AYDIN MOHSENI

curriculum vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

address	Carnegie Mellon University Department of Philosophy (Baker Hall 161) 5000 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
phone	+1 (612) 708 4598
email	amohseni@cmu.edu
website	www.aydinmohseni.com
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RESEARCH

AI Safety	AI agent foundations, value learning and alignment, automated research
Metascience	Grant funding, replication crisis, social epistemology of science
Methods	Bayesian epistemology, decision theory, evolutionary game theory

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Carnegie Mellon University

Assistant Professor, **Department of Philosophy** (*2024–present*)

Core Member, **Center for Conceptual Researcbh on Safe AI** (*2025–present*)

Core Member, **Institute for Complex Social Dynamics** (*2024–present*)

University of Pennsylvania

Senior Research Fellow, **Department of Philosophy** (*2022–24*)

University of Pittsburgh

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, **The Center for Philosophy of Science** (*2021–2022*)

EDUCATION

PhD, **Logic and Philosophy of Science** University of California, Irvine (*2021*)
Dissertation: Essays on the Social Epistemology of Science
Committee: Cailin O'Connor *&* Simon Huttegger (co-chairs), Brian Skyrms, Kyle Stanford

MA, **Mathematical Behavioral Sciences** University of California, Irvine (*2020*)

MS, **Logic, Computation, and Methodology** Carnegie Mellon University (*2015*)
Thesis: The Limitations of Equilibrium Concepts in Evolutionary Game Theory
Committee: Kevin Zollman (chair) *&* Teddy Seidenfeld

BFA, **Interactive Media** Minneapolis College of Art and Design (*2007*)

GRANTS

Templeton Foundation Research Grant (PI): *Identifying Breakthrough Science: Modeling, Measurement, and Funding Implications* · $200k · 2026
Supervised Program for Alignment Research (SPAR) Grant · $5k · 2026
Institute for Complex Social Dynamics (ICSD) Startup Grant · $5k · 2026
Falk Research Grant · $5k · 2024
Interim Appointee, AI2050 Early Career Fellowship, Schmidt Sciences (PI: Atoosa Kasirzadeh)

PEER-REVIEWED CONTRIBUTIONS (‡ ≡ commissioned article.)

A9 **Mohseni, A.**, D. Herrmann, *&* G. A. Orona. (*forthcoming*) "Why are the Social Sciences Hard? Two New Hypotheses." *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*

A8 **Mohseni, A.** (*forthcoming*) "The Role of Modeling in Improving Science." *Philosophy Compass*.‡

A7 **Mohseni, A.** (2025) "Methods for Modelers of Science," in *Methods in the Philosophy of Science: A User's Guide.* Adrian Currie *&* Sophie Juliane Veigl (eds.), Oxford University Press.

A6 **Mohseni, A.**, O'Connor, C., *&* J. Weatherall (2024) "The Best Paper You'll Read Today: Media Biases and the Public Understanding of Science." *Philosophical Topics*, 50(2), 127-153.

A5 LaCroix, T. *&* **A. Mohseni** (2023) "The Tragedy of the AI Commons." *Synthese*, 200(4), 289.

A4 **Mohseni, A.**, *&* C. Williams (2021) "Truth and Conformity on Networks." *Erkenntnis* 86(6), 1509-1530.

A3 **Mohseni, A.**, O'Connor, C., *&* H. Rubin (2019) "On the Emergence of Minority Disadvantage: Testing the Cultural Red King Hypothesis." *Synthese*, 198(2), 5599–5621.

A2 Barrett, J., Skyrms, B., *&* **A. Mohseni** (2019). "Self-Assembling Networks." *British Journal of Philosophy of Science,* 70(2), 301–325.

A1 **Mohseni, A.** (2019). "Stochastic Stability and Disagreements Between Dynamics." *Philosophy of Science,* 86(3), 497-521.

UNDER REVIEW († ≡ revise *&* resubmit.)

R5 Herrmann, D., **Mohseni, A.**, Levinstein, B., *&* B. Rushing. "A Bayesian Reduction of Causation."

R4 London, A. J. *&* **A. Mohseni** "Learning the Value of Value Learning."

R3 **Mohseni, A.** "HARKing: from Misunderstanding to Misprescription"†

R2 **Mohseni, A.** "Replication, Reform, and an Interventional Simpson's Paradox"

R1 **Mohseni, A.** "Limitations of Equilibrium Concepts in Evolutionary Games"

WORKS IN PROGRESS

W8 **Mohseni, A.**, Kasemi, Y. *&* Y. Hu. "Bayes-Optimal Automated AI Safety Research via Judgement Aggregation under Resource Constraints."

W7 **Mohseni, A.**, Zollman, K.J.S., *&* S. DeDeo. "A Bayesian Model of Grant Funding."

W5 **Mohseni, A.**, *&* L. G. Demo. "AI Alignment as a Principal-Agent Problem."

