

# Alejandro Vesga

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## EMPLOYMENT

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<b>Assistant Professor</b> University of Houston, Department of Philosophy	2024-
<b>Postdoctoral Research Associate</b> Princeton – University Center for Human Values Cognitive Science. PI: Tania Lombrozo	2023-2024

## RESEARCH AREAS

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### Areas of Specialization

Epistemology, Philosophy of Language, Cognitive Science, Action Theory

### Areas of Competence

Latin American Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy, Moral Psychology

## EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D.</b> in Philosophy Cornell University Malcolm Visiting Fellow, King's College London, 2022 Minor in Cognitive Science Dissertation Title: "Talking with Others: On the Normative Significance of our Declarative Practices" <u>Committee</u> : Carlotta Pavese, W. Starr (co-chairs), Kate Manne, Shaun Nichols, Morten Christiansen (cog-sci member)	2023
<b>M.A.</b> in Philosophy Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia <i>Advisor</i> : Tomás Barrero <i>Dissertation</i> : "The Role of Semantics in Testimonial Communication"	2016
<b>B.A.</b> in Philosophy Minor in Journalism. Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia	2015

## RESEARCH ARTICLES

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### Published/Forthcoming

#### Research Articles:

Communicating Testimonial Commitment ([2023](#)) *Ergo: An Open access Journal of Philosophy* 10: 16.

No brute facts: The principle of sufficient reason in ordinary thought. ([2023](#)) *Cognition*, 238, 105479.  
*With Scott Partington and Shaun Nichols.*

Non-Literal Communication and Practical Coherence ([Forthcoming](#)). Chapter in *New Work on Discourse Coherence*. Ed: Gerhard Prayer. Oxford University Press. *With Willow Starr.*

#### Others (reviews, proceedings, etc.).

The Principle of Sufficient Reason in Ordinary Cognition ([2022](#)) *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44(44). *With Scott Partington and Shaun Nichols.*

Evidence for distinct cognitive attitudes of belief in theory of mind ([2024](#)) *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46(46). *With Neil Van Leeuwen and Tania Lombrozo.*

Review of a Telic Theory of Trust by Adam Carter. (Invited: In preparation). *Philosophical Review*.

## Under Review

On the Normativity of Communicative Commitment

Virulent Claims

Talking With Others: The Cooperative Norm of Assertion.

Evidence for Different Types of Beliefs. *With Tania Lombrozo and Neil Van Leeuwen*

Explaining the Normative: PSR and the Normative Domain. *With Scott Partington, Shaun Nichols, and David Pizarro.*

## **PRESENTATIONS** (\* = Competitively Selected, °=Invited)

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<i>Check your Attitudes: Evidence for a different kinds of belief in ordinary thought</i> Society of Philosophy and Psychology West Lafayette, IN	June 2024
<i>Talking with Others: The Cooperative Norm of Assertion</i> Postdoctoral Workshop UCHV, Princeton University	Feb 2024
<i>Can the Norm of Assertion be Functional?*</i> Agency and Intentions in Language Harvey Mudd College, Online	Jan 2024
<i>Eufemismos, Expectativas y Normas (Euphemisms, Expectations, And Norms)°</i> Workshop on Language, Action, and Expression Bogotá, Colombia	Dec 2023
<i>Explaining Value: PSR and the Normative Realm</i> Princeton Cognitive Science Research Seminar Princeton, NJ	Oct 2023
<i>Explaining Value: PSR and the Normative Realm (poster)*</i> Society of Philosophy and Psychology Pittsburgh, PA	June 2023
<i>Can the Norm of Assertion be Functional?*</i> 2023 American Philosophical Association – Pacific Division. San Francisco, CA.	April 2023
<i>Talking With Others: The Cooperative Norm of Assertion</i> Cornell Philosophy Department, Discussion Club. Ithaca, NY.	Sept 2022
<i>Norming Assertion*</i> Social Ontology Conference, Vienna	Sept 2022
<i>The Principle of Sufficient Reason in Ordinary Thought*</i> Society of Philosophy and Psychology and European Society of Philosophy and Psychology Joint Conference, Milan	July 2022
<i>Lying, Misleading, Stating, Insinuating</i> Cornell Philosophy Department, Discussion Club.	Apr 2021
<i>The Dual Nature of Testimony*</i> Critical Nexus Workshop Series. Virtual.	Sept 2020
<i>Euphemisms, Expectations, and Norms</i> Semantics Workshop Cornell University. Ithaca, NY.	Nov 2019
<i>Communication, Commitment, Testimony*</i> Workshop on Epistemic Autonomy, Trust, and Testimony Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Madrid, Spain.	Aug 2019
	May 2019

