

Kathleen Murphy-Hollies

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AOS: Philosophy of Psychology, Social Epistemology, Moral Philosophy.

AOC: Philosophy of Health, Philosophy of Psychiatry, Feminist Philosophy.

Current Position

RESEARCH FELLOW ON PROJECT 'EPIC' | SEPT 2023-SEPT 2026 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

· Project EPIC (Epistemic Injustice in Healthcare) is a 6-year project is funded by a Wellcome Discovery Award (£2.6 million). The Principle Investigator is Professor Havi Cavel.

Previous Positions

JUNIOR VISITING FELLOW AT TILBURG UNIVERSITY | OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023

TEACHING FELLOW | JAN 2022-JUNE 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

· I took a leave of absence from my PhD for this full-time position. Further details in 'teaching experience'.

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT | DEC 2021-SEPT 2023 | IMPERFECT COGNITIONS BLOG

· As assistant editor I commission, edit, schedule and promote blog posts by academic philosophers for the Imperfect Cognitions blog, which concerns mental disorder and unideal cognition.

Education

PHD | SEPTEMBER 2019-FEBRUARY 2024 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

- "Confabulating Well: The Ethics of Confabulation", supervised by Professor Lisa Bortolotti, Dr Iain Law and Professor Quassim Cassam.
- Passed without corrections on 21st March 2024, external examiners were Professor Neil Levy and Professor Constantine Sandis.

MERIT IN MA PHILOSOPHY | 2015-16 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

BA (HONS, FIRST CLASS) PHILOSOPHY | 2012-15 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Publications

SOLE AUTHORED:

- (2023) The Know-How of Virtue, in *Journal of Applied Philosophy*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/japp.12704>
- (2022) Political Confabulation and Self-Regulation, in *Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement*, Issue 92: *Values and Virtues for a Challenging World*, Cambridge University Press. DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.1017/S1358246122000170>

- Julian Baggini wrote a blog post in response to this article: <https://www.julianbaggini.com/bugs-and-features/>

- (2021), “When a Hybrid Account of Disorder is not enough: The Case of Gender Dysphoria”, in *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, 17(2), 5-28. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31820/ejap.17.3.5>

CO-AUTHORED:

- Murphy-Hollies, K., Skvarla, M. and Verble, R., (2024), ‘Entomologists Require Ethical Guidance for Compassionate Management of Delusional Parasitosis Cases’, in *American Entomologist*, 70(1), pp.44-48. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ae/tmae003>
- Bortolotti, L. and Murphy-Hollies, K., (2023), 'Why We Should Be Curious about Each Other', in *Philosophies*, 8(4), p.71. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/philosophies8040071>
- Bortolotti, L. and Murphy-Hollies, K. (2022), 'Exceptionalism at the time of COVID-19: where nationalism meets irrationality', in the *Danish Yearbook of Philosophy*, 55(2), pp.90-111. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1163/24689300-bja10025>
- Murphy-Hollies, K. and Bortolotti, L. (2021), ‘Stories as Evidence’, in *Memory, Mind & Media*, 1(3), DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/mem.2021.5>

BOOK REVIEWS:

- Bortolotti, L. and Murphy-Hollies, K. (2022) “The Agency-First Epistemology of Psychedelics”, in *Philosophy and the Mind Sciences*, 3. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33735/phimisci.2022.9283> [review of C. Letheby’s ‘Philosophy of Psychedelics’].
- Murphy-Hollies, K. & Caporuscio C., (2023), “What’s left of irrationality?” in *Philosophical Psychology*, 36(4), pp.808-818. [Review of N. Levy’s “Bad Beliefs”].

