# Javier Suárez Curriculum Vitae 06/22

# Philosophy | Deptartment of Philosophy WOS ID: AAA-3157-2020

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**Research Summary**

# I am a Lecturer (adiunkt) at the University of Oviedo (Spain) and the PI of the project “MULTISPECIES – Network modelling of multispecies systems: Ontological and Epistemological Implications,” at the Jagiellonian University (Poland). My current research focuses of the epistemology of the life sciences, with special emphasis on the combined used of mathematical modelling and sequencing technologies in multispecies research, and their limitations. Additionally, I have done extensive research on the theoretical foundations of evolutionary theory, and its ontological implications.

# I have received funding from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Education, the Polish National Science Foundation (NCN), the Royal Institute of Philosophy, and from “La Caixa” Research Foundation.

# Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Science ; Philosophy of Biology ; Natural Philosophy

# Areas of Competence: Metaphysics ; Epistemology ; Philosophy of Mind ; Evolutionary Biology

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# Academic Appointments

**University of Oviedo (Spain)**, Department of Philosophy, Lecturer (2022-present)

**Jagiellonian University in Krakow (Poland)**, Department of Philosophy of the Natural Sciences, Lecturer (2021-present)

**Bielefeld University (Germany)**, Department of Philosophy, Research Fellow (Postdoctoral) (2020)

**University of Barcelona (Spain)**, Department of Philosophy of Science, Junior Teaching Fellow (2017-2020)

# Education

**2020 PhD in Philosophy**. University of Barcelona (Spain)   
Supervisor: Prof. José A. Díez.   
Qualification: Sobresaliente *cum laude*, the highest grade in Spain ; International Mention  
Title: “Methodological strategies in contemporary symbiosis research: From mechanistic to non-mechanistic modes of explanation”  
Committee: Prof. Carl Hoefer – Dr. Sara Green – Dr. Johannes Jaeger  
Link: <https://www.tdx.cat/bitstream/handle/10803/668997/JSD_PhD_THESIS.pdf?sequence=1>

**2019** **PhD in Philosophy**. University of Exeter (United Kingdom) (*passed without corrections*)  
Supervisor: Prof. John Dupré  
Title: “The Hologenome Concept of Evolution: A Philosophical and Biological Study” Committee: Prof. Samir Okasha – Prof. Staffan Müller-Wile.  
Link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10871/39349>.

**2015** **M.A. in Analytic Philosophy**. University of Barcelona (Spain) (1st Class)

**2013** **B.A. in Philosophy**. University of Oviedo (Spain) (1st Class)

# List of Publications

**Articles**:

2021. Findl J, **Suárez J**. Descriptive understanding and prediction in COVID-19 modelling. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* **43**, 107.

2021. Stencel A, **Suárez J**. Do somatic cells *really* sacrifice themselves? Why an appeal to coercion may be a helpful strategy in explaining the evolution of multicellularity. *Biological Theory* **16**, 102-113.

2021. Deulofeu R, **Suárez J**, Pérez -Cervera A. Explaining the behaviour of random ecological networks. The stability of the microbiome as a case of integrative pluralism. *Synthese* **198**, 2003–2025.

2021. **Suárez J**. The holobiont/hologenome as a level of selection. An evolutionary approach to the evolution of multispecies consortia. *Theoria* **36**, 81–112. [[ SPANISH ]]

2020. **Suárez J.** The stability of traits conception of the holobiont: An evolutionary account of Hologenome individuality. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* **42**, 11.

2020. Triviño V, **Suárez J**. Holobionts: Ecological communities, hybrids, or biological individuals? A metaphysical perspective on multispecies systems. *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Biomedical and Biological Sciences* **84**, 101323.

2020. **Suárez J**, Triviño V. What is a hologenomic adaptation? Emergent individuality and inter-identity in multispecies systems. *Frontiers in Psychology. Philosophical and Theoretical Psychology* **11**, 187.

2020. **Suárez J**, Stencel A. A part-dependent account of biological individuality: Why holobionts are individuals *and* ecosystems simultaneously. *Biological Reviews of the Cambridge Philosophical Society* 95, 1308–1324.

2020. Ronai I, Greslehner G, Boem F, Carlisle J, Stencel A, **Suárez J**, Bayir S, Brettig W, Formosinho J, Guerrero AC, Morgan WH, Prigot-Maurice C, Rodeck S, Vasse M, Wallis JM, Zacks O. “Microbiota, symbiosis and individuality summer school” meeting report. *Microbiome* **8**, 117.

