

STEVEN J. FIRTH

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION	Doctoral Cand.: Philosophy; University of Helsinki. THESIS: <i>Whither a Better Place: Philosophical Reflections on Disability and Inclusion.</i> SUPERVISORS: Drs. Tuija Takala & Johanna Ahola-Launonen EXPECTED DEFENCE: August 2024	2016 —
	MA: Philosophy; University of Lethbridge. DISSERTATION: <i>The Picture Theory of Disability.</i> SUPERVISOR: Dr. Michael Stingl EXTERNAL: David Wasserman, Esq.	2016
	BA (Hons.): Philosophy; University of Lethbridge. THESIS: <i>Agents and Responsibility under the Many Worlds Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics.</i> SUPERVISOR: Dr. Bryson Brown	2014
	NVQ (Level 6): Diesel Engineering & Mechanical Construction; Engineering and Marine Training Authority; Mirrlees Blackstone Centre.	1999
	BTEC Professional Award (Level 4): Electric & Electronic Principles; Harper Hill College (Derby University).	1993

AoS Applied Ethics; Social & Political Philosophy; Philosophy of Disability

AOC Ethics & Bioethics; Philosophy of Sex & Sexuality; Philosophy of Space

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	University of Calgary (Calgary, Alberta): Sessional Instructor in Philosophy	2023 summer
	Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (Calgary, Alberta): Sessional Instructor in Philosophy.	2020 winter

REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (N=10)	Firth, S.J. & I Neiders. "Sexual Citizenship: Defending Society's Most Disadvantaged". <i>Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics</i> - DOI:10.1007/s11017-023-09654-y .*	2023
	Firth, S.J. "An Essay on The Hobbesian Trap and Axioms of First Contact". <i>Space Policy</i> - DOI:10.1016/j.spacepol.2023.101581 .†§	2023
	Firth, S.J. & I Neiders. "The Place of Sexuality in the Modern World: Misplaced Grand Theorising will Sideline Disabled People's Sexual Rights". <i>Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics</i> - DOI:10.1007/s11017-023-09638-y .*	2023
	Firth, S.J. "The Picture Theory of Disability". <i>The Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics</i> - DOI:10.1017/S0963180123000154 .†	2023
	Firth, S.J. & I Neiders. "Anent The Theoretical Justification of a Sex Doula Program". <i>Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics</i> - DOI:10.1007/s11017-023-09612-8 .*	2023
	Firth, S.J. "Whither a Welfare Funded Sex Doula Program". <i>The Journal of Medical Ethics</i> — DOI:10.1136/medethics-2018-105330 .*	2019
	Firth, S.J. "The Quality Adjusted Life Year — A Total Utility Perspective". <i>The Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics</i> - DOI:10.1017/S0963180117000615 .*	2018
	Esau, P., Viejou, C., Chow, S., Dohms, K., Firth, S.J. , Morrison, D., et al. "Let's Start a Journal!': The Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Journal as Educational Opportunity". <i>The Journal of Electronic Publishing</i> - DOI:10.3998/3336451.0021.109 .*†‡	2018
	O'Donnell, D., Viejou, C., Chow, S., Dohms, K., Esau, P., Firth, S.J. , et al. "Zombie Journals: Designing a Technological Infrastructure for a Precarious Graduate Student Journal". <i>Scholarly and Research Communication</i> - DOI:10.22230/src.2018v9n2a296 .*†‡	2018
Firth, S.J. "Research Ethics Insurrection: Challenges to REB Criteria from the Social Sciences". <i>The Meeting of the Minds Journal</i> - DOI:10.5281/ZENODO.437193 .*†‡	2017	
JOURNAL BLOG PUBLICATIONS (N=2)	Firth, S.J. & I Neiders. " Baselining Sexual Rights as Health Care Rights ". <i>The Journal of Medical Ethics Blog</i> .†§	2020
	Firth, S.J. & I Neiders. " A Sexual Rights Puzzle, Un-Puzzled! ". <i>The Journal of Medical Ethics Blog</i> .†§	2020
INVITED CHAPTERS (N=2)	Firth, S.J. & I Neiders. "The sex doula programme". Forthcoming in <i>The Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Disability</i> .	2024
	Firth, S.J. "The Picture Theory of Disability". Forthcoming in <i>The Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Disability</i> .	2024

* Print publication † Online publication ‡ Open access

§ Preprints: *Social Science Research Network* - [DOI:10.2139/ssrn.4495268](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4495268); [DOI:10.2139/ssrn.4358759](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4358759).

