical Reasoning

**Graduate Advising:** Since coming to Yale I have been on the dissertation committees of and/or (usually and) written letters of recommendation for the following graduate students. I was/am the chair (or co-chair) of the committees for the students marked with an asterisk. (I have only recently begun to include this, and haven't been able to check records carefully, so I am probably missing some students, especially from early in my time at Yale. Apologies to any I may have forgotten.)

- C.P. Ragland – now tenured at St. Louis University
- Sukjae Lee – now tenured at Seoul National University, having been previously tenured at the Ohio State University
- Todd Buras\* – now tenured at Baylor University
- Desmond Hogan – now tenured at Princeton University
- Andrew Dole -- currently tenured at the Religious Studies dept. at Amherst College
- Andrew Chignell – now tenured at Cornell University
- Samuel Newlands -- currently tenured at Notre Dame University
- Larry Jorgensen -- currently tenured at Skidmore College
- Geoffrey Pynn\* -- currently tenured at Northern Illinois University
- Elliot Paul – currently tenure-track at Columbia/Barnard
- Nick Kroll – currently tenure-track at Franklin and Marshall College
- Matthew Benton (Rutgers PhD.: I was outside member of committee) – currently tenure-track at Seattle Pacific University
- John Pittard\* – currently tenure-track at Yale Divinity School
- Justin Khoo – currently tenure-track at MIT
- Aaron Norby – current working outside of philosophy
- Julianne Chung\* – currently tenure-track at University of Louisville
- Alexander Worsnip\* – currently tenure-track at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Publications: Papers and Books** (many of these papers are available on-line at <https://campuspress.yale.edu/keithderose/1527-2/> )

- *The Appearance of Ignorance: Knowledge, Skepticism and Context, Volume 2*, forthcoming in 2017, Oxford University Press.
- “Delusions of Knowledge concerning God’s Existence: A Skeptical Look at Religious Experience,” forthcoming in M. Benton, J. Hawthorne, D. Rabinowitz, eds., *Knowledge, Belief, and God: New Insights in Religious Epistemology* (Oxford UP).
- “Précis” (pp. 675-677), “Reply to Nagel” (pp. 703-708), “Reply to Ludlow” (pp. 708-711), “Fantl and McGrath: Loose Use” (pp. 711-717), and “Reply to Fantl and McGrath” (pp. 717-721), all in a Symposium on *The Case for Contextualism: Knowledge Skepticism, and Context, Vol. 1*, in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 84 (2012): 675-721.
- “Conditionals, Literal Content, and ‘DeRose’s Thesis’: A Reply to Barnett,” *Mind* 121 (2012): 443-455.
- “Contextualism, Contrastivism, and X-Phi Surveys,” *Philosophical Studies* 156 (2011): 81-110.
- “Questioning Evidentialism,” in T. Dougherty, ed., *Evidentialism and Its Discontents* (Oxford University Press, 2011), pp. 137-146.
- “Insensitivity Is Back, Baby!”, *Philosophical Perspectives* 24 (2010): 161-187.
- “The Conditionals of Deliberation,” *Mind* 119 (2010): 1-42.
- *The Case for Contextualism: Knowledge, Skepticism and Context, Volume I*, Oxford University Press, 2009.
- "Gradable Adjectives: A Defence of Pluralism," *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 86 (2008): 141-160.
- "'Bamboozled by Our Own Words': Semantic Blindness and Some Objections to Contextualism," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 73 (2006): 316-338.
- "Direct Warrant Realism," in A. Dole and A. Chignell, ed., *God and the Ethics of Belief: New Essays in Philosophy of Religion* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), pp. 150-172.
- "The Ordinary Language Basis for Contextualism and the New Invariantism," *The Philosophical Quarterly* 55 (2005): 172-198.
- "Single Scoreboard Semantics," *Philosophical Studies* 119 (2004): 1-21.
- "Sosa, Safety, Sensitivity, and Skeptical Hypotheses," in J. Greco, ed., *Ernest Sosa and His Critics* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2004), pp. 22-41.
- "The Problem with Subject-Sensitive Invariantism," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 68 (2004): 346-350.
- "Assertion, Knowledge, and Context," *Philosophical Review* 111 (2002): 167-203.
  - Republished in *The Philosopher's Annual*, vol. 26.
  - Republished in Asa Kasher, ed., *Pragmatics: Critical Concepts II*, Routledge, forthcoming, 2010.
- "How Can We Know That We're Not Brains in Vats?," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 38 (2000), Spindel Conference Supplement: 121-148.