2019. **Suárez J,** Deulofeu R. Equilibrium explanations as structural non-mechanistic explanations: The case of long-term bacterial persistence in human hosts. *Teorema* **38**, 95–120.

2019. **Suárez J**, Triviño V. A metaphysical approach to holobiont individuality: Holobionts as emergent individuals. *Quaderns de Filosofia* **6**, 59–76.

2018. **Suárez J.** The Importance of Symbiosis in Philosophy of Biology. An Analysis of the Current Debate on Biological Individuality and its Historical Roots. *Symbiosis* **76**, 77–96.

2016. **Suárez J**. Bacterial species pluralism in the light of medicine and endosymbiosis. *Theoria* **31**, 91–115.

2015. **Suárez J**. Margulis’ evolutionary mechanism and the levels of selection. *Contrastes* **20**, 101–118. [[ SPANISH ]]

**Book Chapters:**

2020. Moreno A, **Suárez J**. Plurality of Explanatory Strategies in Biology: Mechanisms and networks. In: *Methodological Prospects for Scientific Research: From Pragmatism to Pluralism* (pp. 141–165), WJ González (ed.). Springer. Synthese Library.

2018. Deulofeu R, **Suárez J** . When Mechanisms are not Enough. The Origin of Eukaryotes and Scientific Explanation. In: *Philosophy of Science* (pp. 95–115). A Christian, D Hommen, N Retzlaff, G Schurz (eds.). Springer. European Studies in the Philosophy of Science.

**Book Reviews:**

2021. Pierre Durand (aut.) *The Evolutionary Origins of Life and Death*. To appear in *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* **43**, 97.

2018. Scott Lidgard and Lynn K. Nyhart (eds.) *Biological Individuality: Integrating Scientific, Philosophical and Historical Perspectives*. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* **40**, 67.

2018. S. B. Gissis, E. Lamm, and A. Shavit (eds.) *Landscapes of Collectivity in the Life Sciences*. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* **40**,37**.**

2016. D. Star. *Knowing better: Virtue, deliberation and normative ethics*. *Teorema* **35**, 243–246.

2014. D. Owens. *Shaping the normative landscape*. *Teorema* **33**, 139–141.

**Book Translations:**

2017. Timothy Williamson. *Tetralogue. I am right, you are wrong*. Translated to Spanish for Tecnos.

# Fellowships and Awards

**Funding (Principal Investigator):**

* Narodowe Centrum Nauki, OPUS Grant, Poland, 765,493 PLN ( ~ 170,000 GBP) (2020-2023)
* Spanish Ministry of Science, Graduate Research Fellowship, Spain, 68,008 EUR (2017-2020)
* La Caixa Bank Foundation (industrial funding), La Caixa EU Graduate Reseach Fellowship 42,300 GBP (2015-2017)

**Funding (Member of the Research Team):**

* Spanish Ministry of Science, Excellence Projects, Spain, PI José Díez / Carl Hoefer, 70,180 EUR (2021-2025)
* German Research Foundation, DFG Programme “Research Units”, Germany, PI Marie I Kaiser, 185,000 EUR (2020-2023)
* Spanish Ministry of Science, Excellence Projects, Spain, PI José Díez / Carl Hoefer, 46,000 EUR (2017-2021)
* Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, Research Projects, Spain, PI José Díez, 40,000 EUR (2014-2016)

**Awards / Honors and small Fellowships:**

* Future Society MiniGrant, Brain and Behaviour Lab, Internal Funding for the project “The Interplay between Understanding and Prediction in Epidemiological Models of COVID-19”, Jagiellonian University, 5,995 PLN ( ~ 1,500 GBP) (2021)
* Open Access Grant, Centre de Recursos per a l’Aprenentatge I la Investigació (CRAI), University of Barcelona, 464.07 EUR (2020)
* Research Stay Grant, Spanish Ministry of Science, Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research, 3,112 EUR (2019)
* Grant of the Royal Institute of Philosophy, University of Exeter, 3,000 GBP (2018)
* Best Master Dissertation in Philosophy of Science Defended in a Spanish University 2014-2015, Spanish Society of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, 500 EUR (2016)
* Best Presentation by a Graduate Student, Spanish Society of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, 750 EUR (2015)
* MA Extraordinary Award, University of Barcelona (2015)
* MA Fellowship for Master APhil. University of Barcelona, 19,000 EUR (2014-2015)
* BA Extraordinary Award, University of Oviedo, 1,000 EUR (2013)
* BA Séneca Fellowship, Spanish Ministry of Education, Autonomous University of Madrid, 5,200 EUR (2012-2013)

