

Daniel Pallies

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CURRENT POSITION

2022 Research Assistant Professor, Lingnan University

EDUCATION

2015-2022 PhD in Philosophy, University of Southern California
Dissertation: Feeling Good and Living Well: On the Nature of Pleasure and its Role in Well-Being
— *Supervised by Mark Schroeder (chair), Janet Levin, John Hawthorne, Ralph Wedgwood, and Antoine Bechara*

2011-2015 BA in Philosophy, minoring in Neuroscience and Consciousness Studies, Union College
Honors Project: Our Consciousness as Evidence for Modal Views in the Philosophy of Mind —
Supervised by David Barnett

RESEARCH AREAS

Areas of Specialization: Value Theory (esp. Well-Being) and Philosophy of Mind (esp. Consciousness)

Areas of Competence: Metaethics, Metaphysics, Applied Ethics, AI Ethics

GRANTS

2025 General Research Fund: “Qualitative Hedonism Revisited”
— \$193,000 HKD

2022 Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme: “Objective Values in Nature”
— \$819,610 HKD

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- 2025** A Hedonic Subjectivism
— *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*
- 2025** Why Pain Matters More than Pleasure for Well-Being
— *The Journal of Ethics*
- 2023** Pessimism and Procreation
— *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*
- 2023** The Dilemma for Attitudinal Theories of Pleasure
— *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Mind vol.3*
- 2022** Attraction, Aversion, and Asymmetrical Desires
— *Ethics*
- 2022** The Pleasure Problem and the Spriggean Solution
— *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*
- 2021** How Do We Differ When We Differ in Tastes?
— *Ergo: An Open Access Journal of Philosophy*
- 2021** An Honest Look at Hybrid Theories of Pleasure
— *Philosophical Studies*
- 2019** Why Humean Causation Is Extrinsic
— *Thought: A Journal of Philosophy*

ARTICLES UNDER REVISE AND RESUBMIT

2026 An Experience Requirement on Welfare Attitudes

2026 A Theory of Evil Action

OTHER ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

- A paper arguing that the phenomenological heterogeneity of pleasure poses a problem for all philosophical theories of pleasure.
- A paper arguing that introspection alone cannot militate between competing versions of the view that pain is a kind of mental command.
- A paper arguing that some ethically-relevant facts bear necessary connections to human psychology, and that these connections support moral realism.

BOOK CHAPTERS

2026 Pleasure and Desire — *Routledge Handbook on the Philosophy of Desire*

2025 The Value of Fact and Feeling — *The Philosophy of Ted Chiang*

PRESENTATIONS

2025 Comments on "An Aristotelian Argument for the Intrinsic Value of Pleasure" — *Kansas Workshop on Well-Being*

2025 AI Consciousness and AI Behavior — *Workshop on AI Consciousness and Well-Being, HKU AI & Humanity Lab*

2024 AI and Mere Superficial Resemblance — *Sun Yat-sen University-Lingnan University Philosophy Workshop*

2024 Attraction and Aversion as Pleasure and Displeasure — *Helsinki Workshop on Well-Being*

2023 An Expanded Role for Pleasure in Well-Being — *Value of Consciousness Series*

2023 *Narrow Sentientism Defended* — *Trinity Workshop on Moral Status*

2023 *The Vagueness of Experience* — *Structuralism in Consciousness Studies at Berlin 2023*

2023 *Moral Realism Made Easy* — *Lingnan Work in Progress Talk Series*

2023 *Pessimism and Procreation* — *Long Beach Ethics Forum*

2022 Comments on "Attraction, Aversion, and Meaning in Life" — *2022 Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference*

2022 *Optimism about Pessimism about Well-Being* (Symposium) — *2022 Pacific APA*

2021 *The Evidence for Robot Affect* — *Workshop on desire, valence and affect in AI at the Future of Humanity Institute, University of Oxford*

2021 "A Dilemma for Attitudinal Theorists" (Symposium, with Alex Dietz) — *2021 Eastern APA*

2020 "Metaethics without Hume" — *USC Speculative Society*

2020 "A Dilemma for Attitudinal Theorists" with Alex Dietz — *Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association*

2020 "Affect Satisfactionism" — *USC Speculative Society*

TEACHING

As Primary Instructor

- 2025** Philosophy of Mind
- 2025** Science Fiction in Film and Literature
- 2024** Philosophy of Happiness
- 2023** Critical Thinking

As Teaching Assistant

- 2022** Christina Dietz's "Mind, Self, and Consciousness"
- 2021** Porter Williams's "Science, Knowledge, and Objectivity"

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- 2015** Winner of the George H. Catlin Prize for Promise in Graduate Study
- 2015** Winner of the Milton Hymers Sternfeld Prize for Best Original Essay in Philosophy
- 2014** Member of Phi Beta Kappa Academic Society
- 2014** Member of Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Society
- 2014** Winner of the Harold A. Larrabee Prize for Best Work in Philosophy