

ROBIN MCKENNA

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EMPLOYMENT

2018-	Lecturer, University of Liverpool
2014-2018	Postdoctoral Fellow and Adjunct Lecturer, University of Vienna
2013-2014	Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Geneva

AFFILIATIONS

2020-2023	Senior Research Associate, University of Johannesburg
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EDUCATION

2018-2020	Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice, University of Liverpool [= Accreditation as Fellow of the Higher Education Academy]
2010-2013	PhD Philosophy, University of Edinburgh
2009-2010	MLitt Philosophy (with Distinction), University of St Andrews
2004-2008	MA Mathematics and Philosophy (1 st Class), University of St Andrews

RESEARCH INTERESTS

AOS	Epistemology (including Applied, Social and Feminist Epistemology)
AOC	Ethics (including Metaethics), Philosophy of Language, Political Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2023 *Non-Ideal Epistemology*. Oxford University Press

Edited Volumes:

2020 *Social Epistemology and Relativism*. Routledge (co-edited w/Natalie Ashton, Martin Kusch and Katharina Sodoma).

2018 *Metaepistemology: Realism and Antirealism*. Palgrave MacMillan (co-edited w/Christos Kyriacou).

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

Forthcoming Is Knowledge a Social Phenomenon? In *Inquiry*.

2021 Assertion, Action and Context. In *Synthese* (w/Michael Hannon).
Absolutism, Relativism and Metaepistemology. In *Erkenntnis* (w/J. Adam Carter).

2020 Skepticism Motivated: On the Skeptical Import of Motivated Reasoning. In *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (w/J. Adam Carter).

Situating Feminist Epistemology. In *Episteme* (w/Natalie Ashton).
The Genealogical Method in Epistemology. In *Synthese* (w/Martin Kusch).

- 2019 Kornblith versus Sosa on Grades of Knowledge. In *Synthese* (w/J. Adam Carter).
- Irrelevant Cultural Influences on Belief. In *Journal of Applied Philosophy*.
- 2018 No Epistemic Trouble for Engineering ‘Woman’. In *Logos & Episteme*.
- 2016 Clifford and the Common Epistemic Norm. In *American Philosophical Quarterly*.
- 2015 Assertion, Complexity and Sincerity. In *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.
- Revisionary Epistemology. In *Inquiry* (w/Davide Fassio).
- Epistemic Contextualism Defended. In *Synthese*.
- 2014 Disagreeing About ‘Ought’. In *Ethics*.
- Shifting Targets and Disagreements. In *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.
- Normative Scorekeeping. In *Synthese*.
- 2013 ‘Knowledge’ Ascriptions, Social Roles and Semantics. In *Episteme*.
- Epistemic Contextualism: A Normative Approach. In *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*.
- Why Assertion and Practical Reasoning Are Possibly Not Governed by the Same Epistemic Norm. In *Logos & Episteme*.
- 2011 Interests Contextualism. In *Philosophia*.

Articles in Edited Volumes:

- 2021 Persuasion and Intellectual Autonomy. In *Epistemic Autonomy*. Eds. K. Loughheed & J. Matheson. Routledge.
- Asymmetrical Irrationality: Are Only Other People Stupid?. In *Routledge Handbook of Political Epistemology*. Eds. J. de Ridder & M. Hannon. Routledge
- In (Partial) Defence of Moderate Skeptical Invariantism. In *Skeptical Invariantism Reconsidered*. Eds. C. Kyriacou & K. Wallbridge. Routledge
- 2020 Persuasion and Epistemic Paternalism. In *Epistemic Paternalism: Conceptions, Justifications, and Implications*. Eds. G. Axtell & A. Bernal. Rowman & Littlefield.
- Pragmatic Encroachment and Feminist Epistemology. In *Social Epistemology and Relativism*. Eds. N. Ashton, M. Kusch, R. McKenna & Katharina Sodoma. Routledge.
- 2018 The Genealogy of Relativism and Absolutism. In *Metaepistemology: Realism and Antirealism*. Eds. C. Kyriacou & R. McKenna. Palgrave MacMillan (w/Martin Kusch).
- 2017 Pluralism about Knowledge. In *Epistemic Pluralism*. Eds. A. Coliva & N.J. Pedersen. Palgrave MacMillan.