# Teaching

**University of Oviedo (2021 – ongoing)**

GFILOS01-3-006 – Current Debates in Natural Philosophy (lecturer) (2021-onwards) Undergraduate

GFILOS01-2-010 – Natural Philosophy (lecturer) (2021-onwards) Undergraduate

GMEDPR01-1-003 – Education and Values (lecturer) (2021-onwards) Undergraduate

**Jagiellonian University (2020 – 2021)**

WB.SD.E-4 – Philosophy of Science with Elements of Logic (lecturer) (2020-2021) Graduate

WBNZ-853 – Methodology Life Sciences – Natural Philosophy (guest lecturer) Undergraduate

**University of Barcelona (2017 – 2020)**

363782 – Philosophical Topics II (teaching assistant) (2018-2019) Undergraduate

**University of Exeter (2015 – 2018)**

PHL1007 – Introduction to Philosophical Analysis (teaching assistant) (2017-2018) Undergraduate

PHL1007 – Introduction to Philosophical Analysis (teaching assistant) (2016-2017) Undergraduate

# Research Stays

**06.2022 – 09.2022** Department of Philosophy of the Natural Sciences, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**09.2021 – 10.2021** Department of Philosophy, Bielefeld University, Germany

**02.2020 – 03.2020** ImmunoConcept, University of Bordeaux, France

**06.2020** Department of Philosophy of the Natural Sciences, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**02.2019 – 05.2020** Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research, Austria

# Collaboration in Scientific Groups

**06.2020 – present** Research Group in Inductive Metaphysics, University of Bielefeld, Germany

**02.2019 – present** ImmunoConcept, University of Bordeaux, France

**10.2014 – present** LOGOS – Research Group in Analytic Philosophy, University of Barcelona, Spain

**12.2020 – 06.2021** Symbiosis Lab, Department of Biology, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**10.2018 – 05.2020** Barcelona Institute of Analytic Philosophy (BIAP), Spain

**09.2015 – 10.2019** Egenis, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

**02.2017 – 07.2017** Living Systems Institute, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

# Talks

\* = Refereed, ◊ = Invited

**The Major Transitions in Coercion: A radical approach to the origins of the biological hierarchy** \*

British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, July 2022, University of Exeter, UK.

**What is a surrogate? The Case of Technology-Driven Surrogates in Contemporary Biological Research ◊**

V Graduate Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, June 2022, University of Valladolid, Spain

**Causal Bases in the Life Sciences ◊**

Workshop Dispositions in the Life-Sciences: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives, June 2022, University of Trier, Germany

**The stability of traits conception of evolution and its biological implications** ◊

Akron colloquium, March 2022, University of Akron, USA

**Are some dispositions instantiated only when they are constitutively masked?** ◊

Dispositions and the Life-Sciences, September 2021, University of Bielefeld, Germany

**Do somatic cells really sacrifice themselves? Altruism and coercion in the evolution of multicellularity** \*

X Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, November 2021, University of Salamanca, Spain

**A network framework to explain the evolution of host-microbiome associations: System-level engineering adaptations result from mixed modes of inheritance** \*

Congress of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology, virtual conference, July 2021, Cold Spring Harbour Lab, USA

**Prediction, understanding and COVID-19: Early epidemiological models of COVID-19 shed light on the relationship between prediction and understanding** \*

British Society for the Philosophy of Science, virtual conference, July 2021, University of Kent, United Kingdom

**Predicting and Understanding COVID-19: the role of the IHME model** \*

Eastern European Network for the Philosophy of Science (EENPS), virtual conference, June 2021, Belgrade Serbia

**Prediction, understanding and COVID-19: Early epidemiological models of COVID-19 shed light on the relationship between prediction and understanding** \*

3rd Scientific Understanding and Representation (SURe) annual workshop, virtual conference, April 2021, University of Nijmegen, Netherlands

**Determinism on microbiome research: The microbiome as a problematic source of heritable variation in animals** ◊

Workshop “Postgenomic Determinisms: Environmental Narratives After the Century of the Gene, virtual conference, March 2021, University of Bochum, Germany

**Using networks to build biological explanations: The paradigmatic case of the microbiome** ◊

Research Seminar “Science and More Talks”, MSIO Seminar Series, virtual seminar, March 2021, University of Turin, Italy

**When you are forced to being nice. Multicellularity is more about coercion than about altruism** ◊

Biouncertainties Seminar Series, virtual seminar, March 2021, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**Using metaphysics to understand complex systems: A part-dependent account of biological individuality** \*

