

Amit Chaturvedi

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Indian and Buddhist Philosophy
Philosophy of Mind
(esp. perception, consciousness)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Classical Chinese Philosophy
Epistemology
Moral Psychology

EDUCATION

- PhD Philosophy, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, 2018
Dissertation: "Concepts, Attention, and the Content of Conscious Visual Experience."
MA Philosophy, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, 2009
BA Philosophy (*magna cum laude*), Political Science (*cum laude*), Tufts University, 2007
Visiting Student in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, University of Oxford,
Pembroke College, 2005-2006

EMPLOYMENT

2018- Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Hong Kong

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2023 "Is the Mind a Magic Trick? Illusionism about Consciousness in the 'Consciousness-Only' Theory of Vasubandhu and Sthiramati." *Ergo: An Open Access Journal of Philosophy* 10:52, 1495-1534
2023 "Taking Non-Conceptualism back to Dharmakīrti." *European Journal of Philosophy* 31:1, 3-29
2022 "Attentional Structuring, Subjectivity, and the Ubiquity of Reflexive Inner Awareness." *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy* (in press)
2020 "There is Something Wrong with Raw Perception, After All: Vyāsatīrtha's Refutation of *Nirvikalpaka-Pratyakṣa*," *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 48:2, 255-314
2019 "Against a 'Mindless' Account of Perceptual Expertise," *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences* 18:3, 509-531
2012 "Mencius and Dewey on Moral Perception, Deliberation, and Imagination," *Dao* 11:2, 163-185

Book Reviews

2014 Review of Christian Coseru, *Perceiving Reality: Consciousness, Intentionality, and Cognition in Buddhist Philosophy*, in *Philosophy East and West* 64: 506-513

Co-Edited Volume

(with Mousumi Mukherjee) *Bloomsbury Handbook of Philosophies of Education in Asia, Volume VI: Indic Philosophies of Education*. General editors: Liz Jackson and Duck-Joo Kwan. (under contract)

GRANTS

- 2024-2027 Research Grants Council of Hong Kong, General Research Fund (#17604524)
"All in the Mind: A Yogācāra Philosophy of Sentience." (HK \$490,754)
- 2019-2022 Research Grants Council of Hong Kong, Early Career Scheme (#27620419)
"Classical Indian Theories of Perception and Consciousness: A Contemporary Reconstruction." (HK \$197,134)

AWARDS AND HONORS

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa:

- 2015 College of Arts & Humanities Dissertation Research Award
- 2014 Jagdish P. Sharma Memorial Scholarship
- 2013 Mansfield Freeman Dissertation Award
- 2012 J. Watumull Scholarship for the Study of India
- 2010 Uehiro Essay Award in East Asian Philosophy
- 2009 Wing-Tsit Chan Graduate Fellowship in Chinese Philosophy
East-West Center Graduate Degree Fellowship
- 2008 Uehiro Essay Award in East Asian Philosophy

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Keynotes/Lectures

- 2024 "Awareness-Atoms, Alone in the Dark: The Problems with a Possible Buddhist Panpsychism." University of Toronto, October 17
- 2024 Lecture on the *Madhyāntavibhāga* corpus, Ten-day Workshop on the Analysis of Consciousness in the Yogācāra Tradition, Jadavpur University, September 19
- 2024 "Awareness-Atoms, Alone in the Dark: The Problems with a Possible Buddhist Panpsychism." Shandong University, June 14
- 2024 "Of Micropsychism, Memory, and Maheśvara: Utpaladeva on God as the Unifier of Consciousness." God and Consciousness in Indian Traditions, Oxford Centre of Hindu Studies, Worcester College, University of Oxford, May 17-19
- 2022 "Illusionism about Consciousness in the 'Consciousness-only' School." Chonnam National University, August 31

- 2022 “Taking Non-conceptualism back to Dharmakīrti.” National Chengchi University, January 6
- 2021 “Is the Mind a Magic Trick? Illusionism about Consciousness in the “Consciousness-only” Theory of Vasubandhu and Sthiramati. Institut für Kultur- und Geistesgeschichte Asiens, online, October 28
- 2014 “Nyāyadarśanādhunikamanovijñānayoḥ Pratyakṣaparakriyāparīkṣā” (lecture in Sanskrit; “An Examination of the Process of Perception in Nyāya Philosophy and Contemporary Psychology”). Karnataka Sanskrit University, July 21

Invited Conference Presentations

- 2025 “Sentience and Suffering: The Instrumental Function of Consciousness in Early Yogācāra Metaphysics of Mind.” International Association of Buddhist Studies, August 10-15
- 2025 “Dharmakīrti’s Development of the Infinite Regress Argument for Reflexive Awareness in the *Pramāṇavārttika*.” Dignāga and his Philosophical Legacy, National Chengchi University, February 6-8
- 2024 “Intrinsic Inner Awareness and The Infinite Regress Argument for *Svasaṃvedana*.” World Congress of Philosophy, August 1-8
- 2024 “Awareness-atoms, Alone in the Dark: The Problems with a Possible Buddhist Panpsychism.” The Spiritual Turn in Contemporary Philosophy, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Kolkata, January 2-4
- 2022 “Dharmakīrti’s Memory Argument for Reflexive Awareness.” Workshop on Buddhist Theories of Mind and Metaphysics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, April 23
- 2021 “The Evolution of Buddhist and Nyāya Theories of Non-Conceptual Perception.” Coffee Break Conference, University of Vienna, December 16-18
- 2021 “The Evolution of Buddhist and Nyāya Theories of Non-Conceptual Perception.” American Academy of Religion, November 20-23
- 2021 “Reconsidering the Memory Argument for Reflexive Awareness.” Consciousness Research Network, online, July 7-9
- 2021 “What is it Like to be Reflexively Self-Aware?” Author Meets Critics panel on Sebastian Watzl’s *Structuring Mind: The Nature of Attention and how it Shapes Consciousness*, APA Eastern, January 7
- 2020 “Reconstructing a Nyāya Theory of Consciousness.” The Relevance of Indian Philosophy to Contemporary Western Philosophy: A New Paradigm of Philosophy, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Kolkata, January 6-8
- 2019 “Phenomenal Priority and Reflexive Self-Awareness: Watzl meets Yogācāra.” *Mind, World, and Attention: Themes from Indian and Buddhist Philosophical Theory*, NYU New York, April 25-26

