

ALEJANDRO ARANGO

m.alejandro.arango@gmail.com
alejandroarango.net

[Google scholar profile](#)
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1032-9542>

Areas of Specialization

Social epistemology, social metaphysics
Philosophy of race and ethnicity
Latin American and Latinx philosophy
Philosophy of Perception

Areas of Competence

Ethics, metaethics, applied ethics
Phenomenology
History of Philosophy

Academic Affiliations

2018- Lecturer of Philosophy, Gonzaga University
2016- Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Tennessee State University
2018

Education

2016 Vanderbilt University, Ph.D., Philosophy
 Dissertation: Social Enactive Perception: Practices, Experience, and Contents
 Committee: José Medina (Chair), L. Guenther, J. Lachs, and S. Gallagher
2012 Vanderbilt University, M.A. Philosophy
2008 Binghamton University, M.A. Philosophy
2000 Universidad Nacional de Colombia, B.A., Cum Laude, Philosophy
1998 Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, B.A., Social Communication and Journalism

Publications

Books

2026 A Social Enactive Theory of Perception: Perceptual Practices, Direct Perception, and a World of Aspects. Bloomsbury Academic, [ISBN 978-1-6669-2432-9](#). February 2026. (In-press)
2024 New Perspectives on the Ontology of Social Identities ([edited volume](#), with A. Burgos), Routledge Studies in Contemporary Philosophy. Referenced in New Work in Philosophy, [here](#).

Articles

2025 Resting Content: Unclarity in Everyday Perception (with C. Cusick). Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11097-025-10065-8> Phenomenol. and CogSci. Access it [here](#).
2024 No Latinx Without Afro-Latinx: A Desideratum for Accounts of Latinidad (with A. Burgos) APA Studies on Hispanic/Latino Issues in Philosophy 24 (1): 11-19. Access [here](#).

2024 The Social Identity Affordance View: A Theory of Social Identities. (with A. Burgos)
Southern Journal of Philosophy 62 (2): 162-177. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sjp.12542> Published article [here](#).

2023 Ignorance and Cultural Diversity: The Ethical Obligations of the Behavior Analyst. (with Nicole Lustig)
Behavior Analysis in Practice 16 (1): 23–39. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-022-00701-z>.

2022 Neither Race nor Ethnicity: Latinidad as a Social Affordance. (with Adam Burgos)
Journal of Social Philosophy. <https://doi.org/10.1111/josp.12500>. Access pdf [here](#). Featured [here](#).

2021 Re-Envisioning the Philosophy Classroom Through Metaphors. (with Maria Kulp, formerly Howard)
Teaching Philosophy, 44(2): 121-144. <https://doi.org/10.5840/teachphil2021330141>

2019 From Sensorimotor Dependencies to Perceptual Practices: Making Enactivism Social.
Adaptive Behavior, 27(1): 31–45. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1059712318811897>

2019 Social Enactivism about Perception — Reply to McGann.
Adaptive Behavior, 27(2): 161–162. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1059712319835162>.

2019 Expresión, intersubjetividad y mundo perceptual.
Acta fenomenológica latinoamericana: Vol. VI: 279–293. Access pdf [here](#).

2016 Animal Groups and Social Ontology: An Argument from the Phenomenology of Behavior.
Phenomenology & the Cognitive Sciences 15(3): 403–22. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11097-015-9430-2>

2015 Moral Clumsiness.
Think 14(40): 93–99. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1477175615000019>

2014 Husserl's Concept of Position-Taking and Second Nature.
Phenomenology and Mind, 6: 168–76. https://doi.org/10.13128/phe_mi-19561

2006 Tomar en cuenta, pensar en compañía, ampliar la mente: sobre la enseñanza de las humanidades.
Revista de la Escuela Colombiana de Ingeniería, 53: 42–46.

Work-In-Progress

Books

- “Reconsidering Latinidad: A Social Identity Beyond Race and Ethnicity” (with Adam Burgos, under contract with Columbia University Press, manuscript under development)

Articles

- “More than Intersubjectivity: Jorge Mañach and Jorge Portilla on Sociality” (advanced draft)
- “Vexed Relations to the Land as an aspect of Latinidad in the U.S.: Diaspora, Borderlands, Landlessness”
- “Ethical selves as guests and hosts: non-indifference, moral orientation, and systemic racism” (advanced draft)
- “On an analogy between perception and reason in Husserl” (in-progress)

Presentations & Talks

Invited

- Perception and Social Being
Pacific APA Invited Symposium *Perception Matters* (with A. Noë and C. O'Callaghan). March 2024.