- "Now You Know It, Now You Don't," *Proceedings of the Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy* (Bowling Green, Ohio: Philosophy Documentation Center, 2000); Vol. V, Epistemology: 91-106.
- "Ought We to Follow Our Evidence?", *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 60 (2000): 697-706.
- "Can It Be That It Would Have Been Even Though It Might Not Have Been?" *Philosophical Perspectives* 13 (1999): 385-413.
- "Conditional Assertions and 'Bisquit' Conditionals" (with Richard E. Grandy), *Noûs* 33 (1999): 405-420.
- "Contextualism: An Explanation and Defense," in J. Greco and E. Sosa, ed., *The Blackwell Guide to Epistemology* (Malden, Mass.: Blackwell Publishers, 1999), pp. 187-205.
- *Skepticism: A Contemporary Reader*, edited with T. Warfield (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999).
- "Responding to Skepticism," in DeRose and Warfield, ed., *Skepticism* (1999), pp. 1-24.
- "Simple *Might's*, Indicative Possibilities, and the Open Future," *The Philosophical Quarterly* 48 (1998): 67-82.
- "Knowledge, Assertion, and Lotteries," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 74 (1996): 568-580.
- "Relevant Alternatives and the Content of Knowledge Attributions," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 56 (1996): pp. 193-197.
- "Solving the Skeptical Problem," *Philosophical Review* 104 (1995): pp. 1-52.
  - Reprinted in *The Philosopher's Annual*, vol. 18 (Atascadero, CA: Rigeview Publishing Company, 1997).
  - Reprinted in E. Sosa, J. Kim, ed., *Epistemology: An Anthology* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2000).
  - Reprinted in DeRose and Warfield, ed., *Skepticism* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999), pp. 183-219.
- "Lewis on 'Might' and 'Would' Counterfactual Conditionals," *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 24 (1994): pp. 413-418.
- "Descartes, Epistemic Principles, Epistemic Circularity, and *Scientia*," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 73 (1992): pp. 220-238.
- "Contextualism and Knowledge Attributions," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 52 (1992): pp. 913-929.
  - Reprinted in M. Huemer, ed., *Epistemology: Contemporary Readings* (Routledge, 2002)
  - Reprinted in L. Alcock, ed., *Epistemology: The Big Questions* (Malden, Mass.: Blackwell Publishers, 1998).
- "Deterrent Threats: What Can Matter," *Philosophical Studies* 67 (1992): pp. 241-260.
- "Epistemic Possibilities," *Philosophical Review* 100 (1991): pp. 581-605.
- "Plantinga, Presumption, Possibility, and the Problem of Evil," *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 21 (1991): pp. 497-512.
- "Reid's Anti-Sensationalism and His Realism," *Philosophical Review* 98 (1989): pp. 313-348.

## **Publications: Reviews, Encyclopedia Articles, Interview:**

- “Contextualism and Fallibilism,” in J. Ichikawa, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of Epistemic Contextualism* (Routledge, 2017), pp. 145-155.
- “Why Take a Stance on God?,” interview of KDR by Gary Gutting in *The Stone*, the *New York Times* philosophy blog, 18 September 2014; reprinted with slight revisions as “Religion and Knowledge,” in Gary Gutting, *Talking God: Philosophers on Belief* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2017) pp. 172-186.
- Review of Jason Stanley, *Knowledge and Practical Interests*, *Mind* 116 (2007): 486-489.
- Review of Timothy Williamson, *Knowledge and Its Limits*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 53 (2002): 573-577.
- Review of Avrum Stroll, *Moore and Wittgenstein on Certainty*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 58 (1998): 238-241.
- "Contextualism," *Encyclopedia of Philosophy -- Supplement* (New York: Macmillan, 1996).
- "Relevant Alternatives," *Encyclopedia of Philosophy -- Supplement* (New York: Macmillan, 1996).
- Review of William L. Rowe, *Thomas Reid on Freedom and Morality*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 53 (1993): 945-949.
- Review of Michael Williams, *Unnatural Doubts: Epistemological Realism and the Basis of Scepticism*, *Philosophical Review* 102 (1993): 604-607.

