

STEFANO FRANCHI

*Department of Hispanic Studies
Texas A&M University,
College Station, TX 77843-4237
Voice: (979) 862-2211
stefano@tamu.edu
<http://stefano.cleinius.org>*

Education

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1997 | STANFORD UNIVERSITY, <i>Ph.D. in Philosophy</i> |
| 1984 | UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA, <i>Laurea in Filosofia, summa cum laude</i> |

Academic Positions

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>2011-present</i> | TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, Associate Research Professor |
| <i>2006-2009</i> | TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, Visiting Associate Professor |
| <i>2004-2006</i> | THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND, Senior Lecturer (equivalent to Associate Prof. with tenure in the USA) |
| <i>2000-2003</i> | THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND, Lecturer (equivalent to Assistant Prof. in the USA) |
| <i>1997-1999</i> | STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Lecturer |

Research specialties

Area of Specialization: 20th Century European Philosophy, History and Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science, Digital Humanities

Area of Concentration: History of Modern Philosophy, History of Ancient Philosophy.

Other academic experiences

Research Intern XEROX PALO ALTO RESEARCH CENTER (PARC), September 1990-July 1995.
Research member of the Embedded Computation Area, directed by Dr. Brian Cantwell Smith.

Editor *Stanford Humanities Review*, September 1993-January 1995.

Editor and founder (with Eric Rauchway and Güven Güzeldere), *Stanford Electronic Humanities Review* (<http://shr.stanford.edu/shreview/>), March 1994-September 1999.

Significant Distinctions / Awards

1999 STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Fellow in the Humanities
1996 STANFORD HUMANITIES CENTER, Dissertation Resident Fellowship
1995 STANFORD PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT, Mellon Fellowship
1994 XEROX PALO ALTO RESEARCH CENTER (PARC), Research Distinction Award

Research publications

Books

Stefano Franchi and Francesco Bianchini, eds. *The Search for a Theory of Cognition: Early Mechanisms and New Ideas*. With a foreword by Douglas Hofstadter. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2011.

Stefano Franchi, Francesco Bianchini, and Maurizio Matteuzzi, eds. *Verso un'archeologia dell'intelligenza artificiale*. Macerata: Quodlibet, 2007.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere, eds. *Mechanical Bodies, Computational Minds*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2005.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere, eds. *Constructions of the Mind. Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities*. Vol. 4, Special Issue. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Humanities Review, 1995.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere, eds. *Bridging the Gap. Where Cognitive Science Meets Literary Criticism*. Vol. 4, 1 Supplement. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Humanities Review, 1994.

Articles

Forthcoming

Stefano Franchi. "On the backward passage from neo-Classic utility maximizers to value-based social coalitions." In: *Política Común (special issue on Giacomo Marramao's The Passage West)* (2014)

Stefano Franchi. “General homeostasis, autonomy, and heteronomy: toward an affect-based theory of cognition.” In: *Theory and Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence*. Ed. by Vincent Müller. Berlin: Springer, 2014

Stefano Franchi. “Game theory, Nash-equilibria, and the stable set.” In: *Complexity and decision-making*. Ed. by Sergio Barile, Valerio Eletti, and Maurizio Matteuzzi. Berlin: Springer, 2014

In Print

Stefano Franchi. “Homeostats for the 21st century? Lessons learned from simulating Ashby simulating the brain.” In: *Constructivist Foundations* 8.3 (2013). With seven open peer commentaries and author’s response, pp. 501–515

Stefano Franchi. “On Models, Simulations, and the Relevancy of Biochemistry to Cognitive Functions.” In: *Constructivist Foundations* 8.3 (2013)

Stefano Franchi. “Are computers digital? Should constructivists care?” In: *Constructivist Foundations* 8.3 (2013)

Stefano Franchi. “Teoria dei giochi e complessità.” In: *Decisioni e scelte in contesti complessi*. Ed. by Sergio Barile, Valerio Eletti, and Maurizio Matteuzzi. Milano: Wolters Kluwers, 2013, pp. 343–387

Stefano Franchi. “Living Thought and Living Things. On Roberto Esposito’s *Il pensiero vivente*.” In: *Res Publica* 26 (2012).

