

Gabriel Greenberg

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Education

2011 Ph.D., Philosophy, Rutgers University.
2005 B.A., Philosophy, Art, Yale University. Phi Beta Kappa, *Magna Cum Laude*.

Employment

2020-present Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California Los Angeles
2023-2024 Visiting Scholar, Center for Study of Language and Information, Stanford University
2022-2023 Visiting Professor, Department of Philosophy, Stanford University
2011-2020 Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California Los Angeles

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Non-linguistic Representation

Areas of Teaching Competence

Philosophy of Art, Cognitive Science, Computation, Formal Semantics, Logic, Metaphysics

Research

Forthcoming:

“The Structure of Visual Content,” *Mind*
“Iconicity,” *MIT Open Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science*.
“Spatial Coherence in Narrative Film,” in the volume *Discourse and Coherence*, OUP.

Published:

“Map Semantics and the Geography of Meaning,”
The Oxford Handbook of Applied Philosophy of Language, Oxford University Press (2024): 489-522.
“The Iconic-Symbolic Spectrum,” *Philosophical Review*, 132:4 (2023): 579-627.
“A Semantics of Face Emoji in Discourse,” *Linguistics and Philosophy*, 46 (2023): 905–957.
(with Patrick Grosz, Christian De Leon, and Elsi Kaiser)
“Review of John Kulvicki’s *Modeling the Meaning of Pictures*,” *Philosophical Review*, 131:3 (2022): 373-378.
“Showing Seeing in Film,” *Ergo*, 7:27 (2021): 730-756. (with Sam Cumming, Rory Kelly, and Elsi Kaiser)
“Semantics of Pictorial Space,” *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 12 (2021): 847–887.
“Counterfactuals and Modality,” *Linguistics and Philosophy*, 44 (2021): 1255–1280.
“Tagging: Semantics at the Iconic/Symbolic Interface,”
Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium (2019): 11-20.
“Content and Target in Pictorial Representation,” *Ergo*, 5:33 (2018): 865-898.
“Conventions of Viewpoint Coherence in Film,” *Philosopher’s Imprint*, 17:1 (2017): 1-28.
(with Sam Cumming and Rory Kelly)
“Varieties of Iconicity,” *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 6:1 (2015): 1-25.

(with Valeria Giardino)

“Beyond Resemblance,” *Philosophical Review* 122:2 (2013): 215-287.

Under review and in progress:

“Iconic and Symbolic Representation” (book project, under contract with OUP)

“Neural Images: On Retinotopy and Representation” (in progress)

“Visual Objects” (in progress)

Presentations

“Productivity in Iconic and Symbolic Representation”

2025 Central New York Philosophy of Language Workshop, 10.17.25

“Iconicity and Mental Representation”

2025 Philosophy Colloquium, CUNY, 4.9.25

2025 Philosophy Colloquium, Arizona State University, 3.28.25

2025 Philosophy Colloquium, Washington University, St. Louis, 2.27.25

“Retinotopy and Representation”

2025 Vision Science Society, PhiVis Session, 5.20.25

2025 Mind and Language Seminar, NYU, 4.8.25

2024 Representational Format Workshop, NYU, 11.26.24

2023 Iconicity and Cognition Workshop, CSLI, Stanford, 9.21.23

“Guidelines: Semantics, Power, Action”

2024 Normative Pictures Workshop, University of Sassari, Sardinia, 9.25.24

“Comments on Kartik Chandra’s ‘What you expect when you’re expressing’ ”

2024 SLIME 3, UCLA, 9.26.24

“Content and Target in Visual Perception and Visual Memory”

2024 Accuracy and Memory Workshop, Universidade Federal de Goiás (online) 2.28.24

“The Iconic-Symbolic Spectrum”

2024 Philosophy of Mind Talks, University of Antwerp, 5.2.24

2022 Philosophy Colloquium, University of Iowa, 4.29.22

2021 Philosophy Colloquium, Stanford, 10.22.21

2021 Mind and Language Workshop, University of São Paulo 10.15.21

2020 Aesthetics, Cognitive Science, and the Imagined World Workshop, Princeton 11.6.20

2020 Philosophy Colloquium, Institut Jean Nicod 10.9.20

2019 Philosophy of Mathematics Seminar, Pitzer College 10.14.19

“Iconic Computation”

2023 Seminar in Logic and Formal Philosophy, Stanford 10.18.23

“Chaos Cinema and Coherence Cinema”