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

- Are Conspiracy Theorists Confabulating? (Under review).
- Confabulation and Reasons for Love (With Dr Pilar Lopez-Cantero), (Under review).
- The Role of Virtues and Vices in Epistemic Injustice (invited chapter for *Epistemic Injustice in Mental Healthcare*, Palgrave).
- Epistemic Injustice and Restoring Agency.
- On Affective Innocence (With Dr Lucy Osler).
- The Aesthetics of Conspiracy Theories (With Dr Nele Van de Mosselaer)
- Confabulation, the relentless ego and the development of virtue.

Teaching Experience

TEACHING FELLOW| JAN 2022-JULY 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

- Prepared and delivered lectures on ethics, metaethics, epistemology, human rights, race & gender, feminist aesthetics.
- Sole convenor of Prejudice Race and Gender (2022-23) and Bodies and Beauty (2022-23).

- Co-convenor of the following modules:
Social Justice, Reasons to Believe, Problems of Philosophy, Moral and Political Philosophy, Art of Persuasion, Human Rights (MA), Ethics and Global Ethics (MA), Topics in Global Justice (MA).
- Supervised undergraduate dissertations on various topics, including misogyny, implicit bias, abortion, grief, and non-monogamy.
- Admin lead of the 'A2B scheme', which provided support for underprivileged prospective and current students at the university. I organised 'taster seminars' for prospective students, and communicated information on the support available for current A2B students.

OUTREACH TEACHING

- Delivered a seminar for the Access to Birmingham (A2B) scheme at the University of Birmingham which provides underprivileged sixth form/college students with an experience of University learning. 2021.
- Created and delivered a session on 'The Philosophy of Conspiracy Theories' for the National Access Summer School (NASS) at the University of Birmingham, for Year 12 students. July 2023.
- Delivered a Masterclass at the University of Birmingham for a Year 9 and a Year 10 class, on the philosophy of conspiracy theories. February 2024.

POSTGRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT | 2019 – 2021 | UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

- Teaching small group seminars of ~20 students and essay marking on the following modules:
 - 2019/20: Problems of Philosophy, Reasoning, Propaganda and Public Discourse, Moral Problems.
 - 2020/21: Moral and Political Philosophy (online via zoom) | Philosophy and Ethics of Mental Health and Wellbeing (MA, blended online and face-to-face teaching)
 - 2020/21: Research Dissertation in Mental Health (MA). I co-supervised dissertations on 'The Ethics of Early Intervention in Youth Mental Health' with Professor Matthew Broome.
 - 2021/22: Philosophy and Ethics of Mental Health and Wellbeing (MA).
- I have achieved Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy

Selected Talks, Public Philosophy Events, and Summer Schools

- 'When Hybrid Accounts of Disorder are Not Enough: The Case of Gender Dysphoria', at the 2020 Joint Session Open Sessions, July 2020 [recorded].
- 'Exceptionalism at the time of Covid-19: Where Nationalism meets Irrationality', at the Cognitive Distortions and Democratic Failures workshop at the University of Piemonte Orientale, May 2021 [via zoom].
- 'The Vulnerability of Virtuous Behaviour to Everyday Confabulation' at the 2021 Joint Session Open Sessions, July 2020 [recorded].
- 'The Aretaic Value of Self-Know-How' at The Understanding Value X conference at Sheffield University, July 2021 [via zoom].
- 'The Vulnerability of Virtuous Behaviour to Everyday Confabulation' at the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, August 2021 [via zoom].
- 'Political Confabulation and Self-Regulation' at the Values and Virtues in a Changing World workshop, September 2021 [via zoom].

