

Richard Mark Sainsbury

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Date of Birth: July 2, 1943

Degrees

BA (Oxon.): 1964, PPE, as scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford

DPhil (Oxon.), MA (Oxon.): 1970

Main appointments

1968–70	Magdalen College Oxford (Radcliffe Lecturer in Philosophy)
1970–73	St Hilda's College Oxford (Lecturer in Philosophy)
1973–75	Brasenose College Oxford (Radcliffe Lecturer in Philosophy)
1975–78	University of Essex (Lecturer in Philosophy)
1978–84	Bedford College (University of London) (Lecturer in Philosophy)
1984–2002	Lecturer, Reader, Stebbing Professor of Philosophy, King's College London
2002–	University of Texas at Austin (Professor of Philosophy)

Honors

1998 Elected fellow of the British Academy

2013 Elected Honorary Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford

Research areas

My research has so far been for the most part in the areas of Philosophical Logic, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind and Metaphysics.

Teaching experience

I have taught most standard undergraduate subjects at one time or another, with the exception of Ancient Philosophy. Recently, most of my teaching has fallen within the following areas: Philosophical Logic, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Epistemology, Metaphysics, History of Modern and Recent Philosophy (Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Frege, Russell). I have supervised graduate students at all levels and have regularly given graduate seminars. I normally teach a one-year Plan II course (PHL 610 “Problems of Knowledge and Valuation”) and an upper division course on the philosophy of language; together with a graduate seminar each Spring semester.

Outside lecturing and conferences

I have been an invited speaker at many universities and conferences in the UK, US, Spain, France, Germany and elsewhere.

Recent administrative experience and related professional activities

Refereeing: I have acted as a referee for various publishers (Basil Blackwell, Cambridge University Press, MIT Press, Oxford University Press and Routledge), and for journals (including *Analysis*, *Aristotelian Society*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Dialectica*, *Noûs*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*), *Synthese*, *Theoria*. I am an Editorial Consultant for *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Analytic Philosophy* and the *Philosopher's Compass*.

I have twice (2009, 2011) served as reviewer for the ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies), which disburses around \$15m in fellowship stipends each year.

Service at UT:

I was on the Search Committee for four years, and am currently Chair of the GSEC. I am the departmental contact point for library issues and Chair of the Brogan Library Committee. In 2006, 2008 and 2010 and 2011 I played a part in organizing the annual UNAM-UT conferences that alternate between Austin and Mexico City. For its first 9 years, I organized the annual MLK conference for UT graduate students.

Publications

Authored Books

1. *Russell* Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1979: The Arguments of the Philosophers Series, 348pp; paperback edition, 1985. Hardback reissued 1999.
In keeping with the aims of the series, the book's primary objective is to present a critical assessment of Russell's views and of his arguments for them.
2. *Paradoxes* CUP, 1988: cloth and simultaneous paperback, vii + 163pp. Second Edition 1995, third edition, with a new chapter, 2009.

I wrote this book in the belief that people other than professional philosophers would find even quite technical topics in philosophy interesting if they were appropriately presented. In some cases, the level of my discussion rises to more or less the current state of the art, but I hope my initial presentation of the problems is simple and clear enough to stimulate interest among non- philosophers.

Translated into German, Japanese, Hungarian and Greek.

3. *Logical Forms* Basil Blackwell, 1991: 398p, cloth and simultaneous paperback. Reprinted four times. Second edition 2001.

The book is designed as a textbook in philosophical logic, though it incorporates, both in its plan and in detail, my own views on the topics discussed.

4. *Departing from Frege: Essays in Philosophical Logic*. Routledge, 2002.

This is a collection of mostly previously published essays in the philosophy of language. The new essay serves as an introduction and gives the volume its title.

5. *Reference Without Referents* OUP 2005, paperback 2007.

This book argues for the view that reference features in semantics as reference conditions, which may or may not be satisfied.

6. *Fiction and Fictionalism* Routledge 2009.

The book reviews various ways to be realist about fictional objects (they are nonexistent, or nonactual or nonconcrete), but argues for an irrealist approach. This is to the good from the point of view of fictionalist theories, though some of these (notably fictionalism about modality and fictionalism about morality) suffer from other problems.

7. with Michael Tye: *Seven Puzzles of Thought and How to Solve Them: An Originalist Theory of Concepts*. OUP 2012.

We argue that a wide range of philosophical puzzles can be solved if one has a proper theory of the nature of concepts. Concepts are vehicles of representation, individuated by their historical origin rather than by their semantic or epistemic properties.

8. *Thinking About Things* OUP 2018.

