

THE PHILOSOPHY LAB

SUMMARY

The Philosophy Lab aims to provide faculty and students with support and resources for projects in experimental philosophy.

DESCRIPTION

Philosophical work is traditionally done from the armchair. Sharply departing from this tradition, the Philosophy Lab project sets out to establish a novel, interdisciplinary research program in experimental philosophy at Marquette, through collaboration between Dr. Bloch-Mullins (philosophy) and Dr. Kristy Nielson (psychology). We will develop protocols for the study of cognition (broadly construed), conduct pilot studies, and hold workshops in which faculty and graduate students can explore the potential benefits of experimental philosophy methods for their own projects.



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MILESTONES

- 2017/2018:** First set of studies in experimental philosophy (X-Phi), focused on categorization and concept-formation.
- 2018/2019:** A broad pool of protocols in X-Phi of mind and X-Phi of language, available to the Marquette community.
- Spring 2019:** Begin series of X-Phi workshops for faculty and students.
- 2019/2020:** Expansion of the pool of available protocols to X-Phi of Ethics, X-Phi of Action or X-Phi of Epistemology. Collaborative research opportunities for undergraduate students.

ABOUT OUR TEAM

Dr. Corinne Bloch-Mullins, PI
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Dr. Kristy Nielson, Co-PI
Associate Dean for Recruitment and Professor of Psychology



The present project emerged from a prior collaboration between Dr. Bloch-Mullins (Philosophy) and Dr. Nielson (Psychology) on categorization – a research venture that greatly benefited from bringing their respective specializations together. The Philosophy Lab aims to extend these interdisciplinary methodologies, make them available to the Marquette community of faculty and students, and facilitate the creation of an X-Phi research network at Marquette.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES

Marquette's strategic plan, Beyond Boundaries, puts forward a clear path for the university: to forge interdisciplinary connections to enhance teaching and research, and by doing so to become a high research activity leader and a destination school for the brightest students. The Philosophy Lab project contributes directly to these goals by facilitating collaborative, cross-cutting research in cognitive science, which is one of the cluster areas identified by the strategic plan, while drawing on existing areas of strength at Marquette (neuroscience, psychology, and philosophy of science and mind).