BOOK REVIEWS (N=2)	Firth, S.J. “The Bioethics of Space Exploration by Konrad Szocik — A Review. Forthcoming in <i>Teaching Philosophy</i> .	2024
	Firth, S.J. “Disability, Avoidance and the Academy: Challenging Resistance, Disability, Avoidance and the Academy, edited by David Bolt and Claire Penketh — A Review”. <i>The Journal of Moral Philosophy</i> - DOI:10.1163/17455243-01601002 .*	2019
INVITED WORKS IN PROGRESS	“The Imposition of Häyry and Sukenick’s ‘Imposition Argument’ for Antinatalism”. For <i>The Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics</i> .	
	“Antinatalism, Extinction, and the End of Procreative Self-Corruption by Matti Häyry and Amanda Sudenick — A Review”. For <i>Teaching Philosophy</i> .	
WORKS IN PROGRESS	“Virtual Companions and the Curious Case of Sexual Lethargy”. Book chapter for <i>Humans Meet AI: Anticipating Anthrobotic Systems</i> . (In review)	
	A paper investigating a Humean approach to disability studies. (In review)	
	A paper on antinatalism as a sufficient solution to the Fermi-paradox.	
	A paper advancing extra-terrestrial beings as moral patients.	
	An X-Phi Paper on our obligations to extra-terrestrial entities.	
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS; Reviewed Presentations (N=13)	“An Essay on The Hobbesian Trap and Axioms of First Contact” <i>Space, Philosophy, and Ethics Conference</i> . (Edmonton, Canada).	2023
	“The Primacy of Phenomenological Perspectives in Medicine”. <i>European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare (ESPMH)</i> (Riga, Latvia).	2023
	“Augmenting and Accommodating Accessibility: Policy Generation through the Picture Theory of Disability at Post-Secondary Institutions”. With Nicole Andres. <i>ESPMH</i> (Riga, Latvia).	2023
	“The Suffering of the Many Outweighs the Suffering of the Few or the One”. <i>ESPMH</i> (Warsaw, Poland).	2022
	“And on a Positive Note, Welfare Funded Sex Doulas?”. <i>World Congress of Bioethics</i> (Pennsylvania, USA).	2020
	“Virtual Companions and the Curious Case of Sexual Lethargy”. <i>ESPMH</i> (Oslo, Norway).	2019
	“Disability and Sex; Let’s Talk About Sex... Doulas”. <i>ESPMH</i> (Lisbon, Portugal).	2018
	“Novel Therapeutics: Advanced Prosthetics — an Ethical Dilemma”. <i>ESPMH</i> (Belgrade, Serbia).	2017
	“The Picture Theory of Disability”. <i>Minorities and Philosophy</i> (Leeds, UK).	2017
	“Applying the Picture Theory of Disability”. <i>The Nordic Network of Disability Research</i> (Örebro, Sweden).	2017