In the blink of an eye, I can redirect my thought from London to Austin, from apples to unicorns, from former President Obama to the mythical flying horse, Pegasus. How is this possible? How can we think about things that do not exist, given that they are not there to be thought about?

Thinking about, wanting, hoping and similar states are intentional states: they are directed on things or are about things. Taking as its framework a representational theory of mind, this book explains how intentional mental states are attributed, what their “aboutness” consists in, whether or not they are relational, and whether any of them require there to be nonexistent things.

Edited Books

- *Thought and Ontology*, FrancoAngeli, Milan, 1997.

This is a collection of papers given at a conference in Genoa in November 1996, and I wrote a short introduction.

Articles

1. "Semantics by proxy" *Analysis*, 38, 1977, p. 86–96.
2. "Logical form, perspicuity and first order languages" *Journal of Philosophy*, 74, 1977. Abstract of a paper presented to the American Philosophical Association, Washington, December 1977.
3. "Understanding and theories of meaning" *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, 80, 1979: 127–44.
4. "Benevolence and evil" *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 58, 1980: 128–134.
5. "Semantic theory and grammatical structure" *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Supplementary Volume* 96, 1980: 159–172.
6. "Russell on constructions and fictions" *Theoria*, 46, 1980: 19–36.
7. "On a Fregean argument" *Analysis*, 43, 1983: 12–14.
8. "Rejoinder to Rasmussen" *Analysis*, 44, 1984: 111–113.
9. "Saying and conveying" *Linguistics and Philosophy*, 7, 1984: 415–32.
10. "What are the data for semantics?" in G. Simon and J-M. Vienne, eds, *Mythes et Réalités de l'Activité Scientifique* (Proceedings of the 3rd Anglo-French Colloquium), 1985, Université de Lille III.
11. "Evidence for Meaning" *Mind and Language*, 1, 1986: 64–82.
12. "Russell on acquaintance" in Godfrey Vesey, ed., *Philosophers Ancient and Modern*, Royal Institute of Philosophy Lecture Series, 20, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986: 219–44.
13. "Degrees of belief and degrees of truth" *Philosophical Papers*, 15, 1986: 97–106.
14. "Tolerating vagueness" *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, 89, 1988: 33–48.
15. "On Induction and Russell's Postulates" in Wade Savage and Anthony Anderson, eds, *Rereading Russell: Essays on Bertrand Russell's Metaphysics and Epistemology* (Minnesota Studies in the Philosophy of Science XII) Minnesota: Minnesota University Press, 1989: 200–219.
16. "What is a vague object?" *Analysis*, 49, 1989: 99–103.
17. "Concepts without boundaries" London: King's College London, 1990, 22pp. (Inaugural lecture) Reprinted in Rosanna Keefe and Peter Smith (eds) *Vagueness: A Reader*, MIT Press, Cambridge MA, 1996: 251–264.
18. "Russell et l'expérience directe" (tr. François Clémentz) *Hermès*, 7, 1990: 119–143.
19. "Is there higher order vagueness?" *Philosophical Quarterly*, 41, 1991: 167–182.
20. "Cartesian possibilities and the externality and extrinsicness of content" *Synthese* 89, 1991: 407–424.
21. "Russell" in J. Dancy and E. Sosa, eds, *Companion to Epistemology*, Oxford: Blackwell, 1992: 450–452.
22. "Sorites paradoxes and the transition question" *Philosophical Papers* 21.3, 1992: 177–189.
23. "Russell on names and communication" in Andrew Irvine and Gary Wedeking, eds,

