

# Erica Shumener

## *curriculum vitae*

University of Pittsburgh  
Department of Philosophy  
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### Employment

Fall 2015 – Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh

### Education

2016 Ph.D. (defended in Fall 2015) in Philosophy, New York University. Dissertation Title: *Explaining Object Individuation*. Dissertation Committee: David Chalmers, Kit Fine (chair), Ted Sider.  
Fall 2011 Visiting Student, Cornell University  
Win 2011 & Visiting Student, Australian National University.  
Sum 2009  
2008 B.A. *Summa Cum Laude* in Philosophy (with highest honors) and History, New York University

### Areas of specialization

Metaphysics

### Areas of competence

Philosophy of Science (general)

### Grants, honors & awards

2014-15 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship  
2012-13 Graduate Student Fellow, New York Institute of Philosophy: Foundations of Epistemology  
2010 New York University Travel Grant  
2008-13 MacCracken Dissertation Fellowship, New York University  
2008 elected *Phi Beta Kappa*  
2007 Salomonowitz Memorial Prize, awarded by the New York University Philosophy Department (one recipient per year)  
2007 John W. Wilkes Memorial Prize, awarded by the New York University History Department

### Publications

fthc. (in prep) "Identity" for the *Routledge Handbook on Ground*  
fthc. (in prep) "Symposium contribution for Karen Bennett's *Making Things Up*" *Analysis*  
2017 "Laws of Nature, Explanation, and Semantic Circularity" *The British Journal for Philosophy of Science*  
2017 "The Metaphysics of Identity", *Philosophy Compass*

### Presentations

2018 Commentary on Agustín Rayo's "TBA", University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Colloquium  
2017-8 "Against Fundamental Identity and Distinctness".  
April 2018 Conference on the Principle of Sufficient Reason, Simon Fraser University  
March 2018 Philosophy Mountain Workshop, Telluride, Colorado

- June 2017 Conference on Personal Identity, Paros, Greece
- 2017 Commentary on Chris Dorst's "Why are the Laws so Useful?" CU Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Colorado Boulder.
- 2017 "A Minimal Account of Governance"  
Dec. 2017 Iris Einheuser Memorial Lecture, Duke University  
June 2017 SPAWN workshop, Syracuse University  
April 2017 Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech
- 2016-7 "Physicalism without Ground"  
June 2017 Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah  
Jan. 2017 Ranch Metaphysics Workshop  
June 2016 "Physicalism without Grounding", Grounding and Consciousness Conference University of Birmingham
- 2017 "Commentary on Jonathan Schaffer's 'The World for Explanation' " Sociedad Filosófica Ibero Americana (SOFIA) XXI Conference
- 2016 "Intrinsicity, Grounding, and Parthood" Workshop on the Metaphysics of Ground University of Texas at Austin
- 2016 "Commentary on Ted Sider's 'Object-Free Ontology'", American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division
- 2015 "Hempel, Explanation and Circularity"  
University of Toronto M & E Group  
Hempel and Beyond Workshop, University of Cologne
- 2015 "Commentary on Jon Litland's "Bicollective Ground" American Philosophical Association Meeting, Pacific Division
- 2015 "Silliness, Loneliness, and Intrinsicity"  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Pittsburgh  
Northern Illinois University  
Yale University
- 2014 "Explaining Identity and Distinctness" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University
- 2014 "Grounding Questions" Recent Work on the Logic of Ground Workshop, University of Oslo
- 2013 "How the Laws of Nature Govern" Women in Metaphysics Retreat and Workshop (supported by the Princeton, Rutgers, and NYU philosophy departments)
- 2012 Commentary on Ryan Perkins' "Of Grounding and Explanation" 12th Annual Columbia-NYU Philosophy Conference, New York University
- 2011 "Truthmaking: Problems with the Monistic Approach" Australian National University, Kioloa Postgraduate Conference.
- 2011 "Exploring Hyperintensional Approaches to Intrinsicity" Australian National University Philosophy Society Seminar.
- 2010 Commentary on Karen Bennett's "Construction Area (No Hard Hat Required)" Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University

Teaching*UNDERGRADUATE*

- Spr 2017,18 Freedom and Determinism (Pitt)  
 Spr 2018 Introduction to Philosophical Problems (Pitt)  
 Fall 2016,17 Metaphysics (Pitt)  
 Fall 2015,16 Concepts of Human Nature (Pitt)  
 Spr 2014 Introductory Logic (NYU)  
 Sum 2013 Epistemology (NYU)  
 Sum 2012 Central Problems in Philosophy (NYU)

*GRADUATE (ALL AT PITT)*

- Fall 2017 Laws of Nature  
 Spring 2017 The Metaphysics of Relations  
 Spring 2016 Metaphysics Seminar: Explanation and Fundamentality

Supervising

- Sum 2017 (Undergraduate) Jennifer Liu, “Scaling from Micro to Macro: Philosophical Investigations of the Living Through Art”, Brackenridge Summer Fellowship

Department and Professional Service

- 2017-18 Co-Director, Pitt Graduate Admissions Committee  
 2017-18 Member, Pitt Colloquium Committee  
 2016-?? Teaching Mentor for Jasmin Özel, Maximillion Tegtmeyer, and Alnica Visser  
 2016-20?? Faculty Ambassador, Pitt Undergraduate Philosophy Club  
 2016-17 Faculty Liaison, Pitt Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison Committee  
 2016-17 Scribe, Pitt Graduate Admissions Committee  
 2016-?? Planning Committee, *Midwest Annual Metaphysics Workshop*  
 2015-?? Fellow, *Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh*  
 2015-16 Member, Pitt Colloquium Committee  
 2012 Assistant Organizer, *California Metaphysics Conference at USC*  
 2012-13 Member, NYU Colloquium Committee  
 2010-12 Co-organizer, *NYU Metaphysics Bootcamp Workshop*  
 2009-10 Member, NYU Committee on Women and Minority Hiring  
 2009 Co-organizer, *9th Annual NYU-Columbia University Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy*
- ongoing Referee for: *Dialectica* (2013, 2018), *Erkenntnis* (2014), *Philosophers’ Imprint* (2017), *Philosophical Studies* (2014, 2016, 2017), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (2017), *Res Philosophica* (2015), *Synthese* (2017), *Thought* (2015, 2016)

References

David Chalmers  
New York University  
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Katrina Elliott (teaching)  
University of California Los Angeles  
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University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
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