

Caterina Pellò

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

AREAS OF SPECIALISATION: Ancient philosophy; Presocratics; Pythagoreanism; Women in philosophy.

AREAS OF COMPETENCE: Plato; Aristotle; Hellenistic philosophy; Feminism and gender theory.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

September-November 2024: Visiting Research Fellow, University of Santa Barbara

September 2023: SNSF Ambizione Research Fellow in Philosophy, University of Geneva

January 2022-July 2023: Teaching Associate in Philosophy, Nottingham University

September 2021-August 2022: Associate Lecturer in Ancient Philosophy, University College London

July 2021-June 2022: Research Fellow, Harvard Centre for Hellenic Studies, Washington DC

February 2022: Visiting Fellow, History of Philosophy Forum, University of Notre Dame

September 2020-August 2021: Associate Lecturer in Philosophy, University of St Andrews

September 2019-September 2020: Bye-Fellow, Teaching Associate and Director of Studies in Philosophy,
Downing College and St. John's College, University of Cambridge

October 2019-November 2019: Research Fellow, Fondation Hardt, Genève

October 2018-June 2019: DAAD Postdoctoral Researcher in Philosophy, Research Group 'Medicine of the
Mind, Philosophy of the Body', Humboldt University Berlin

EDUCATION

October 2014-July 2018: PhD in Classics (Ancient Philosophy), University of Cambridge, Clare Hall

- Research project: 'Women in Pythagoreanism'
- Supervisors: Prof Gábor Betegh and Dr Myrto Hatzimichali
- Examiners: Prof James Warren and Prof Catherine Rowett

October 2013-September 2014: MA in Philosophy, Durham University, St. Cuthbert's Society

- Overall result: Distinction
- Dissertation: 'Female Virtue Ethics, Ancient and Modern.'
- Supervisors: Dr Benedict Smith (Philosophy Department) and Dr Phillip Horky (Classics Department)

October 2010-July 2013: Laurea in Philosophy, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milano

- Overall result: 110/110 *cum laude*
- Dissertation: 'Free Will and Individuality in Augustine and Hannah Arendt'
- Supervisor: Prof Roberta De Monticelli, Co-examiner: Prof Roberta Sala

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

O'Reilly, K. and Pellò, C. (eds.), *Ancient Women Philosophers*, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009028769>.

Pellò, C., *Pythagorean Women*. In J. Broad (ed.), *Cambridge Elements: Women in the History of Philosophy*,
Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009026864>.

Journal articles:

- Pellò, C.**, 'Why We Sleep? Early Greek Theories of Sleeping and Waking.' *Ancient Philosophy*, Vol. 45, No. 2 (2025), pp. 337–355. <https://doi.org/10.5840/ancientphil202545222>.
- De Cesaris, G., and **Pellò, C.**, 'Aesara on Human Nature: The Tripartition of the Soul Revisited.' *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, Vol. 145 (2025), pp. 182–196. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0075426925000011>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Ancient Philosophy and Feminism: A Field Guide.' *Dialogoi: Ancient Philosophy Today*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2025), pp. 120–135. <https://doi.org/10.3366/anph.2025.0123>.
- Augustine, M., and **Pellò, C.**, 'Life and Lifeforms in Early Greek Atomism.' *Apeiron*, Vol. 65, No. 4 (2021), pp. 601–625. <https://doi.org/10.1515/apeiron-2021-0035>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Phintys the Pythagorean: A Philosophical Approach.' *Philosophia*, Vol. 49, No. 2 (2020), pp. 11–32. ISSN: 1105-2120.
- Pellò, C.**, 'The Lives of Pythagoras: A Proposal for Reading Pythagorean Metempsychosis.' *Rhizomata*, Vol. 6, No. 2 (2018), pp. 135–156. <https://doi.org/10.1515/rhiz-2018-0007>.

Book chapters:

- Pellò, C.**, 'Phintys of Sparta on Moderation.' In R. Hagenruber (ed.), *Teaching Women Philosophers* (Berlin, 2024), pp. 13–29. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-59298-0_2.
- De Cesaris, G., and **Pellò, C.**, 'Perictione (di Atene?) (V a.C.?)'. In M. Bonelli (ed.), *Archivio delle Filosefe 2* (Trieste, 2024). <https://doi.org/10.13137/978-88-5511-567-4/36658>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Pythagorean Women: An Example of Female Philosophical Protreptics.' In S. Brill and C. McKeen (eds.), *Routledge Handbook on Women and Ancient Philosophy* (New York, 2024), pp. 423–434. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003047858>.
- O'Reilly, K., and **Pellò, C.**, 'The Value of Women Philosophers for the History of Philosophy.' Introduction to K. O'Reilly and C. Pellò (eds.), *Ancient Women Philosophers* (Cambridge, 2023), pp. 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009028769>.
- De Cesaris, G., and **Pellò, C.**, 'Perictione, Mother of Metaphysics.' In K. O'Reilly and C. Pellò (eds.), *Ancient Women Philosophers* (Cambridge, 2023), pp. 152–169. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009028769>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Donne Pitagoriche (VI-IV secolo a.C.)'. In M. Bonelli (ed.), *Archivio delle Filosefe 1* (Trieste, 2023). <https://doi.org/10.13137/978-88-8303-950-8/35142>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Non solo uomini, ma anche donne'. In M. Bonelli (ed.), *Filosefe, Maestre e Imperatrici* (Roma, 2020), pp. 55–78. ISBN: 9788893594417.

