

Academical CV

Forsman, Jan Juhani

Date of Birth: 23.12.1984

Address: Järvensivuntie 19 A 18, 33100 Tampere, Finland

Education: Master of Arts

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Nationality: Finland

Research Title: *Skepticism, Epoché, and the Method of Doubt in Descartes's Meditations*

Type of Research: Doctoral Thesis, PhD

Education

PEDAYOP1 Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (10 ECTS), 27.1.2017, University of Tampere, Finland.

Doctoral studies began in autumn 2012 (applied in spring 2012), University of Tampere, Finland.

Master of Arts, 13.6.2012, University of Tampere, Finland. Master's Thesis: *Descartesin epäilyn metodi (Descartes's Method of Doubt)*. Grade: *Eximia cum laude approbatur*.

Bachelor of Arts, 26.1.2011, University of Tampere, Finland. Bachelor's Thesis: *Transsendentaalisuuden porteilla: Descartesin epäilyn metodi tarkasteltuna Husserlin transsendentaalifilosofiaa ja luonnollisen asenteen kritiikkiä vasten (On the Gates of Trancendentalism: Descartes's Method of Doubt compared to Husserl's transcendental philosophy and critique of natural attitude)*.

University of Tampere, Finland, 2005-2012. Major: Philosophy; Minor: Communications & Media, Latin Language & Classic Heritage (ancient history & philosophy and Latin and Ancient Greek).

Loughborough University, England, 2007-2008. Major: Communications & Media. Erasmus Programme.

Areas of Specialization & Competence

René Descartes, Early Modern Philosophy, Ancient Skeptical Philosophy, Aristotelian-Scholastic Philosophy

Research Interests

Metaphysics, Epistemology, Philosophical Skepticism, History of Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Ancient Philosophy, Medieval & Scholastic Philosophy

Work Experience

PhD Researcher/Doctoral Student (fixed term), Faculty of Social Sciences, 1.8.2017-31.7.2019, University of Tampere.

Peer Reviewer, *Ajatus: Suomen Filosofisen Yhdistyksen Vuosikirja*, 2018.

FILA6 History of Skepticism -seminar (5 ECTS), teacher in charge, 23.1.-11.5.2018, University of Tampere, Finland (with Dr. Jani Hakkarainen, Lecturer and Post-Doctoral Fellow).

Expert evaluation, four articles on early modern philosophy, *Logos – encyclopedia*, 13.4.2017.

URL=<http://filosofia.fi/ensyklopedia>

Organizing the 9th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, 26.-27.5.2016, University of Tampere, Finland (with Dr. Jani Hakkarainen, University Lecturer and Mr. Miikka Palokangas, assistant intern).

Life of Skepticism: Ancient Sceptics and Descartes -lecture (45min), 24.5.2016, delivered at the Finnish Institute at Athens, Greece.

Teaching of philosophy at the University of Tampere -lecture (45min) at Jornades Sobre L'ensenyament de la Filosofia a Europa -conference, 18.-21.2.2014, University of Barcelona, Spain.

Introduction to Descartes's view of mind and body -lecture (90min), part of FILA1 History of Philosophy – course (5 ECTS), 21.1.2014, University of Tampere, Finland.

Assistant intern, Faculty of Philosophy, 1.5.-31.6.2011, University of Tampere, Finland (assisting in organizing Hume's Metaphysics and Humean Metaphysics -conference, 20.-22.6.2011).

Organizational activities

Vice Member, PhD Student (Tampere), the Finnish Doctoral Training Network in Philosophy, 2015-2017.

Editor, Paatos: Philosophical Online Publication, 2012-2017. URL=<http://www.paatos.fi/tietoa-paatos-lehdesta/>

Person in charge of events, Aatos: Student Association, 2010-2011, University of Tampere, Finland.

Person in charge of equality and environment, Aatos: Student Association, 2009, University of Tampere, Finland.

Publications

Peer reviewed Scientific Articles

Forsman, Jan: "Descartes on Will and Suspension of Judgment: Affectivity of the Reasons for Doubt" in **Boros, Gábor; Szalai, Judit & Tóth, Olivér István (eds.):** *The Concept of Affectivity in Early Modern Philosophy*, Eötvös University Press, 38–58, 2017.

Forsman, Jan: "Mahdollisuus, välttämättömyys ja luodut ikuiset totuudet Descartesin filosofiassa (Possibility, Necessity and Created Eternal Truths in Descartes's Philosophy)" in **Niimiluoto, Ilkka; Tahko, Tuomas & Toppinen, Teemu (eds.):** *Mahdollisuus*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 120–129, 2016.

