

Curriculum vitae
CHEUNG Wai Lok (Ray)
張煒樂

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I work on the epistemology of identity with my Master thesis, and am now working on epistemic reasonableness. I differentiate reasonableness from rationality with my safety theory, which measures with the likelihood of an act having been performed with perfect safety. I also work on Daoism, having developed a realist Daoism, and theology, with my contribution of a theology of humanity.

Born: Hong Kong
E-mail: hongkonggray@gmail.com

Occupation

2012-22	Teaching Assistant, Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
2017-18	Part-time Lecturer, Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
2012, 2017	Demonstrator, Philosophy Department, The University of Hong Kong
2011	Translator, Macau Ricci Institute, Macau, China
2006	Research Assistant, Institute of Clinical Neuropsychology, The University of Hong Kong and MacLehose Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Hong Kong, China
2005	Summer Intern, Federation of European Data and Marketing, Brussels, Belgium
2004-2005	Intern, Psychological Services Group, Hong Kong Police Force, Hong Kong, China
2004	Summer Intern, China Central Television, Beijing, China

Education

2020-2021	Youth Leader Pre-Theology Programme, Alliance Bible Seminary
2012-2017	M.Phil., Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Thesis: Referential presuppositions, epistemic possibilities, and epistemic content A study of Robert Stalnaker's theory of the necessary <i>a posteriori</i> in light of an exegesis of Saul Kripke's <i>Naming and Necessity</i>
2010-2012	M.A., Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Thesis: Conceivability, the <i>a priori</i> , and primary possibilities A study of David Chalmers' theory of conceivability and its implication for the <i>a priori</i>
2003-2004	Worldwide Student Exchange, Philosophy Department, Tufts University

2002-2006 B.Soc.Sc. (1st hon.), Social Sciences Faculty, The University of Hong Kong

Thesis: Emotions, pleasantness of music, and risk taking behaviours

A behavioural experimentation on the effect of mood induced by music interacting with its preference on decision-making and learning

Publication

2026. Epistemic possibility: Kripke versus Soames. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*. 104(2):445-460.
2026. Epistemic context: a justifiability theory of relevance. *Logos and Episteme*. 17(2):145-157.
2026. Epistemic sense: interpreting Frege with Kripkean metaphysics. *Teorema. International Journal of Philosophy*. 45(2).
2025. Epistemic competence: empowerment through luck minimization. *Logos & Episteme*. 16(4):407-423.
2025. Holiness: contrasting a secular absence with its religious opposite. *Biblical Studies Journal*. 7(3):27-35.
2025. Fictionally fictional object: the alleged objecthood of nothingness. *Asian Studies*. 13(3):153-162.
2025. Epistemic safety: risk and its negativity in the good case. *Logos & Episteme*. 16(2):139-156.
2025. A situational hermeneutic: the priority of reference over meaning. *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*. 48(2 supp):61-72.
2025. A respect restoration theory of reconciliation with the June Fourth Incident as a case study. *Biblical Studies Journal*. 7(1):23-36.
2024. A realist Daoism: reading *Zhuangzi* with Laozi's Daoist realism. *Comparative Philosophy*. 15(2):43-65.
2024. Epistemic responsibility: an agent's sensitivity towards the world. *Logos & Episteme*. 15(4):389-403.
2024. A theology of humanity through identity politics: reading the Book of Esther. *Biblical Studies Journal*. 6(4):25-38.

Presentation

- 2023.3.3 A situational theologian: duty of a Christian intellectual discharged through pastoral practice
Ministerial Formation
On This Rock I Will Build My Church: Ecclesiology in Africa
African Society for Evangelical Theology
Limuru, Kenya
- 2022.12.17 Queer theology: reading St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans with St. Mark's Jesus as an exercise in situational hermeneutic
Sin and Forgiveness Symposium
Institute of Sino-Christian Studies
Hong Kong, China
- 2022.11.29 The subjectivity of others: an understanding of a Husserlian transcendental idealism with a realism of affectivity
2022 Annual Conference
Australasian Society of Continental Philosophy
Melbourne, Australia
- 2022.11.26 *Der Übermensch*: an authenticity conception of his will to power through self-respect
Zoom Conference
The British Personalist Forum
Loughborough, United Kingdom
- 2022.10.27 A philosopher's eagerness: an experience sharing of public engagement
Roundtable Presentations: Political Philosophy and Contemporary Themes II
The 3rd Unifesp Philosophy Graduate Conference: What is Philosophy? Minority Perspectives on Philosophical Production
Department of Philosophy, Federal University of São Paulo
Guarulhos, Brazil
- 2022.10.18 Illusory possibility: the way back to reality through clearly impossible object
Modal Metaphysics: Tilburg Issues on the (Im)possible
Tilburg University
Tilburg, The Netherlands
- 2022.9.25 Son of Man and Kingdom of Heaven: a humanism reading of Paul's Epistles to the Thessalonians

