

# Richard W. Lawrence

## Personal details

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**Citizenship** US

## Education

08.2017 **PhD** in Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley

05.2007 **BA** *summa cum laude* in Philosophy with Honors (minor in Mathematics), University of Pennsylvania

## Academic experience

### Positions

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#### Post-doctoral

	present	Principal Investigator, <i>Frege Among the Formalists</i> , FWF ESPRIT Grant, University of Vienna
10.2021	03.2022	IVC Fellow, Institute Vienna Circle, University of Vienna
04.2021	09.2021	Post-doctoral researcher, General and Computational Linguistics (65%) and Philosophy (35%), University of Tübingen
06.2019	03.2021	Post-doctoral researcher, General and Computational Linguistics, University of Tübingen
10.2018	12.2018	Visiting post-doctoral researcher, Free University Berlin
09.2017	08.2018	Berkeley Connect Fellow, University of California, Berkeley

#### Pre-doctoral

08.2009	08.2017	PhD student in Philosophy (50%), University of California, Berkeley
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07.2008	07.2009	Research coordinator, Computational Memory Lab, University of Pennsylvania
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## Areas

**Specializations** philosophy of mathematics, language, and logic

**Competences** technology and ethics, mathematical logic, philosophy of science, ancient philosophy

**Other interests** digital media, aesthetics, political philosophy

## Publications

### Peer reviewed articles

Lawrence, Richard and Justin Vlasits. 2025. Translation with introduction of Olga Hahn, “On the Coefficients of a Logical Equation and their Relation to the Theory of Valid Inference”. In: Aristotle’s Organon in Old and New Logic. Eds. Colin King and Venanzio Raspa. Bloomsbury.

Lawrence, Richard. 2024. “Kant’s Prize Essay and Nineteenth Century Formalism”. Kant Yearbook 16 (1) 31–52. <https://doi.org/10.1515/kantyb-2024-0002>

Lawrence, Richard. 2023. “Frege, Thomae, and Formalism: Shifting Perspectives”. Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy 11 (2) 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.15173/jhap.v11i2.5366>

Lawrence, Richard. 2021. “Frege, Hankel, and Formalism in the *Foundations*”. Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy 9 (11) 5–27. <https://doi.org/10.15173/jhap.v9i11.5007>

Lawrence, Richard. 2021. “Giving the value of a variable”. Kriterion — Journal of Philosophy 35. <https://doi.org/10.1515/krt-2021-0007>

### Book reviews

Lawrence, Richard. 2022. “Review of K. Hossack, *Knowledge and the Philosophy of Number*.” History and Philosophy of Logic. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01445340.2022.2080373>

Lawrence, Richard. 2017. “Review of K. Felka, *Talking about Numbers: Easy Arguments for Mathematical Realism*.” History and Philosophy of Logic 38 (4): 390–94. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01445340.2017.1331988>

## Conference papers

Hinrichs, Marie, Richard Lawrence and Erhard Hinrichs. 2020. "Exploring and visualizing wordnet data with GermaNet Rover". In: Proceedings of CLARIN Annual Conference 2020. Eds. C. Navarretta and M. Eskevich. Virtual Edition. [http://office.clarin.eu/v/CE-2020-1738-CLARIN2020\\_ConferenceProceedings.pdf](http://office.clarin.eu/v/CE-2020-1738-CLARIN2020_ConferenceProceedings.pdf)

## Translations and digital editions

Hankel, Hermann. 1867/2023. Lectures on Complex Numbers and their Functions, Part I: Theory of Complex Number Systems. Translated by Richard Lawrence. Current version Source code Latest release

Hahn, Olga. 1910/2025. "On the Coefficients of a Logical Equation and their Relation to the Theory of Valid Inference". In: Aristotle's Organon in Old and New Logic. Eds. Colin King and Venanzio Raspa. Translated by Richard Lawrence and Justin Vlasits. Bloomsbury.

## Research software

Lawrence, Richard. 2019 (first release). germanet-common. <https://github.com/Germanet-sfs/germanet-common>

Lawrence, Richard and Marie Hinrichs. 2020 (first release). GermaNet Rover. <https://weblicht.sfs.uni-tuebingen.de/rover/>

## Dissertation

Lawrence, Richard. 2017. *Nominalization, Specification, and Investigation*. University of California, Berkeley. Committee: Professors John MacFarlane and Paolo Mancosu (co-chairs, Philosophy), Hannah Ginsborg (third member, Philosophy) and Line Mikkelsen (outside member, Linguistics). <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2014397432>

## Manuscripts in development

Lawrence, Richard. "Who are the persons, and how many are the numbers?". Under review.

## Presentations (invited and refereed)

- April 29, 2025. "Ideal Forms, Real Applications, Missing Content: Hankel's Domain Extension Proof". Realism and Anti-Realism: Paradigms and research programs in logic and the philosophy

of mathematics, University of Tübingen.