2023 Society for the Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image, UNC, Wilmington, 6.3.23

“The Structure of Visual Content”

2023 Symposium on the syntax of consciousness, CPA, Toronto, 5.29.23

2018 Workshop on Non-propositional Intentionality, ANU, Canberra, 7.3.18

2018 Philosophy Mountain Workshop, Telluride, 3.2.18

2018 Symposium: Varieties of Mental Representation, Eastern APA, 1.6.18

2017 Perception Conference in Paris, Institut Jean-Nicod, 7.10.17

2017 Mind and Language Conference, University of Turin, 7.5.17

2016 Guest lecture, Philippe Schlenker’s graduate course on sign language and gesture, NYU, 9.26.16

- 2016 Pictures and Propositions Conference, London Aesthetics Forum, 6.14.16
- “Visual Semantics”
2022 Super Semantics workshop, CreteLing, Crete, 7.20.22
- “The Tree of Meaning” (with Sam Cumming)
2022 SLIME Workshop, UCLA, 6.11.22
- “Comments on Mariela Aguilera’s ‘Journey planning: A cartography of practical reasoning’ ”
2022 Mental Format Workshop, York University 5.4.22
- “The Semantics of Face Emoji in Discourse”
joint work with Patrick Grosz, Elsi Kaiser, and Christian DeLeon
2021 Colloquium, Super Linguistics Colloquium 1.22.21
2020 UCLA Mind and Language Workshop 12.14.20
- “Tagging: Semantics at the Iconic/Symbolic Interface”
2019 Invited talk, Amsterdam Colloquium, ILLC, 12.20.19
- “Orders of Iconicity”
2019 Workshop on Multi-modal Communication, UConn, 12.15.19
- “World-Icon-Symbol”
2019 XVIII Inter-American Congress of Philosophy, Bogota, 10.18.19
2019 Philosophy and Cognitive Science Workshop, PUCP, Lima, 4.9.19
- “Fregean Particularism and Perceptual Coreference:
2019 Comments on Susanna Schellenberg’s *The Unity of Perception*”
XVIII Inter-American Congress of Philosophy, Bogota, 10.18.19
- “Visual Objects”
2019 Philosophy Colloquium, Cal Sate LA, 4.9.19
2018 Philosophy Colloquium, Boston University, 12.7.18
2018 Philosophy Colloquium, University of Southern California, 12.3.18
2018 Philosophy Talk, Metaphysics and Mind Group, University of Toronto, 10.11.18
2018 English-German Picture Theory Group, Dartmouth, 8.22.18
- “Dynamic Semantics for Moving Pictures”
joint work with Sam Cumming, Rory Kelly, and Elsi Kaiser
2019 GLOW (Generative Linguistics in the Old World), Oslo, 5.11.19
2019 Philosophy of Language Workshop, Rutgers, 4.27.19
2018 Special workshop on film, ANU, Canberra, 7.4.18
2018 Society for the Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image, Montana State University, 6.15.18
- “Axial Symmetry as Focal Point in Spatial Interpretation of Film” (*presented by Sam Cumming*)
joint work with Sam Cumming and Rory Kelly
2018 Workshop on Non-propositional Intentionality, ANU, Canberra, 7.3.18
2018 Society for the Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image, Montana State University, 6.15.18
- “Semantics of Pictures” and “Semantics of Film”
2018 Guest speaker (with Neil Cohn), 2-day workshop-tutorial: The formal analysis and semantic interpretation of pictorial representations, UConn 3.16-17.18
- “Content and Target in Pictorial Representation”
2016 Philosophy Colloquium, Washington University in St. Louis, 9.16.16
2016 Philosophy Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin, 9.2.16
2016 Philosophy Colloquium, Arizona State University, 3.18.16
2016 Invited talk, Central APA, 3.3.16
- “Systems of Depiction, Systems of Vision”

