

OWEN CHEVALIER

PhD Candidate | University of Western Ontario
378 Davenport Rd, Toronto, ON M4V 1B4
647-509-3484 · ochevali@uwo.ca

PROFILE

I am a doctoral candidate in the Department of Philosophy at Western University and a member of the Rotman Institute of Philosophy. My research is situated at the intersection of philosophy of psychiatry, social epistemology, and media theory, with additional work in AI ethics. My dissertation examines the epistemic and rhetorical implications of new media for contemporary psychiatric discourse, with a focus on how social platforms shape both patient identity and scientific communication.

EDUCATION

PhD in Philosophy (*in progress*)

Western University, 2022–Present

Areas of Research: Digital psychiatry/digital health, social epistemology, bioethics

MA in Psychology

York University, 2019–2022

Thesis: The Effect of C-Section Birth on Attention Task Performance and Cortical Grey Matter Integrity

BA (Honours Specialization in Psychology, Major in Philosophy)

Huron College, Western University, 2014–2019

Dean's Honour List (2015–2019)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “It starts on TikTok”: Looping Effects and the Impact of Social Media on Psychiatric Terms. *Journal of Philosophy, Psychiatry & Psychology* (2024)
 - “Your iPhone will soon be able to track your mental health with iOS17—but what are the implications?” *The Conversation* (Sept 2023)
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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant

McGill & Western University, 2024–Present

- SSHRC Insight Development Grant project “Including Psychiatrized Communities in Philosophy of Psychiatry”
- Conducted literature review on lived experience and philosophy of psychiatry with a focus on anorexia
- First-authoring manuscript for publication and conference presentation in Netherlands (June 2025)

Research Assistant

London Health Sciences Centre, 2023–Present

- Member of a clinical research team studying patient exposure to social media and its impact on their perceptions of diagnosis
- Contributing expertise on social media mental health communities and qualitative methods
- Leading clinical interviews and coauthoring manuscripts

Research Associate

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Apr–Oct 2023

- Led participant recruitment for a large-scale public health study (n > 1000)
- Supervised and trained a team of eight research assistants
- Ensured data integrity and coordinated with project leadership

Researcher

Meta Centre, Toronto, 2021–2022

- Conducted qualitative evaluation of person-centred care at multiple service sites
- Interviewed staff, management, and clients with intellectual disabilities
- Presented findings to senior management and board of directors

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Organizer/Instructor – Rotman AI Summer School

Western University (August 2025)

- Co-organized week-long workshop for senior high school students in London on AI philosophy and ethics
- Led discussion sessions and assisted in lesson plans

Teaching Assistant / Tutorial Leader

Western University (2022–Present), York University (2019–2021)

- *Introduction to Philosophy* (Phil 1020, 2023–Present)
- *Ethics, Politics & Law* (Phil 1040, 2022–2023)
- *Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence* (Phil 2037, 2022)
- *Writing in Psychology* (Psych 1010, 2019–2021)

Writing Tutor

Huron College Writing Centre, 2019–2022

- Provided individualized support to undergraduate students
- Advised on writing mechanics, argumentation, and academic style

SELECTED CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

- “Who Knows What in Mental Healthcare?” – Presenter, Radboud University, NL (June 2025)
- **Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science** – Presenter, McGill University (June 2024)
- **Canadian Communications Association** – Presenter, McGill University (June 2024)
- **ASI Cultural Psychiatry Workshop** – Presenter, McGill University (June 2024)
- **HAPSAT Graduate Workshop** – Session Chair, University of Toronto (March 2024)
- **IHPST Graduate Conference** – Presenter, University of Toronto (May 2023)
- **Philosophy of Science Association Meeting** – Presenter, Pittsburgh (November 2022)
- **Rotman Graduate Student Conference** – Reviewer, Western University (May 2022)

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- Graduate Interdisciplinary Accelerator Fund – \$6,000 (2025)
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship – \$15,000 (2020–2024)
- Rotman Graduate Summer Fellowship – \$5,000 (2022)
- Rotman Entrance Scholarship – \$2,500 (2022)
- Canada Graduate Scholarship (Master's) – \$17,500 (2019–2020)
- CURL Research Fellowship – \$1,500 (2018)

ACADEMIC SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

- Graduate Student Representative, Research Action Committee – Rotman Institute of Philosophy (Current)
- Student Representative, Research Ethics Board – Huron College (2018–2019)
- President, Huron Drama Society – Huron College (2017–2018)
- Orientation Leader – Western University (2015–2018)