- Russell and Analytic Philosophy*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993: 3–21.
24. “Russell” in Jaegwon Kim and Ernest Sosa, eds, *Companion to Metaphysics*, Oxford: Blackwell, 1995: 446–50.
 25. “Pojmy Bez Kranic”, *Filosoficky Casopis*, 2, 1995: 186–205 (Polish translation of 17)
 26. “Why the world could not be vague” *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 33, 1995: 63–81.
 27. “Frege and Russell” in Nicholas Bunnin and E. P. Tsui–James, eds, *Introduction to Philosophy*, Oxford: Blackwell, 1996: 662–677.
 28. “Philosophical Logic” in Anthony Grayling, ed, *Philosophy: A Guide Through The Subject* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996: 61–122.
 29. “Comments on Crispin Wright’s Truth and Objectivity.” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 56, 1996: 899–904.
 30. “Vagueness, ignorance and margin for error” (Critical Notice of Timothy Williamson, *Vagueness*.) *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 46, 1996: 589–601.
 31. “How can some thing mean something?” in Ray Monk and Anthony Palmer, eds, *Bertrand Russell and the Origins of Analytic Philosophy*, Bristol: Thoemmes, 1996: 137–53. (The published version misprints the title as “How can we mean something?”.)
 32. “Fregean indexicals” in Christian Stein and Mark Textor, eds, *Intensional Phenomena in Context: Papers from the 14th Hamburg Colloquium on Cognitive Science*, Hamburg: GrKK, 1996: 91–105.
 33. “Reporting indexicals” in Mark Sainsbury, ed, *Thought and Ontology*, Milan: FrancoAngeli, 1997: 161–172.
 34. “Can rational dialetheism be refuted by considerations about negation and denial?”, *Proto Sociology: An International Journal of Interdisciplinary Research*, 10, 1997: 215–228
 35. “Fregean sense” in Timothy Childers, Petr Kolář and Vladimir Svoboda, eds, *Logica ’96*, 1997: 261–276, Prague: Filosofia.
 36. “Sorites” (with Timothy Williamson) in Crispin Wright and Bob Hale, eds, *Companion to Philosophy of Language*, Oxford: Blackwell 1997, p. 458–484. Reprinted 2017.
 37. “Hume’s idea of necessary connection” *Manuscripto* 20, 1997: 213–230.
 38. “Easy possibilities.” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 57, 1997: 907–919.
 38. “Il naturalismo di Hume” (trad. Gianmatteo Mameli) in Evandro Agazzi and Nicla Vassallo, eds, *Introduzione al Naturalismo Filosofico Contemporaneo*, Milan: FrancoAngeli, 1998: 266–294.
 39. “Projections and relations” in Barry Smith and Peter Menzies, eds, *Secondary Qualities Generalized, The Monist*, 81.1, 1998: 133–160.
 40. “Indexicals and reported speech” *Proceedings of the British Academy*, 95, 1998: 45–69.
 41. “Names, fictional names and ‘really’”, *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Supplementary Volume*, 1999: 243–69.
 42. “Warrant-transmission, defeaters and disquotation” in Ernest Sosa and Enrique Villanueva (eds) *Philosophical Issues: Skepticism*, 10, 2000: 191–200.
 43. “Empty names” in Akihiro Kanamori, ed., *The Proceedings of the World Congress of Philosophy, Vol. 6 Analytic Philosophy and Logic*, Bowling Green: Philosophy

- Documentation Center, 2000: 57–66.
44. “Knowing meanings and knowing entities” Uxe Meixner and Peter Simons (eds) *Metaphysics in the Post-Metaphysical Age: Proceedings of the 22nd International Wittgenstein Symposium, 1999*, Vienna, 2001: 106–115.
 45. “Sense without reference”. In A. Newen, U. Nortmann and R. Stuhlmann-Laeisz (eds), *Building on Frege*. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications, 2001: 211–30.
 46. “Two ways to smoke a cigarette”. *Ratio* 14, 2001: 386–406.
 47. “Realism vs nominalism about the dispositional/non-dispositional distinction” in Michele Marsonet, ed., *The Problem of Realism*, Ashgate, 2002: 160–73.
 48. “Logica filosofica.” In Franca d’Agostini and Nicla Vassallo (eds) *Storia della filosofia analitica*, Einaudi 2002.
 49. “What logic should we think with?” In Anthony O’Hear (ed.) Royal Institute of Philosophy Lecture Series, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
 50. “Reference and anaphora” *Philosophical Perspectives*, 16, *Language and Mind*, J. Tomberlin (ed.), Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing 2002: 43–71.
 51. “Graziosi topi rosa: allucinazione e contenuto percettivo” in Claudia Bianchi, and Andrea Bottani (eds) *Ontologia e significa*, FrancoAngeli 2003: 173–87.
 52. “Option negation and dialethias”. In G. Priest and G. Armour-Garb (eds) *Logic and Contradiction* OUP 2004: 85–92.
 53. “Sameness and difference of sense.” *Philosophical Books* 45, 2004: 209–217.
 54. “Referring descriptions.” In Marga Reimer and Anne Bezidehout, eds, *Descriptions and Beyond*, Oxford, Clarendon Press (2004): 369–89.
 55. “Meeting the hare in her doubles: causal belief, general belief and reason in animals.” In Peter Kail and Marina Franca-Spada (eds) *Impressions of Hume* Oxford, Oxford University Press 2005: 77–94.
 56. “Names in free logical truth theory.” In José Luis Bermúdez (ed) *Thought, Reference and Experience. Themes From the Philosophy of Gareth Evans*. Oxford, Oxford University Press 2005: 66–83.
 57. “Spotty scope.” *Analysis* 66, 2006: 17–22.
 58. “Understanding as immersion.” *Philosophical Issues* 16, 2006: 246–62.
 59. “Austerity and openness.” In Cynthia Macdonald and Graham Macdonald (eds) *McDowell and his Critics*, Blackwell Publishing, Malden MA, 2006: 1–14.
 60. “The essence of reference”. In *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Language*, edited by Ernest Lepore and Barry Smith, Oxford 2006: 393–422.
 61. “Facts and free logic.” *Protosociology* 26, 2006: 119–27.
 62. “A puzzle about how things look.” In MM McCabe and Mark Textor (eds) *Perspectives on Perception*. Ontos Verlag (Frankfurt) 2007: 7–17.
 63. “Philosophical logic.” *The Routledge Companion to Twentieth Century Philosophy*, ed Dermot Moran, Abingdon, Routledge 2008: 347–81.
 64. “Fly swatting: Davidsonian truth theories and context.” In Maria Cristina Amoretti and