<i>The Objects of Testimony*</i> (poster) 2019 ECOM Workshop Connecticut University. Storrs, CN.	
<i>Can Hijacked Experience be Epistemically Okay?*</i> 2019 American Philosophical Association – Pacific Division. Vancouver, Canada.	April 2019
<i>Is Testimony Strictly Semantic?*</i> The 2nd Context, Cognition and Communication Conference. University of Warsaw. Warsaw, Poland	June 2018
<i>Is Testimony Strictly Semantic?*</i> V Conference of the Latin American Association for Analytic Philosophy and <i>PHILOGICA V</i> . Villa de Leyva, Colombia.	May 2018
<i>Reasons to Act and Reasons to Believe: Practical Normativity and the Epistemology of Testimony.*</i> VI Congreso Colombiano de Filosofía. Universidad del Norte. Barranquilla, Colombia	Aug 2016
<i>Testimonial Vehicles: The Pragmatics of testimony*</i> Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Conference. Rutgers University. New Brunswick, NJ.	Mar 2016
<i>Science, Testimony, and Trust*</i> Uniandes Student Conference. Universidad de los Andes. Bogotá, Colombia.	Apr 2014

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (\* = Competitively Selected)

<i>Course Design Institute</i> Center for Teaching Innovation, Cornell University	2021
<i>Summer Seminar on Responsibility.*</i> LATAM Free Will, Agency, and Responsibility Project	2021
<i>Summer Seminar on Agency.*</i> LATAM Free Will, Agency, and Responsibility Project	2020
<i>Workshop on Social Ontology and Collective Action.*</i> Groningen University	2019
<i>Summer School on Moral Epistemology.*</i> Central European University.	2018
<i>North American Summer School on Logic, Language, and Information.</i> NASSLLI	2018

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**AWARDS**

<i>MSF Philosophy in Media Fellow</i> Marc Sanders Foundation	2024
<i>Norman Malcolm Fellowship</i> Cornell University and King's College London.	2022
<i>Collaboration Project Award</i> Co-Organizer of the Critical Nexus Early Career Workshop Series. LATAM Free Will, Agency, and Responsibility Project.	2021
<i>Project Fellow (Responsibility)</i> LATAM Free Will, Agency, and Responsibility Project.	2021
<i>Project Fellow (Agency)</i> LATAM Free Will, Agency, and Responsibility Project.	2020

<i>Fellowship in the Digital Humanities</i> Society for the Humanities and Cornell Library	2019
<i>Travel Awards</i> Graduate School, Cornell University	2018-20, 2022
<i>Sage Fellowship</i> Graduate Studies, Cornell University	2017-8, 2020-1
<i>Presentation Award for Graduate Students</i> Universidad de los Andes, Philosophy Department.	2015
<i>Fellowship for MA Studies in Philosophy</i> Universidad de los Andes, Writing Center.	2014-6

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**TEACHING** (TA: Teaching Assistant, \*=Weekly Section Instructor)

