Curriculum vitae

Name: Sunday Grève, Sebastian

Also known as: 王小塞 (WANG Xiaosai)
Date of birth: 21 January 1987
Nationality: German

Address: Department of Philosophy, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China
Phone: +86 166 0152 0609
Email: ssg@pku.edu.cn
Website: yhposolihp.com

Areas of specialisation

AI, epistemology, language, mind, Socrates, Wittgenstein

Areas of competence

Ethics, logic, metaphysics, Nietzsche

Areas of interest

Aesthetics, Chinese philosophy

Employment

2026 –   Associate Professor (tenured), Department of Philosophy, Peking University
2019–26   Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Department of Philosophy, Peking University
2018–19   Stipendiary Lecturer in Philosophy, Christ Church, University of Oxford

Education

2018   DPhil in Philosophy, University of Oxford
             Supervised by William Child and Timothy Williamson
2014   MPhil in Philosophy, Birkbeck, University of London
             Supervised by Jennifer Hornsby, Marie McGinn, Alois Pichler
2011   BA in German and Philosophy, University of Göttingen
             Supervised by Mario Brandhorst and Felix Mühlhölzer

Prizes and fellowships

2025   Innovative AI-Integrated Undergraduate Course Development, Peking University
2023   Outstanding Undergraduate Research Advisor, Peking University
2021   Outstanding Undergraduate Research Advisor, Peking University
2020–21   Berggruen China Fellow link
2019 –   Research Fellow, Institute of Foreign Philosophy at Peking University link
2014   Royal Institute of Philosophy Essay Prize link

Current professional activities

Associate Editor, *Inquiry*
Board of Curators, International Philosophy Festival, Portugal
Board of Directors, International Wittgenstein Research Centre, Shanxi University
Category Editor, 'Intuition', PhilPapers
Co-Founder, Analytic Philosophy Forum, Peking University
Co-Founder, Anglophone Beijing Colloquium in Philosophy
Co-Founder, Philosophy Symposium, Peking University
Editor-in-Chief, *Chinese Journal of Philosophy*
Executive Editor, *Journal of Human Cognition*
Invited Scholar, High-End Foreign Expert Project, Beijing Normal University
Principal Investigator, Interdisciplinary Study of the Concept of Intelligence, Peking University
Special Issue Editor, Proceedings of the Philosophy and AI Workshop, *Inquiry*
Special Issue Guest Editor, Foundations of Artificial Intelligence, *Philosophies*
Special Issue Guest Editor, New Work on Wittgenstein's Philosophy of Religion, *Religions*
Steering Committee, φ Workshops on Philosophy and AI
Topical Advisory Panel, *Philosophies*
Working Group, AI Safety and Governance Report, Committee for AI, World Internet Conference

Publications

Forthc. (37) Fake Plastic Minds
Asian Journal of Philosophy

2025 (36) Cognitivism about Religious Belief in Later Wittgenstein
co-authored with Alois Pichler
International Journal for Philosophy of Religion 97, 61–76 link

(35) Kripke and Wittgenstein on Proper Names
Philosophical Investigations (21 pp.) link1 2

(34) Method and Morality: The Elenchus from Socrates to Wittgenstein
Synthese 205, 117 (28 pp.) link1 2

(33) Paradox and Paradoxical Objects
(in German) Die Paradoxie und paradoxe Objekte, trans. from the Engl. orig. by Peter Hintz
Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie (German Journal of Philosophy) 73, 451–76 link

(32) Sense after Kripke
(in Chinese) 克里普克之后的涵义, translated from the English original by LUO Shiman (罗诗曼)
《清华西方哲学研究》 (Tsinghua Studies in Western Philosophy) 11 (2), 130–43

(31) The Biological Objection against Strong AI
Inquiry (25 pp.) link1 2 (translated into Chinese, 《萃嶺》 link)

(30) The Insurmountable Privacy of Thought
Philosophy and Literature 49, 471–92 link

(29) Turing's Philosophy of AI
Journal for General Philosophy of Science 56, 513–29 link1 2 3

(28) Wittgenstein on Private Thought and Private Language
(in Chinese) 维特根斯坦论私人思想与私人语言, trans. from English by LI Meixuan (李美萱)
《外国哲学》 (Foreign Philosophy) 49, 236–50