Stefano Franchi. “How Computing Technology Met the Humanities.” In: *Theory and Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence*. Ed. by Vincent Müller. Berlin: Springer, 2012, pp. 349–365.

Stefano Franchi. “Jammed Machines and Contingently Fit Animals: Psychoanalysis’s Biological Paradox.” In: *French Literature Series* 38 (2011), pp. 213–256.

Stefano Franchi and Francesco Bianchini. “On the Historical Dynamics of Cognitive Science: a View from the Periphery.” In: *The Search for a Theory of Cognition. Early Mechanisms and New Ideas*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi and Francesco Bianchini. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2011, pp. xi–xxvi.

Stefano Franchi. “Life, Death, and Resurrection of W. Ross Ashby’s Homeostat.” In: *The Search for a Theory of Cognition: Early Mechanisms and New Ideas*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi and Francesco Bianchini. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2011, pp. 3–52.

Stefano Franchi. “Radical constructivism’s *Tathandlung*, *structure*, and *Geist*.” In: *Constructivist Foundations* 6.4 (2011)

Stefano Franchi. “Les jeux anaclastiques de Lévi-Strauss.” In: *Les années soixante*. Ed. by Patrice Maniglier. Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 2010, pp. 125–141.

Stefano Franchi. “Can Machines Have an Unconscious? Would They Have To?” In: *Proceedings of the VIII European Conference on Philosophy and Computing (ECAP)*. ed. by Rainhard Zvi Bengez. 2010, pp. 506–513.

Stefano Franchi. “Life, Death, and Resurrection of the Homeostat.” In: *Proceedings of the VII European Conference on Philosophy and Computing (ECAP)*. ed. by Jordi Vallverdù. 2009, pp. 106–107

Stefano Franchi. “Intelligenza artificiale come scienza, metafisica, o epistemologia. Note in margine ad uno scambio con Herbert Simon.” In: *Verso un’archeologia dell’intelligenza artificiale*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi, Francesco Bianchini, and Maurizio Matteuzzi. Macerata: Quodlibet, 2007, pp. 19–39.

Stefano Franchi and Francesco Bianchini. “Per un’archeologia dell’intelligenza artificiale.” In: *Verso un’archeologia dell’intelligenza artificiale*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi, Francesco Bianchini, and Maurizio Matteuzzi. Macerata: Quodlibet, 2007, pp. 3–20.

Stefano Franchi. “Herbert Simon, anti-Philosopher.” In: *Computing and Philosophy*. Ed. by Lorenzo Magnani. Pavia: Associated International Academic Publishers, 2006, pp. 27–40.

Stefano Franchi. “Hunters, Cooks, and Nooks.” In: *Diacritics* 33.2 (2005), pp. 98–109.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. “Machinations of the Mind.” In: *Mechanical Bodies, Computational Minds*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2005, pp. 1–135.

Stefano Franchi. “Of Chess, Games, and Flies.” In: *Essays in Philosophy* 6.1 (2005).

Stefano Franchi, Güven Güzeldere, and Eric Minch. “From Vienna to California: a Journey across Disciplines. An Interview with Heinz von Foerster.” In: *Kybernetes* 34.1-2 (2005), pp. 15–32.

Stefano Franchi. “Passive Politics.” In: *Contretemps* 5 (Nov. 2004).

Stefano Franchi. “L’intelligenza artificiale e la teoria dei giochi. Un’indagine storico-critica.” In: *Percezione, linguaggio, coscienza. Percorsi tra cognizione e intelligenza artificiale*. Ed. by Maurizio Matteuzzi and Francesco Bianchini. Macerata: Quodlibet, 2004, pp. 63–88.

