

January 2021

## **Curtis Franks**

Department of Philosophy  
The University of Notre Dame  
cfranks@nd.edu, (574)631-5049

### **Academic positions**

- Associate Professor of Philosophy  
College of Arts and Letters  
University of Notre Dame, 2013 – present
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy  
College of Arts and Letters  
The University of Notre Dame, 2006 – 2013

### **Administrative positions**

- Editor in Chief  
Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic,  
2019 – present
- Director of the PhD. program  
Department of Philosophy  
The University of Notre Dame, 2014 – 2020

### **Other positions**

- Member of the Association of Advanced  
Rabbinical and Talmudical Schools, 2018 – present

### **Areas of research**

- history and philosophy of logic
- philosophy of mathematics
- proof theory
- Wittgenstein

## Education

- University of California, Irvine  
Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science  
Dissertation directed by Aldo Antonelli  
PhD. June 2006
- William Marsh Rice University. Houston, Texas  
B. A. in mathematics and philosophy, *magna cum laude* 2000

## Professional memberships

- Association of Symbolic Logic
- American Philosophical Association

## Published writing

### BOOKS

1. *The Autonomy of Mathematical Knowledge: Hilbert's Program Revisited*. Cambridge University Press. 2009. 232 pgs.

### ESSAYS

1. "The Gödelian inferences," *History and Philosophy of Logic* **30**(3), 2009, 241–256.
2. "Cut as consequence," *History and Philosophy of Logic* **31**(4), 2010, 349–379.
3. "Stanley Tennenbaum's Socrates," in J. Kennedy and R. Kossak (eds.) *Set Theory, Arithmetic, and Foundations of Mathematics: Theorems, Philosophies*. Cambridge University Press: *Lecture Notes in Logic*. 2011.
4. "The realm of the sacred, wherein we may not draw an inference from something which itself has been inferred," *History and Philosophy of Logic* **33**(1), 2012, 69–86.

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5. “Logical completeness, form, and content: an archaeology,”  
in J. Kennedy (ed.) *Interpreting Gödel: Critical Essays*.  
Cambridge University Press. 2014.
6. “Logical nihilism,” in P. Rush (ed.) *The Metaphysics of Logic*.  
Cambridge University Press. 2014.  
  
Reprinted in A. Hirvonen, J. Kontinen, R. Kossak, A. Villaveces (eds.),  
*Logic Without Borders*. de Gruyter. 2015.
7. “David Hilbert’s contributions to logical theory,”  
in A. P. Malpass and M. Antonutti-Marfori (eds.) *The History of  
Philosophical and Formal Logic*. Bloomsbury Press. 2017.
8. “Constructing the simples,” in P. Ordning and R. Kossak (eds.),  
*Simplicity: Ideals of Practice in Mathematics and the Arts*.  
Springer. 2017.
9. “The context of inference,” *History and Philosophy of Logic* **39**(4),  
2018, 365–95.
10. “Wittgenstein’s wayward student: the unauthorized autobiography,” to  
appear in J. Kennedy and S. Arbeiter (eds.), *Penelope Maddy on Set  
Theory and Naturalistic Method*. Springer: *Outstanding Contributions  
to Logic*.
11. “The deduction theorem (before and after Herbrand)”  
*History and Philosophy of Logic* **42**(?), 2021.

### Invited lectures

1. “Gödel in 20/20: hindsight, foresight, and logical blindness,”  
*Tribute to Gödel 2020*, Brno, Czech Republic. January 2020.
2. “Some questions for the philosophy of mathematics,”  
American Mathematical Society, Central Sectional Meeting.  
Madison, Wisconsin. Fall 2019.
3. “Logical completeness: the very idea” (five lectures)  
*Scandinavian Logic Society and Association of Symbolic Logic  
Summer School*. Helsinki. 2015.

4. “The complexity of simplicity” *Simplicity: Ideals of Practice in Mathematics and the Arts*, New York City 2013.
5. “An ancient sub-structural logic” CUNY logic seminar, (computer science department) 2012.
6. “Gödel’s last thought on Gentzen’s consistency proof” CUNY logic seminar, (mathematics department) 2012.
7. “Sacred inference” 25th Bar-Hillel lectures, Jerusalem 2011.
8. “What set theory and category theory can teach an anti-foundationalist” Philmath Intersem, Paris 2010.