- ‘The Aretaic Value of Self-Know-How’ at the Reasons, Rationality and Culture Workshop at Tilburg University, October 2021.
- ‘Are Conspiracy Theorists Confabulating?’ at the Conference for Women In Philosophy, University of Antwerp, June 2022
- ‘The Know-How of Virtue’ at ‘Birmingham Women in Philosophy A Mentoring and Networking Workshop’, University of Birmingham, June 2022
- ‘The Know-How of Virtue’ at the Society for Applied Philosophy Annual Conference, Edinburgh, July 2022
- ‘Are Conspiracy Theorists Confabulating?’ at SOPHA 2022: Epistemic Values, University of Neuchatel, July 2022
- Panel member at Royal Institute of Philosophy public philosophy event, discussing my paper on self-regulation and political confabulation in the RIP supplements issue. Cardiff, September 2022
- Invited to give ‘Are Conspiracy Theorists Confabulating?’ at workshop ‘Are Conspiratorial Beliefs Pathological?’ for ‘*Conspiratorial Ideation and Pathological Belief*’ BA funded project, April 2023.
- I was invited to give a guest lecture on my paper ‘When a Hybrid Account of Disorder is not enough: The Case of Gender Dysphoria’ for the Philosophy of Mental Health masters module at the University of Antwerp, May 2023.
- ‘Confabulation, the relentless ego, and the development of virtue’, poster presentation at ‘Wartime Quartet’ conference, June 2023.
- Participation in a Summer Seminar Series on the Virtue of Honesty, run by Prof. Christian Miller at Wake Forest University, July 2023.
- ‘Confabulation, the relentless ego, and the development of virtue’ at Phronesis, Virtues, and Meta-Virtues: Aretai Centre 7th Annual Conference, Genoa, September 2023.
- Member on a panel of experts at a public philosophy event, ‘Inside the Mind of a Conspiracy Theorist’, at the Midlands Art Centre in Birmingham, March 2024.

Upcoming:

- ‘Honesty and Mutual Shaping in Love’ as part of a symposia on Love at ‘XXV World Congress of Philosophy’, Rome, August 2024.

Funding

- Junior Visiting Scholarship at Tilburg University, 2023 (€2500).
- Co-applicant on an AHRC IAA (Impact Acceleration Account) application with Professor Bortolotti and Dr Ichino. This ongoing project, ‘The Philosophy Garden’ (<https://sites.google.com/view/the-philosophy-garden/home>) has also attracted funding from The Royal Institute of Philosophy. (please see ‘Resources’ under ‘Outreach’).
- Royal Institute of Philosophy Jacobsen Studentship, 2022 (£3000) [declined]
- Mind Association Minor Grant for conference organization (with colleagues), 2022. (£417)
- Midlands4Cities Cohort Development Fund (AHRC) for conference organization (with colleagues), 2022. (£2672.70)
- College of Arts and Law Masters Scholarship, University of Birmingham, 2015.

Outreach

ARTICLES

- ‘The Know-How of Virtue’ for the New Work In Philosophy newsletter (upcoming).
- ‘The Philosophy Garden (guest post), with Lisa Bortolotti and Jessica Sutherland, for the Daily Nous, available here: <https://dailynous.com/2023/09/13/the-philosophy-garden-guest-post/>
- ‘Kathleen Murphy-Hollies joins EPIC’, short interview for the EPIC blog, available here: <https://epistemicinjusticeinhealthcareproject.blogspot.com/2023/07/kathleen-murphy-hollies-joins-epic.html>
- Short interview on my work on conspiracy theories, available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcP0hQu32wc>
- ‘Wakefield’s Hybrid Account of Disorder and Gender Dysphoria’ for the Imperfect Cognitions blog, available here: <https://imperfectcognitions.blogspot.com/2022/02/wakefields-hybrid-account-of-disorder.html>
- ‘How philosophy helps us tackle implicit bias and stigma’ with Eugenia Lancellotta for De Gruyter blog, available here: <https://blog.degruyter.com/how-philosophy-helps-us-tackle-implicit-bias-and-stigma/>
- ‘Stories as Evidence’, for the Imperfect Cognitions blog, available here: <https://imperfectcognitions.blogspot.com/2021/11/stories-as-evidence-in-public-debates.html>
- ‘Covid-19 exceptionalism’ with Lisa Bortolotti for ‘Open for Debate’, available here: <https://blogs.cardiff.ac.uk/openfordebate/2021/08/23/covid-19-exceptionalism/>
- ‘Exceptionalism in the time of Covid-19: A Case of Hypocrisy?’ with Professor Lisa Bortolotti for IAI news. Available here: <https://iai.tv/articles/an-exceptionally-british-hypocrisy-auid-1707>
- ‘Teaching during Covid’, with Margaret Hardiman for HEFI The Big Conversation, available here: <https://blog.bham.ac.uk/bigconversation/2021/02/22/teaching-during-covid-kathleen-murphy-hollies-and-maggie-hardiman/>