Stefano Franchi. “Telos and Terminus: Hegel and the End of Philosophy.” In: *Idealistic Studies* 28.1–2 (1998), pp. 35–46.

Stefano Franchi. “Palomar, The Triviality of Modernity, and the Doctrine of the Void.” In: *New Literary History* 28.4 (1997), pp. 757–778.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. “Mindless Mechanisms, Mindful Constructions.” In: *Constructions of the Mind—Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. Vol. 4, Special Issue. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Humanities Review, 1995, pp. ix–xxxi.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. “Dialogues with Colorful personalities of Early AI.” in: *Constructions of the Mind. Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. Vol. 4, Special Issue. (An expanded version has been published in *Computational Minds and Mechanical Bodies: Artificial Intelligence from Automata to Cyborg*, listed above). Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Humanities Review, 1995, pp. 161–170.

Stefano Franchi, Güven Güzeldere, and Eric Minch. “Interview with Heinz von Foerster.” In: *Constructions of the Mind—Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. Vol. 4, Special Issue. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Humanities Review, 1995, pp. 288–307.

Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. “Of Gaps, Bridges, and Close Encounters of one of a Kind.” In: *Bridging the Gap—Where Cognitive Science meets Literary Criticism*. Ed. by Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere. Vol. 4, 1 Supplement. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Humanities Review, 1994, pp. vii–xii.

Stefano Franchi. “Putnam and Heidegger on Truth.” In: *Annali di Discipline Filosofiche dell’Università di Bologna* 10 (1990) .

Stefano Franchi. “Modelli descrittivi ed analisi formale: un’ipotesi intorno all’AI.” in: *Annali di Discipline Filosofiche dell’Università di Bologna* 7 (1987).

Book reviews

Stefano Franchi. “Blunting the Edge of Second-Order Cybernetics: the Heritage of Heinz von Foerster (book review).” In: *Constructivist Foundations* 3.1 (2007), pp. 131–132.

Stefano Franchi. “Michel Foucault, *Fearless Speech* (book review).” In: *Essays in Philosophy* 5.2 (2004).

Stefano Franchi. “Michel Rapaport, *Later Derrida* (book review).” In: *Essays in Philosophy* 6 (2005).

Talks and Presentations

Stefano Franchi. *General homeostasis, passive life, and the challenge to autonomy*. Philosophy and Theory of Artificial Intelligence Conference 2013 (PT-AI), Oxford, UK. September 21-22, 2013

Stefano Franchi. *From Artificial Intelligence to Artistic Practices: A New Theoretical Model for the Digital Humanities*. Modern Language Association Annual Meeting 2013, Boston, Mass. 2013

Stefano Franchi. *A Passage West? From glocalism to Game Theory*. Philosophy After the Age of the Nation-State Workshop Texas A&Ms Glasscock Center, 15 Oct 2012. 2012

Stefano Franchi. *May Humanists Learn from Artists a New Way to Interact with Digital Technology?* Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations Annual Conference (DH2012), Hamburg, Germany. July 16-22, 2012

Stefano Franchi. *Digital Humanities in the Italian Culture Landscape*. Modern Language Association Annual Meeting 2012, Seattle, Wash. January 8-10, 2012

Stefano Franchi. *Teleonomy and Contingency in Kant’s Third Critique*. American Philosophical Association (APA) Eastern Division Meeting, Washington, D.C.). December 27-30, 2011

Stefano Franchi. *Encounters between Computation and the Humanities: Past, Present, and Future*. Texas A&M University, Hispanic Studies Department Colloquium. November 8, 2011