- 2015 UCLA Iconicity Workshop, 6.6.15
 2015 Philosophy Colloquium, UC Riverside, 5.27.15
 2015 Cognitive Science Society Keynote, UCLA, 4.25.15
- “The Geometry of Pictorial Representation”
 2015 Philosophy Colloquium, UC Davis, 4.24.15
- “Subjective Point of View in Visual Sequences”
joint work with Sam Cumming, Rory Kelly, and Elsi Kaiser
 2014 Society for Philosophy and Psychology, UBC
 2014 Society for the Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image, Franklin & Marshall College
(presented by Sam Cumming)
- “Reference and Predication in Pictorial Representation”
 2014 Barnard-Columbia Philosophy of Perception Workshop, 7.26.14
 2014 New Frontiers: Formal Semantics Beyond Spoken Language (with SALT 2014), NYU, 5.28.14
 2014 Colloquium, London Aesthetics Forum, 2.19.14
 2014 Guest Lecture, Institut Jean Nicod, Paris, 2.17.14
 2014 Aesthetics as Philosophy of Perception Lecture Series, University of Antwerp, 2.13.14
 2014 Philosophy Colloquium, Ohio State University, 2.7.14
 2014 Philosophy Colloquium, University of Arizona, 2.4.14
 2013 Philosophy Colloquium, University of British Columbia, 9.13.13
- “Natural Conventions”
 2014 Meta-Semantics Workshop, Berkeley, 3.9.14
- “Formal Semiotics”
 2013 Workshop on Perception and the Humanities, UCSD
- “Conventions of Viewpoint Coherence in Film”
joint work with Sam Cumming and Rory Kelly
 2013 Workshop on Perception and Speech Acts, University of Oslo
 2012 Communicative Acts Conference, Cornell University
 2012 Society for the Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image, Sarah Lawrence College
 2012 Semantics Workshop, UCLA
 2012 Literature and Cognition Symposium, Haverford College (“The Mathematical Logic of Comics”)
- “Comments on Philippe Schlenker’s ‘Anaphora: Insights from Sign Language’ ”
 2013 Annual Semantics Workshop, Rutgers
- “Comments on Christy Mag Huidir’s ‘Art, Metaphysics, and the Paradox of Standards’ ”
 2013 American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Conference
- “Pictorial Semantics”
 2012 Guest Lecture, Philippe Schlenker’s graduate course on sign language semantics, NYU
 2010 American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division
 2010 Context and Meaning Summer School, Central European University, Budapest
 2010 Department of Philosophy Colloquium, University of Johannesburg
- “Turing’s New Machine”
 2012 Brainstorming Turing: Celebrating Alan Turing, UCLA
- “Iconic and Symbolic Representation”
 2012 Albritton Society, UCLA
 2010 Putney Public Library, Putney, Vermont
 2009 Philosophy Grad-Talks, Rutgers University
- “The Geometrical Projection Theory of Depiction”
 2011 American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division

“Beyond Resemblance”

2011 Department of Philosophy Colloquium, UCLA
2010 Philosophy Grad-Talks, Rutgers University
2009 Hoernle Seminar, Department of Philosophy Witwatersrand Universtiy, Johannesburg
2009 Guest Lecture, Peter Kivy’s Aesthetics graduate seminar, Rutgers University

“An Argument for the Strict Analysis of Subjunctive Conditionals,”

2009 Conditionals Summer School, Central European University, Budapest

“Tagging: the Semantics of Words in Pictures”

2009 Aesthetics reading group, Central European University, Budapest
2009 IGERT Perceptual Science poster session, Rutgers University

“The Problem of Forgetting”

2008 Lund-Rutgers Graduate Philosophy Conference, Lund University, Sweden.

Online Publications

“Wshhh...”

Ongoing blog, devoted to everyday uses of non-linguistic representation.
<http://wshhh.tumblr.com>

“Seven Puzzles of Pictorial Content”

Aesthetics for Birds, September 7, 2013
<http://gjgreenberg.bol.ucla.edu/docs/7puzzles.pdf>

“Pictorial Grammar” (with Dawn Chan)

The Paris Review Daily, December 21, 2010
<http://www.theparisreview.org/blog/2010/12/21/pictorial-grammar/>

