

Waldemar Brys

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
University of Notre Dame Australia
hmbrys@ust.hk

Employment

- 2025 - present **Research Assistant Professor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**
At the Division of Humanities
- 2025 - present **Research Fellow, University of Notre Dame Australia**
In History of Chinese Philosophy at the Centre for the History of Philosophy

Education

- 2019 - 2024 **PhD in Philosophy, University of New South Wales, Australia**
Thesis title: "Epistemology Enlarged: Knowledge as Practice in Chinese and Western Philosophy"
Funding: Scientia PhD Scholarship
- 2016 - 2018 **MPhil in Chinese Philosophy, Fudan University, China**
Thesis title: "Zhu Xi's Ontology of Concrete Particulars"
Funding: Chinese Government Scholarship
- 2014 - 2017 **MA in Philosophy, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany**
Thesis title: "The Affirmative Ideal"
- 2011 - 2014 **BA in History and Philosophy, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany**
Thesis title: "The Failure of Spartan Foreign Policy"

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- 2026 "Confucian Moral Intuitions without Moral Intuitionism."
Philosophy East & West (Early View)
<https://doi.org/10.1353/pew.2025.a982215>
- 2025 "Action-based Benevolence."
European Journal of Philosophy 33 (3): 1154-1169
<https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.13058>
- "Target-Centred Virtue Ethics: Aristotelian or Confucian?"
Inquiry 68 (10): 4061-4082 (co-authored with Philippe Brunozi)
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2023.2220125>

"The Difference Between *Ren* and *Yi*: Mengzi's Anti-Guodianism at 6A4-5."
Sophia 64: 345-360
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11841-022-00926-z>

"Mengzian Knowledge Practicalism."
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 33 (6): 1430-1447
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2024.2407033>

2023 "Virtuous Actions in the Mengzi."
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 31 (1): 2-22
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2022.2101431>

"Extending Kindness: A Confucian Account."
Pacific Philosophical Quarterly 104 (3): 511-528
<https://doi.org/10.1111/papq.12429>

Book chapters (peer-reviewed)

forth. "Moral Intuitions in the *Mencius*." In *The Handbook of Intuitions: Perspectives from Global Philosophy*, edited by D. Bordonaba-Plou, A. Q. Ahmed, A. Arana, M. Gorisse, G. Heinzmann, L. Indraco, and J. Kaukua. Cham: Springer.
(accepted and in-print)

2025 "Knowing-to in Wang Yangming." In *Oxford Handbook of Chinese Philosophy*, edited by Justin Tiwald, pp. 415-431. New York: Oxford University Press.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199945498.013.0031>

2024 "Zhuangzi's "Difference Stories" and Patient Moral Relativism." In *Ethics in the Zhuangzi: Dialogues on the State of the Field*, edited by Huang Yong and Hu Xiangnong, pp. 65-76. Cham: Springer.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-69804-0_4

2023 "Epistemology in the *Mencius*." In *Dao Companion to the Philosophy of Mencius*, edited by Yang Xiao and Kim-chong Chong, pp. 491-514. Cham: Springer.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-27620-0_25

2021 "The Epistemology of Mengzian Extension." In *Knowers and Knowledge in East-West Philosophy*, edited by Karyn L. Lai, 43-62. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-79349-4_3

Book reviews

2023 "Doing What You Really Want: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Mengzi."
British Journal for the History of Philosophy 31 (1): 137-140.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2022.2121263>

Other

- forth. “孟子与后果主义: 孟子伦理思想的理论形态之争.”
Journal of Guangxi Normal University.
(co-authored with Hu Xiangnong, Huang Yong, Zang Yong, Fang Xudong, Bryan Van Norden, Li Yong, Fan Ruiping, and Bai Tongdong)
(accepted and in-print)
- 2025 “Mengzi on Knowledge and Epistemic Virtue.” In *The Blackwell Companion to Epistemology*, 3rd ed., edited by Ernest Sosa, Jonathan Dancy, Matthias Steup, and Kurt Sylvan, pp. 477-479. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/9781119757832.ch70>

Currently under Review

Knowledge-to in Classical Confucianism, Cambridge University Press.
(R&R)

Scholarships and Awards

- 2023 UNSW HDR Research Output Award 2023
\$650 award for having published research in a Q1 journal
- 2022 UNSW HDR Research Output Award 2022
\$650 award for having published research in a Q1 journal
- 2021 UNSW HDR Research Output Award 2021
\$500 award for having published research as a book chapter
- 2019 UNSW Scientia PhD Scholarship
Prestigious and competitive scholarship that provides selected candidates with full doctoral funding, additional Career Development Funds, and a high level of support by inculcating them with skills in research excellence and academic leadership
- Travel Grant of the Freie Universität Berlin
Awarded for conference travel
- 2016 Chinese Government Scholarship
Full Mphil funding (2016-2018)