- Nicla Vassallo (eds) *Knowledge, Language, and Interpretation. On the Philosophy of Donald Davidson*. Ontos Verlag (Frankfurt) 2008.
65. "Language and Meaning". In John Shand (ed) *Central Issues of Philosophy*. Wiley (New York) 2009: 165-76.
 66. "Intensional transitives and presuppositions" *Critica* 40, 2008: 129-39.
 67. "Intentionality without exotica". In Robin Jeshion (ed) *New Essays on Singular Thought*. OUP 2010: 300–318.
 68. "Paderewski variations." *Dialectica* 64.4, 2010: 483–502.
 69. "Fiction and acceptance-relative truth, belief and assertion". In Franck Lihoreau (ed) *Truth in Fiction*. Ontos Verlag, Frankfurt 2010: 137–152.
 70. "English speakers should use 'I' to refer to themselves." In Anthony Hatzimoysis (ed) *Self- Knowledge*. OUP 2011: 246–60.
 71. (with Michael Tye) "An originalist theory of concepts". *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume* 85, 2011: 101–24.
 72. "A very large fly in the ointment: Davidsonian truth theory contextualized." In Richard Schantz (ed) *Prospects for Meaning*. De Gruyter (Berlin) 2012: 223–257.
 73. "Representing unicorns: How to think about intensionality." In G. Currie, P. Kotatko, M. Pokorný (eds) *Mimesis: Metaphysics, Cognition, Pragmatics*. College Publications 2012: 106– 31.
 74. "'Of course there are fictional characters.'" *Revue Internationale de Philosophie* 4, 2012: 615– 30.
 75. "Lessons for vagueness from scrambled sorites". *Metaphysica* 14.2, 2013: 225–237.
 76. "Fishy business". *Analysis*, January 2014: 1–3.
 77. "The same name". *Erkenntnis*, 80(20), special issue on proper names, 2015: 195–214.
 78. "Fictional worlds and fiction operators". In *Empty Representations: Reference and Non- Existence*. Edited by Manuel García-Carpintero and Genoveva Martí. Oxford University Press 2014: 277–289.
 79. "Vagueness and semantic methodology." *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2015.
 80. (with Michael Tye) "Counting concepts: response to Paul Boghossian". in S. Goldberg (ed) *Externalism, self-knowledge and skepticism*. Cambridge University Press 2015.
 81. "Intentional relations." *Argumenta* 2.2, 2017: 327–39.
 82. "Beyond belief." *The Philosopher's Magazine* 77.2, 2018: 76–81.
 83. "Loar on lemons: the particularity of perception and singular perceptual content." In Arthur Sullivan (ed) *Sensations, Thoughts, Language: Essays in Honor of Brian Loar*. Routledge 2020: 227–47.
 84. "Varieties of singular thought." In Rachel Goodman, James Genone and Nick Kroll (eds) *Singular Thought and Mental Files*, Oxford University Press, 2020: ch. 2.

85. (with Roy Sorensen:) "The number of unknown paradoxes." *Philosophy* 95: 155–159, 2020.
86. "Varieties of logical form". Forthcoming in *Disputatio*.

Selected Reviews

1. Critical Notice: Gareth Evans: *The Varieties of Reference*, *Mind* 94, 1985: 120–142.
2. "Crispin Wright: Truth and Objectivity." *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 56.4, 1995: 899–904.
3. "Vagueness, ignorance and margin for error." Critical notice: Timothy Williamson Vagueness, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 46, 1995: 589–601.
4. "Pleonastic explanations." Critical notice: Stephen Schiffer The Things We Mean, *Mind* 114, 2005: 97–111.
5. "Scott Soames: *Philosophical Analysis in the Twentieth Century: Volume 1: The Dawn of Analysis*." *Philosophical Studies* 2006: 637–644.