Forsman, Jan: "Tahto ja arvostelmasta pidättäytyminen Descartesin filosofiassa (Will and the Suspension of Judgment in Descartes's Philosophy)", *Ajatus 72: Suomen Filosofian Yhdistyksen vuosikirja 2015*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 15–51, 2015.

Non-Peer reviewed Scientific Articles

Forsman, Jan: "Descartes and the Suspension of Judgment – Consideration of Cartesian Skepticism and Epoché" *Proceedings of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy 70*, Greek Philosophical Society, 15-20, 2018.

Scientific Book Reviews

Forsman, Jan: "Epäilijöitä ja tiedon etsijöitä (Doubters and Knowledge Seekers)", review of Malin Grahn-Wilder (ed.): "Skeptisismi: Epäilyn ja etsimisen filosofia" (Gaudeamus, Helsinki 2016), *Ajatus 74: Suomen Filosofian Yhdistyksen vuosikirja 2017*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 327–341, 2017.

Forsman, Jan: "Tietoa etsimässä (In the Search for Knowledge)", review of Malin Grahn-Wilder (ed.): "Skeptisismi: Epäilyn ja etsimisen filosofia (Skepticism: The Philosophy of Doubting and Searching)" (Gaudeamus, Helsinki 2016), *niin & näin, nro. 93, 2/2017*, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 150–151, 2017.

Forsman, Jan: "Utopian jäljillä (On the Trail of Utopia)", review of Keijo Lakkala: "Utopia tänään: Yhteiskunnallisen mielikuvituksen metodologiaa (Utopia Today: Methodology of Social Imagination)" (Kampus Kustannus, Jyväskylä 2014), *Tieteessä tapahtuu, vol. 33, no. 6*, Tieteellisten seurain valtuuskunta, 77–80, 2015.

Popular Writings Related to the Research

- Forsman, Jan:** “Cavendishistä, Moresta, kirjeistä ja filosofiasta (On Cavendish, More, Letters, and Philosophy)”, *niin & näin*, nro. 91, 4/2016, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 16–18, 2016.
- Forsman, Jan:** “Keskellä äärettömyyden mustaa merta – H.P. Lovecraftin filosofiaa (In the Midst of the Black Seas of Infinity – The Philosophy of H.P. Lovecraft)”, *Kuiskaus Pimeässä 1/2016*, 2016.
- Forsman, Jan:** “Potkiko Descartes koiria? – Muutama sana Kartesiolaisesta eläinkäsityksestä (Did Descartes kick dogs? Some words on Cartesian conception of animals)”, *Paatos*, 31.3.2016.
URL=<http://www.paatos.fi/2016/03/31/potkiko-descartes-koiria-muutama-sana-kartesiolaisesta-elainkäsityksesta/>
- Forsman, Jan:** “Potkiko Descartes koiria? – Muutama sana Kartesiolaisesta eläinkäsityksestä (Did Descartes kick dogs? Some words on Cartesian conception of animals)”, guest blog-post, *Animal Justice Party of Finland*, 2015. URL=<http://eop.fi/fi/potkiko-descartes-koiria/>
- Forsman, Jan:** “Keskellä äärettömyyden mustaa merta – H.P. Lovecraftin filosofiaa (In the Midst of the Black Seas of Infinity – The Philosophy of H.P. Lovecraft)”, *Paatos 2/2014*, 2014.
URL=<http://jarjestot.uta.fi/aatos/paatos/2014-02/lovecraft.html>

Conference Reports

- Forsman, Jan:** “Lähelle on pitkä matka – Muistoja Barcelonan ja Tampereen Yliopistojen kohtaamisesta (It’s a long way to get near – Memories from the meeting of the Universities of Barcelona and Tampere)”, conference report, *Paatos*, 17.3.2016.
URL=<http://www.paatos.fi/2016/03/17/lahelle-on-pitka-matka-muistoja-barcelonan-ja-tampereen-yliopistojen-kohtaamisesta/>
- Forsman, Jan:** “Metafyysisiä mietelmiä (Metaphysical Meditations)”, conference report, *niin & näin*, no. 78, 3/2013, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 125, 2013.