### Current projects

- *Logical Completeness from Aristotle to Henkin*, a monograph expanding the accounts and results found in essays [2], [5], and [7]
- “The disjunction principle,” an essay showing how Gödel used the disjunction property (DP) of intuitionistic propositional logic before it ever had been verified. Gödel’s (1932) discovery of the sequence of GD-logics and of the relevance of the pigeonhole principle for logic depended on an understanding of DP, not as a fact about a logical system, but as a regulative principle that any constructive system must satisfy.
- “As if by magic: how the structure of sequent systems determines logical meaning,” an essay showing that the subsumption of the law of excluded middle into the background structure of reasoning in the sequent calculus—what Gentzen called magical—unifies classical and intuitionistic reasoning in more than one way. Not only does it expose the identity of the inferential content of the classical and intuitionistic logical connectives, it also unifies their completeness results. Kripke’s frame semantics can be understood from this perspective as necessitated by the completeness result that predated them.
- “The fate of logical synthesis in the hands of Gentzen and Herbrand,” an invited chapter in the forthcoming volume *Syllogism’s Ghost: Aristotle and the Creation of Modern Logic* edited by Lukas M. Verburgt and Matteo Cosci.

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- “Logic discovered and logic imposed,” an invited chapter in a forthcoming volume in memory of Mark Steiner, edited by Yemima ben Menahem and Carl Posey.

### **Doctoral students**

1. Chris Porter, “Mathematical and philosophical perspectives on algorithmic randomness” (co-directed with Michael Detlefsen and Peter Cholak). 2012.
2. Corey Dethier, “Multiple models, robustness, and the epistemology of climate science” (co-directed with Anjan Chakravartti). 2020.
3. Ellen Lehet, “The explanatory value of Category Theory.” 2020.
4. Paul McEldowney, “Model Theoretic Logicism” (co-directed with Tim Bays) 2020.
5. Matteo Bianchetti, “The epistemic role of geometricity in mathematical thought.” current.

### **Senior theses**

1. Patrick Corry, philosophy
2. Thomas Graff, philosophy/theology concentration (co-directed)
3. Taylor Nutter, philosophy
4. James Schmidt, philosophy
5. Elliott Peirce, program for liberal studies
6. Steven White, philosophy/theology concentration (co-directed)
7. Mark Cerenzia, mathematics (co-directed)

### **Service**

- Chief editor, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, 2019 – present
- UND Department of Philosophy  
Director of Graduate Studies. 2014 – 2020

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- UND College of Arts and Letters  
Academic Honesty Committee. (student ombudsman) 2018 – present
- UND College of Arts and Letters  
Academic Honesty Committee. (chair) 2015 – 2018
- *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic* associate editor, 2013 – 2019
- UND College of Arts and Letters  
Academic Honesty Committee. 2013 – 2015
- Program Committee  
2020 Annual Meeting of the Association of Symbolic Logic
- Local Organizing Committee  
2020 Annual Meeting of the Association of Symbolic Logic
- chair of special session “Logic and Philosophy” for the  
2018 Annual Meeting of the Association of Symbolic Logic
- Local Organizing Committee for the 2009 Annual Meeting  
of the Association of Symbolic Logic
- organizing Committee for the Midwest Philosophy of  
Mathematics Workshop. 2006 – 2020
- UND Department of Philosophy  
Philosophy of Biology Search Committee (chair)
- UND College of Arts and Letters  
Academic Council. 2014 – 2017
- UND College of Arts and Letters  
Undergraduate Studies Committee. 2014 – present
- UND Department of Philosophy  
Committee of Appointments and Promotions. 2014 – 2017
- UND Department of Philosophy  
Graduate Student Admissions committee. 2013 – 2020
- UND Department of Philosophy  
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. 2010 – 2016

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- UND Department of Philosophy  
Comprehensive History Exam Committee (chair). 2011, 2015

**Scholarships and fellowships**

- University of California Regents Dissertation Writing Fellowship, 2005
- National Merit Scholarship, 1998

**Distinctions, honors, and awards**

- University of Notre Dame Director of Graduate Studies Award, 2018
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Hubert E. Bray Prize in Mathematics