

# MALTE WILLER

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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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**University of Chicago** 2010–present  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

## EDUCATION

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**University of Texas at Austin** 2005–2010  
Ph.D. Philosophy, supervised by Nicholas Asher and Josh Dever

**Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München** 2001–2005  
M.Phil. Philosophy, Logic and Theory of Science

**University of Oxford** 2003–2004  
Visiting Full-Time Undergraduate Student

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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**Areas of Specialization** Philosophy of Language, Philosophical Logic

**Areas of Competence** Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind, History of Analytic Philosophy,  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Continental Philosophy

## PUBLICATIONS

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- 4 **A Remark on Iffy Oughts**  
*Journal of Philosophy*, forthcoming
- 3 **Realizing What Might Be**  
*Philosophical Studies*, 153 (3): 365–375, 2011
- 2 **New Surprises for the Ramsey Test**  
*Synthese*, 176 (2): 291–309, 2010
- 1 **Der Wahrheitsbegriff in Martin Heideggers *Sein und Zeit***  
*Philosophisches Jahrbuch*, 113 (1): 78–98, 2006

## REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

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- 9 **Nonmonotonic Thoughts on Conditional Oughts** 04/2012  
86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the APA Pacific Division, Colloquium, Seattle
- 8 **New Dynamics for Epistemic Modality** 12/2009  
106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the APA Eastern Division, Symposium, NYC

## REFEREED PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

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| 7 | <b>New Dynamics for Epistemic Modality</b><br>9 <sup>th</sup> Annual NYU/Columbia Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, NYC                  | 03/2009 |
| 6 | <b>New Surprises for the Ramsey Test</b><br>36 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, Laramie                       | 05/2008 |
| 5 | <b>Visual Perceptions: A Plea for Simple Contents</b><br>82 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the APA Pacific Division, Colloquium, Pasadena     | 03/2008 |
| 4 | <b>Moore + Ramsey <math>\neq</math> God</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual USC/UCLA Graduate Philosophy Conference, LA                              | 02/2008 |
| 3 | <b>Negative Existentials and DRT</b><br>35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, Vancouver                         | 05/2007 |
| 2 | <b>In Defense of the Phenomenal Concept Strategy</b><br>81 <sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the APA Pacific Division, Colloquium, San Francisco | 04/2007 |
| 1 | <b>In Defense of the Phenomenal Concept Strategy</b><br>MIND 2006, Bristol   | 06/2006 |

## INVITED TALKS

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| 13 | <b>Nonmonotonic Thoughts on Contrary-to-Duty Oughts</b><br>Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen   | 07/2011 |
| 12 | <b>New Dynamics for Epistemic Modality</b><br>Northwestern Philosophy and Linguistics Workgroup, Evanston  | 02/2011 |
| 11 | <b>On Paradoxes and Dynamic Reasoning</b><br>Franke Institute for the Humanities, Chicago  | 02/2011 |
| 10 | <b>Dynamic Semantics: An Overview</b> (with Anastasia Giannakidou)<br>University of Chicago Semantics and Philosophy of Language Workshop, Chicago | 10/2010 |
| 9  | <b>Iffy Oughts</b><br>Institut für Maschinelle Sprachverarbeitung, Stuttgart   | 07/2010 |
| 8  | <b>Modal Conflict</b><br>Cornell University, Ithaca  | 02/2010 |
| 7  | <b>Modal Conflict</b><br>University of Kentucky, Lexington   | 02/2010 |
| 6  | <b>Modal Conflict</b><br>University of Chicago, Chicago  | 01/2010 |
| 5  | <b>New Dynamics for Epistemic Modality</b><br>University of Texas Graduate Colloquium Series, Austin   | 03/2009 |
| 4  | <b>Negative Existentials and DRT</b><br>NCS Semantics Colloquium, Nijmegen   | 05/2008 |
| 3  | <b>Moore + Ramsey <math>\neq</math> God</b><br>University of Texas Graduate Colloquium Series, Austin  | 02/2008 |
| 2  | <b>In Defense of the Phenomenal Concept Strategy</b><br>University of Texas Graduate Colloquium Series, Austin                                     | 02/2007 |
| 1  | <b>Contents and the Subjects of Visual Experience</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual UT Austin MLK Conference, Austin                                   | 01/2007 |