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY RESOURCES AND EVENTS

- I am an active part of the public philosophy project, ‘The Philosophy Garden’, with Professor Lisa Bortolotti and Dr Anna Ichino. Website here: <https://sites.google.com/view/the-philosophy-garden/home>. The project brings philosophy to public and educational venues. Resources are available for educators to use.
- We produced animated videos to convey our research on how conspiracy theories are adopted and maintained in individuals. Mine can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/qRpKfvmsyKk>
- These were shown at the Philosophy Museum in Milan, as part of an exhibition on Conspiracy Theories. These have also been used as teaching resources in nearby schools, as well as summer schools at the University of Birmingham such as the UNIFEST Summer School programme, and National Access Summer School programme (NASS), a Masterclass, and at public philosophy events.

Organisation

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

- Co-organised graduate conference: “The Intersection of Moral Responsibility, Agency and Regulation”, May 2022 at the University of Birmingham. Funded by Mind and Midlands4Cities. Website: <https://agencyintersections2022.wordpress.com/>

- Co-organised (with colleagues) “Birmingham Women in Philosophy A Mentoring and Networking Workshop”, at the University of Birmingham in June 2022, funded by the department. The event aimed at facilitating networking and mentoring between junior women in philosophy and senior women in philosophy.
- Organised a public lecture with Dr Nadine Elzein in January 2024 at the University of Birmingham. This is part of series of public lectures I help organize as part of the Women In Philosophy group.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT (UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM)

- Summer 2020 – January 2022: Ran postgraduate seminars with a colleague.
- I currently run an Epistemic Injustice reading group, in the past I have lead a moral psychology reading group and a feminist philosophy reading group.
- As a member of the Women in Philosophy group at Birmingham, I help run and organise events for the group. We meet roughly fortnightly to present work, but sometimes to chat informally for support. All my talks at external venues have been presented here also.

REVIEWING

- I have reviewed research papers for *Synthese*, *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Teorema*, *Journal of Business Ethics*, *The Croation Journal of Philosophy*, and *Philosophy and the Mind Sciences*.
- As a research assistant for the Imperfect Cognitions and EPIC blogs, I review and edit contributed posts from academics in order to make them accessible for a wider audience.

References

- **Professor Lisa Bortolotti**: PhD supervisor and Professor of Philosophy in the Philosophy Department at the University of Birmingham.
 - L.Bortolotti@bham.ac.uk
- **Professor Matthew Broome**: Professor of Youth Mental Health in the School of Psychology, and director of the Institute for Mental Health at the University of Birmingham.
 - M.R.Broome@bham.ac.uk
- **Professor Quassim Cassam**: PhD supervisor and Professor of Philosophy at the University of Warwick
 - q.cassam@warwick.ac.uk
- **Professor Neil Levy**: External Examiner of my PhD and Professor of Philosophy at Macquarie University, and Senior Research Fellow at the University of Oxford.
 - neil.levy@mq.edu.au / neil.levy@philosophy.ox.ac.uk
- **Professor Constantine Sandis**: External Examiner of my PhD, Visiting Professor of Philosophy at University of Hertfordshire, and Founding Director of Lex Academic.
 - c.sandis@herts.ac.uk / constantine@lexacademic.com
- **Dr Ema Sullivan-Bissett**: Reader in the Philosophy Department at the University of Birmingham.
 - e.l.sullivan-bissett@bham.ac.uk