- Stefano Franchi. *From Kantian autonomy and heteronomy to biological life*. 5th meeting of the 2nd European Network for the Advancement of Artificial Cognitive Systems, Interaction, and Robotics (EUCog II), Groningen, NL. October 10–11, 2011
- Stefano Franchi. *Past, Present, and Future Encounters between Computation and the Humanities*. Philosophy and Theory of Artificial Intelligence Conference 2011 (PT-AI), Thessaloniki. October 3-4, 2011
- Stefano Franchi. *Can Machines Have an Unconscious? Would We Want Them To?* European Meeting of the Computing and Philosophy Association (E-CAP), Munich. October 4-6, 2010.
- Stefano Franchi. *Freudian and Lacanian Biologies and the Problem of Structurally Failing Human Homeostasis*. 38th Annual University of South Carolina French Literature Conference, Gervais, SC. March 18-20, 2010.
- Stefano Franchi. *Life, Death, and Resurrection of the Homeostat*. European Meeting of the Computing and Philosophy Association (E-CAP), Barcelona. July 4-6, 2009.
- Stefano Franchi. *On the Botany of Plants: Kantian Reflections on Heidegger's Philosophy of Life*. Philosophy Department seminar, University of Auckland. May, 9th, 2007.
- Stefano Franchi. *Contingency, teleology, and autonomy. Reflections on some Kantian themes in the philosophy of life*. Department of Philosophy seminar, University of Texas A&M. November 16th, 2007.
- Stefano Franchi. *Robots, Cyborgs, and Embedded Creatures*. Annual Meeting of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA), Chicago. November 10-13, 2005.
- Stefano Franchi. *The Phenomenon of Passivity*. Annual meeting of the Australian Society for Continental Philosophy (ASCP), Macquarie University, Sydney. 8-10 December 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Passive Politics: Giorgio Agamben and the Thought of désœuvrement*. Philosophy Department seminar, University of Auckland. October 8th, 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Passive Politics*. International conference *The Italian Effect*, Sydney. 8-10 September 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Play or Passivity?* Society for Literature and Science (SLS) European Conference, Paris. 28-30 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Artificial Intelligence and Philosophy: the Case of Simon's AI project*. European Meeting of the Computing and Philosophy Association (E-CAP), Pavia. June 4-6, 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Aristotle and Passivity*. Annual Conference of the American Philosophical Association (APA), Central Division, Chicago. April 22-35, 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Commentary on "Artificial Life and Merleau-Ponty"*. Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA), Pacific Division, Pasadena. March 25-28, 2004.
- Stefano Franchi. *Animals, Snobs, Rascals, and Women: Kojève between Humanism and anti-Humanism*. Australian Society for Continental Philosophy (ASCP) Annual Conference, Brisbane. November 2003.

Stefano Franchi. *Hunters, Cooks, and Nooks*. Department of Philosophy seminar, University of Auckland, Auckland. April 2001.

Stefano Franchi. *Philosophy, Science, and Literature*. Invited talk, Critical Theory Group seminar, Duke University. February 2001.

Stefano Franchi. *Philosophy, Science, and Literature*. Australian Society for Continental Philosophy (ASCP) Annual Conference, Sydney. December 2000.

Stefano Franchi. *From Earwig to Man, from Science to Philosophy*. Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP) Annual Conference, Brisbane. December 2000.

Stefano Franchi. *On an Idyllic Tone Adopted Recently in Philosophy*. Department of Philosophy colloquium, University of Auckland, Auckland. March 23, 1999.

Stefano Franchi. *Commentary on Eric Peng's "Perception, Conception, and Schemata"*. Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA), Pacific Division, Los Angeles. March 1998.

Stefano Franchi. *The Irreparable Light of Dawn*. Stanford Humanities Center. May 1996.

Stefano Franchi. *Of Moats, Bridges, and Precincts: The Long Journey of Intentionality*. Actualité cognitive de la phénoménologie: les défis de la naturalisation, Bordeaux, France. October 18-20, 1995.

Stefano Franchi. *Telos and Terminus. Hegel and the End of Philosophy*. Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, New York. December 28-30, 1995.

