

Avital Pilpel

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Publications, Selected Presentations, Selected Teaching Experience

Publications

Books

- ❑ **Suppositional Reasoning in Scientific Explanations: the Role of “For the Sake of the Argument” Reasoning in Scientific inquiry.** Saarbrücken: VDM Verlag, 2009 (edited reprint of Ph.D. thesis.)

Book Reviews, Entries in Collections, etc.

- ❑ Book Review of **Ending the Mendel-Fisher Controversy**, by Franklin *et al.* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008). *Isis: Journal of the History of Science Society*, Vol. 100, No. 1 (March 2009)
- ❑ *Action Prediction.* In **Blackwell’s Companion to Philosophy of Action.** Malden: Blackwell, 2009 (with N. Taleb) (planned)
- ❑ *Random Processes, Opacity, and Knowledge.* In **Economia del rischio. Antologia di Scritti su Rischio e Decisione Economica.** Milano: Giuffrè, 2004 (with N. Taleb)

Articles

- ❑ *Will Computers Ever Think?* **Amirot** vol. 1 no. 12 (summer 2009)
- ❑ *On the Logic of Madness.* **Amirot** vol. 1 no. 11 (spring 2009)
- ❑ *Epistemology and Risk Management.* **Risk & Regulation Magazine** no. 13 (summer 2007) (with N. Taleb)
- ❑ *Cosmos and Coincidence: Why Anthropic Cosmological Coincidences are not Evidence of Supernatural Design – A New Criticism of the Fine-Tuning Argument.* **Skeptic** vol. 13 no. 3 (2007)
- ❑ *Statistics is not Enough: Revisiting Ronald A. Fisher’s Critique (1936) of Mendel’s Experimental Results (1866).* **Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science Part C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences** vol. 38 no. 3 (September 2007)
- ❑ *Towards a Mathematical Psychiatry: Modeling Repetition Compulsion with Game Theory.* **Affect, Motivation and Decision Making International Conference**, August 2006. (http://www.bgu.ac.il/~dmep/DMEP_BGU-UCLA_ConferenceProgram.pdf) (with R. Marshall and L. Amsel)
- ❑ *Heaven as an Argument Against God’s Existence.* **Free Inquiry** vol. 26 no. 5 (August/September 2006)

- ❑ *Kant and the United Nations*. **Research Journal of Philosophy & Social Sciences** vol. 30 (2005)

Some Informal Publications

- ❑ *Chess in Judaism*. Accepted for publication by the **Emanuel Lasker Gesellschaft** [Emanuel Lasker Society] (2008)
- ❑ *A Note on Modern Hebrew Chess Terms*. **Quarterly of Chess History** (2007)

Selected Presentations

- ❑ *The Realist Temptation*. Israeli Philosophical Assoc. annual conference, 2010 (planned).
- ❑ *Toward a Mathematical Psychiatry -- Game Theory Modeling of OCD*. Society for Medical Decision Making 30th annual conference, 2008 (with L. Amsel)
- ❑ *The Realist Temptation*. Philosophy dept. yearly conference, University of Haifa, Zichron Ya'akov, 2007
- ❑ *Statistics is not Enough*. E.R.R.O.R. conference poster, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, 2006
- ❑ *The Black Swan Problem*. Center for Rationality, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 2006 (with N. Taleb)
- ❑ *Justifying non-Theory-Guided Research*. Israeli Association for the History and Philosophy of Science conference, Jerusalem, 2006
- ❑ *On Levi's Modifications of Hempel's Probabilistic Explanations*. Israeli Philosophical Association annual meeting, Be'er Sheva, 2006
- ❑ *The Ethical Problem with "Rational" Suicide*. Annual Israeli Philosophical Assoc. meeting, Ben Gurion University, Be'er Sheva, 2005
- ❑ *Deconstructing Suicidal Risk Factors: Using Decision Science & Game Theory Models to Operationalize Risk Factors for Suicidal Behavior*. Society for Medical Decision Making annual meeting, Chicago, 2003 (with L. Amsel)
- ❑ *A Game Theory Model of Suicide Behavior*. Amer. Psychiatric Assoc. annual meeting, Philadelphia, 2002 (with L. Amsel)
- ❑ *Random Processes, Opacity, and Knowledge*. Risk USA conference, Cape Cod, 2002 (keynote address) (with N. Taleb). Updated version presented in a U.S. Department of Defense seminar, Washington, D.C., 2003.
- ❑ *The Central Problem of Risk Bearing*. Grant's Investment conference, New York, 2002 (With N. Taleb)
- ❑ *Using Decision Theory and Game Theory to Model Suicidal Behavior*. Society for Medical Decision Making annual meeting, San Diego, 2001 (with L. Amsel). Updated versions presented at Society for Judgment and Decision Making annual meeting (Vancouver, 2003) and the 12th International Conference on the Foundations and Applications of Utility, Risk and Decision Theory (Rome, 2006).

Selected Teaching Experience

- ❑ *History of Propaganda*. Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya; yearly seminar 2009-2010.
- ❑ *History of Communications*. Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya; fall 2008, spring 2009, spring 2010 (planned)
- ❑ *Game Theory*. Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya; summer 2007, 2008, fall 2008
- ❑ *How to think about Weird Things*. Beit Berl Teacher's College, Kfar Saba; spring 2008, 2009
- ❑ *Philosophy of Biology*. Biology department, University of Haifa, Haifa; fall 2007, 2008, 2009 (graduate seminars); fall 2006 (undergraduate course)
- ❑ *Philosophy of Military Intelligence*. University of Haifa & "Havatzalot" intelligence officers' training program, Haifa; fall 2007, 2008, spring 2010 (planned)
- ❑ *Civilizations I*. Philosophy and religion department, New Jersey City University, Jersey City; fall 2004, 2005, spring 2005
- ❑ *Critical Thinking*. Philosophy and religion department, New Jersey City University, Jersey City; spring 2005
- ❑ *Comparative Religion*. Philosophy and religion department, New Jersey City University, Jersey City; fall 2004
- ❑ *Theory and Practice of Science*. Biology department, Columbia University, New York; spring 2001 (co-teacher), fall 2002 (co-teacher)
- ❑ *Metaphysics*. Philosophy department, Columbia University, New York; spring 2000
- ❑ *Ancient Philosophy*. Philosophy department, Columbia University, New York; fall 1998

For teaching evaluations, contact my referees or see attached 'teaching evaluation' forms.

Referees

- ❑ Prof. Giora Hon, Philosophy department, University of Haifa, Haifa, hon@research.haifa.ac.il
- ❑ Prof. Saul Smilansky, Philosophy Department, University of Haifa, Haifa, Smilsaul@research.haifa.ac.il
- ❑ Dr. Meir Hemo, Chair, Philosophy Department, University of Haifa, Haifa, meir@research.haifa.ac.il
- ❑ Prof. Nassim Nicholas Taleb, Courant Institute, NYU, New York, fooledbyrandomness@yahoo.com
- ❑ Dr. Lawrence Amsel, St. Luke's—Roosevelt Hospital Center, New York, 212-866-5705, lva2@columbia.edu
- ❑ Prof. Hyun Hochsmann, Chair, Department of Philosophy and Religion, New Jersey City University, Jersey City, 201-200-3204, hhochsmann@NJCU.edu

Note: Lists selective. Complete lists of publications, presentations, and courses taught available upon request.