

Alex Whalen

Department of Philosophy • University of South Alabama
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EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

2026 – **Assistant Professor of Instruction**, University of South Alabama
present Department of Philosophy

2015 – **Assistant Professor**, University of South Alabama
present Department of Philosophy

2012 – 2018 **PhD, Philosophy**, University of Edinburgh
Supervisors: Prof. Duncan Pritchard & Dr. Nick Treanor

2012 **MSc, Philosophy** (First Class Honours), University of Edinburgh

2011 **BA, Philosophy** (Honours), University of South Alabama

RESEARCH

Area of Specialization: Epistemology

Areas of Competence: Metaphysics, Logic, Ethics

Papers

- “A dilemma for the anti-reductionist argument” (*Under review*)
- “Ampliative understanding” (*In progress*)
- “What’s luck got to do with it?” (*In progress*)

Presentations

2025 **“What’s Luck Got To Do With It?”**
Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola, FL

2023 **“Including Underrepresented Groups in the Classroom”**
Conference on Teaching and Learning, University of South Alabama

2016 **“Understanding as an Epistemic State”**
Early Career Minds Network, University of Glasgow
“Ampliative Understanding — A Work in Progress”
Alabama Philosophical Society, Pensacola, FL

- 2015 **“Lucky Understanding”**
Open Minds IX Graduate Conference, University of Manchester
- “Does Understanding Have a Distinct Role?”**
Roles of Knowledge Workshop, University of Cambridge
- “Ampliative Understanding”**
X-mas Epistemology Fest, University of Edinburgh

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2017 **ALISA Grant** — Active Learning Initiative at South Alabama
\$10,000
- 2012 – 2015 **Presidential Career Development Studentship**, University of Edinburgh
Full support plus £15,000 per annum stipend
- 2011 – 2015 **Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences Research Grants**
Multiple awards totalling approximately £2,800

TEACHING

Teaching Recognition

- 2018 Accepted as cohort member, ACUE Teaching Training
- 2015 Best Postgraduate Tutor — EUSA Teaching Awards Nomination
- 2014 Best Humanities Teacher — EUSA Teaching Awards Nomination
- 2013 Best Postgraduate Tutor — EUSA Teaching Awards Nomination

Courses Taught

Regular Courses

- Introduction to Philosophy (PHL 110)
- Critical Thinking (PHL 120)
- Introduction to Ethics (PHL 131)
- Skepticism in Media (PHL 301)
- Symbolic Logic (PHL 321)
- Theory of Knowledge (PHL 441)
- Metaphysics (PHL 461)

Special Topics Courses

- Philosophy Through Video Games
- Knowledge and Understanding in a Post-Truth World

Directed Studies & Honors Theses

- The Nature of God's Existence

- G.E. Anscombe's Modern Moral Philosophy
- The Anti-natalist Argument
- The Philosophy of Skyrim
- Philosophy through the Hebrew Bible

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Administrative Roles

2015 – present Faculty Advisor, USA Philosophers (student organization)

2013 – 2015 Committee Member, Edinburgh Women in Philosophy

2012 – 2014 Philosophy Postgraduate Representative, PPLS

Peer Review

Referee, International Journal of Philosophical Studies

Events Organized

2015 – 2018 Annual Orange Beach Epistemology Workshops

2014 – 2015 Edinburgh Women in Philosophy Spring Workshops

2013 – 2015 Annual Edinburgh Graduate Epistemology Conferences

REFERENCES

Contact details available on request.

Professor Duncan Pritchard FRSE

Department of Philosophy, University of Edinburgh · EIDYN Research Centre

Professor Kevin Meeker

Chair of Philosophy, University of South Alabama

Professor Ted Poston

Department of Philosophy, University of Alabama · Director, McCollough Institute for Pre-Medical Education