- The eternity of this life Sunday school
Hong Kong Baptist Church
Hong Kong, China
- 2022.7.22 Chance and choice: a neurobiology of freewill through epistemic superposition
CogSci 2022 Hong Kong Meetup & Symposium: Computational Approaches to Psychological Research
Department of Computer Science, City University of Hong Kong
Department of Psychology, The University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2022.7.15 Dissolution of the halting problem: a recognition conception of decision procedure
Computability in Europe: Revolutions and Revelations in Computability
School of Mathematics and Computer Science, Swansea University
Swansea, United Kingdom
- 2022.6.30 A success conception of justification: externalist rationality through Gettier case
2022 Annual Conference
Australasian Association of Philosophy <http://aap.org.au/>
- 2022.6.23 The Liar: paraconsistency with logical classicality through fictitiousness
2022 Annual Conference
Australasian Association for Logic <http://sites.google.com/view/aalogic/>
- 2022.6.7 Religious exclusivism: the one real hinge versus the many fictitious ones
3rd Hinge Epistemology Conference: Hinge Epistemology and Religious Belief
Nova Institute of Philosophy, Nova University of Lisbon
Portugal, Lisbon
- 2022.6.4 A Kripkean understanding of contextual definition: a Russellian description theory of proper name through epistemic situationality
49th Annual Meeting: Remembering Russell 150 Years after His Birth
The Bertrand Russell Society
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

- 2022.5.28 A logic of logic: computation and modal logic through possibility quantification
 Logic and Philosophy: Historical and Contemporary Issues
 Institute of Philosophy, Vilnius University
 Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2022.4.16 Deontic contextualism: utilitarianism without over-population
 Ethics and Applied Philosophy Graduate Conference
 The Philosophical Union, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
 Charlotte, North Carolina, United States of America
- 2022.3.7 A situational theologian: duty of a Christian intellectual discharged through pastoral practice
 The International Conference on Practical Theology
 Imam Sadiq University
 Tehran, Iran
- 2022.2.24 A humanistic agnosticism: psychology of significance projection and the reality of sacredness
 Religious Experience and Metaphysics
 Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience Session
 Central Division, American Philosophy Association
 Chicago, Illinois, United States of America
- 2021.12.11 Liberal perfectionism: a dignity maximization through the illiberality of addiction
 Contemporary Challenges and Values
 Culture and Values
 Institute of Philosophy, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University.
 Lublin, Poland
- 2021.12.11 Confucius' wisdom: a liberal reading of the Analects and its conservative implications
 Philosophies around East Asian Seas
 International Society of East Asian Philosophy and Meiji Institute of Philosophies, Meiji University
<http://iseap.jp/>
- 2021.11.12 A pretence understanding of the post-truth through an identity politic
 STATE (IN)STABILITY 2021: State (in)stability in the age of post-truth
 Faculty of International Relations and Diplomacy, Libertas

- International University
Zagreb, Croatia
- 2021.11.6 Citizenship: civility through self-liability
Moral Education for Social Justice
47th Annual Conference
Association for Moral Education
<http://www.amenetwork.org/>
- 2021.11.6 Abortion: the fictitious face of the zygote and the insignificance of our feeling
Inaugural conference
Society of Christian Bioethics
<http://www.scbethics.com/>
- 2021.10.28 Infinity: reference without complete description
The Complementarity Between Metaphysics and Mystical Life
8th World Conference on Metaphysics
The Idente Foundation for Studies and Research
Rome, Italy
- 2021.10.27 God's choice: His decisions within and without our world
Creation and Evolution. Metaphysics, Science, Ecology, and Religion
8th World Conference on Metaphysics
The Idente Foundation for Studies and Research
Rome, Italy
- 2021.9.24 Heideggerian worldliness: an analytic theory of continental anti-Cartesianism
Incomprehensibility, Irreality, and Worldliness
2021 Annual Conference: Celebrating 40 Years of Doing Phenomenology in the Human Sciences around the World
Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences <http://www.sphs.info/>
- 2021.9.21 Climate justice: peace through the punitively augmented Paris Agreement
Partnerships and the Sustainable Development Goals
9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network