Reviews:

- Pellò, C.**, 'Review of *Pythagorean Women Philosophers*, by D. Dutsch.' *Ancient Philosophy Today: Dialogoi* Vol. 4, No. 2 (2022), pp. 237–241. <https://doi.org/10.3366/anph.2022.0070>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Hypatia from Icon to History: Review of *Hypatia*, by Silvia Ronchey.' *The Classical Review* (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009840X22001329>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Review of *The Female Drama: The Philosophical Feminine in the Soul of Plato's Republic*, by C.C.S. Thomas.' *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (2021). <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2021/2021.11.47/>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'A History of Pythagoreanism, by C. A. Huffman.' *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, Vol. 141 (2021), pp. 290–291. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0075426921000598>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Life and the Early Greek Philosophers. Review of *Interconnectedness* by C. Zatta.' *The Classical Review*, Vol. 70, No. 2 (2020), pp. 318–320. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009840X20000815>.
- Pellò, C.**, 'Pythagorean Women, by S. B. Pomeroy.' *Gnomon*, Vol. 88, No. 5 (2016), pp. 385–388. ISSN: 0017-1417.

SELECT CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 'The Cosmos as Embryo, *Cosmology and Arguments in Ancient Philosophy*, Vilnius, September 2025.
- 'Revaluating Appearances in Parmenides' Poem', *German Society for Ancient Philosophy*, University of Fribourg, September 2025.
- 'Wisdom from Aristotle to Perictione', University of Bergamo, November 2024.
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers', *Ancient Borderlands*, University of Santa Barbara, October 2024.
- 'Early Greek Science of Life', University of Santa Barbara, October 2024.
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers', *Eugesta Project: Gender Studies and Classical Scholarship*, September 2024.
- 'Argumentative Strategies in Parmenides' and Democritus' Embryologies', *The Epistemology of Ancient Embryology*, July 2024, University of Cambridge.
- 'Libri di Donne: Ancient Women Philosophers', Italian Society for Women in Philosophy, April 2024.
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers', *The Shelves*, University of Turin, March 2024.
- 'What is Sleep For? Presocratic Theories of Sleep as Recovery', New York University, February 2024.
- 'Ancient and Contemporary Philosophy of Sleep', *Biological Interest Group*, October 2023, Geneva.
- 'The Presocratics on Living Faculties', *Craven Seminar*, May 2023, Cambridge.
- 'Presocratic Philosophers on Life and Death', Mary Immaculate College, February 2023.
- 'Does it Matter that Diotima is a Woman?', *UCL Greek Play: Plato's Symposium*, February 2023, London.
- 'In a Different Voice: How Can We Access the Thought of Ancient Women?', *British and Irish Postgraduate Philosophical Association*, February 2023, University of Bristol ([keynote speaker](#)).
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers', *Colloquium for the History of Philosophy*, December 2022, Utrecht ([panellist](#)).
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers: A Roundtable', *Society for Women of Ideas*, October 2023, Toronto ([panellist](#)).
- 'Interpreting the Presocratic Theory of Sleep', University of Turin, November 2022.
- 'A Rehearsal for Death: Presocratics on Sleeping and Dying', *Workshop in Philosophy*, November 2022, Oxford.
- 'Sleep and Death in Presocratic Thought', *Ancient Philosophy Workshop*, May 2022, Nottingham University.
- 'Female Intellectuals in Antiquity', *Portrayals of Intellectuals in the Ancient World*, June 2022, Durham, UK.
- 'Sleeping and Dying in Presocratic Thought', *Harvard Centre for Hellenic Studies*, May 2022, Washington, DC.
- 'Aesara and Plato: The Tripartition of the Soul Revisited', *Ancient Philosophy Colloquium*, May 2022, Fribourg.
- 'A Rehearsal for Death: Presocratics on Sleep', *Bryn Mawr Classics Colloquium*, April 2022, Bryn Mawr College.
- 'Presocratics on Living and Dying', *History of Philosophy Forum*, February 2022, University of Notre Dame.
- 'Aesara the Metaphysician', *Pseudopythagorica Atelier*, January 2022, CNRS Paris.
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers: Methodological Considerations', *Philiminality: A Platform for Cross-Cultural Philosophy*, November 2021, University of Oxford ([panellist](#)).
- 'Ancient Women Philosophers: Methodological Considerations', *Women in Philosophy Series*, November 2021, University of Essex ([panellist](#)).
- 'Perictione on Why Women Should Philosophise', *International Association of Women Philosophers*, July 2021, University of Paderborn ([keynote speaker](#)).
- 'Working on Women Philosophers: Reflections and Methodologies', *British Society for the History of Philosophy*, April 2021, Durham University ([panellist](#)).
- 'Dutsch's *Pythagorean Women Philosophers*: Meet the Critics', *Ancient Philosophy Society*, January 2021, Penn State University ([panellist](#)).
- 'Atomists on Living and Dying', *Institute of Classical Studies*, January 2021, London.