## **Presentations:**

- “The Limits of the Free Will Defense,” University of South Carolina; March 23, 2018.
- “How Do We Know that We're Not Brains in Vats?,” New York University, Mind and Language Seminar (run by Stephen Schiffer and Crispin Wright); March 21, 2017.
- “Free Will and Universalism,” delivered in two sessions on June 23, 2016 at the St. Thomas Summer Seminars in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology; University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, Minnesota.
- “Acceptance in Philosophy and in Religion,” Third Annual William P. Alston Lecture; Syracuse University; Sept. 5, 2015.
- “How to Appear to Know that God Exists,” International Conference on New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology; St. Anne’s College, Oxford University; June 24, 2015.
- “Descartes's Real Distinction between Mind and Body and His Wild Account of God's Power,” Augustana College; March 9, 2015.
- “Free Will Defenses, Evil, and Hell,” Conference in honor of Marilyn McCord Adams, sponsored by the Center for Medieval Philosophy and Dept. of Philosophy; Georgetown University; March 13, 2014.
- "On Knowing Whether You've Lost the Lottery," keynote address at the 7th Annual Western Michigan University Graduate Philosophy Conference; Dec. 7, 2013.

- "On Knowing Whether God Exists," public lecture at Western Michigan University, hosted by the WMU philosophy dept.; Dec. 5, 2013
- "How Can We Know that We're Not Brains in Vats?: Three Answers," keynote talk at the Talbot Philosophical Society Graduate Philosophy Conference; Biola University; March 23, 2013.
- "Counterexamples: The Case of Insensitivity Accounts of Appearances of No-Knowledge," Baylor University; Aug. 30, 2012.
- "Relationships, Value, and the Atonement," Philosophy of Religion series, Baylor University; Aug. 29, 2012.
- "Counterexamples: The Case of Insensitivity Accounts of No-Knowledge," keynote address, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Regional Graduate Philosophy Conference, Northern Illinois University; Oct. 21, 2011.
- "Against the Loose Use Maneuver," Kline Workshop on Semantics, Pragmatics, and Epistemology; University of Missouri; Oct. 13, 2011.
- "Knowledge and Conditionals: Theories, Pictures, and Explanations," Conference on Saul Kripke's *Philosophical Troubles*, The Saul Kripke Center, CUNY Graduate Center; Sept. 15, 2011.
- "Middle Knowledge, Foreknowledge, and Open Theism," 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Baylor Philosophy of Religion Conference, held at the University of Texas, Austin; Nov. 5, 2010.
- "Knowledge, Explanations, and Confidence," Conference on the Point and Purpose of Epistemic Evaluation, Chambers Philosophy Conference Series, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Oct. 2, 2010.
- "Contextualism, Contrastivism, and X-Phi Surveys," presented at a Metro Experimental Research Group (MERG) meeting at New York University; June 18, 2010.
- "Contextualism, Contrastivism, and X-Phi Surveys," Oberlin Philosophy Colloquium; May 9, 2010.
- "Accommodation and Epistemic Impossibilities that Nobody Knows to be False," Epistemic Modals Conference, Chambers Philosophy Conference Series, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; April 17, 2010.
- "Bold and Timid Skepticisms," Indiana University, Bloomington; Jan. 22, 2010.
- "Universalism and Open Theism," Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, MI; Nov. 24, 2009.
- "Knowledge and Some Evaluations of Actions," Northwestern University; Oct. 10, 2008.
- "Knowledge and Some Evaluations of Actions," University of Maryland, College Park; October 1, 2008.
- "Knowledge and Some Evaluations of Actions," University at Buffalo – SUNY; February 29, 2008.
- "Knowledge and Some Evaluations of Actions," Saint Louis University; September 21, 2007.
- "Christian Belief for the Experientially Challenged," Baylor University Philosophy of Religion Conference; Feb. 22, 2007.
- "Middle Knowledge and the Conditionals of Deliberation," University of Missouri Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference; January 28, 2006.

- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," Princeton University, Sept. 23, 2005.
- "'Bamboozled by Our Own Words': Semantic Blindness and Some Objections to Contextualism," Rutgers Epistemology Conference, May 6, 2005.
- "Universalism, Open Theism, and Calvinism," Calvin College, March 9, 2005.
- "Semantic Blindness and Some Arguments against Contextualism," Cornell University, September 10, 2004.
- "The Ordinary Language Basis for Contextualism and the New Invariantism," "Epistemological Contextualism" conference, University of Stirling, March 20, 2004.
- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," University of Dundee, March 17, 2004.
- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," University of Glasgow, March 16, 2004.
- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," University of Texas, Austin; March 8, 2004.
- Commentator, along with Steven Pinker, for Richard Dawkins's Tanner Lectures; Harvard University; Nov. 19-21, 2003.
- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Oct. 31, 2003
- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," University of Arizona; Oct. 24, 2003
- "Externalism and Skepticism," University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Colloquium; Oct. 11, 2003
- "Single Scoreboard Semantics," "Contextualism in Epistemology and Beyond" conference; UMass, Amherst; Oct. 11, 2002. With comments by Richard Feldman.
- "The Conditionals of Deliberation," University of Michigan; September 27, 2002.
- "Reidian Epistemology," at the "God and the Ethics of Belief" Conference in Honor of Nick Wolterstorff, Yale University, April 20, 2002.
- "Single Scoreboard Semantics," April 4, 2002, and "Assertion, Knowledge, and Context," April 5, 2002, University of Miami.
- "Assertion, Knowledge, and Context," Keynote address at the Rocky Mountain Student Philosophy Conference, University of Colorado at Boulder, Feb. 22, 2002
- "The Warranted Assertability Objection," Brown University; March 17, 2001
- "Elusive Skepticism," New York University; December 1, 2000
- "Assertability in Context," University of Notre Dame; May 8, 2000
- "Voodoo Epistemology", comments on Alvin Plantinga's *Warranted Christian Belief*; Society of Christian Philosophers group meeting at the Eastern Division Meetings of the American Philosophical Association; Boston; December 29, 1999
- "How Not Be a Hero in Responding to Skepticism," CUNY Graduate Center Colloquium; November 10, 1999
- "How Can We Know That We're Not Brains in Vats?", at the 1999 Spindel Conference; University of Memphis; October 2, 1999. With comments by Timothy Williamson.
- Comments on Richard Feldman's paper, "The Ethics of Belief"; Rutgers Epistemology Conference, New Brunswick, New Jersey; April 23, 1999
- "Knowledge, Assertion, and Context," at the Fifth Annual Franklin & Marshall College Symposium in Metaphysics and Epistemology; April 10, 1999

- "Are Christian Beliefs Properly Basic?", comments on Alvin Plantinga's paper, "Warranted Christian Belief"; Eastern Division Meetings of the American Philosophical Association; Washington, D.C.; December 28, 1998
- "Now You Know It, Now You Don't," at the 20th World Congress of Philosophy; Boston, Massachusetts; August 13, 1998
- "Does God Know What We Would Freely Do?", Southern Methodist University; March 26, 1998
- "Context, Knowledge, and Assertion," University of Vermont; November 7, 1997
- "Contextualism, Knowledge, and Assertion," at the 1997 International Colloquium on Cognitive Science; San Sebastian, Spain; May 8, 1997
- "Contextualism, Knowledge, and Assertion," Rutgers University, March 13, 1997
- "Contextualism, Knowledge, and Assertion," Yale University, March 4, 1997
- "Descartes and Modality," Notre Dame University, January 31, 1997
- "Knowledge and Warranted Assertability," Syracuse University; February 22, 1996
- "Can It Be That It Would Have Been Even Though It Might Not Have Been?" Rice University; Sept. 21, 1994
- "Solving the Skeptical Puzzle," Rice University, February 11, 1993
- "Solving the Skeptical Puzzle," University of Virginia, Charlottesville, January 18, 1993
- "The Insignificance of Philosophical Skepticism," Massachusetts Institute of Technology, January 15, 1992
- "The Insignificance of Philosophical Skepticism," University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, January 8, 1992
- "Wittgenstein's Suspicion and the Insignificance of Philosophical Skepticism," Fordham University, December 5, 1991
- "Bold Skeptics and Airplane Spotters," C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center, March 27, 1991
- "Contextualism and Knowledge Attributions," UCLA; University of Connecticut, Storrs; Temple University; Tulane University; Winter, 1989-90