- December 4, 2023. "Hankel on formal mathematics and its applications". From Permanence to Conservativity: Metatheoretic ideals in early formalism, University of Vienna.
- October 23, 2023. "Frege vs. the formalists on content and applications of arithmetic". Lisbon Workshop on the History of Logic, University of Lisbon.
- July 14, 2023. "Frege, Formalism and the Kantian Legacy". Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy, Humboldt University Berlin.
- July 11, 2023. "Frege, Formalism and the Kantian Legacy". Frege and the Emergence of Formalism, University of Vienna.
- February 16, 2023. "Kant's theory of signs and Hilbert's formalism". The Formal Turn in 20th Century Thought, University of Vienna.
- December 5, 2022. "Olga Hahn and the coefficients of a logical equation". Logik Café, University of Vienna.
- November 18, 2022. "Signs, rules, meaning, and the chess analogy". Vienna Language and Mind Group, University of Vienna.
- November 14, 2022. "Signs and content in early mathematical formalism". Department of Logic, Czech Academy of Sciences.
- September 15, 2022. "The chess analogy in its historical context". Gesellschaft für Analytische Philosophie, Humboldt University Berlin.
- August 24, 2022. "The chess analogy in its historical context". TiLPS History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop, Tilburg University.
- December 6, 2021. "Formalism through the eyes of Weierstrass and Thomae". Logik Café, University of Vienna.
- November 19, 2021. "Formalism through the eyes of Weierstrass and Thomae". Novembertagung in the History and Philosophy of Mathematics.
- July 16, 2021. "Frege and formalism: an apology for Thomae." Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy, University of Vienna.
- December 2, 2020. "Hankel's formalism, Frege's logicism, and the analytic-synthetic distinction." Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker-Kolloquium, University of Tübingen.
- November 28, 2020. "Hankel's formalism and Frege's logicism." Novembertagung on the History and Philosophy of Mathematics. Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- December 12, 2019. "Perspectives in the semantics of variables." University of Vienna.
- October 28, 2019. "Frege's arguments against formalism." Logik Café, University of Vienna.
- June 13, 2019. "Frege on concepts and objects." Master Class on the Lesser-Known Frege in Kantian Context, Boston University.
- May 7, 2019. "Algebraic investigations." Oberseminar am Institut für Philosophie, Friedrich-

Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg.

- January 29, 2019. “Variables and Values in Practice.” Workshop in Natural Language Semantics, Freie Universität Berlin.
- June 20, 2018. “Frege’s epistemological understanding of objects and concepts.” Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy, McMaster University.
- April 19, 2017. “Some puzzles about the indefinite article.” Society for Linguistics Undergraduate Students, University of California, Berkeley.
- March 31, 2017. “Who are the persons, and how many are the numbers?” Doc’in Nicod, Institut Jean Nicod.
- February 2, 2017. “Who are the persons, and how many are the numbers?” SemanticsBabble, University of California, San Diego.
- December 14, 2016. “Who are the persons, and how many are the numbers?” Philosophy Graduate Research Colloquium, University of California, Berkeley.
- August 5, 2016. “Concepts and objects in game-theoretical semantics.” Logic Colloquium 2016, Association for Symbolic Logic European Summer Meeting, University of Leeds.
- December 2, 2014. “Three analyses of specificational sentences.” Meaning Sciences Club, University of California, Berkeley.

## Professional service

- Article Referee (*dialectica*, *Dialogue*, *Philosophia Mathematica*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Semantics and Pragmatics*, *Synthese*)
- Member, European Society for the Philosophy of Mathematics, April 2023–present.
- Member, Gesellschaft für analytische Philosophie, May 2019–present.
- Organizing Committee Member, Novembertagung On the History and Philosophy of Mathematics 2021.
- Contributor, *forall x Calgary Remix: An Introduction to Formal Logic*, an open access textbook from the Open Logic Project
- Member, Berkeley-Stanford Circle in Logic and Philosophy, Fall 2014–Spring 2018
- Organizer, Berkeley Philosophy Department work-in-progress lunches, Spring 2015

## Fellowships, Awards and Honors (competitive)

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2021	Visiting Research Fellowship, Institute Vienna Circle, University of Vienna
2019	Master Class Travel Fellowship, Journal of the History of Philosophy
2018	Researcher Mobility Fund Fellowship, Free University Berlin

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2017	Berkeley Connect Mentoring Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley
2014	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of California, Berkeley
2007	President's Award for Undergraduate Research, University of Pennsylvania

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## Teaching

<sup>U</sup>: upper-level course <sup>D</sup>: course taught in German

### Universität Wien

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Winter 2023–24	Frege's Philosophy of Language <sup>U</sup>
Summer 2023	Philosophy of Science <sup>U</sup>

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### Universität Tübingen

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Summer 2021	Frege und Formalismus <sup>U</sup>
Winter 2020–21	Technology and Ethics
Summer 2020	Freges <i>Grundlagen der Arithmetik</i> <sup>D</sup>
Winter 2019–20	Reference to Numbers and Other Abstract Objects <sup>U</sup>

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### University of California, Berkeley

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Summer 2018	Ancient Philosophy
Summer 2015	Ancient Philosophy
Summer 2014	Ancient Philosophy
Summer 2017	Introduction to Logic

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Additional teaching experience as Graduate Student Instructor includes upper-level courses in Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mathematics, Aristotle, and Philosophical Methods.

## Languages

- English (native speaker)
- German (B2, some teaching experience)