2024 (27) A Confucian Algorithm for Autonomous Vehicles
co-authored with Tingting Sui
Science and Engineering Ethics 30 (52), 1–22 link1 2

(26) On the Nature and Logic of Paradox
(in Chinese) 论悖论的本质与逻辑, trans. from the English original by QI Mengyuan (祁梦媛)
《自然辩证法通讯》 (Journal of Dialectics of Nature) 46 (6), 28–38 link

(25) Private Language in Plato and Wittgenstein
In: Jakub Mácha and Herbert Hrachovec, eds, *Platonism*, De Gruyter, 321–31 link

(24) Real Names
In: Martin Gustafsson, Oskari Kuusela, and Jakub Mácha, eds, *Engaging Kripke with Wittgenstein*, Routledge, 28–59 link

(23) Towards a Unified Theory of Intuition
(in Chinese) 迈向整合的直觉理论, translated from the English original by LI Meixuan (李美萱)
《科学技术哲学研究》 (Studies in Philosophy of Science and Technology) 41 (2), 17–25
(reprinted in 《科学技术哲学》 (Philosophy of Science and Technology), July 2024, 12–20 link)

2023 (22) A Brief History of Turing's Work on AI
(in Turkish) Turing'in Yz Üzerine Olan Çalışmalarının Kısa Tarihi, trans. Özlem Derin
In: Özlem Derin, ed., *Labirent: Yapay Zeka Bir Devam mı Yoksa Çıkmaz mı?* (Labyrinth: Is Artificial Intelligence a Cure or a Dead End?), Kriter Yayınevi, 1–21

(21) A Complex Philosophical Oeuvre and Its Complex User Community: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future Digitisation of Wittgenstein's Philosophical Writings
co-authored (co-first author) with Nivedita Gangopadhyay and Alois Pichler
Digital Humanities in the Nordic and Baltic Countries 5, 105–20 link

(20) Artificial Forms of Life
Philosophies 8 (89), 1–21 link1 2

(19) Can Machines Be Conscious?
co-authored with Xiaoyue Yu
Philosophy Now 155, 24–5 link1 2 (translated into Portuguese, *Líder Magazine* 23 link)

(18) Entertaining Unhappiness
In: Craig Fox and Britt Harrison, eds, *Philosophy of Film Without Theory*, Palgrave Macmillan, 253–69 link1 2

(17) Intuitive Skill
Philosophia 51, 1677–1700 link1 2

2022 (16) AI's First Philosopher
Aeon link

(15) Can a Machine Be Conscious?
(in Chinese) 机器能有意识吗？, co-authored with YU Xiaoyue (俞筱钥)
《认知科学》 (Cognitive Science) 6 (2), 233–8 link

(14) Lunacy and Scepticism: Notes on the Logic of Doubt Concerning the Existence of an External World
Topoi 41, 1023–31 link

(13) Moore and Wittgenstein on External World Scepticism
(in Chinese) 摩尔和维特根斯坦论外部世界怀疑论, trans. from English by LUO Shiman (罗诗曼)
《哲学门》 (Philosophy Gate) 46, 268–84 link

(12) Philosophy and Common Sense 2: Cultivating Curiosity
co-authored with Timothy Williamson
The Philosophers' Magazine 96, 24–30 link1 2 3 (translated into Chinese, 《儒家網》 link)

(11) Philosophy and Common Sense 3: Philosophy as a Science
co-authored with Timothy Williamson
The Philosophers' Magazine 97, 30–35 link1 2

2021   (10)   Nietzsche and the Machines
The Philosophers' Magazine 93, 12–15 link1 2 3 (reprinted at the Blog of the American Philosophical Association link; translated into Chinese, 《儒家網》 version1(a), 《哲思学意》 (b), 《睿ㄇ》 2, 《认知科学》 3; translated into Portuguese, *Líder Magazine* 24 link)

(9)   Philosophy and Common Sense I: What Is Common Sense?
co-authored with Timothy Williamson
The Philosophers' Magazine 95, 24–30 link1 2 3 (translated into Chinese, 《儒家網》 link)

2019   (8)   Preface
co-authored with James Conant
In: James Conant and Sebastian Sunday, eds, *Wittgenstein on Philosophy, Objectivity, and Meaning*, Cambridge University Press, ix–xi link