'Ancient Perspectives on Female Virtues', *Philosophy Department Reflectorium*, January 2021, St Andrews.
 'Phintys: A Female Perspective on Women's Virtues', *Centre for Greek Philosophy*, January 2020, Athens.
 'Presocratic Embryology', *Kolloquium des Instituts für Klassische Philologie*, January 2019, HU Berlin.
 'Non solo di uomini, ma anche di donne: Le pitagoriche e la presenza femminile nella filosofia greca', *Italian Society for Women in Philosophy*, December 2018, Università di Bergamo (**keynote speaker**).
 'The Pythagorean Life: Continuities and Discontinuities with the Pseudopythagorica', *Pseudopythagorica Atelier*, November 2018, CNRS Paris.
 'Pythagorean Women and Pseudo-Pythagorean Writings', *Pseudopythagorica Atelier*, May 2018, CNRS Paris.
 'Tales of Women from the Afterlife', *Women in Philosophy Conference*, June 2016, University of Cambridge.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Lectures

Module convening, designing and delivering in-person, online, and hybrid lectures to up to 100 students, setting, marking, and moderating exams.

2024–present: Scientific Collaborator in Philosophy, Université de Genève

- Postgraduate module: Plato on Knowledge as Virtue.
- First-year module: Philosophie par les femmes.

2022–2023: Teaching Associate in Philosophy, Nottingham University

- Postgraduate module: Philosophical Topics.
- First-year module: History of Philosophy: Ancient to Modern.

2021–2022: Associate Lecturer in Ancient Philosophy, University College London

- First-year modules: Latin for Beginners, Intermediate Latin, Advanced Greek (Medea).
- Second-year modules: The Dialogues of Plato, Hellenistic philosophy.

2020–2021: Associate Lecturer in Philosophy, University of St Andrews

- First-year modules: Mind and the World (mind-body problem, metaphysics of gender, personal identity), Moral and Political Controversies (feminist ethics, feminism and multiculturalism), Enlightenment (early modern feminism).
- Second-year modules: Foundations of Western Philosophy (Introduction to Greek philosophy, Plato's *Republic*), Meaning and Knowing (testimony, feminist epistemology, epistemic injustice).

2020: Invited Lecturer in Ancient Philosophy, University of Cambridge

- Second-year modules: Greek and Roman Philosophy (Parmenides to Democritus).

2016–2018: Teaching Assistant in Latin and Greek, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Classics

- First-year module: Intensive Greek (Lysis, Xenophon, Euripides).
- Second-year module: Latin Grammar Consolidation.

2015–2016: Temporary Lecturer in Greek, University of Cambridge, Faculty of English

- First-year module: Reading Greek (Homer, Plato, and Herodotus).

Small-group tutorials

Planning and delivering tutorials to 1-10 undergraduates, setting homework, and providing detailed feedback.

2022–2023: Tutor in Philosophy, University of Nottingham

- History of Philosophy: Ancient to Modern
- Reasoning, Argument, and Logic: Introduction to Critical Thinking and the Philosophical Method

2020–2021: Tutor in Philosophy, University of St Andrews

- Moral and Political Controversies
- Enlightenment
- Foundations of Western Philosophy

2015–2020: Supervisor in Latin and Greek, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Classics

- Ancient Greek and Latin
- Interdisciplinary Studies: Nature in the Ancient World

2015–2020: Supervisor in Ancient Philosophy, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Classics