Theses

- Forsman Jan:** *Descartesin epäilyn metodi (Descartes’s Method of Doubt)*, Masters’s Thesis, University of Tampere, 2012. URL=<https://tampub.uta.fi/handle/10024/83510>
- Forsman, Jan:** *Transsendentaalisuuden porteilla: Descartesin epäilyn metodi tarkasteltuna Husserlin transsendentaalifilosofiaa ja luonnollisen asenteen kritiikkiä vasten (On the Gates of Transcendentalism: Descartes’s Method of Doubt compared to Husserl’s transcendental philosophy and critique of natural attitude)*, Bachelor’s Thesis, University of Tampere, 2011.

Work in Progress

Working Papers

- “Can an Atheist know that He Exists? *Cogito*, Mathematics, and God in Descartes’s *Meditations*”
- “Madness & Dream in Descartes’s First Meditation”
- “Deceiving Deity and the External World: How Radical Was Descartes?”
- “Descartes on the Occasional Sensory Errors and Skepticism of the Senses”

Working Thesis

- Forsman, Jan:** *Skepticism, Epoché, and the Method of Doubt in Descartes’s Meditations*, Doctoral Thesis (Monograph), University of Tampere

Presentations

- Dreams and Demons: Radical Skepticism in Descartes’s First Meditation* -presentation, to be delivered at the 2018 Congress for Doctoral Students, 22.-24.10.2018, University of Tampere, Finland.
- Dream and Reality: Descartes’s Dreaming Doubt and the External World* -presentation, delivered at the 11th

- Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, 8.-9.5.2018, University of Helsinki, Finland.
- Descartes on Will and Suspension of Judgment* -presentation, delivered at the Early Modern – St. Louis -conference, 20.-21.4.2018, St. Louis, USA.
- “*Whatever I have up till now accepted as most true...*”: *Descartes on the Occasional Sensory Errors and Skepticism of the Senses* -presentation, delivered at the 2017 Congress for Doctoral Students, 23.-25.10.2017, University of Tampere, Finland.
- Descartes and the Fear of Skepticism in the Early Modern Period* -presentation, delivered at the What Were the Early Moderns Afraid of? -conference, 8.-9.6.2017, University of Antwerp, Belgium.
- Travel Grant (500€) for the presentation above. Granted by the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- Life and Skepticism for Descartes: The Meaning of the Moral Code in the Discourse* -presentation, delivered at the 10th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, 2.-3.6.2017, University of Tartu, Estonia.
- Travel Grant (300€) for the presentation above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Training Network in Philosophy.
- Can an Atheist know that he exists? Cogito, Mathematics, and God in Descartes's Meditations* -presentation, delivered at the History of Philosophy Seminar, 23.5.2017, University of Turku, Finland.
- Can an Atheist know that he exists? Cogito and God in Descartes's Meditations* -presentation, delivered at the Dynamis Workshop in Metaphysics, 17.-18.3.2017, University of Tampere, Finland.
- Can an Atheist know that he exists? Cogito and God in Descartes's Meditations* -presentation, delivered at the 20th Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, 11.-13.11.2016, University of Oxford, England.
- Travel Grant (350€) for the presentation above. Granted by Finnish Doctoral Training Network in Philosophy.
- Madness & Dream in Descartes's First Meditation* -presentation, delivered at the 2016 Congress for Doctoral Students in Philosophy, 24.-26.10.2016, University of Tampere, Finland.
- Madness & Dream in Descartes's First Meditation* -presentation, delivered at the First Budapest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, 14.-15.10.2016, Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest, Hungary.
- Travel Grant (624€) for the presentation above. Granted by the University of Tampere Foundation.
- Madness & Dream as reasons for doubt in Descartes* -presentation, delivered at the 9th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, 26.-27.5.2016, University of Tampere, Finland.
- Mahdollisuus, välttämättömyys ja luodut ikuiset totuudet Descartesin filosofiassa (Possibility, necessity and created eternal truths in Descartes's philosophy)* -presentation, delivered at the One Word Colloquium (“Possibility”), 7.-8.1.2016, University of Helsinki, Finland.
- Travel Grant (130€) for the presentation above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.
- Cogito and God in Descartes's philosophy* -paper, delivered at the 2015 Congress for Doctoral Students in Philosophy, 12.-14.10.2015 University of Tampere, Finland.
- The Skeptic, the Scholastic & the Layman* -presentation, delivered at 9.10.2015, University of Turku, Finland.
- Travel Grant (60€) for the presentation above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.
- Potkiko Descartes koiria? Muutama sana Kartesiolaisesta eläinkäsityksestä (Did Descartes Kick Dogs? Some words on Cartesian Conception of Animals)* -presentation, delivered at Ravintelivalistus, 8.9.2015 Jyväskylä, Finland.
- Travel Grant (20€) for the presentation above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.
- Descartes's Suspension of Judgement and the Wax in the Meditations* -presentation, delivered at the 8th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy -conference, 3.-4.6.2015, University of Södertörn, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Travel Grant (300€) for the seminar above. Granted by the School of Social Sciences and Humanities.
- The Mediator's Identity and Memory in Descartes's Meditations on First Philosophy* -paper, delivered as part of Narrative, Memory, Identity -course, 26.5.2015, University of Tampere, Finland.
- Descartes's method driven doubt as the research for knowledge and certainty* -presentation, delivered at the YKY-Joint Doctoral Seminar, 30.3.2015, University of Tampere, Finland.

