

# Mark Ressler, Ph.D.

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## Overview

Dual background in academic Philosophy and professional Information Technology, leading to specialization in Formal Ontology with application to knowledge management and exploitation of knowledge structures in machine learning and other formal systems.

## Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, The University of Melbourne, 2009

Dissertation: “The Logic of Relative Systems”

Supervisor: Graham Priest

M.A. in Philosophy, The University of Iowa, 2006

Master’s Degree by Examination

M.A. in Philosophy, San Diego State University, 2003

Thesis: “Connectionism and the Intentionality of the Programmer”

Supervisor: Robert Francescotti

B.A. in Liberal Arts, St. John’s College, Annapolis, MD, 1989

## Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, The University at Buffalo, 2011–2012

Studied Formal Ontology with Barry Smith

Led working group on First Order Predicate Logic version of Basic Formal Ontology (BFO), partially published in Arp, Smith, and Spear, *Building Ontologies with Basic Formal Ontology*

Visiting Scholar, The University of Pittsburgh, 2009–2011

Post-doctoral research on Relativism and Philosophical Methodology

## Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor, Philosophy, University of New Mexico, Los Alamos, 2015–2017

Teaching Assistant, Philosophy, The University of Iowa, 2005–2006

## Other Professional Experience

Information Technology: Ontologist, Data Architect and Modeler, Computer Programmer, and Project Manager, 1989–2006, 2013–present

## Publications

“Hunters not Beggars”, *AI & Society*, Volume 40, (2025), 1539–1540, published online 04 June 2024. DOI: 10.1007/s00146-024-01978-0

“Automated Inauthenticity”, *AI & Society*, Volume 40, (2025), 985–994, published online 29 October 2023. DOI: 10.1007/s00146-023-01795-x

“Thoroughly Relativistic Perspectives”, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, Volume 53, Number 1 (2012), 89–112. DOI: 10.1215/00294527-1626545

## Self-Published Books

*Authentic Technological Engagement*, 2024.

*The Logic of Relativism*, 2013.

## Unpublished Papers

“Pegasus Explained Away”, 2020.

“ $x$  and the Politics of  $y$ , for some  $x$  and  $y$ ”, 2020.

“The Value of Apparently Incoherent Positions”, 2013.

“Relativism and Tolerance Revisited”, 2008.

“Dual Categorization and the Role of Aristotle’s Categories”, 2008.

“Seven Theses Concerning Hume’s Skepticism with Regard to Reason”, 2007.

## Presentations

“Perspectival Methods in Metaphysics”, Fifth Interdisciplinary Ontology Meeting, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan, February 24, 2012. Invited paper.

“Defining Relativism”, 2008 Annual Conference of the Australasian Association of Philosophy, July 9, 2008.

## Awards and Fellowships

Endeavour International Postgraduate Research Scholarship, The University of Melbourne, 2007–2010

Melbourne International Research Scholarship, The University of Melbourne, 2007–2010

Graduate Fellowship, The University of Iowa, 2004–2005

## Language Skills

Ancient Greek (reading only)

French (reading only)

## Technical Skills

*Programming:* Python, Perl, Unix Shell Scripting, SQL

*Web Development:* OWL, RDF, XML, XSLT, HTML, CSS, PHP

*Data Modeling and Ontology:* Protégé Editor, TopBraid Composer, ERWin, ER/Studio

*Databases:* Oracle, DB2, SQL Server, MySQL, PostgreSQL