	"A Revisionary Theoretical Approach to Disability: The Picture Theory of Disability". <i>ESPMH</i> (Zagreb, Croatia).	2016
	"The Picture Theory of Disability". <i>Meeting of the Minds Conference</i> (Lethbridge, Canada).	2016
	"On Hume and The Models of Disability". <i>Ryerson University</i> (Toronto, Canada).	2014
Non-Reviewed Presentations (N=1)	"From Zero to Hero: Logic 101 — How to Argue Effectively" (Three sessions). <i>Alberta Student Leader Conference</i> (Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada).	2019
INVITED PRESENTATIONS (N=9)	"An Essay on the Hobbesian Trap and Axioms of First Contact". <i>Philosophy Department Colloquium Series</i> . University of Lethbridge (Canada).	2024
	"Axioms of First Contact and the Moral Status of Extra Terrestrial Life". <i>The American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Astro Affinity Group</i> (Zoom Seminar).	2024
	"The Moral Status of Extra Terrestrial Life". <i>The University of Alberta's Institute for Space Science Exploration and Technology Space Exploration Symposium</i> . (Edmonton, Canada).	2023
	"Virtual Companions & the Curious Case of Sexual Lethargy". <i>Philosophy Department Colloquium Series</i> . University of Lethbridge (Canada).	2023
	"A Humean Approach to Disability". <i>Moral & Political Research Seminar</i> . University of Helsinki (Finland).	2018
	"The Picture Theory of Disability & the Prescription of Prosthetics". <i>Moral & Political Research Seminar</i> . University of Helsinki (Finland).	2018
	"The Picture Theory of Disability and the Prescription of Prosthetics". University of Turku (Finland).	2018
	"The Picture Theory of Disability and Sexual Citizenship". University of Tartu (Estonia).	2018
	"Applying the Picture Theory of Disability". <i>Philosophy Department Colloquium Series</i> . University of Lethbridge (Canada).	2017
GUEST LECTURING (N=5)	University of Lethbridge (Canada): Philosophy; Advanced Ethics.	2021
	University of Helsinki, (Finland); Social Justice & Diversities in Education.	2018
	Riga Stradiņš University (Latvia): Medical Sociology.	2018
	University of Lethbridge (Canada): Kinesiology; Disability & Phys. Activity.	2018
	Riga Stradiņš University (Latvia): Bioethics.	2018

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**

University of Calgary

2023 Summer

Contemporary Moral Problems (3 credits)

2nd Year; 48 hours; 3-hour sessions; 27 students; face to face (F2F)

A thematic introduction to ethics. Topics including sex & disability, AI, virtual companion technologies, antinatalism, and genetic modification.

Role: Course Director & Lecturer. Design and prepare a complete course including all evaluative components and taught content; grade assessments; no TA.

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

2020 Spring

Philosophy through Star Trek (3 credits)

3rd Year; 45 hours; 1 hour sessions; 18 students; blended

A thematic introduction to philosophy using Star Trek (plus relevant philosophical material). Investigates core philosophical topics such as disability, war and terrorism, and game theory.

Role: Course Director & Lecturer. Design and prepare a complete course including all evaluative components and taught content; grade assessments; no TA.

Research Methodologies (3 credits)

4th Year; 45 hours; 90 minute sessions; 48 students; blended

A focus course on research tool development aimed at improving writing and referencing skills. The course also overviews peer-review publication.

Role: As Above

Critical Thinking (3 credits)

2nd Year; 45 hours; 1 hour sessions; 32 students; blended

A foundation course on the study of formal and informal fallacies, the relations of logic and language, and deductive and inductive inferences.

Role: As Above

University of Lethbridge

2014 — 2016

Ancient Philosophy (3 credits)

2nd Year; 45 hours; 90 minute sessions; 22 students; F2F

A foundation course on ancient philosophical thinking including the Presocratics.

Role: Lecturer & Teaching Assistant. Design and present course modules; build course on LMS; develop and grade assessments.

Social and Political Philosophy (3 credits)

3rd Year; 45 hours; 90 minute sessions; 25 students; F2F

An examination of the concepts that lie at the core of our social commitments and the political institutions that support them.

Role: As above.

Intro to Philosophy (3 credits; 4 sections)

1st Year; 45 hours; 1 hour sessions; 25-45 students; F2F

A foundation course covering the main themes in philosophy such as epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, argumentation, theology, law etc.

Role: As above.