(7)   *Wittgenstein on Philosophy, Objectivity, and Meaning*
co-edited with James Conant
Cambridge University Press link (paperback published in 2021)

2018   (6)   Logic and Philosophy of Logic in Wittgenstein
Australasian Journal of Philosophy 96, 168–82 link1 2

2017   (5)   Logic
In: Anat Matar, ed., *Understanding Wittgenstein, Understanding Modernism*, Bloomsbury Publishing, 205–16 link1 2

2016   (4)   The Good, the Bad and the Creative: Language in Wittgenstein's Philosophy
co-authored with Jakub Mácha
In: Sebastian Sunday Grève and Jakub Mácha, eds, *Wittgenstein and the Creativity of Language*, Palgrave Macmillan, 3–25 link1 2

(3)   *Wittgenstein and the Creativity of Language*
co-edited with Jakub Mácha
Palgrave Macmillan link (paperback published in 2018)

(2)   Wittgenstein on Gödelian 'Incompleteness', Proofs and Mathematical Practice: Reading *Remarks on the Foundations of Mathematics*, Part I, Appendix III, Carefully
co-authored with Wolfgang Kienzler
In: Sebastian Sunday Grève and Jakub Mácha, eds, *Wittgenstein and the Creativity of Language*, Palgrave Macmillan, 76–116 link1 2

2015   (1)   The Importance of Understanding Each Other in Philosophy
Philosophy 90, 213–39 link1 2 (awarded the Royal Institute of Philosophy Essay Prize; reprinted at the WeChat Official Account of the Institute of Foreign Philosophy at Peking University link)

Talks (since July 2023)

Invited and non-departmental unless otherwise indicated:
* = departmental
† = refereed

2025   Robot existentialism; Philosophy & Technology Group, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands, 25 Nov.

2025   AI, nouphilia, and Confucian algorithm; 14th Songshan Forum, Dialogue Between Chinese and Other World Civilizations, Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies, Peking University, Beijing, China, 22 Nov.

2025   Fake plastic minds; Beijing Normal University, China, 14 Nov.

2025   Robot existentialism; Beijing Forum, Subforum on Philosophical Perspectives on Civilization in the Age of Digital Intelligence, Beijing, China, 7–9 Nov.

2025   Kripke and Wittgenstein on proper names; Chinese Wittgenstein Society, conference, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, 8–9 Nov.