Selected

- Sobre una analogía entre percepción y razón en Husserl (*On an analogy between perception and reason in Husserl*).
X Coloquio Latinoamericano de Fenomenología. Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México, Toluca. 2024
- Social Identities as Social Affordances (with A. Burgos)
 - Social Ontology and Collective Intentionality Conference, 2022

- b. New Perspectives on the Ontology of Social Identities Workshop, 2022
 - c. Critical Social Ontology Workshop, 2022
- 4. Afro-Latinidad in an Anticolonial Key as Crucial for an Account of Latinidad in The U.S (with A. Burgos),
 - a. Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 2023
 - b. APA Committee for Hispanic/Latinx Issues in Philosophy, 2023
 - c. Latinx Philosophy Conference. 2022
- 5. Neither Race nor Ethnicity: Latinidad as a Social Affordance (with A. Burgos).
 - a. Northwest Philosophy Conference, 2021
 - b. Social Ontology Conference, 2021
 - c. Gonzaga Philosophy Department Colloquium, 2021
- 6. Augustine on the Objects of Perception: Lessons for the Contemporary Debate on Perceptual Normativity
 - a. Northwest Philosophy Conference, 2021
 - b. Gonzaga Philosophy Department Colloquium, 2020
- 7. Socialidad, acción colectiva y *collective affordances*: algunas limitaciones de los conceptos de intersubjetividad e intencionalidad colectiva (Sociality, collective action and collective affordances: some limitations of the concepts of intersubjectivity and collective intentionality).
VII Coloquio Latinoamericano de Fenomenología, Puebla, México, 2021
- 8. Dos interpretaciones latinoamericanas pragmatistas-fenomenológicas de la subjetividad e intersubjetividad (What Can Pragmatism Contribute to Phenomenology? Two Latin American Accounts of Social Phenomena). Peruvian Workshop in Phenomenology and Hermeneutics, Lima, Perú, 2020
- 9. The Aspectuality of Perception
Northwest Philosophy Conference, 2019
- 10. High-Level Properties and Social Identities
Main, Brain and Behavior research group, Gonzaga University, 2018
- 11. Perceptual Geographies
Caribbean Philosophical Association, New York, 2017
- 12. Social Identities and Other Minds
Phenomenology Roundtable, San Jose, CA. San José State University, 2017
- 13. Our Understanding of Others Involves the Perception of High-Level Perceptual Properties
Empathy, Direct Perception and Other Minds, University of Copenhagen, 2017
- 14. Expresión, intersubjetividad y mundo perceptual
Círculo Latinoamericano de Fenomenología, Universidad Católica Argentina, Buenos Aires, 2016
- 15. The Concept of Position-Taking and the Pragmatic Dependence of Perception
Husserl Circle, Dartmouth College, 2014
- 16. Can Culturally Generated Perceptual Content Be Nonconceptual?
Summer School in Phenomenology and the Philosophy of Mind, University of Copenhagen, 2012
- 17. Perceptual Topographies: Nonconceptuality beyond Vision and Touch
Tennessee Philosophical Association, 2012
- 18. Socrates' Alter Ego in Plato's Hippias Major
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, New York, 2009
- 19. Socrates Dismisses, Ion Resists: Philosophical Discourse and Artistic Experience in Plato's Ion
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, New York, 2008

Commentaries

1. On Jeff Johnson's "Philosophical Argument and Storytelling," Northwest Philosophy, 2021
2. On Jesse Wilson's "Pains as Objects of Perception," Northwest Philosophy, 2019
3. On Andrew Naylor's "Theories of Personal Identity Biological Continuity vs. Brain-Realized Psychological Continuity," Tennessee Philosophical Association, 2015
4. Author-Meets-Critics session on Talia Welsh's "The Child as Natural Phenomenologist," Tennessee Philosophical Association, 2014
5. On Alex Madva's "The Structure of Implicit Social Attitudes," Eastern APA, 2012