## COMMENTARIES

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- 7 **On Theodore Korzukhin’s “Dominance Conditionals and Adams’s Thesis”** 02/2012  
110<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the APA Central Division, Chicago
- 6 **On Jon Litland’s “An Actualist Theory of Properties”** 04/2009  
UT Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference, Austin
- 5 **On Anthony Gillies’s “*Must ...Stay ...Strong!*”** 10/2008  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual UT/UNAM Conference, Austin
- 4 **On Alex Grzankowski’s “Against DeRose on Epistemic Modals”** 01/2008  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual UT Austin MLK Conference, Austin
- 3 **On Pedro Stepanenko’s “The Pyrrhonian Reports”** 10/2007  
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual UT/UNAM Conference, Mérida
- 2 **On Shawn Standefer’s “Least Common Denominator”** 04/2007  
UT Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference, Austin
- 1 **On Michael Allers’s “‘Bruce’: A Predicate”** 04/2006  
UT Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference, Austin

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 4 **Cogburn Family Foundation Philosophical Prize** 04/2009  
University of Texas, Austin
- 3 **University Continuing Fellowship, Academic Year 2008–9** 09/2008  
University of Texas, Austin
- 2 **Summer Fellowship from the Department of Philosophy** 05/2007  
University of Texas, Austin
- 1 **Philosophy Essay Prize** 07/2005  
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Courses taught at the University of Chicago

Conditionals	Winter 2012
Meaning and Reference	Winter 2012
Human Being & Citizen I	Autumn 2011
Elementary Logic	Autumn 2011
Non-classical Logic	Spring 2011
Meaning Without Truth	Winter 2011
Human Being & Citizen II	Winter 2011
Introduction to Philosophy of Language	Autumn 2010

### Courses taught at the University of Texas at Austin

Introductory Symbolic Logic	Spring 2010
Human Nature	Fall 2009

### Additional Teaching Service at the University of Chicago

Faculty Sponsor: Semantics and Philosophy of Language Workshop	2010–present
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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

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### Advising

B.A. Thesis Supervised: Sasha Reschechtko (graduated 2011)  
M.A. Thesis Supervised: Benjamin Kramer-Miller (graduated 2011)  
Ph.D. Committee Member: Matt Teichmann

## SERVICE IN THE FIELD

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### University and Departmental Service

Graduate Admissions Committee Member (2010–2012), M&E Search Committee Member (2010–2011), Graduate Placement Committee Member (2010–2011), Stuart Tave-Whiting Teaching Fellowship Committee Member (2011)

### Session Chair

109<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the APA Central Division (03/2011), UT Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference (04/2008), Society for Student Philosophers Annual Conference (01/2007)

### Refereeing

JOURNAL REFEREEING: *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Philosophical Studies*  
BOOK REFEREEING: Wiley-Blackwell  
CONFERENCE REFEREEING: UT Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference (2005–2010)

### Memberships

American Philosophical Association, Society for Exact Philosophy

## REFERENCES

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Nicholas Asher

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118 Route de Narbonne

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## DISSERTATION

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### **Modality in Flux**

*Committee:* Nicholas Asher (co-chair), Josh Dever (co-chair), David Beaver, Hans Kamp, Mark Sainsbury

*Short Abstract:* I develop a novel semantic theory for modals that has important consequences for contemporary work in epistemology, metaphysics and ethics. My theory replaces the dominant view about semantics—that our best theory of meaning should ascribe truth-conditions to modalized sentences—with a non-truth-conditional yet fully compositional semantics for modals. Its contributions to current debates in analytic philosophy include an explanation of the possibility of modal disagreement that avoids relativism, a solution to the paradoxes about conditional obligations (including the gentle murder paradox), and new impulses for a generalized solution to the Frege-Geach problem for noncognitivism.

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