- 2018 “The Evolution of Buddhist and Nyāya Theories of Non-Conceptual Perception.” Association of Asian Studies in Asia, July 5-8
- 2018 “First-Order Representationalism and a Navya Nyāya Theory of Perceptual Consciousness.” Pacific APA (invited symposium), March 28-31
- 2018 “The Roles of Attention and Memory in Constructing Visual Experience: Clues from Gaṅgeśa.” The Virtues of Attention workshop, NYU Shanghai, March 8-9

Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations

- 2023 “How is Reality both Ineffable and ‘Nothing but Name’? Early Yogācāra Sources on the Linguistic Construction and Inexpressibility of Mind and World.” Varieties of Ineffability in Ancient Philosophy workshop, online, September 18-21
- 2023 “Reconsidering the Memory Argument for Reflexive Awareness.” The Science of Consciousness, May 22-27
- 2022 “Illusionism about Consciousness in the ‘Consciousness-only’ School.” International Association of Buddhist Studies, August 14-19.
- 2021 “Sthiramati on Mental Representation” (with Nilanjan Das). American Academy of Religion, November 20-23.
- 2019 “A Yogācāra Response to Madhyamaka Illusionism About Consciousness.” Consciousness and Fundamental Reality: Lessons from East Asian Philosophy, Sun-Yat Sen University (Zhuhai), June 11-13
- 2018 “Undercutting Buddhist Non-Conceptualism.” 3rd International Conference on Natural Cognition, November 20-21
- 2018 “There's Something Wrong With Raw Perception, After All: Vyāsātīrtha's Refutation of *Nirvikalpaka Pratyakṣa*.” 17th World Sanskrit Conference, July 9-13
- 2017 “Undercutting Buddhist Non-Conceptualism With the Help of Navya Nyāya and Vision Science.” Central APA, Committee on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies, March 1-4
- 2016 “Imagination and the Making of Conscious Perceptual Experience: A Revised Nyāya – Kant Account.” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, June 2-5
- 2016 “Perceptual Content as Non-Linguistic and Conceptual.” Uehiro Graduate Philosophy Conference (Ruth Kleinfeld-Lenny Award for best presentation), March 16-19
- 2012 “Self-Luminosity and the Problematic Phenomenology of Pre-reflective Self-Awareness.” Australasian Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, July 9-11
- 2010 “Mencius and Dewey on Moral Perception, Deliberation, and Imagination,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, June 18-21
- 2009 “Wittgenstein and Dharmottara on Perception, Intentionality, and Non-Conceptual Content.” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, June 14-17
- 2008 “The Phenomenology of Zhuangzi's Philosophy.” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, June 8-11

Invited Commentary

- 2024 Comment on Ellen Zhang, “Is the Karmic Act Free or Determined?” Sihaiweixue (四海为学), East China Normal University, April 9
- 2022 Comment on Cameron Buckner, “Ideational Preparation Is All You Need – Deep Learning meets the Faculty Empiricism of William James.” University of Hong Kong Society of Fellows in the Humanities, May 6
- 2018 Comment on Jingjing Li, “Through the Mirror: Chinese Yogācāra and the Problem of Other Minds.” Eastern APA, January 3

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Primary Instructor, University of Hong Kong

Ethics and Politics: East and West
Buddhist Philosophy
Classical Indian Philosophy
Mysteries of the Human Mind (Common Core)

Primary Instructor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa:

Introduction to Philosophy
Introduction to Inductive Logic
Ancient Greek Philosophy
First- & Second-year Sanskrit

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021 Visiting fellow, Instituts für Kultur- und Geistesgeschichte Asiens, September 13- November 6
- 2018 Participant, NEH Summer Institute: “Self-Knowledge in Eastern and Western Philosophies.” College of Charleston, May 20-June 2
- 2014 Visiting scholar, Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University & Karnataka Sanskrit University
- 2012 Researcher, “Vedanta And Me” iPhone app, Baryon Labs

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2024 HKU Teacher Panel of the Disciplinary Committee member
- 2024 HKU Buddhist Studies search committee member
- 2022- Associate Editor, *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy*
- 2022-2023 Philosophy department undergraduate coordinator
- 2022-2023 Bachelor of Arts Admissions Working Group
- 2020-2021 Philosophy department seminar convenor
- 2020 HKU philosophy search committee member

2020

Internal curriculum reviewer for HKU Masters of Buddhist Studies

Referee for:

Acta Analytica; Australasian Journal of Philosophy; Bloomsbury Academic; British Journal for the History of Philosophy; Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy; Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy; Journal of Consciousness Studies; Oxford University Press; Philosopher's Imprint; Philosophical Studies; Philosophy; Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences; Philosophy Compass; Philosophy East and West; Mind; Sophia