Teaching Experience

Gonzaga University

- Ethics (with an emphasis on feminist ethics; also in a shorter summer format)
- Ethics (with an emphasis on epistemic responsibility; also in a shorter summer format)
- Philosophy of Human Nature (with the theme "barbarians, borderlands, monsters"; with a focus Latin American philosophy; with a focus on consciousness and embodiment)
- Philosophy of Human Nature* with an Honors denomination
- Reasoning

Tennessee State University

- Introduction to the Philosophy of Race, Gender, and Class
- Introduction to Philosophy

Vanderbilt University

- Introduction to Philosophy (focus on epistemology; or focus on perception) (writing-intensive)
- General Logic
- Philosophy of mind (TA)

Binghamton University

- Introduction to Philosophy
- Environmental Ethics and Policy
- Descartes, Hume, and Kant (TA)

Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia, 2004-2005

- Intro to Ethics, Mass-Media Theory

Escuela Colombiana de Ingeniería, Humanities Department, Bogotá, Colombia, 2002-2006

- Classes in the humanities: thematic explorations with a focus on different intellectual history periods

Mentorship, Co-curricular Activities, & Student Engagement

- Honors project director. Tereza Dudzik: "The Experience and Identity of First-Generation Americans." 2024-25
- Gonzaga University Ethics Bowl Coach. 2023-2025
- "Beings at Home in the World" Interview. *Charter: Gonzaga's Journal of Scholarship & Opinion*, Vol. 61, 2023-24

Public Philosophy

1. Panelist, "Blackness Beyond the Nation State" roundtable discussion, part of the *Black and Latinx Heritage Lecture Series* at Gonzaga University. February 2024.
2. Guest at *Aula Divergente* podcast, [episode on migrations](#). May 2023

3. Cultural Ignorance, Biases, Awareness, and Ongoing Humility
Inclusive Excellence Leadership Academy. Gonzaga's Office of Inclusive Excellence. Sessions for staff and faculty. Spring 2022, 2023, 2024.
4. The New BABC Ethics Code and Cultural Diversity
Seattle Children's Autism Center at Seattle Children's Hospital (Approved Continuing Education (ACE) talk). With Dr. Nicole Lustig. September 2021
5. Filmosophy Lecture Series: My Octopus Teacher
Gonzaga, an event to attract students to the philosophy major and minor. September 2021
6. Learning Who You Are: Good Hosts and Good Guests
Dean's Research and Creativity Forum, Gonzaga, March 2020
7. La pregunta es ética, no legal, para Jorge Rodrigo Tovar
Op-Ed Column. In: *El Tiempo* (highest circulation newspaper in Colombia). 28 May, 2020
8. Perception and Movement
Panel participant at Creator's Table Church "Movement and Spirituality". February 2020
9. Anatomy, Cartography, Geography: Getting to Know Different Spaces
Layers of Mapping Workshop, Tennessee State University, March 2017
10. What We See
Digital Story, Curb Center's Mellon Summer Institute in Digital and Public Humanities. <http://bit.ly/1WRF3Lh>
11. Perceptual Practices
3-Minute Thesis Competition (for non-specialized public), Vanderbilt University, 2013. bit.ly/2fzxGGp

Competitive Awards & Honors

- Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Humanities Education, 2016-2018
- Berry Publication Prize (Best Student Publication), Vanderbilt, Philosophy Department, 2016
- Thomas M. Weser International Student Leadership Award (a yearly awardee selected from all the international students across the university), Vanderbilt University, 2016
- Berry Student Publication Award, Vanderbilt, Philosophy Department, 2014, -15
- Honor (top-up) Fellowship (a competitive award across The Graduate School), Vanderbilt University, The Graduate School, 2010-2015
- University Fellowship, Vanderbilt University, The Graduate School, 2010-2015
- Best Graduate Student Paper, American Academy of Religion (Eastern Division), May 2009
- Philosophy Research Fellowship, Binghamton University, Philosophy Dept., 2008, 2009
- University Fellowship, Binghamton University, Philosophy Department, 2006-2010

Service & Professional Leadership

- Board of Directors Member, Teaching Philosophy Association (Teaching Philosophy journal), 2022-present
- Selection Committee, Outstanding Contributions of the Year, Article and Book Review, Teaching Philosophy Association, instituted in 2024
- Inclusive Excellence Leadership (IEL) Academy, Instructor. Gonzaga, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024
- Selection Committee for *David W. Concepción Prize for Excellence in Teaching Philosophy* (APA/TPA/AAPT) 2022, 2023, 2024

