

João Pinheiro da Silva

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[PhilPeople](#)

[ORCID](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Areas of Specialization: Metaphysics (esp. emergence, mereology, hylomorphism, neo-Aristotelianism) and Philosophy of Science (esp. unity of science, philosophy of biology)

Areas of Competence: Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (Aristotle, Aquinas), Philosophy of Religion, Mimetic Theory, Ethics, Political Philosophy

EDUCATION

PhD in Philosophy, University of St Andrews (SASP) October 2024 – Present

Thesis title (provisory): *Unity Beyond Reduction: A New Approach to the Unity of Science*

Supervisor: Aaron Cotnoir

Research student: UKRI Frontier Research Grant *Instruments of Unity: The Many Ways of Being One*

MA in Philosophy, Central European University (CEU) September 2021 – June 2023

With *Distinction*

Thesis: *A Hole Without the Whole: Hylomorphism Against Causal Closure of the Physical*

Supervisor: István Bodnár

BA in Philosophy, University of Porto, Faculty of Arts (FLUP) September 2017 – June 2020

With *Distinction*

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

1. Humane Studies Fellowship March 2025
Institute for Humane Studies (IHS)
For 2025 International Adam Smith Society Conference
Value: \$800
2. Young Scholars Initiative March 27, 2025
For pre-conference Workshop (2025 International Adam Smith Society Conference)
Covered costs of travel
3. Calihan Academic Grant January 2025
Value: \$500
4. FCT PhD Studentship October 2024 – Present
Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. (FCT)
5. Handsel Tuition Fee Scholarship September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2027
University of St Andrews, Philosophy Anthropology Film
6. Calihan Academic Grant May 2024
For *REFORC Conference 2024*

- Value: \$500
7. Don Lavoie Fellowship January – May 2024
 Mercatus Center, George Mason University
 Value: \$1,250
8. Accommodation Scholarship 2024
 Conference of the Philosophy of Science Network (FICIREN)
9. CEU Master's Scholarship September 2021 – June 2023
 Value: 10000€
10. CEU Alumni Scholarship September 2021 – June 2022
 Value: 2500€
[Profile](#)
11. Huawei Scholarship for ÖJAB dormitories 2022-2023
 Value: 3000€
[Essay](#)
12. Instituto +Liberdade Essay Contest 2021
 1st prize: 1000€
[Essay](#)

ACADEMIC PAPERS

1. with Jacob Williams, “Postliberalism: A Genealogy”, *Telos* 212 (Fall 2025): 60-90, doi: [10.3817/0925212060](https://doi.org/10.3817/0925212060)
 - o This paper was the centre of a mini-Colloquium at Pusey House (Oxford) on March 4, 2026, with comments from John Milbank and Paul Kelly.
2. “Uma Defesa da Eudaimonia Aristotélica” [A Defense of Aristotelian Eudaimonia], *Controvérsia (UNISINOS)*, vol. 21, no. 2 (2025): 108-124, doi.org/10.4013/con.2025.212.07
3. “Popperian Hayek or Hayekian Popper?”, *Economic Thought: History, Philosophy, and Methodology*, vol. 10, no.1 (2021): 46-60,
<http://et.worldeconomicsassociation.org/files/2021/07/WEA-ET-10.1-Silva.pdf>
4. “Mau Humor ou Humor Mau? Dois Problemas na Ética do Humor” [Bad Humor or Bad Taste? Two Problems in the Ethics of Humor], *Revista Ethic@*, 19, no. 3 (2020): 811-830, doi: [10.5007/1677-2954.2020v19n3p811](https://doi.org/10.5007/1677-2954.2020v19n3p811)
5. “A Teoria da Escravidão Natural de Aristóteles a Francisco de Vitoria” [The Theory of Natural Slavery from Aristotle to Francisco de Vitoria], 75, no. 3 (2019): 1785-1800; doi: [10.17990/rpf/2019_75_3_1785](https://doi.org/10.17990/rpf/2019_75_3_1785)
6. “Duas abordagens praxiológicas: Kant e Wittgenstein” [Two foundations for praxiology: Kant and Wittgenstein], *MISES: Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy Law and Economics*, no. 8 (2019), doi: [10.30800/mises.2020.v8.1219](https://doi.org/10.30800/mises.2020.v8.1219)

