

Eric Carlson

Associate Professor of Physics at Wake Forest University

Winston-Salem, NC, US

Carlson demands scientific explanations for the seemingly inexplicable.

Biography

Having researched particle physics for more than 25 years, Eric Carlson is an expert in understanding how the universe is put together at the most fundamental level. Though his research on particle astrophysics, numerical general relativity and semi-classical gravity has been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and gained national recognition, Carlson is also known for his skeptical views on a variety of supernatural and extraordinary claims, including numerology, ghosts, and supposed supernatural powers. NBC Nightly News, USA Today, CNN, Huffington Post, and BBC Radio interviewed Carlson about 11/11/11 for his expertise on numerical patterns. Carlson also demands scientific explanations for the seemingly inexplicable whereas most would simply classify certain activities as “paranormal.” Along those lines, he has also widely debunked any notion that Friday the 13th is an unlucky date or that the Vernal Equinox offers any special powers. In his study of the world’s tiniest particles, Carlson takes a patient – and skeptical – approach to seeing the big picture. Throughout most of his career, false alarms about the elusive Higgs boson, or so-called “God particle,” have dominated scientific headlines. Though not yet a definitive discovery, Carlson says identifying the long-sought lynchpin of how the universe is made would be on par with effectively proving The Big Bang Theory.

Areas of Expertise

Particle Physics, Particle Astrophysics, Numerical General Relativity, Semi-Classical Gravity, Skepticism, Numerical Patterns, Wormholes, Neutrino Stars, Quantum Mechanics, Astronomy, Cosmology, The Scientific Method

Education

Harvard University

Ph.D. Physics

Harvard University

M.A. Physics

Michigan State University

B.S. Physics

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