<http://ic-sd.org/>

- 2021.9.21 Green finance: an offer you can't refuse
- Sustainable Finance for the Implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement
- 9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
- Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- <http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.21 Ethics and politics of grass-fed cows
- Water-Energy-Food Nexus Research Impact and Stakeholder Engagement
- 9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
- Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- <http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.20 A system conception of growth and development
- Systems Approaches for Sustainability
- 9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
- Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- <http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.5 On a pursuit of power for its own sake
- Congress of the Swiss Philosophical Society: Knowledge – Power – Action
- Swiss Philosophical Society
- Lugano, Switzerland
- 2021.9.4 A choice theory of metaphysical possibility
- 6th Annual Conference of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science
- Society for the Metaphysics of Science
- Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2021.9.2 Naturalism: ontological necessitarianism through an actualism
- Comment on Margarida Hermida's *Cats are not necessarily animals*
- 6th Annual Conference of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science
- Society for the Metaphysics of Science

- Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2021.8.26 Unsupervised learning: computation and connectionism through modal logic with grammar as a case study
 Brain and Language 2021
 Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Jyväskylä
 Jyväskylä, Finland
- 2021.8.19 An economic of dignity: a meritocracy through competence
 2021 Congress: Idea to Reality
 Basic Income Earth Network
 Glasgow, Scotland
- 2021.8.10 The Second Flood: a Messianic reading of the Book of Revelation
 New Testament Session
 Summer Conference for Early Career Researchers endorsed by the Society of Biblical Literature
 The Second Temple Early Career Academy
 Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2021.7.30 A teacher's liability: his participation in curriculum design and his discretionary power
 Student Corner
 Teaching and Learning Innovation Expo 2021
 Centre for Learning Enhancement And Research, Centre for eLearning Innovation and Technology, and Information Technology Services Centre, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.7.26 A decision-theoretic connectionism: increased sensitivity towards punishment through reinforcement learning with better mood
 Hong Kong Meetup and Symposium
 43rd Annual Meeting: Comparative Cognition – Animal Minds
 The Cognitive Science Society and The University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.7.17 Epistemic content: Stalnaker versus Kripke
 The Open Session
 The 95th Joint Session
 The Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association
 United Kingdom
- 2021.7.15 An ideology critique of ideology critique: indulgence in scratching a

- phantom itch
- Final Participants Conference
- Critical Theory Workshop
- Interdisciplinary Institute of Anthropology of the Contemporary,
School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences
- Paris, France
- 2021.6.27 A conditional probability theory of probability of conditional
- The Rump Session
- The 18th Conference on Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and
Knowledge
- Tsinghua University
- Beijing, China
- 2021.6.23 Formalising conceptual analysis
- Formal Philosophy 2021
- International Laboratory for Logic, Linguistics and Formal Philosophy
- National Research University Higher School of Economics
- Moscow, Russia
- 2021.6.10 An epistemic theory of information
- The Gong-Show
- XXIV International Summer School in Philosophy of Physics: Black
Holes and the Information Loss Paradox
- University of Urbino
- Urbino, Italy
- 2021.6.2 Irreversibility of climate change with some degree of global warming
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
- 2020 Global University Climate Forum [http://campuspress.yale.edu/
climateforum/](http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/)
- 2021.5.28 Self-efficacy and psychiatric outpatient
- Mental Health Issues
- 7th Pan-Pacific Nursing Conference – From Evidence to Impact: Co-
designing Care for Future
- Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong, China
- 2021.5.28 An equality of opportunity conception of equity
- Student Seminar on Health Equity

Inaugural Symposium on Health Equity in Hong Kong and Beyond
Institute of Health Equity, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

- 2021.5.27 Moral judgment in the mental health profession
Culture and Bioethics
Asia Pacific Bioethics Education Network 2021: Rethinking bioethics education after 2020
Deakin University
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2021.5.19 An epistemic theory of Fregean sense
12th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science: Linguistic and Cognitive Foundations of Meaning
The Central European Cognitive Science Association <http://www.cecog.eu/>
- 2021.5.17 The politics, ethics, and morality of deep ecology
Socially equitable green recovery
Climate Exp0: a fusion of science and policy – advancing a resilient, zero-carbon world
COP26 Universities Network and Italian University Network for Sustainable Development
<http://www.climateexp0.org/>
- 2021.4.22 Masculinity: individuality and Asian communitarianism
Understanding Masculinities and Social Change undergraduate course
Gender Studies Programme, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.4.20 Music, the structure of emotion expression, and the sharing of humanity
Music, Interiority and Affect
1st Annual Midlands Music Research Network Conference: Music and Adversity
Midlands Music Research Network <http://www.midlandsmusicresearchnetwork.com/>
- 2021.4.19 Transphobia: hatred out of self-disrespect
LGBTQI+ Studies Identities and Social Change undergraduate course
Gender Studies Programme, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