2025	Panel discussion; International Frontier AI Safety and Governance Forum, Beijing Institute of AI Safety and Governance, Beijing, China, 30 Oct.
2025	Film talk, '*Her*, written, co-produced, and directed by Spike Jonze'; Peking University, Beijing, China, 28 Oct.
2025	Roundtable, 'On Education: What Does It Mean to Be Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence?'; Exchange Café, Peking University, Beijing, China, 23 Oct.
2025	The Turing test, Chinese room, and imitation world; The University of Hong Kong, China, 11 Sep.
2025	AI and nouphilia; Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, 2–3 Sep.
2025	Comment on Peter Hylton's lecture 'Quine's Philosophical Projects'; Wuhan University, Beijing, China, 27 Jun.
2025	Infinity and AI: the mathematical objection; Chinese Philosophy Workshop, Peking University, Beijing, China, 24 Jun.
2025	Vagueness, open texture, and family resemblance; Workshop on Semantic Indeterminacy, Peking University, Beijing, China, 21–22 Jun.
2025	Comments on the zero draft 'Advancing a Global Framework of AI Safety and Governance for the Well-being of Humanity'; Seminar on Exploring Frameworks for Global AI Safety and Governance, World Internet Conference, Beijing, China, 20 Jun.
2025	Fake plastic minds; Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China, 10 Jun.
2025	Fake plastic minds; Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea, 27 May
2025	LLMs and intelligence; 2nd Philosophy and AI Workshop, Peking University, Beijing, 26–27 Apr.
2025	Philosophy and AI; MDPI, Beijing, China, 24 Apr.
2025	The biological objection against strong AI; Capital Normal University, Beijing, China, 11 Apr.
2025	Fake plastic minds; Fenghua Lecture Series, Peking University, Beijing, China, 28 Mar.
2025	Can machines acquire human mindedness?; Conference on Frontier Issues in Cognition, Language, and Consciousness, Chengdu, China, 8–9 Mar.
2025	Steering towards utopia: the importance of the medium term in AI; Symposium on Seth Lazar's philosophy of AI, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China, 17 Jan.
2024	Imitation game 2.0; Shanxi University, Taiyuan, China, 5 Dec.
2024	Can machines acquire human mindedness?; 1st Philosophy and AI Workshop, Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China, 7 Nov.
2024	Comment on A. W. Moore's lecture 'The Infinite in Mathematics'; Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China, 1 Nov.
2024	Turing's test and Searle's; The University of Hong Kong, China, 12 Sep.
2024*	Comment on Anton Alexandrov's lecture 'The Dialectic Between the Methods of Explication and Abduction'; Peking University, Beijing, China, 27 Jun.
2024	Can machines acquire human mindedness?; 21st Conference on Mind and Machine, Shanxi University, Taiyuan, China, 15–16 Jun.
2024	Can machines acquire human mindedness?; Royal Asiatic Society, Beijing, China, 22 May
2024	A Confucian algorithm for autonomous vehicles (joint presentation with Tingting Sui); XPHI UK Workshop Series, The University of Manchester, UK, 10 Apr.
2023	A Confucian algorithm for autonomous vehicles (joint work with Tingting Sui); Ethics of Science and Technology Summit, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, 16 Dec.
2023	Wittgensteinian psychological contextualism; Wittgenstein and the Future of Philosophy, conference, Shanxi University, Taiyuan, China, 11–12 Nov.
2023†	Turing's philosophy of AI; Philosophy of Science Around the World, conference, Philosophy of Science Association, 11 Nov.
2023	Can machines acquire human mindedness?; Leadership Summit Portugal, Estoril, Portugal, 26 Oct.
2023	Comment on Juliet Floyd's lecture 'Wittgenstein, Turing, and "Surveyability"'; Wuhan University, China, 6 Sep.
2023	Turing's philosophy of AI; The University of Hong Kong, China, 6 Sep.
2023	Gödel vs Wittgenstein; Philosophy of Mathematics Seminar, Kobe University, Kobe, Japan, 28 Jul.
2023	AI, Nietzsche, and the evolution of morality; CAPE Lecture Series, Center for Applied Philosophy and Ethics, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, 26 Jul.
2023	Can machines acquire human mindedness?; Tokyo Forum for Analytic Philosophy, talk series, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, 21 Jul.

Course teaching

2020 –   **Peking University**

All levels unless otherwise indicated:
* = undergraduate only
† = graduate only

AI ethics (with Julius Schönherr, Yuzhou Wang), 2023, '26
Analytic philosophy, 2020
Introduction to philosophy (w. J. Schönherr), 2023*, '24*, '25*, '26*
Introduction to philosophy (w. Arthur Schipper, J. Schönherr), 2021*
Modern Western philosophy, 2026
Nietzsche, 2021*
Philosophical methods (w. Anton Alexandrov), 2025
Philosophical methods, 2022
Philosophy of AI, 2021, '25
Philosophy of philosophy, 2021
Philosophy workshop (w. J. Schönherr), 2020, '24
Philosophical research and writing, 2022†, '23†, '24†, '25†, '26†
Peking Colloquium, 2025 (w. Jennifer Nagel)
Reading German philosophy in the original German, 2024
Wittgenstein (w. Xing Nan), 2022

External
Summer school, philosophy of AI, Shanxi University, China, 22–26 Aug. 2023
Summer school, philosophy of AI, Inner Mongolia University, China, 9–15 Aug. 2021

2014–19   **University of Oxford**

First-year undergraduate
Classes and tutorials
    Introduction to ethics, 2017, '18, '19
    Introduction to logic, 2015, '16, '17, '18
    Introduction to philosophy, 2016, '17, '18, '19

Upper-year undergraduate
Lectures
    Wittgenstein, 2018

Classes and tutorials
    Early analytic philosophy, 2019
    Epistemology, 2016, '17, '18, '19
    Ethics, 2019
    Metaphysics, 2016, '17, '18, '19
    Philosophical logic, 2016
    Philosophy of logic and language, 2018, '19
    Philosophy of mind, 2016, '17, '18
    Wittgenstein, 2014, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19

Languages

Fluent (C2*):   English, German
Reading (B2):   French, Italian, Latin
Basic (A2):   Mandarin Chinese

* According to the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)