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. [Forthcoming] “Sin as False Incarnation in *Better Call Saul*.” In *Religion and Peak TV*, edited by George Tsakiridis. Bloomsbury, 2027.
2. [Forthcoming] “Sá de Miranda e a Filosofia” [Sá de Miranda and Philosophy], in *Dicionário de Francisco Sá de Miranda*, coordinated by Sérgio Paulo Guimarães Sousa, Edições Húmus (2026)

3. “Livres Mercado e Meio Ambiente: Uma Resposta Local para um Problema Complexo” [Free Market and the Environment: A Local Response to a Complex Problem], in *Ambientalismo: Uma Visão de Mercado*, coordinated by Pedro Jorge Almeida, Alêtheia Editores (2022)

BOOK REVIEWS

1. Review of *Theistic Evolution: A Contemporary Aristotelian-Thomistic Perspective*, by Mariusz Tabaczek (Cambridge University Press, 2024, 72 pp.), *The Heythrop Journal*, vol. 66, no.2 (2025): 201-203, [10.1111/heyj.14412](https://doi.org/10.1111/heyj.14412)
2. Review of “Hylomorphism”, by William M. R. Simpson (Cambridge University Press, 2023, 315 pp.), *Dialectica*, vol. 78, no.2 (2024): 163-68, [10.48106/dial.v78.i2.06](https://doi.org/10.48106/dial.v78.i2.06)

TUTORING

- Reasoning (PY1012, University of St Andrews: Spring 2026)

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

1. **Plato's Pedagogy of Desire: Philosophy and Vertical Transcendence** (Forthcoming) July 8–11, 2026
2026 Colloquium on Violence and Religion Annual Meeting
Chicago, Illinois U.S.A.
2. **Dwelling in Time: Poetic and Mythic Abiding in Heidegger and Eliade** (Forthcoming) May 21-23, 2026
British Society for Phenomenology 2026 Conference:
‘Heidegger 50 years on – Is There Still a God That Can Save Us?’
University of Sussex, UK
3. **A Genealogy of Postliberalism** (Forthcoming) March 4, 2026
With Jacob Williams (University of Oxford)
Pusey House, Oxford
Mini-Colloquium centred on mine and Jacob’s paper “Postliberalism: A Genealogy”.
Responses by Professor John Milbank (Emeritus, Nottingham) and Professor Paul Kelly (London School of Economics)
4. **Smith, Aristotle and the Politics of Sympathy** May 30-31, 2025
2025 Summer Graduate Conference
Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University (Online)
5. **Smith, Aristotle and the Politics of Sympathy** March 28-30, 2025
with Mateus Martins Bruno (UFMG)
International Adam Smith Society
University of Salento, Lecce, Italy
6. **Two Pictures of Nature: Hylomorphism and Causal Closure** July 10-12, 2024
9th National Meeting in Analytic Philosophy (ENFA 9)

Campolide Campus, NOVA Institute of Philosophy (IFILNOVA), Portugal

- 7. Philosophical and Cosmological Reflection in Cicero's *Somnium Scipionis*** June 27-29, 2024
V International Congress in Greek Philosophy
Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Coimbra, Portugal
- 8. Francisco de Vitoria's Rejection of Natural Slavery** May 14-16, 2024
Thirteenth Annual REFORC Conference 2024
Palermo, Italy
- 9. Paulo Tunhas e a Filosofia em Sá de Miranda** February 16, 2024
Colóquio de Homenagem a Paulo Tunhas
FLUP, University of Porto, Portugal
- 10. Hylomorphism and the Causal Closure of the Physical** January 23, 2024
Conference of the Philosophy of Science Network (FICIREN)
Santiago de Compostela, Spain ([Official Schedule](#)) ([Certificate](#))
- 11. Eudaimonia and Happiness: On Being Happy** December 7, 2023
10th TMU Student Philosophy Conference
Tarbiat Modares University Tehrān, Iran (Online)
- 12. Hylomorphism and the Causal Closure of the Physical** November 10, 2023
OFA 13 - Oficina de Filosofia Analítica
NOVA University, Lisbon, Portugal ([Official Schedule](#))
- 13. Assessing Howard Robinson's Criticism of Hylomorphism** September 6, 2023
SOPhiA 2023 - Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy 2023
Salzburg, Austria (Online) ([Official Schedule](#))
- 14. Assessing Howard Robinson's Criticism of Hylomorphism** August 12, 2023
Society for the Metaphysics of Science 2023 Conference
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada ([Official Schedule](#))
- 15. Selected commentator for Matthew Tugby's** August 13, 2023
"Functions, goals, and the problem of goal failure"
Society for the Metaphysics of Science 2023 Conference
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada ([Official Schedule](#))
- 16. Popperian Hayek or Hayekian Popper?** February 22, 2020
Austrian Student Scholars Conference
Grove City College, Pennsylvania, USA ([Official Schedule](#))