- 2021.3.24 Phenomenality: indication without representation
 Perspectives on Intentionality and Consciousness conference
 The University of Waikato
 Hamilton, New Zealand
- 2021.3.22 Logicality, reasonableness, and fictitiousness
 Work-in-progress session
 Virtual International Consortium for Truth Research <http://oohlah.wixsite.com/mysite/>
- 2021.3.14 Food production as a case of the malfunctioning of the free market
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
 2020 Global University Climate Forum <http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>
- 2021.3.13 An epistemic contextualism: competence with sensitivity
 Super Saturday Seminar
 Hyderabad theory of knowledge group
 Hyderabad, India
- 2021.3.7 By faith alone: 1-6 of Martin Luther's *Von den guten werckenn*
 Tracing God's footprints: a Church history exploration Sunday school
 Hong Kong Baptist Church
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.3.3 A Daoist pluralism: realism with relativity
 Ethics in the *Zhuangzi* graduate seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.2.27 The ugliness of evil: anthropology through social activism
 Public Philosophy and Activism
 Minorities and Philosophy Group Session
 Central Division, American Philosophy Association
 New Orleans, Louisiana, United States of America
- 2021.2.15 Incentivising fossil fuel companies to transition into renewable energy with green finance
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
 2020 Global University Climate Forum
 <http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>

- 2021.1.29 Sustainability and dignity
The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
2020 Global University Climate Forum
<http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>
- 2021.1.26 Women pornography: understanding gender through fieldwork
Critical Introduction to Pornography undergraduate course
Department of Cultural and Religious Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.1.23 A measure of dignity
For a New Global Social Contract
The Future of Global Cooperation: Ethics and Governance
Global Negotiation Conference
<http://www.global-negotiation.org/>
- 2021.1.16 A spirituality theory of personal development
Monthly meeting
Christian Association for the Psychology of Religion Limited
Hong Kong, China
- 2020.12.14 A knowledge-first virtue epistemology
Epistemology meeting with Ernest Sosa
Hyderabad theory of knowledge group
Hyderabad, India
- 2020.12.6 Freedom of conscience and freedom of expression
2020 International eConference on Interreligious Dialogue
Global Center for Religious Research
Denver, Colorado, United States of America
- 2020.12.1 Augmentation of the Paris Agreement with punitive measures, and its mandatory participation
The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
2020 Global University Climate Forum <http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>
- 2020.11.6 Weak preference as deontic accessibility
Research methodology seminar
Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

- 2020.6.15 A metaphysic of society
 Mini-seminar for graduate students
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2020.2.25 Agency: recursivity of self-determination through the materiality of causation
 Comments on Alyssa Ney's *Physical Causation and Difference-Making*
 Metaphysics of causation graduate seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2019.11.8 A metaphysic of action
 Research methodology seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2019.11.3 A Daoist theory of self-expansion
 The Chinese Society for Dialectics of Nature 2019 Conference
 The Chinese Society for Dialectics of Nature
 Beijing, China
- 2019.10.27 A fictitiousness theory of Wittgensteinian nonsense
 The Fourth International Wittgenstein Symposium
 Chinese Wittgenstein Society, Chinese Society for Contemporary Foreign Philosophy
 School of Philosophy, Northwest University, China
 Xi'an, China
- 2019.8.22 An ignorance of obligation explanation of blamelessness
 Cologne Summer School on Epistemology with Clayton Littlejohn
 University of Cologne
 Cologne, Germany
- 2017.8.10 Modus ponens and scepticism
 M.A. in philosophy summer preparatory class
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2016.3.8 Quine and Linsky on reference, modality, and essentialism
 Kripke and metaphysics graduate seminar

Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

2014.10.10 'Jack the Ripper' and the contingent a priori

Research methodology seminar

Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

2012.11.30 'I have my brain in a vat'

Research methodology seminar

Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China