W4 **Mohseni, A.** "Goodman's Riddle *&* the Replicability of Interaction Effects"

W3 **Mohseni, A.** "Changing Scientific Norms: Epistemic Trade-Offs from Classical and Bayesian Perspectives"

W2 **Mohseni, A.** *&* S. Huttegger "The Rationality of Nash Equilibria"

W1 **Mohseni, A.** "Stochasticity and Intermediate Evolutionary Regimes"

PRESENTATIONS († ≡ invited; ‡ ≡ commenter.)

P15 "A Bayesian Model of Optimal Science Funding"
†*Manifest Conference* · Berkeley 2026

P14 "A Mathematical Unification of Learning and Evolution"
†*ILIAD 2026 Conference* · Berkeley 2026

P13 "Virtues and Vices of Analytic Philosophy with Respect to AI Safety"
†*ILIAD 2026 Conference* · Berkeley 2026

P12 "A Bayesian Reduction of Causation"
Philosophy of Science Biennial Conference · San Diego 2026
The Society for Philosophy of Causation Conference · Paris 2026
PhilML'26 Philosophy of Machine Learning Conference · Munich 2026
†*PPE 9th Annual Meeting* · New Orleans 2025
†*ILIAD 2025 Conference: ODYSSEY* · Berkeley 2025
†*Center for Philosophy of Science Lunch Time Talks* · Pittsburgh 2025
†*4th Formal and Experimental Philosophy Conference* · Amherst 2025
12th Workshop on Combining Probability and Logic · Pittsburgh 2025
†*Logic and Philosophy of Science Colloquium* · Irvine 2025
†*Agent Foundations Workshop* · Pittsburgh 2025

P11 "Learning the Value of Value Learning"
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Conference · London 2026
Beyond Basic Bayesianism Workshop · Helsinki 2026
Formal Ethics Workshop · Buffalo 2026
Agent Foundations Conference · Pittsburgh 2026
ICSD Workshop · Pittsburgh 2024
†*ILIAD 2025 Conference: ODYSSEY* · Berkeley 2025

P10 "AI Alignment as a Principal-Agent Problem"
Foundations of Cooperative AI Lab Seminar · Pittsburgh 2024
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Conference · New Orleans 2024
Philosophy of Science Meets Machine Learning Conference · Tübingen 2024

†*ILIAD Conference* · Berkeley 2024

P9 "Bayesian Epistemology: Foundations, Limits, and Open Questions"
†*ILIAD Conference* · Berkeley 2024

P8 "Why are the Social Sciences Hard? Two New Hypotheses"
Ninth Quadrennial Fellows Conference · Miami 2024
Formal and Experimental Philosophy Workshop · Pittsburgh 2023
CLMPST: Science and Values in an Uncertain World · Buenos Aires 2023

P7 "HARKing: from Misunderstanding to Misprescription"
†*Scientific Progress: Individual and Collective* · Amsterdam 2022
Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting · Virtual 2021
†*Center for Philosophy of Science, Lunch Time Talk* · Pittsburgh 2021
ANPOSS/ENPOSS/POSS-RT Joint Conference · Tokyo 2021

P6 "Intervention and Backfire in the Replication Crisis"
Philosophy of Science Association Biennial · Baltimore 2021
Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice Biennial · Lansing 2020
†*Public Choice Society Annual Meeting* · Newport Beach 2020
Philosophy of Social Science Round Table · Atlanta 2020
12th Munich-Sydney-Tilburg/Turin (MuST) Conference in Philosophy of Science · Munich 2019

P5 "On the Emergence of Minority Disadvantage"
†*APA: Central Division Meeting* · Denver 2019
APA: Pacific Division Meeting · Vancouver 2019
Agent-Based Models in Philosophy Conference · Bochum 2019
†*Philosophy, Politics & Economics Society Meeting* · New Orleans 2019
†*Philosophy and Complex Systems Seminar* · Moscow 2018

P4 "Truth and Conformity on Networks"
Philosophy of Science Association Biennial · Seattle 2018
Computational Modeling in Philosophy Conference · Munich 2018
†*Formal Social Epistemology Workshop* · Irvine 2018
IMBS R. D. Luce Conference · Irvine 2017

P3 "Stochastic Stability and Disagreements Between Dynamics"
Generalized Theory of Evolution Conference · Düsseldorf 2018
Infinite Idealizations in Science Conference · Munich 2017

P2 "Self-Assembling Networks"
IMBS R. D. Luce Conference · Irvine 2015

P1 "Limitations of Equilibrium Concepts in Evolutionary Games"
International Society for History, Philosophy & Social Studies of Biology Biennial Meeting · Montreal 2015
Decisions, Games and Logic Conference · London 2015