The Meditator's Persona in Descartes's Meditations -paper, delivered at the History of Philosophy Research Seminar, 13.2.2015, University of Helsinki, Finland
Travel Grant (20€) for the Seminar above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Descartes against the Aristotelians -paper, delivered at the History of Philosophy as the History of Anti-Aristotelianism -conference, 12.-14.8.2014, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile.
Travel grant (300€) for the congress above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel grant (500€) for the congress above. Granted by the University of Tampere Foundation.

Cartesian epoché: How serious is the doubt and what it actually affects -presentation, delivered at the Jornades Sobre L'ensenyament de la Filosofia a Europa -conference, 18.-21.2.2014, University of Barcelona, Spain.
Travel grant (360€) for the conference above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Descartes and the suspension of judgment -paper, delivered at the 2013 Congress for Doctoral Students in Philosophy, 7.-9.10.2013, University of Tampere, Finland.

Descartes and the suspension of judgment -paper, delivered at the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy, 3.8.-10.8.2013, University of Athens, Greece.
Travel grant (450€) for the congress above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel grant (500€) for the congress above. Granted by the University of Tampere Foundation.

Descartes and the suspension of judgment -paper, delivered at the 6th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, 13.-14.6.2013, University of Turku, Finland.
Travel grant (150€) for the workshop above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Descartes and the suspension of judgment -paper, delivered at the History of Philosophy Research Seminar, 23.4.2013, University of Helsinki, Finland.
Travel grant (100€) for the seminar above. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Other Grants

Project Grant (5500€) for a research visit to University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in the United States in Spring 2019. Granted by the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

Grant for English Grammar Check (300€) of a scientific article of 12.000 words. Granted by englanniksi.fi.

Travel Grant (400€) for giving the lecture *Life of Skepticism: Ancient Skeptics and Descartes* at the Finnish Institute at Athens, 24.5.2016, Athens, Greece. Granted by the School of Social Sciences and Humanities.

Travel Grant (30€) for Vili Lähteenmäki's & Christian Barth's presentation *Conscientia and Self-knowledge in Descartes*, delivered at the History of Philosophy Research Seminar, 6.11.2015, University of Helsinki. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (20€) for Tomas Ekenberg's course "Medieval Perspectives on Moral Motivation", 16.-18.9.2015 University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (10€) for "Towards a Science of Consciousness" -congress, 9.-13.6.2015 University of Helsinki. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (10€) for "The Good, the One and the Many" -conference, 5.-7.6.2015 University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (50€) for Lisa Shapiro's course "Early modern philosophy of self", 1.-3.6.2015 University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (50€) for participating in Toril Moi's course "What Is the Task of Theory? Ordinary Language Philosophy Across the Disciplines", 25.-29.5.2015 Åbo Akademi, Turku, Finland. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (40€) for participating in John Carriero's course "Themes from Spinoza's Ethics", 26.-30.5.2014 University of Turku, Finland. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Travel Grant (50€) for participating in Jeff McDonough's course "Leibniz and Early Modern Philosophy", 20.-21. & 25.-27.6.2012 University of Turku, Finland. Granted by the Finnish Doctoral Programme of Philosophy.

Language Skills

Finnish (native); English (fluent, C2); Swedish (basic user, B1); Spanish (basics, A2); German (basics, A1); Latin and Ancient Greek (reading)

Hobbies

Reading, writing, cinema, music & basketball.

Letters of Reference

John Carriero, Professor, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), carriero@humnet.ucla.edu

Calvin Normore, Professor, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), normore@humnet.ucla.edu

Leila Haaparanta, Professor, University of Tampere, leila.haaparanta@uta.fi

Mikko Yrjönsuuri, Professor, University of Jyväskylä, mikko.yrjonsuuri@jyu.fi

Jani Hakkarainen, University Lecturer, University of Tampere, jani.hakkarainen@uta.fi