REFEREEING

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. Thiel's Diabolical Deviation from his Mentor, with Maurício G. Righi, Cracks in Postmodernity (December 2025)
2. Girard's Apocalypse, with Maurício G. Righi, Cracks in Postmodernity (November 2025)
3. Incêndios: o problema dos reacendimentos, with Rúben Leite, Observador (Portugal, September 2024)
4. Interview with Mark Lilla, Não É Imprensa (Brazil, July 2024)
5. "Camões Filósofo", Não É Imprensa (Brazil, June 2024)
6. "Introdução à tradução - Em louvor à frase longa e complicada", Revista Unamuno (Brazil, December 2023)
7. "Aristotelian Hylomorphic Dualism", Thomistica (November 2023),
8. "O Amor que Move o Sol e os Outros Astros: Filosofia, Cosmologia e Divinização em Platão e Cícero", Revista Unamuno (Brazil, November 2023)
9. "A Arte Como Forma de Atenção", Revista Unamuno (Brazil, January 2023)
10. "Intention and Representation: The Case of Thomas Aquinas", Thomistica (December 2022)
11. "Art, Relevance and Saturated Phenomena", The Symbolic World Blog (September 2022)
12. "Machado de Assis, Dostoevski e os limites da modernidade", Revista Unamuno (Brazil, June 2022)
13. "On the Future of AI", Huawei University (Austria, April 2022)
14. "What Popper Learned from Hayek", Austrian Economics Center (April 2022); reissued at Cobden Centre (May 2022)
15. "Fé e Sacrifício em "Tenet" (2020)", Revista Unamuno (Brazil, March 2022)
16. "Was Popper von Hayek gelernt hat", Hayek Institut (Austria, March 2022)
17. "Tick-Tock goes the East", with Scott B. Nelson, Austrian Economics Center (March 2022)
18. "O Ocidente não entende Putin", with Scott B. Nelson, Observador (Portugal, March 2022)
19. "Voar Sem Sair do Chão: as virtudes e os limites de "The Good Place"", Revista Unamuno (Brazil, February 2022)
20. "O Mau Humor e o Humor Mau", Opinião + Liberdade (Portugal, November 2021), reissued at Diário de Aveiro, Diário de Leiria, Diário de Coimbra and Diário de Viseu
21. "Livre mercado e meio ambiente: Uma resposta local para um problema complexo", Eco (Portugal, June 6, 2021)
22. "Nenhum dos Seus Ossos Será Quebrado", Nova Cidadania 73 (Portugal, 2021)
23. "A Bone of Him Shall Not Be Broken", VoegelinView (USA, 2020)

24. "Os Limites da Modernidade", Jornal Rascunho (Curitiba, Brazil, 2020)
25. "Portugal não é uma democracia (ou não deveria ser)", Observador (Portugal, 2019)
26. "Italo Calvino e “As Cidades Invisíveis”", Comunidade Cultura e Arte (Portugal, 2019)