- Book Reviews coordinator at the Latin American Phenomenology Circle, Spring 2022-Fall 2024
- Co-organizer, "Peacebuilding in Colombia," forum with Rodrigo Londoño Echeverri, last commander and peace negotiator of FARC-EP. Gonzaga, November 2023
- Organizer, New Perspectives in the Ontology of Social Identities Workshop, June 2022
- Steering Committee (faculty development) for Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Program. Gonzaga, Fall 2018
- Int'l Student and Scholar Service Vanderbilt Advisory Board. Alumni Representative, 2016-2018
- Intercultural Competence QEP Subcommittee Member. Tasked with drafting a proposal for an undergraduate residential immersion experience. Office of the Vice Provost. Vanderbilt, 2015-16
- Search Committee Member, International Student and Scholar Services Office, Vanderbilt, 2015
- Co-Founder & President, Latin American & Caribbean Vanderbilt Student Assoc. (LACS), 2014-16

Referee Service

Ergo, Philosophical Psychology, Consciousness and Cognition, Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences, Adaptive Behavior, Synthese, Topoi, South African Journal of Philosophy, Rowman and Littlefield

Pedagogical and Professional Development

- American Association of Philosophy Teachers Workshop/Conference, 2024
- Arrupe Faculty Seminar (a mission-integration seminar), 2023-2024
Office of Mission Engagement, Gonzaga University
- Evidence Effectiveness: Crafting Your Teaching Narrative, Spring 2024
Center for Teaching & Advising, Gonzaga University
- Hybrid Pedagogy in a Post-Pandemic World/Digital Tools for Participation Workshop, Fall 2022
Instructional Design and Delivery Office, Gonzaga University
- Ignatian Colleagues Formation Program (a mission-integration seminar), 2020- 2021
Gonzaga Office Of Mission and Ministry
- Diversity Edu: Personal Skills for a Diverse Campus, Fall 2020
Gonzaga University Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion
- Course Design Institute, February 2019
Center for Teaching & Advising, Gonzaga University
- Inclusive Pedagogical Practices Workshop, January 2019
College of Arts and Sciences, Gonzaga University
- Mellon Certificate in Humanities Education, 2016
The Center for Teaching and The Graduate School, Vanderbilt University
- Mellon Institute in Digital and Public Humanities, 2016
Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities & The Curb Center, Vanderbilt University
- Certificate in College Teaching, 2012-2013
The Center for Teaching and the Graduate School, Vanderbilt University
- German Language Studies, Summer 2012
interDaF/Herder-Institut, Universität Leipzig
- German Language Studies, Summer 2011
German School, Middlebury College

Languages

1. German (intermediate). 2. French (intermediate). 3. Latin (basic reading skills). 4. English (near native). 5. Spanish (native speaker)

Professional Memberships

1. American Philosophical Association (APA)
2. American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT)
3. Latin American Phenomenology Circle
4. Society for Mexican American Philosophy (SMAP)
5. International Social Ontology Society
6. Husserl Circle

References

Dr. José Medina

Walter Dill Scott Professor of Philosophy
Department Chair
Department of Philosophy
Northwestern University
Telephone: 847-467-7536
(Dissertation Committee Chair)
Email: jose.medina@northwestern.edu

Dr. Lisa Guenther

Professor and Queen's National Scholar in Political
Philosophy and Critical Prison Studies
Department of Philosophy
Queen's University
(Dissertation Committee)
Email: lisa.guenther@queensu.ca

Dr. Maria Kulp

Associate Professor of Philosophy
Gonzaga University
Telephone: 509-313-4724
howardm@gonzaga.edu

Dr. Shaun Gallagher

Lillian and Morrie Moss Chair of Excellence in
Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
University of Memphis
Telephone: 901-678-3357
Email: s.gallagher@memphis.edu

Dr. Charles Lassiter

Associate Professor of Philosophy
Center for the Applied Humanities, Interim Director
Gonzaga University
Telephone: 509-313-6761
lassiter@gonzaga.edu

Dr. Annmarie Caño

Professor of Psychology & former Dean of the
College of Arts and Sciences
Gonzaga University
cano@gonzaga.edu

Dr. Robin Kelley

Chief Diversity Officer
Office of Inclusive Excellence
Gonzaga University
kelleyr2@gonzaga.edu