

Brandon Johns

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EMPLOYMENT

Full-Time Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, CSU San Bernardino, 2017-present.
Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of Redlands, 2017-2018, 2025-present.
Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, CSU San Bernardino, 2014-2017.
Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, UC Santa Barbara, 2012.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Southern California, 2012.
B.A., Philosophy with High Honors, University of California, Riverside, 2003.
B.A., Sociology, California State University, Fullerton, 2001.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Action, Ethics (esp. Animal Ethics)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Sport, Philosophy of Religion

PUBLICATIONS

“The Concession Rule,” *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport* 52(3), pp. 514-532, 2025.
“Not Intentional, Not Unintentional,” *Philosophia* 48(5), pp. 1881-1899, 2020.
“Refraining and the External,” *Ratio* 22(2), pp. 206-215, 2009.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Locke-ing Suits” [philosophy of sport; games; action theory]

Bernard Suits (1978) famously argues that playing a game is a “voluntary attempt to overcome unnecessary obstacles.” Indrek Reiland (2022) has recently developed a counterexample to Suits’ analysis of gameplay. Reiland’s counterexample involves a case in which one plays a game but does so *involuntarily* because the rules are forced upon them without their consent. Reiland concludes from this that playing a game does not require that players voluntarily accept the rules of the game. In this paper, I explain how Suitsians can utilize aspects of John Locke’s philosophy of action—specifically, his definition of voluntariness—to undermine Reiland’s counterexample.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- CSUSB Outstanding Lecturer Award nominee, 2022.
- Most Valuable Professor Award, selected by CSUSB Women’s Soccer, 2021.
- The “Do Good” Award, CSUSB OCE, 2021. [Awarded for completing 25+ hours of volunteer work in the community.]
- Most Valuable Professor Award, selected by CSUSB Women’s Soccer, 2019.
- Most Valuable Professor Award, selected by CSUSB Softball, 2018.
- Most Valuable Professor Award, selected by CSUSB Men’s Soccer, 2017.
- Flewelling Award, USC School of Philosophy, 2007-2008. [Awarded annually to an outstanding graduate student in philosophy.]
- College Merit Fellowship, USC School of Philosophy, 2003-2008.
- Oliver A. Johnson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Philosophy, Dept. of Philosophy, UC Riverside, 2002-2003. [Awarded annually to an outstanding undergraduate philosophy major.]

PRESENTATIONS

“Locke-ing Suits”

- 53rd Annual Conference of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport (IAPS), University of São Paulo (Brazil), September 2026.

“The Concession Rule”

- 51st Annual Conference of the International Association for the Philosophy of Sport (IAPS), St. Francis Xavier University (Canada), August 2024. [Presented under the title “The Surrender Rule”]

“Intellectual and Civic Values in College Sports”

- Great Lakes Philosophy Conference, Siena Heights University (MI), April 2020. [Conference canceled due to Coronavirus pandemic.]

“Not Intentional, Not Unintentional”

- American Philosophical Association—Pacific Division Meeting (Seattle), April 2012.

“An Actional Account of Refraining”

- American Philosophical Association—Central Division Meeting (Chicago), February 2012.
- The 65th Annual Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference (Denver), October 2011.

“How to Try without Intending”

- Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy, UC Berkeley, April 2010.
- Southern California Philosophy Conference, Pitzer College, November 2009.
- The Seventh International Conference of the Society for Analytic Philosophy, University of Bremen (Germany), September 2009.

“Refraining and the External”

- Annual Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association, University of British Columbia, June 2008.
- Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference, University of Utah, March 2008.

“When Racial Slurs Fail to Express”

- 44th Annual Meeting of the Western Canadian Philosophical Association, University of Saskatchewan, October 2007.
- University of Calgary Philosophy Graduate Conference, September 2007.

“Locke on Freedom, Refraining, and Free Refraining”

- Annual Meeting of the British Society for the History of Philosophy (Rotterdam, Netherlands), March 2007.
- Society of Christian Philosophers—Eastern Regional Meeting, Houghton College (NY), May 2006.
- Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy, Stanford University, April 2006.
- 4th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities (Honolulu), January 2006.
- 51st Annual Meeting of the Florida Philosophical Association (Cocoa Beach), November 2005.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Classroom Doors Should Have Locks,” *Inland Empire Community News & Fontana Herald News*, 2018.

“Does Atheism Require More Faith than Theism?” *Inland Empire Weekly*, 2014.

COURSES TAUGHT

CSU San Bernardino

- Philosophy 1001: Moral Choices in Life
- Philosophy 1011: Introduction to Philosophy
- Philosophy 1012: Introduction to Ethics
- Philosophy 3040: Philosophy and Film

- Philosophy 3390: Ethics and Animals
- Honors 104A: Critical Thinking
- Honors 104B: Language and Meaning

University of Redlands

- Philosophy 100: Introduction to Philosophy
- Philosophy 213: Animal Ethics

UC Santa Barbara

- Philosophy 100A: Ethics (moral theory)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Referee, *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport*

Chair, Symposium on Moral Responsibility, APA Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, April 2009.

Chair, Paper Session, SCP Pacific Division Meeting, UC Riverside, October 2008.

Chair, Paper Session, CPA Congress, University of British Columbia, June 2008.

Chair, Action Theory Colloquium, APA Pacific Division Meeting, Pasadena, March 2008.

Chair, Paper Session, Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, January 2006.

Referee, 4th Annual UCLA/USC Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, 2009.

Referee, 2nd Annual UCLA/USC Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, 2007.

Referee, 1st Annual UCLA/USC Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, 2006.

ORGANIZATIONS

International Association for the Philosophy of Sport (IAPS)

British Philosophy of Sport Association (BPSA)