Workshop “Dynamics of Biological Systems”, virtual conference, September 2020, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**Holobionts as emergent manifestors of adaptation** \*

ERC IDEM 3 Workshop – Holobionts, Microbiota and Biological Individuality, virtual conference, June 2020, University de Bordeaux, France

**Multispecies biological research: From mechanisms to networks** ◊

Workshop “Description as a way of knowing”, January 2020, University of Vienna, Austria

**Philosophical implications of multispecies research: From mechanisms to networks** ◊

Department Seminar, Department of Scientific Teaching, November 2019, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

**Stability of traits as the kind of stability that matters among holobionts** \*

International Congress on Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology, August 2019, University of Prague, Czech Republic

**Reconstitution as a more inclusive way of inheritance and its relation to current debates: Small RNAs, holobionts, and niche construction** \*

Congress of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology, July 2019, University of Oslo, Norway

**Explaining the behaviour of random ecological networks** ◊

Department Seminar, Department of Philosophy of the Natural Sciences, June 2019, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**Holobionts as niche constructors and how to measure their fitness** \*

Workshop “Fitness meets niche construction and symbiosis”, June 2019, Jagiellonian University, Poland

**The historical roots of the Hologenome Concept of Evolution** ◊

13 Integrated History and Philosophy of Science Conference, June 2019, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

**Me and my microbes. How the microbiome will change medicine** ◊

Department Seminar, Messerli Research Institute, Faculty of Veterinary, May 2019, University of Vienna, Austria

**Evolving as a holobiont: Stability of traits as the kind of stability that matters** \*

First Meeting of the PhilInBioMed International Network, November 2018, University de Bordeaux, France

**Equilibrium explanation as structural nonmechanistic explanations: The case of long-term bacterial persistence in human hosts** \*

IX Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, November 2018, UNED, Spain

**Holobionts as units of selection: A trait-based account of holobiont individuality** \*

IX Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, November 2018, UNED, Spain

**A stability of traits model for the evolution of holobionts** ◊

Satellite Workshop on Biological Individuality and other Issues in Contemporary Philosophy of Biology, SOPhiA 2018, September 2018, University of Salzburg, Austria

**Dysbiosis and the humoral conception of disease** \*

5th European Advanced School for the Philosophy of Life Sciences, September 2018, Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research, Austria

**Holobionts as intergenerational stabilized sets of traits** \*

VIIème Congrès de la Société de Philosophie des Sciences, July 2018, University of Nantes, France

**The eco-immunity account of the hoolobiont: A metaphysical review** \*

VIII Philosophy of Biology and Cognitive Sciences Research Workshop, May 2018, University Complutense in Madrid, Spain

**Stability of traits as the kind of stability that matters in holobionts** ◊

IAS Research Seminar, November 2017, University of the Basque Country, Spain

**Stability of traits as the kind of stability that matters: How holobionts might be units of selection** \*

EPSA17, September 2017, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

**Holobiosis and Darwinian individuality** \*

British Society for the Philosophy of Science, July 2017, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

**Dysbiosis and the pathological conception of disease** ◊

12 Integrated History and Philosophy of Science Conference, June 2017, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

**Persistence of symbiotic associations and mechanistic explanation** ◊

Process Epistemology: A Workshop with Bill Bechtel, May 2017, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

**What is symbiosis? A philosopher’s answer** \*

III Lisbon International Conference on Philosophy of Science: Contemporary Issues, December 2016, University of Lisbon, Portugal

**Mechanisms and natural laws: why mechanisms need of natural laws in order to be explanatory** \*

III Lisbon International Conference on Philosophy of Science: Contemporary Issues, December 2016, University of Lisbon, Portugal

**Symbiotic persistence, special laws and mechanistic explanation** \*

VIII Meeting of the Spanish Society for Analytic Philosophy, November 2016, University of Oviedo, Spain

**Has evolutionary theory experienced a scientific revolution?** \*

VIII Meeting of the Spanish Society for Analytic Philosophy, November 2016, University of Oviedo, Spain

**The evolutionary character of symbiosis: The holobiont as a level of selection** ◊

Department Seminar, Department of Philosophy, November 2016, University of Oviedo, Spain

**Symbiosis Research and Natural Selection: How the Omnipresence of Symbiosis affects our ways of conceptualizing natural selection** \*

III Philosophy of Biology in the UK Conference, June 2016, University of Bristol, United Kingdom

**Symbiosis research or why our present models of natural selection fail** \*

III Graduate Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, June 2016, University of Valencia, Spain