Advanced Ethics (3 credits)

3rd Year; 45 hours; 3 hour sessions; 21 students; F2F

A topics course focussing on current accounts of moral reasoning as well as deeper questions over the nature of moral values.

Role: As above.

Biomedical Ethics (3 credits)

3rd Year; 45 hours; 1 hour sessions; 18 students; F2F

A survey course of contemporary moral issues in health, medicine, science, and social policy including topics such as abortion, genetic engineering, and informed consent.

Role: As above.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY	“Di Nucci’s Sexual Rights Puzzle, Un-Puzzled” Lethbridge Philosophy Club (Canada).	2023
	“ On the Posthumous Bodily Integrity of ETI ‘Biologics’ ”. The Tim Ventura Interviews (YouTube).	2023
	“ Axioms of First Contact with Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence ”. The Tim Ventura Interviews.	2023
	“ The Hobbesian Trap and First Contact with Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence ”. The Tim Ventura Interviews.	2023
	“The Picture Theory of Disability.” Lethbridge Philosophy Club.	2017
	“Time Travel Under The Many Worlds Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics”. Lethbridge Philosophy Club.	2016

GRANTS & AWARDS	The Faculty Association of the University of Calgary’s Travel Fund Grant (CAD5,000)	2024
	Doctoral School in Humanities and Social Sciences Dissemination Grant (€1300)	2023
	Doctoral School in Humanities and Social Sciences Dissemination Grant (€1000)	2019
	The Nova Scotia Graduate Student Scholarship (Four years; CAD60,000)	<i>Declined</i> 2016
	The Three Minute Thesis (Finalist)	2016
	The Lethbridge University Dissemination Award (CAD1000)	2015
	Graduate Presentation Award (CAD500) for “On Hume and the Models of Disability”.	2015
	The Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship (Two years; CAD15,000)	2014
	Jason Lang Scholarship (Three separate awards CAD3000).	2011/12/13

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SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION	Journal Referee: <i>The American Journal of Bioethics</i> (x1)	2023 —
	<i>Journal of Medical Ethics</i> (x3);	2020 —
	<i>Springer; Floor Oosting</i> (x1);	2024 —
	Editorial Board Member: <i>Meeting of the Minds Graduate Journal</i>	2018 — 2022
	Creator: <i>Official University of Lethbridge Tartan</i>	2017
	Campus Radio Host: University of Lethbridge CKXU 88.3FM; Steve's Saturday Show	2016 — 2022
	Graduate Tutoring	2016 —
	President; Vice President: University of Lethbridge Philosophy Club	2012; 2011
	President (and Founder): University of Lethbridge Latin Club;	2009 — 2015
	Member: The Theology Reading Club	2009 — 2015
CONFERENCE	Chair: ESPMH Conference (Riga, Latvia)	2023
	Chair: ESPMH Conference (Oslo, Norway)	2019
	Chair: SAP Conference (Edinburgh, Scotland)	2015
	Chair and Commenter: WCPA Conference (Lethbridge, Canada)	2011
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS	Member: American Society for Bioethics + Humanities	2023 —
	Member: International Association of Bioethics	2020 —
	Member: The Nordic-Baltic Network for Philosophy of Medicine	2018 —
	Member: The European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare	2016 —
	Member: The Nordic Network on Disability Research	2017 — 2021
	Member: Society for Applied Philosophy	2015 — 2022

REFERENCES
Supervisor

Dr. Tuija Takala
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Philosophy
University of Helsinki, Finland
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Dr. Johanna Ahola-Launonen
Postdoctoral Researcher
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Academic

Dr. Matti Häyry
Philosophy of Management
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Dr. Ivars Neiders
Department Member
Institute of Clinical & Preventive Medicine
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Teaching

Dr. Nicole Wyatt
Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy
University of Calgary
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Dr. Marion Synnott
Chair, Communication & Liberal Arts Studies
CORE Education, Learner & Academic Services
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology
Calgary, AB, Canada
Phone: +1(403) 284-8003
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