Conference Presentations

- 2025 Mengzi and Consequentialism Workshop, Fudan University, China

- 2025 University of Sydney Philosophy Seminar Series, University of Sydney, Australia
"Early Confucianism and Knowledge-to"
- 2024 Wuhan-UNSW Postgraduate Workshop, UNSW, Australia
"Mengzian Knowledge Practicalism"
- 2023 Annual Conference of the British Society for the History of Philosophy, University of Aberdeen, UK
"Mengzian Knowledge Practicalism"
- Dialogues on the States of the Field: Ethics in the Zhuangzi, Chinese University of Hong Kong, China
"Zhuangzi is not a Moralist"
- 2022 22. International Conference of the ISCP, East China Normal University, China
"The Practicality of Mengzian Intellectual Virtue"
- Annual Conference of the British Society for the History of Philosophy, University of Edinburgh, UK
"Translating Epistemic Terms in Zhu Xi"
- 2022 APA Eastern Division Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
"Benevolent Agency in the *Mengzi* and the Problem of 2A5"
- 2021 International Society of East Asian Philosophy Conference, Meiji University, Japan.
"Virtuous Actions in the Mengzi"
- 2020 HAL Postgraduate Conference, UNSW, Australia
"Dealing with Ancient Texts: Historical vs Rational Reconstruction"
- 2019 International Conference on Justice and Progress, Fudan University, China
"Is Confucianism Globally Viable? Mengzi and Gaozi on Impartiality and Differentiated Care"
- 2018 12. International Conference on Daoist Studies, Beijing Normal University, China
"Zhuangzi is not a Skeptic"
- 2017 3. International Symposium of the Yearbook for Eastern and Western Philosophy, Southwest Minzu University, Chengdu, China
"Mengzi and Innate Moral Dispositions"
- 2016 3. Forum Junger Nietzscheforschung, Kolleg Friedrich Nietzsche, Weimar, Germany
"Lebensbejahung als Gegenideal"
- 2015 21. International Conference of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society, University of Hull, UK
"Eternal Recurrence as a Nietzschean Ideal"
- Zagreb Applied Ethics Conference 2015, Zagreb, Croatia
"Global Ethics: In Search of Alternatives"

52. Ethics Conference of the Societas Ethica, University of Linköping, Sweden
“Virtue Ethics as a Global Ethics”

KCL Graduate Philosophy Workshop, King's College London, UK
“The Eternal Recurrence and Life Affirmation”

Courses Taught

2026 Spring Introduction to Moral Philosophy, HKUST

Misc. Teaching

2025 Guest Lecture on Confucian Ethics, University of Sydney

2021 Teaching Assistant (Casual Academic) for Chinese Philosophy (ARTS2363), UNSW
Role: Primary responsibilities related to assessment

2019 Teaching Assistant (Casual Academic) for Chinese Philosophy (ARTS2363), UNSW
Role: Primary responsibilities related to assessment

2017 Teaching Support for a class on Mengzi, Fudan University, China
Role: Designed the syllabus for a postgraduate course on Mengzi, taught by Prof. Xu Bo

2015 Organiser for a course on Schopenhauer's *The World as Will and Representation*,
Department of Philosophy, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Role: Designed and organised a 14-week for-credit undergraduate elective course under the supervision of Prof. Franz Knappik

Organiser for a course on Aristotle's *Metaphysics*, Department of Philosophy, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Role: Designed and organised a 14-week for-credit undergraduate elective course under the supervision of Prof. Jonathan Beere

2014 Organiser for a course on Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*, Department of Philosophy,
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Role: Designed and organised a 14-week for-credit undergraduate elective course under the supervision of Prof. Tobias Rosefeldt

Peer-review

2026 Referee for: *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*
Humanities & Social Sciences Communications
NCN, National Science Centre, Poland (Grant review)

- 2025 Referee for: *Dao*
The Journal of Value Inquiry
Philosophy Compass
Philosophy East & West x2
British Journal for the History of Philosophy
Philosophy x2
Asian Journal of Philosophy
Comparative Political Theory
Metaphysics
- 2024 Referee for: *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* x2
Australasian Journal of Philosophy
HTS Theological Studies
Dao
Acta Analytica
Journal of Confucian Philosophy and Culture
- 2023 Referee for: *Dao*
British Journal for the History of Philosophy
Humanities & Social Sciences Communications
Australasian Journal of Philosophy
- 2022 Referee for: *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*
Philosophers' imprint
- 2020 Referee for: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
Sophia

Misc. Academic Employment

- 2025 Research Assistant (Casual Academic) to Prof. Markos Valaris, UNSW
 Task: Writing the index for Prof. Valaris's book manuscript
- 2024 Event Assistant (Casual Academic) under Prof. Markos Valaris, UNSW
 Task: Assist in organizing the conference 'Knowledge and Action'
- 2021 Research Officer (Casual Academic) to Prof. David Bronstein, UNSW
 Task: Work through medieval Aristotle commentaries written in Latin
- 2020 Research Assistant (Casual Academic) to Prof. David Bronstein, UNSW
 Task: Work through secondary literature in German on Aristotle's Posterior Analytics

Languages

Modern: German and Polish (native)

English (8.5 IELTS)

Mandarin Chinese (intermediate)

Ancient: Ancient Greek (Awarded "Graecum" for passing the German state exams in 2016)

Latin (Awarded "Latinum" for passing the German state exams in 2013)

Classical Chinese

Referees

Prof. Karyn Lai

University of New South Wales
Department of Humanities and Languages
326 Morven Brown
k.lai@unsw.edu.au

Prof. Stephen Hetherington

University of New South Wales
Department of Humanities and Languages
337 Morven Brown
s.hetherington@unsw.edu.au

Prof. Huang Yong

Fudan University
School of Philosophy
220 Handan Road
Yangpu District, 200433 Shanghai, China
yonghuang@fudan.edu.cn