**Mutualism, symbiosis and symbiogenesis** \*

VI Philosophy of Biology and Cognitive Sciences Research Workshop, April 2016, University of Barcelona, Spain

**On the explanatory character of the Serial Endosymbiotic Theory of the origin of the eukaryotic cell** \*

II Conference of the German Society for the Philosophy of Science, March 2016, University of Düsseldorf, Germany

**Why should symbiosis matter to philosophers of biology?** \*

VIII Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, July 2015, University of Barcelona, Spain

**On the explanatory character of Margulis’ theory of the origin of eukaryotic cells** \*

VIII Conference of the Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, July 2015, University of Barcelona, Spain

**Is Margulis’ science revolutionary science?** ◊

Workshop “Philosophy of the Biomedical Sciences”, July 2015, University of Barcelona, Spain

# Service

**Service to the Profession**

* Ad hoc referee for: *Biology and Philosophy*; *Bioessays* (x2); *Journal of Theoretical Biology*; *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science*; *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science Part C* (x2); *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science;* *Philosophy of Science* (x2); *Frontiers in Psychology* (x2); *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* (x2); *FEMS Microbiology and Ecology*; *Philosophy, Theory and Practice in Biology*; *Diversity*; *Philosophy*; *Teorema. International Journal of Philosophy* (x3); *Mind and Machines* (x2); *Theoria. An International Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science* (x4); *Endoxa*; *Graduate Women in Science*; *Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science* (x4); *British Society for the Philosophy of Science* (x5)
* Student Representative at European Philosophy of Science Association (EPSA), 2017-2019. Co-organizer of the EPSA Fellowship Scheme for young scholars in Central and Eastern Europe. 17 EU Institutions joined the schema, see <https://epsa.wildapricot.org/fellowships>
* Member of Virtual Local Organizing Committee of ISHPSS, head of the committee Matt Haber, 2021
* Member of the Scientific Committee of the Workshop of Philosophy of Biology and the Cognitive Sciences, 2020-onwards.

**Service to the Department**

* Ad hoc committee member in master thesis defences, CCiL Master, University of Barcelona, 2020
* Student Representative at LOGOS – Research Group in Analytic Philosophy, University of Barcelona, 2017-2019
* Student Representative at the Department of Sociology, Philosophy and Anthropology, University of Exeter, 2016-2017
* Presentation for secondary school students (BAME Year 12, 16 years), talk: “What is like to be a philosopher?”, University of Exeter, 2018
* Presentation for secondary school students (BAME Year 10, 14 years), talk: “Study at the University: How is it like?”, University of Exeter, 2017

**Organization and Outreach**

* Interview for the Spanish National Radio, RNE3, “Studying Philosophy Outside of Spain”, 2019. <https://canal.uned.es/video/5c593888b1111f4d048b4567>
* Article in Investigación y Ciencia, “Individualidad y simbiosis”, 2022. <https://www.investigacionyciencia.es/revistas/investigacion-y-ciencia/los-orgenes-del-espacio-y-del-tiempo-857/individualidad-y-simbiosis-20935>
* Invited BlogPost “How Good Descriptions Increase Our Scientific Understanding of the World. Understanding the Covid-19 Pandemic” at *Swiss Portal of Philosophy*, 2021, <https://www.philosophie.ch/en/philosophy/articles/2021/2021-11-29-findl>

There is a German translation: <https://www.philosophie.ch/2022-01-10-findl-suarez>

* Invited BlogPost “Holobionts as evolving units” at *Biomusings*, 2020, <https://biomusings.org/en/home/holobionts-as-evolving-units>
* Invited BlogPost “Does inheritance need a rethink?” at *Extended Evolutionary Synthesis Webpage*, 2019, <https://extendedevolutionarysynthesis.com/inheritance-rethink/>
* Invited Public Talk “The Probiotics Fashion: Science or Marketing?” at Societat Catalana de Filosofia, 2019.
* Co-organizer of the SPA PostGraduate Conference, Department of Sociology, Philosophy and Anthropology. University of Exeter, 2017
* Co-organizer of the SPA PostGraduate Conference, Department of Sociology, Philosophy and Anthropology. University of Exeter, 2016

**Professional Membership**

* European Philosophy of Science Association (EPSA)
* International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSS)
* British Society for the Philosophy of Science (BSPS)
* Spanish Society for Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science (SOLOFICI)

# Languages

* Spanish (mother tongue)
* English (proficiency, working language)
* French (advanced, DELF B2, Alliance Française)