- Presocratic Philosophy (Heraclitus, Parmenides, Empedocles, Democritus)
- Plato (*Crito*, *Meno*, *Republic*, *Phaedo*, *Theaetetus*, *Cratylus*, *Timaeus*, *Parmenides*)
- Aristotle (*De Anima*, *Physics*)
- Hellenistic Philosophy (Scepticism, Stoicism, Epicureanism and Lucretius)
- Philosophy, Politics, and the Polis (ancient political philosophy)

2015–2020: Supervisor in Philosophy, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Philosophy

- Set Texts (Plato's *Meno*, Descartes' *Meditations*, Mill's *On Liberty* and *The Subjection of Women*)
- Ethics and political philosophy (early modern ethics, moral psychology, moral obligations, democracy, equality, theories of liberty, feminism)

Supervisions, seminars, and classes

2024: Postgraduate supervisor, Università di Torino

- External supervisor of an MA thesis 'La natura femminile tra la *Repubblica* e il *Timeo* di Platone'.

2022: Women in Ancient Philosophy Masterclass, Università di Bergamo

- Organised and delivered undergraduate and MA lectures on ancient women philosophers.

2022: Undergraduate supervisor, Università di Torino

- External supervisor of a dissertation on Plato's *Symposium*.

2020–2021: Undergraduate supervisor, University College London

- Supervised the dissertations 'Animals in Presocratic Philosophy' and 'Greek and Indian Scepticism'.

2020–2021: Postgraduate supervisor, University of St Andrews

- Supervised the MA thesis 'Myth in Plato's *Republic*'.

2020: Seminar leader, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Philosophy

- Organised and led the second-year Greek and Roman Philosophy reading and discussion group.

2019: Women in Ancient Philosophy Masterclass, Humboldt University Berlin, Faculty of Philosophy

- Organised and delivered a postgraduate seminar series on ancient women philosophers.

2018–2019: Undergraduate supervisor, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Philosophy

- Supervised the dissertation 'Politics, Freedom of Speech, and Feminism'.

April 2015: Graduate guest lecturer, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Classics

- Delivered the lecture 'Greek Popular Morality in the *Meno*' during the third-year course on Plato.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Departmental administration

2022–2023: Extenuating Circumstances Officer, University of Nottingham

2022–2023: Member of the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, University of Nottingham

2021–2022: Member of the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, University College London

2020–2021: Member of the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, University of St Andrews

2020–2021: Open Days Coordinator, University of St Andrews

2017–2019: Philosophy Admission Interviewer, Downing, Girton, Robinson, and Queen's College, Cambridge.

2015–2016: Secretary of the B-Club (ancient philosophy seminar series), University of Cambridge

2014: Course Representative for the Philosophy MA at the Durham Staff-Students Committee

Conference organisation

Coordinating the committee, selecting the speakers, fundraising and financial management, advertising, and troubleshooting on the day.

March 2026: Ancient Philosophy Workshop ‘Dreams in Ancient Philosophy’, Université de Genève

February 2025: Ancient Philosophy Workshop ‘Embryology before and after Aristotle, Université de Genève

June 2025: Philosophy Workshop ‘Teleology: Ancient to Modern’, Université de Genève

March 2025: Ancient Philosophy Workshop ‘Ancient Theories of Sleep’, Université de Genève

April 2024: Ancient Philosophy Workshop ‘How to Excel in Life? Theories of Living Well Before Aristotle’, co-organised by the Université de Genève and the Università di Torino

2022-2023: Philosophy Research Seminar Organiser, University of Nottingham

February 2022: The Mediterranean and Beyond: Decolonising the Greek and Latin Curriculum, UCL

February 2022: New Voices Conference, Paderborn University

February 2022: London Ancient Science Conference, UCL

December 2020: Annual Meeting of the Scottish Philosophical Association, University of St Andrews

2018–2019: Philosophy Workshop ‘Aristotle’s *Parts of Animals*’, 21-23 August 2019, University of Cambridge

2017–2018: Ancient Philosophy Conference, ‘Law and Order’, 17-18 March 2018, University of Cambridge

2016–2017: Cambridge Classics Graduate Interdisciplinary Seminars

2015–2016: Ancient Philosophy Conference, ‘Theorising Origins’, 18-19 March 2016, University of Cambridge

2014–2015: Ancient Philosophy Conference, ‘War and Strife’, 27-28 March 2015, University of Cambridge

2014: Philosophy Workshop, ‘Faith, Trust and Religious Belief’, 16 July 2014, Durham University

Professional associations

2022-present: Committee Member and Deputy Treasurer, British Society for the History of Philosophy.

2021: Fellowship of the HEA, Advance Higher Education.

2016–present: Member of the Society for Greek Philosophy, the UK, Swiss and Italian Society for Women in Philosophy, and the Institute of Classical Studies, and Società Italiana per lo Studio della Filosofia Antica.