<i>Gender, Race, Liberation (Instructor)</i> Cornell University: First-Year Writing Seminar	Spring 2023
<i>Liberation in Latin American Philosophy (Instructor)</i> Cornell University: First-Year Writing Seminar	Fall 2021
<i>Modal Logic (Grader)</i> Cornell University	Fall 2020
<i>Modern Philosophy (TA)*</i> Cornell University	Spring 2020
<i>Introduction to Philosophy (TA)*</i> Cornell University	Fall 2019
<i>Puzzles and Paradoxes (TA)*</i> Cornell University	Spring 2018
<i>Introduction to Philosophy (TA)*</i> Cornell University	Fall 2018
<i>Authors in Social Sciences: Marx, Weber, and Durkheim (TA: Writing focus)</i> Universidad de los Andes.	2015-2016

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**EMPLOYMENT**

<i>Research Assistant to the PSR Project led by Shaun Nichols</i> Cognitive Science Program, Cornell University	2022
<i>ELSO Writing Tutor for Graduate Students</i> Knight Institute, Cornell University	2021
<i>Research Assistant to Carlotta Pavese: SEP entry on Knowledge-How</i> Sage School of Philosophy, Cornell University	2020
<i>Academic Projects Manager</i> Center for Applied Ethics, Universidad de los Andes	2016 -2017
<i>Teaching Assistant and Academic Writing Tutor</i> Writing Center, Universidad de los Andes	2015 - 2016

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**SERVICE**

<i>President</i> Colombian Graduate Student Association, Cornell	2021 -
<i>Co-Organizer</i> Critical Nexus Workshop Series	2021
<i>President/Board Member</i> PLATO: Philosophy, Leadership, Advocacy and Training Organization. Sage School of Philosophy, Cornell	2020 - 2021

<i>Workshop and Course Design</i> Center For Applied Ethics, Universidad de los Andes	2014-2015
<i>Organizer</i> Joint Conference: V Conference of Teaching Ethics and II Latin American Conference of Applied Ethics	2016
<i>Referee/Organizer</i> Philosophy Colloquium, Universidad de los Andes	2013 - 2014
<i>Founding Member, Organizer</i> Peace Committee, Universidad de los Andes	2014
<i>Founding Member, Director</i> Philosophy Student Journal, <i>La Cicuta</i> . Universidad de los Andes	2012 - 2014

## POPULAR PRESS

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¿Es Álvaro un Hablamierda? (Is Álvaro a Bullshitter?) - <i>Palabras al Margen, Colombia</i>	Dec 2016
Tecnocracia, Ignorancia y Propaganda (Technocracy, Ignorance, and Propaganda) - <i>Palabras al Margen, Colombia</i>	Jul 2016
Silbato y prostitución homosexual (Dog-whistles and Homosexual Prostitution) - <i>Revista la Cicuta, Colombia</i>	Feb 2016
'Viagra' Femenino: Flibanserina, deseo e identidad (Feminine 'Viagra': Flibanserina, Desire, and Identity) - <i>Revista la Cicuta, Colombia</i>	Aug 2015
El purgatorio de una transgénero víctima de un pasaporte. (The purgatory of a trans woman victimized by her passport) - <i>Kien y Ke, Colombia</i> .	Jul. 2015
El Poder de los Micos: Patarroyo y la vacuna que no llega (Pararroyo and the long-awaited vaccine) - <i>La Silla Vacía, Colombia</i>	Aug. 2014
El Poder de los Monos (The Power of Monkeys) - <i>Cerosetenta, Colombia</i>	Aug. 2014

## REFERENCES

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Santiago Amaya <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>Universidad de los Andes</i> samaya@uniandes.edu.co	Tomás Barrero <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>Universidad de los Andes</i> ta.barrero32@uniandes.edu.co	Tamar Kushnir <i>Professor,</i> <i>Psychology and Neuroscience</i> <i>Duke University</i> tamar.kushnir@duke.edu	Clayton Littlejohn <i>Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>King's College London</i> <i>/ Australian Catholic University</i> clayton.littlejohn@acu.edu.au
Kate Manne <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>Cornell University</i> kam468@cornell.edu	Shaun Nichols <i>Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>Cornell University</i> cp645@cornell.edu	Carlotta Pavese <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>Cornell University</i> cp645@cornell.edu	W. Starr <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Philosophy</i> <i>Cornell University</i> w.starr@cornell.edu