Stefano Franchi. *Cognitive Science's Missed Opportunity*. Stanford, CSLI TINLunch. March 1995.

Stefano Franchi. *Adventures in Cognitive Science and Literary Theory*. ECA group Seminar, Xerox PARC. September 23rd, 1994.

Teaching

At Texas A&M University

2009	PHIL 419 Contemporary European Philosophy (From Hans Jonas and Jacques Lacan to biopolitics (G. Agamben and S. iek)
2009	PHIL 111 Contemporary Moral Issues
2008	PHIL 251 Introduction to Philosophy
2008	PHIL 111 Contemporary Moral Issues
2007	PHIL 111 Contemporary Moral Issues
2006	PHIL 658 Philosophy of Cognitive Science

2006 PHIL 451 Phenomenology and Existentialism (From Husserl to Heidegger and Gadamer)

2006 PHIL 251 Introduction to Philosophy (Introductory survey course, from Plato to Nietzsche)

(At the University of Auckland)

2006 PHIL 221/314 Twentieth Century German Philosophy

2006 PHIL 759 Automata and Cyborgs from Artificial Intelligence to Critical Theory

(on leave in 2005)

2004 PHIL 759C Automata and Cyborgs from Artificial Intelligence to Critical Theory.

2004 PHIL 341 Introduction to Philosophical Hermeneutics: Hans-Georg Gadamer and beyond.

2004 PHIL 102 Introduction to Moral Philosophy (Lectures on Nietzsche).

(on teaching relief from Marsden Foundation Fast Start grant in 2003)

2002 PHIL 215/335 From Humanism to the Death of Man: Twentieth Century French Philosophy

2002 PHIL 759C Contemporary Theories of Hermeneutics

2002 PHIL 341 Introduction to Philosophical Hermeneutics: Hans-Georg Gadamer

2002 PHIL 152 Philosophical Theories of Human Nature (Lectures on Plato's conception of human nature)

2001 PHIL 759C Science, Philosophy, and Wisdom (Graduate seminar on Hegel)

2001 PHIL 221/314 Twentieth Century German Philosophy

2001 PHIL 303 Overcoming Metaphysics: Martin Heidegger's *Being and Time*

2001 PHIL 152 Philosophical Theories of Human Nature

2000 PHIL 759 Ethics without Metaphysics: Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida

2000 PHIL 303 Overcoming Metaphysics: Martin Heidegger's *Being and Time*

2000 PHIL 215/335 From Humanism to the Death of Man: Twentieth Century French Philosophy

Research grants

- Project:* *Affective Homeostasis*, Texas A&M College of Liberal Arts grant, value \$7,500 (2013).
- Project:* *French Hegelianism reconsidered*, University of Auckland Staff Research (UARC) Fund, value \$13,000 (2004).
- Project* *Early Cybernetics*, University of Auckland Faculty Research Fund, value \$2000 (2004).
- Project:* *A historical reconstruction and critical assessment of the alternatives to metaphysics originally proposed by Artificial Intelligence and Structuralism*, Marsden Fast Start Research Grant, value \$100,000 over 2 years (2003-04).
- Project:* *UARC International Collaboration Research Fund*, value \$5000 (2001).
- Project:* *Conducts*, UARC Staff Research Fund, value \$4,500 (2001).
- Project:* *Mindful Constructions*, UARC Staff Research Fund, value \$4,000 (2000).
- Project* *Vehicles*, UARC New Staff Research Fund, value \$14,725 (2000).

Professional Societies and Service

Editorial Board Member Constructivist Foundations, a Journal of Constructivist Studies

Editorial Board Member Política Común, A Journal of Thought

Editorial Board Member Discipline Filosofiche

Member American Philosophical Association, International Association for Computing and Philosophy, Modern Language Association, Australasian Association of Philosophy, Australian Society for Continental Philosophy, Society for Science, Literature, and the Arts, Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy