

LANI WATSON

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RESEARCH

AOS: Epistemology, Philosophy of Education

AOC: Logic, Experimental Philosophy, History of Western Philosophy

Research statement: My research lies at the intersection of **epistemology and the philosophy of education**. I am interested in the unification of these sub-disciplines, believing that many questions in both contemporary epistemology and education theory can be fruitfully addressed by drawing on their combined resources. I work primarily in applied virtue and social epistemology and am an advocate of the emerging epistemology of education literature, actively contributing to these fields through my published work, both recent and forthcoming. My research focuses on the nature and value of **questions and questioning**, as well as the intellectual virtues of **curiosity and inquisitiveness**, and the role that these play in learning.

I am currently developing a technological intervention designed to help students ask better questions.

Current position: I am a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Edinburgh. I have recently completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, at the University of Oklahoma.

PUBLICATIONS

----- Forthcoming. "Curiosity and Inquisitiveness." In *The Routledge Handbook of Virtue Epistemology* edited by Heather Battaly. London: Routledge.

----- Forthcoming. "Questioning and Democratic Education." In *The Routledge Handbook of Social Epistemology* edited by Peter Graham et al. London: Routledge.

----- Forthcoming. "Educating for Curiosity." *The Moral Psychology of Curiosity* edited by Ilhan Inan et al. Rowman & Littlefield.

----- 2016. "Why Should We Educate For Inquisitiveness." In *Intellectual Virtues and Education: Essays in Applied Virtue Epistemology* edited by Jason Baehr. New York: Routledge. 38-53.

----- 2016. "The Epistemology of Education." *Philosophy Compass* 11(3): 146-159.

----- 2015. "What Is Inquisitiveness." *American Philosophical Quarterly*, 52(3): 273-288.

Edited Volumes:

The Moral Psychology of Curiosity (co-editor and contributing author). Edited volume in preparation for inclusion in *Moral Psychology of the Emotions* series edited by Mark Alfano. Rowman & Littlefield.

In progress and under review:

"Why Should We Educate For Inquisitiveness In A Democracy" (under review).

"Systematic Epistemic Rights Violations in the Media: A Brexit Case Study" (under review).

"Why We Shouldn't Educate For Inquisitiveness By Example" (in progress).

"The Epistemology of Questioning: From Socrates to Sosa" (in progress).

"What are Epistemic Rights and When Are They Violated" (in progress).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (invited* and refereed)

- 2017 “Systematic Epistemic Rights Violations in the Media: A Brexit Case Study.”*
Beacon Project Workshop, Wake Forest University, SC, USA.
- 2016 “Why Should We Educate For Inquisitiveness in a Democracy.”
CSLEE Values and Leadership in Education, University of Western Ontario, Canada
“Why We Do Deserve Credit For Everything We Know and Should Educate Accordingly”*
Mini-workshop series, University of New Mexico, NM, USA
“Why Should We Educate For Inquisitiveness: Revisited.”*
Centre for the Study of Human Flourishing, University of Oklahoma, OK, USA
- 2015 “Asking Virtuous Questions: Perspectives from Indian Philosophy.”*
Indian Philosophy Workshop, University of Durham, UK
“Knowledge is a Questioning-Relative State: A virtue-based contrastive account.”
Virtue Epistemology Conference, KU Leuven, Belgium
- 2014 “The Value of Questioning in Applied Epistemology.”*
Language and Epistemology Workshop, Yonsei University, South Korea
“Why Should Philosophers Study Questioning.”
Society for Applied Philosophy Annual Conference, University of Oxford, UK
- 2013 “Why Should We Educate For Inquisitiveness.”
Educating for Intellectual Virtues conference, Loyola Marymount University, CA, USA

TEACHING

I have acquired extensive teaching experience at the University of Edinburgh, at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Given my core research interest in the philosophy of education, I take an active interest in applying theories of teaching and learning in my own practice. I have been trained in ‘Philosophy For Children’, and find this technique adapts well to the university classroom. I have also developed my own teaching methods (see Educational Outreach).

Lecturing

PG lecturing: ‘Virtue Epistemology and the Philosophy of Education’. Lectures prepared and delivered for Masters of Education course, The Nature of Inquiry, *Moray House School of Education*.

UG lecturing: ‘Value Issues in Epistemology’. Lectures prepared and delivered for large undergraduate course (approx. 300 students), Knowledge and Reality, *Philosophy Dept.*

Lecturing responsibilities included:

- Coordinating research-led curriculum design with colleagues on large team-taught module.
- Preparing all lecture materials and associated reading lists, with representative authors.
- Responding to student questions via email and during office hours.
- Designing essay and exam questions for mid-term essays and end-of-term exams and writing marking guidelines.

Tutoring

As a Graduate Teaching Assistant I tutored extensively on UG courses covering epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, ethics, Early Modern philosophy, Ancient philosophy, and logic. I have teaching competence in all of these areas. Associated teaching responsibilities in this role included:

- Marking formative essays and end-of-term exams, providing constructive, sensitive, and critical feedback.
- Managing high marking loads efficiently to meet tight deadlines.
- Communicating with colleagues and teaching support staff on both administrative and pastoral care issues.

Courses tutored:

2016	The Greats: From Plato to the Enlightenment
2015	Logic 1, Knowledge and Reality, The Greats: From Plato to the Enlightenment
2014	Logic 1, Knowledge and Reality, Morality and Value, The Greats: From Plato to the Enlightenment
2013	Knowledge and Reality, The Greats: From Plato to the Enlightenment
2012	The Greats: From Plato to the Enlightenment
2011	Mind, Matter and Language

I have been nominated in the Edinburgh University Student's Association Teaching Awards for **Best Postgraduate Tutor** and have received consistently positive feedback from students on my teaching and feedback. Student scores and testimonials, and a tutorial observation report are provided at the end of my CV.

In my role as a Teaching Fellow I was additionally responsible for:

- Supervising work through weekly student consultations.
- Conducting teaching observations and providing feedback for fellow Teaching Assistants.
- Obtaining PG Certificate in Academic Practice, *Institute for Academic Development*.

I also have an interest in issues concerning assessment in the Arts and Humanities and have actively contributed to discussions on this topic within the department, hoping to positively impact NSS results for assessment and feedback.

OUTREACH

Educational Outreach

2015	Edinburgh OPEN (Outreach Philosophy and Education Network)	Part of leadership team working to bring together all educational outreach activities in the Philosophy Dept. and the School of Education at the University of Edinburgh under a unified cross-school, interdisciplinary network.
2013- 2014	Create a Philosophy TimeTree workshop	Interactive philosophy workshop for undergraduates, hosted by Innovative Learning Week at the University of Edinburgh.
2014	Children's University workshop	Workshop introducing basic epistemology to school children, in collaboration with the <i>Children's University Trust</i> , hosted by Stoneyhill Primary School, Edinburgh.
2013	Philosophy For Children	Completed Philosophy For Children training with the Philosophy Foundation.

Academic Outreach

2016	'What is Justice' 'How are the Children'	Participated as a postdoctoral fellow in outreach events organised by the Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, in collaboration with Oklahoma City-based organisations SALLT and Thriving Cities.
2014	Three-Minute Thesis Competition	Awarded runner-up in the university final (prize value £500). Included training in public presentation. Video: philosophyofquestions.com/current-research .
2014	Philosophy ThinkTank	Presentation at public engagement event, hosted by the Philosophy Dept., University of Edinburgh. Video: philosophyofquestions.com/curriculum-vitae .
2014	Philosophy in the Playground workshop	Provided support at philosophy workshop for parents with young children, run by the EIDYN Research Centre at Summerhall Arts Centre, Edinburgh.
2013- present	What is a Question survey	Survey created for 'Introduction to Philosophy' MOOC run by University of Edinburgh. Survey has received over 5000 responses to date and generated lively forum discussions. Available: philosophyofquestions.com/questionnaire .

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2017-2020 Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship (full-time research salary)
- 2015 Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain Research Grant (£1000)
- 2011-2014 Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences Research Scholarship (£8000)
- 2011-2014 Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences Research Grants (totalling £3360)
- 2013 Intellectual Virtues and Education Conference Award (\$1500)

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

- 2016 Speaking tour: University of New Mexico, University of Oklahoma, Loyola Marymount University, CA.
- 2014 Visiting researcher at Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea, hosted by Professor Nikolaj Pedersen.
- 2013 Visiting researcher at Loyola Marymount University, CA, USA, hosted by Professor Jason Baehr.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- 2017 **Book review** forthcoming for *Journal of Moral Psychology*.
- 2013-2016 **Edinburgh Women in Philosophy Group (EWPG)**. Member and contact person. I have been actively involved in the EWPG group since 2013 and have assisted in organising the New Enlightenment Lecture Series, held annually in December, where a prominent female philosopher is invited to speak, as well as coordinating regular 'piggyback sessions' where female philosophers visiting the university are invited to speak to the EWPG about their experiences of being a woman in the philosophical profession.
- 2015 **Postgraduate Engagement Officer**. Organised the first Careers Conference for PhD students at the University of Edinburgh, 'PhD Horizons', with thirty-five invited speakers and over two hundred delegates. In this role I have also created an online networking game for PhD students to test their networking skills. Available online at www.careerconnect.ed.ac.uk/networking-game.
- 2014, 2015 **Referee services** for *Synthese*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *The Journal of the Philosophy of Education Society*, *The Monist*, *Dialectica*, *Education Sciences*.
- 2014 **Philosophy of Education Workshop Series**. Coordinated series of three international workshops.
- 2013 **Edinburgh Graduate Epistemology Conference**. Conference coordinator in 2013, hosting two prestigious female keynotes and eight refereed graduate speakers. Conference funding secured from *Analysis Trust*, *Mind Association*, *Scots Phil Association*, and *EIDYN Research Centre* (totalling approx. £5000).

EDUCATION:

- 2011-2015 PhD, Philosophy, University of Edinburgh
- 2010-2011 MSc, Philosophy, University of Edinburgh
- 2004-2007 BA (Hons), Philosophy, University of York (UK)

REFERENCES (contact details available on request):

Professor Nancy Snow, Director, Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, University of Oklahoma.

Professor Duncan Pritchard FRSE, Department of Philosophy, University of Edinburgh, EIDYN Research Centre.

Dr Allan Hazlett, Department of Philosophy, University of New Mexico.

Professor Holly Branigan, Department of Psychology, University of Edinburgh.