Survey Articles, Critical Notices etc.:

- Forthcoming What is Good Thinking? Comments on Mona Simion's *Shifty Speech and Independent Thought*. In *Inquiry*.
- 2022 Bortolotti on Epistemic Innocence. In *Analysis*.
- 2020 The Disappearance of Ignorance. In *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*.
- 2019 Extended Epistemology. In *Analysis*.
- Relativism and Externalism. In *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Relativism*. Ed. M. Kusch. Routledge (w/J. Adam Carter).
- 2017 Conversational Kinematics. In *Routledge Handbook of Epistemic Contextualism*. Ed. J.J. Ichikawa. Routledge.
- 2015 Contextualism in Epistemology. In *Analysis*.

For a Popular Audience:

- 2021 Mill and Ideal Theory. In *Open for Debate*. Available online at: <https://blogs.cardiff.ac.uk/openfordebate/mill-and-ideal-theory/>
- 2019 Climate Change: Three Ways to Market the Science to Reach the Sceptics. In *The Conversation*. Available online at: <http://theconversation.com/climate-change-three-ways-to-market-the-science-to-reach-the-sceptics-128744>

Book Reviews:

- 2022 Review of Alessandra Tanesini's *The Mismeasure of the Self*. In *Philosophical Quarterly*.
- Review of Endre Begby's *Prejudice*. In *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*.
- Review of Nuno Venturinha's *Description of Situations*. In *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*.
- 2019 Review of Quassim Cassam's *Vices of the Mind*. In *European Journal of Philosophy*.
- 2018 Review of Mark McBride, *Basic Knowledge and Conditions on Knowledge*. In *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective*.
- 2017 Review of J. Adam Carter, *Relativism and Metaepistemology*. In *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*.
- Review of John Hyman, *Action, Knowledge and Will*. In *Analysis*.
- Review of Krista Lawlor, *Assurance: An Austinian View of Knowledge and Knowledge Claims*. In *Philosophical Quarterly*.
- 2015 Review of José Zalabardo, *Scepticism and Reliable Belief*. In *Mind*.
- Review of Jessica Brown & Mikkel Gerken (eds.), *Knowledge Ascriptions*. In *Philosophical Quarterly*.
- 2012 Review of Jessica Brown & Herman Cappelen (eds.), *Assertion: New Philosophical Essays*. In *Mind* (w/ Allan Hazlett and Joey Pollock).
- 2011 Review of Keith DeRose, *The Case for Contextualism: Knowledge, Skepticism, and Context*. In *Philosophical Review* (w/ Duncan Pritchard).

WORK IN PROGRESS

Books	Book on scepticism (w/J. Adam Carter)
	Book on the ethics and epistemology of persuasion
Papers	Paper on listening (w/Hrishikesh Joshi)
	Paper on the metaphysics of knowledge (w/Adam Bricker)
	Paper on Kornblith's naturalized epistemology (w/Martin Kusch)

RECENT TALKS

Keynotes:

“Parochialism in Political Epistemology”

European Face of Political Epistemology, University of Rijeka, July 2023

Invited:

“The Ethics and Epistemology of Persuasion”

Conference on Science Communication, UNC Chapel Hill, September 2023

“The New Scepticism”

Queen's University Belfast, November 2022 (online)

Comments on Mona Simion's *Shifty Speech and Independent Thought*

Book Symposium, CONCEPT, University of Cologne, October 2022

“The Duty to Listen” (joint work w/Rishi Joshi)

Workshop on Political Cognition, University of Liverpool, June 2022

Workshop on Epistemic Normativity, University of Glasgow, May 2022

“Medina on Epistemic Responsibility”

Workshop on Epistemic Blame, University of Johannesburg, March 2022 (online)

Epistemic Trouble for Conceptual Engineering?”

Conceptual Engineering, University of Cologne, December 2021 (online)

“Intellectual Autonomy”

Oxford Epistemology Group, November 2020 (online)

“Ideal Theory in Epistemology”

EXTRA Research Group, University of Bochum, January 2020

“Epistemic Asymmetries in Political Cognition”

Workshop on Irrationality in Politics, University of Nottingham, June 2019

New Directions in Political Epistemology, London, March 2019

Peer-Reviewed:

“Epistemic Responsibility in a Non-Ideal World” (joint work w/Gerry Dunne)

Vice Epistemology Conference, University of Nottingham, June 2023

“The New Scepticism”

Joint Session, University of St Andrews, July 2022

“Medina on Epistemic Responsibility”

European Epistemology Network, University of Glasgow, June 2022

TEACHING

(* denotes that I designed the module)

University of Liverpool:

Graduate:

“Mind, Language and Metaphysics” (module co-ordinator)

Supervised MA theses on various topics in aesthetics, epistemology, and ethics.