Professional Activities

Reviewing	<i>American Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Ergo, Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, Journal of Philosophical Research, Journal of Semantics, Glossa, Linguistics and Philosophy, Mind, Philosophers’ Imprint, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Review of Philosophy and Psychology, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Synthese, Thought.</i>
2025	Co-organizer, “SLIME 4,” UCLA, with Samuel Cumming and Joshua Armstrong.
2024	Co-organizer, “SLIME 3,” UCLA, with Samuel Cumming and Joshua Armstrong.
2023	Organizer, “Iconicity and Cognition,” at interdisciplinary workshop at CSLI, Stanford.
2023	Co-organizer, “SLIME 2,” UCLA, with Samuel Cumming and Joshua Armstrong.
2022	Co-organizer, “Studies in Language, Information, Meaning, and Expression (SLIME)”, an interdisciplinary workshop at UCLA, with Samuel Cumming and Joshua Armstrong. Website: infoslime.weebly.com
2015	Co-editor, “Pictorial and Spatial Representation”, a special issue of the <i>Review of Philosophy and Psychology</i> , 2015, with Valeria Giardino.
2015	Co-organizer, “UCLA Iconicity Workshop”, an interdisciplinary workshop at UCLA, with Gabby Johnson and Gabe Dupre. Website: iconicty.weebly.com
2012	Co-organizer, “Visual Narrative”, an interdisciplinary conference at UCLA, with Sam Cumming and Rory Kelly. Website: gjgreenberg.bol.ucla.edu/visnar/

Grants and Fellowships

2019 Office of Instructional Development, Instructional Improvement Grant
2018 Faculty Research Grant
2016 Research Enabling Grant
2014 Faculty Career Development Award
2014 Faculty Research Grant
2012 Transdisciplinary Seed Grant Award (PI, with Sam Cumming and Rory Kelly)
2011 Transdisciplinary Seed Grant Award (with Sam Cumming (PI) and Rory Kelly)
2010 NSF Perceptual Science Fellowship
2010 Mellon Summer Grant
2008 NSF Perceptual Science Fellowship
2007 Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis Fellowship

Teaching: Graduate Seminars

Syllabi available on request.

Mental Iconicity (Stanford)	Winter 2023
Emotions and their Expression	Winter 2022
Non-Linguistic Representation	Winter 2021
Visual Narrative (with Sam Cumming, UCLA Philosophy)	Winter 2019
Indexicality	Fall 2018
Visual Objects	Winter 2018
80's Classics (Naturalizing Intentionality)	Winter 2017
Iconic and Symbolic Representation	Spring 2015
Semantics of Irreality (with Jessica Rett, UCLA Linguistics)	Fall 2013
Pictorial Semantics	Winter 2013
Cognition and Computation	Winter 2012

Teaching: Undergraduate

Syllabi available on request.

Iconic and Symbolic Representation	2020-S
Introduction to Theory of Computation	2025-F, 21W, 20S, 19W, 17W, 16S, 14F, 13F, 13S, 11F
Introduction to Philosophy of Mind (<i>200-360 students</i>)	2025-F, 19F, 19W, 18S, 16S, 14F, 14S, 13S, 12S
Philosophy of Visual Representation	2024-F, 23S (Stanford), 18S, 15S, 13W
Philosophy of Criticism: Art & Literature	2010-S (Rutgers)

Graduate Supervision

(ongoing) Dissertation Chair, Alonso Molina
(ongoing) Dissertation Committee, Seungtaek Lee
(ongoing) Dissertation Committee, James Gu
(ongoing) Dissertation Committee, Zeynep Yildiz
2025 Dissertation Chair, Catherine Hochman
2023 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, Alonso Molina

2022 Dissertation Co-chair, Christian De Leon
2022 Dissertation Committee, Kimberly Johnston
2022 Dissertation Committee, Ian Boon
2020 Dissertation Committee, William Kowalsky
2020 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, Catherine Hochman
2019 Dissertation Co-chair, Gabbrielle Johnson
2018 Dissertation Committee, Kevin Lande
2018 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, Christian De Leon
2016 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, Ian Boon
2016 Dissertation Committee, Jos Telling (Linguistics)
2016 Dissertation Committee, Lauren Winans (Linguistics)
2015 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, William Kowalsky
2014 Dissertation Committee, Kaeli Ward (Linguistics)
2014 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, Kevin Lande
2014 3rd Year Thesis Advisor, Eric Tracy

Departmental Service

2025-26 Admissions Committee
2021-22 Chair of Admissions
2020-21 Admissions Committee
2020-21 Diversity Committee
2013-19 Coordinator, Department Website Design
2012-19 Dickson History of Art Fellowship Award Committee
2016-17 Admissions Committee
2014-16 Diversity Committee
2014-16 Co-coordinator, Department Colloquium Series, with Katie Elliot
2012-14 Co-coordinator, Department Colloquium Series, with Sam Cumming
2012 Co-organizer, Philosophy of Language Workshop, with Sam Cumming.
2012 Co-creator, "Mind + Language", website for UCLA resources, with Kevin Lande.