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Decision Theory & AI Agent Foundations	CMU	Spring 2026
Philosophy Core II Graduate Seminar	CMU	Spring 2026
Introduction to Philosophy	CMU	Fall 2025
Philosophy Core II Graduate Seminar	CMU	Spring 2025
Game Theory, AI *&* X-Risk	CMU	Spring 2025
Introduction to Philosophy	CMU	Fall 2024
Game Theory, AI *&* X-Risk	UPenn	Spring 2024
Introduction to Logic	UPenn	Spring 2024
Introduction to Philosophy	UPenn	Spring 2023
Metaphysics *&* Epistemology	UPenn	Spring 2023
Topics in Philosophy of Science	UPenn	Fall 2022, Fall 2023
Introduction to Philosophy of Science	UPenn	Fall 2022, Fall 2023
Making Modern Science	UCI	Fall 2020
Introduction to Inductive Logic	UCI	Summer 2020

SUMMER SCHOOLS & SHORT COURSES

Decision Theory *&* AI Agent Foundations	17th Pitt–Tsinghua Summer School	THU	Summer 2026
Decision Theory *&* AI Agent Foundations	Summer School in Logic and Formal Epistemology	CMU	Summer 2026
Bayesian Epistemology *&* Metascience	Summer School in Logic and Formal Epistemology	CMU	Summer 2025
Social Epistemology *&* the Replication Crisis	Pittsburgh Summer Program	UPitt	Summer 2025

TEACHING TRAINING

CMU Supporting Student Well-Being: Faculty Professional Development in Recognizing and Assisting Students in Distress training · 2026
UCI DTEI Mentoring Excellence Program workshops · 2020
  Balancing Academics and Wellness · Winter 2020
UCI DTEI Certificate of Teaching Excellence · 2019
UCI DTEI Certificate of Course Design · 2018
UCI course in advanced course design: Uni Stu 390Z · 2020
UCI courses in pedagogy: Uni Stu 390X, S90A, 390B, and 390C · 2018-19

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

PhD dissertation committee member · Zhongxia "Ricky" Zhao
Master's thesis advisor · Dorian Clay, Daniel Kopp
Master's thesis comittee member · Franco Bastián Menares Paredes
Undergraduate thesis advisor · Michael DiGiovanna
Undergraduate summer research advisor · Udi Akolkar

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY

Graduate Admissions Committee · 2026
Space Committee · 2026
Panelist for Professional Development Job Information Panel · 2026
Member of the Search Committee for Professor of Philosophy specializing in causal learning and reasoning · 2026
Member of the Search Committee for ICSD Postdoctoral Research Fellow · 2025
Member of the Search Committee for Lecturer in Philosophy of Science · 2025
Graduate Student TA Coordinator · 2025–2026
Incoming Graduate Student Faculty Mentor · 2025–2026

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Conference Organizer · CMU AI & Agency Workshop (Pittsburgh, Fall 2026); Formal Models in Metascience Workshop (Pittsburgh, Summer 2025); Philosophy of Science Association Symposium Panel on "Modeling the Social Structure of Science" (Baltimore, Fall 2021)
Workshop Designer and Presenter · twelve-hour TA Professional Development Program workshop for philosophy grad students (Fall 2019)
Facilitator · Chance, Credence, Computation Workshop (Pittsburgh, Fall 2024); 17th Annual Formal Epistemology Workshop (Irvine, Spring 2020), Formal Social Epistemology Workshop (Irvine, Spring 2018), Philosophy of Machine Learning Conference (Irvine, Spring 2018), Medical Knowledge in a Social World Conference (Irvine, Spring 2016)
Program Committee · Philosophy of Science Association Biennial 2026; Formal Epistemology Workshop 2026
Referee (Journals) · Philosophy of Science; The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science; The European Journal for the Philosophy of Science; Studies in History and Philosophy of Science C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences; Synthese; Theoria; Ergo; American Philosophical Quarterly
Referee (Books) · University of Pittsburgh Press
Referee (Conferences) · PSA Program Committee (2026); Agent Based Models in Philosophy (Summer 2023; Spring 2019); PSA Poster Committee (2022); Formal Epistemology Workshop (2020)
Public Outreach Volunteer · Public Philosophy Booth, Long Beach Farmer's Market (2020), Center for Open Science Ambassador (2021–present)

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

UCI School of Social Sciences Outstanding Scholar Award · 2020
Christian Werner Research Fellowship · 2020
NSF Graduate Research Assistantship (Grant 1922424 for "Consensus, Democracy, and the Public Understanding of Science"; PIs Cailin O'Connor & James Weatherall) · 2019

NSF Graduate Research Assistantship (Grant 1535139 for "Social Dynamics and Epistemic Communities"; PI Cailin O'Connor) · 2016-2019
UCI DTEI Pedagogical Fellowship · 2019
IMBS Research Fellowship · 2018
UCI Associate Dean Fellowship · 2018
UCI School of Social Science Merit Scholarships · 2015-2020
CMU Merit Scholarships · 2013-2015

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Center for Open Science (Ambassador)
Philosophy of Science Association
American Philosophical Association