Undergraduate:

“Knowledge and Epistemic Justice” (module co-ordinator)*

“Philosophical Insights” (module co-ordinator)*

“Philosophical Problem-Solving” (module co-ordinator)

“Reading and Writing Theoretical Philosophy” (module co-ordinator)

“Philosophy of Race” (as lecturer and seminar leader)

“Mind, Knowledge and Reality” (as seminar leader)

“Reading and Writing Practical Philosophy” (as seminar leader)

Supervised BA theses on various topics in epistemology, ethics, philosophy of language and political philosophy.

University of Vienna:

“Free Will and Moral Responsibility” (module co-ordinator)*

“Knowledge in Society” (module co-ordinator)*

“Social Epistemology” (module co-ordinator)*

“Moral Anti-Realism” (module co-ordinator)*

Supervised BA theses on various topics in epistemology and ethics.

University of Edinburgh:

“Philosophy of Language” (as lecturer)

“Greats: From Plato to the Enlightenment” (as seminar leader)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2022	Funding for a conference on “Aesthetics and Political Epistemology” from the British Society of Aesthetics (~£11600) (w/Katherine Furman and Vid Simoniti)
2019	BA/Leverhulme Trust Small Research Grant (~£10000) (w/Mikkel Gerken) Funding for a workshop on “Epistemic Vices: Individual and Collective” from the University of Liverpool (~£2000)
2017	Humboldt Research Fellowship (~€70000; turned down) Funding for a conference on ‘Political Epistemology’ from the Society for Applied Philosophy (£2288), Mind (£2000) and the Aristotelian Society (£420.57) (w/Michael Hannon)
2014	‘Juan de la Cierva’ Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Barcelona (~€48000; turned down)

2010-2013	Carnegie Trust Doctoral Scholarship (~£45000 plus tuition) AHRC Doctoral Studentship (~£39000 plus tuition; turned down)
2011-2012	Various research support grants from the University of Edinburgh (£1400)
Total	~£211000

OUTREACH

2023	Interviewed about my book <i>Non-Ideal Epistemology</i> on the 'Thoughts: Philosophy Untangled' podcast
2022	Interviewed about my research on science communication for the Panpsycast podcast
2021	Talk to pupils at Charterhouse School about the point of philosophy
2020	Interviewed about my research on feminist epistemology for the Journal Entries podcast (w/ Natalie Ashton)
2018	Speaker at Post-Truth Politics in the Pub, which was part of the Being Human festival in London

SERVICE

2021-	Global Opportunities Lead for Philosophy
2020-	Chief Editor of the Philos-L mailing list
2018-	Departmental Health and Safety Officer
2018-	On the steering committee of the Political Epistemology Network
2017-2018	Founding member of the European Early Career Philosophers Network.
2013-2015	On the editorial committee of <i>Dialectica</i>
2012-2013	Events Co-ordinator for the British Postgraduate Philosophy Association
Events	Co-organiser of conference on “Aesthetics and Political Epistemology”, Liverpool, 2023 Co-organiser of workshop on “Listening to Learn and Understand”, Dublin 2023 Organiser of two workshops on “Psychology and Epistemology of Political Cognition”, Liverpool, 2022 Co-organiser of a workshop on “Epistemic Vices”, Liverpool, 2019 Co-organiser of a conference on “Political Epistemology”, London, 2018
Referee	<i>American Philosophical Quarterly</i> , <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> , <i>Bloomsbury</i> , <i>Cambridge University Press</i> , <i>Canadian Journal of Philosophy</i> , <i>de Gruyter</i> , <i>Dialectica</i> , <i>Discipline Filosofiche</i> , <i>Episteme</i> , <i>Erkenntnis</i> , <i>Ergo</i> , <i>Ethics</i> , <i>Ethical Theory and Moral Practice</i> , <i>European Journal of Philosophy</i> , <i>Feminist Philosophy Quarterly</i> , <i>Grazer Philosophische Studien</i> , <i>International Journal for the Study of Skepticism</i> , <i>International Journal of Philosophical Studies</i> , <i>Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> , <i>Journal of Applied Philosophy</i> , <i>Journal of the</i>

*American Philosophical Association, Mind, Oxford University Press, Noûs,
Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and
Phenomenological Research, Philosophical Quarterly, Ratio, Res Philosophica,
Routledge, Synthese, Theoria*

REFEREES

Available on request.