TRANSLATIONS

1. "A Torre e o Esgoto" (2024), in part 1 <https://www.naoeimprensa.com/p/interludio-a-torre-e-o-esgoto-1> part 2 <https://www.naoeimprensa.com/p/interludio-a-torre-e-o-esgoto-2>; original: Lilla, M., "The Tower and the Sewer", New York Review of Books, June 2024
2. "Em louvor à frase longa e complicada" (2023), in <https://unamuno.com.br/ed-simon-david-bentley-e-joao-silva/>; original: Simon, Ed, "Baroque, Purple, and Beautiful: In Praise of the Long, Complicated Sentence" (2023), Literary Hub; and Hart, D. B., "How to Write English Prose" (2023), The Lamp Magazine.
3. Janik, A. & Toulmin, S. (2021). "Wittgenstein e o seu tempo", in <https://criticanarede.com/wittgenstein.html> (ISSN 1749-8457); original: Janik, A. & Toulmin, S., "Wittgenstein's Vienna" (1973) (pp. 13-32). New York: Touchstone.
4. Paterson, C., & Pugh, M. (2020). "Introdução ao tomismo analítico", in <https://criticanarede.com/tomismo.html> (ISSN 1749-8457); original: C. Paterson, & M. Pugh, "Analytical Thomism: Traditions in Dialogue" (2006) (pp. XIII–XXIII). London: Routledge.

INTERNSHIPS

AIER's Internship Program Spring 2024 February 5 – April 26 2024
 Great Barrington, MA (Paid Internship)
 Research Project: "The Varieties of Post-Liberalism"

Don Lavoie Fellowship January – May 2024
 Mercatus Center, George Mason University (Online) (Paid Internship)

Alumni Scholarship Program 2021-2022

Central European University (Vienna, Austria) (Paid)

[Certificate](#); [Profile](#)

Contributions to "CEU Student Space" on CEU's academic environment and life in Vienna:

["Four Reasons to Join CEU's Philosophy Department"](#); ["A Strange Book to Read in Vienna – The Death of Virgil"](#); ["Why You Should Do an Ethics Course"](#); ["Augarten - My Favorite Place for a Walk in Vienna"](#); ["Four Reasons Why I'm Loving CEU"](#)

Student Recruitment Internship 2021-2022

Central European University (Vienna, Austria)

SEMINARS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

Towards the 250th anniversary of Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations March 27, 2025

YSI pre-IASS conference workshop

University of Salento, Lecce, Italy

Thomistic Seminar: Intellectual Creatures

July 31-August 5, 2023

Witherspoon Institute

Princeton University, New Jersey, USA

Received a full tuition waiver scholarship

First Principles seminar

July 10-23, 2022

Witherspoon Institute

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA

Received a full tuition waiver scholarship

Conservatives and Reactionaries by Mark Lilla

June 25-July 1, 2023

Summer School Program

University of Austin, USA

With a full tuition waiver scholarship

Online Reading Seminar of Machado de Assis's O Alienista

August 2021

Casa de Leitura Dirce Cortes Real, Brazil

By João Cezar de Castro Rocha (UERJ/Stanford University) and Paulo Pavão (psychiatrist)

Workload ~6 hours

[Certificate](#)

Methodology in the History of Philosophy

July 5-9, 2021

University of Groningen

Workload ~ 40 hours

[Certificate](#)

Participation in the "Questions of Contemporary Philosophy" group

2017- 2019

Mind, Language and Action Group (MLAG), Institute of Philosophy at the University of Porto

[Credential](#)

QUALIFICATIONS

'Hylomorphism' Area Editor

December 2025-Present

Philpapers

Editorial Board Member

June 2023-Present

Revista Unamuno (<https://unamuno.com.br/quem-somos-nos/>)

Assistant editor

August 2022-November 2024

Voegelin View (<https://voegelinview.com>)

LANGUAGES

1. Portuguese (Native)
2. English

Duolingo English Test (2020): 135 out of 160; equivalent to 113-115 TOEFL; 8 IELTS; C1 CEFR

3. Spanish (Reading / Speaking)
4. Italian (Reading)
5. French (Reading)
6. Ancient Greek (Beginner)
7. Latin (Beginner)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- I have published some texts on philosophy, history of art, and film reviews in my [Medium](#) profile
- Having abandoned Medium, I started a [Substack](#) page.