Curriculum Vitae

NEIL W. WILLIAMS, PHD.

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Areas of Specialisation:
Moral and Political Philosophy: Environmental Philosophy; Applied and Professional Ethics
History of Philosophy: American Philosophy; Kantian and Post-Kantian Philosophy

Areas of Competence:
Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Law, Metaphilosophy, Social Ontology

EMPLOYMENT

2024 -	Associate Professor in Ethics and Environmental Philosophy, Roehampton
2022-24	Senior Lecturer in Ethics and Environmental Philosophy, Roehampton
2020-22	Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Roehampton
2018-20	Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Roehampton
2017-18	Teaching Fellow and Consultant in Applied Ethics, Interdisciplinary Applied Ethics Centre (IDEA Centre), University of Leeds
2016	Visiting Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Sheffield
2013-16	Seminar Tutor, University of Sheffield

EDUCATION

2017	Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Sheffield Title: *Realism, Individualism and Pluralism: The Ethics and Metaphysics of William James.* Supervisors: Prof. Robert Stern and Prof. Christopher Hookway. Examiners: Robert B. Talisse (Vanderbilt) and Christopher Bennett (Sheffield)
2012	MRes in Philosophy, University of Sheffield. Distinction.
2011	BA in Literature and Philosophy, University of East Anglia. Starred First (77%)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications

Forth.   'The "No Interest" Argument against the Rights of Nature', *Philosophers Imprint*. Accepted.

Forth.   'Santayana, James, and the Virtues of Philosophy', *Oxford Handbook to George Santayana*. Ricardo Miguel Alfonso (ed.). Oxford: OUP.

2023   'The Role of Temperaments in Philosophical Inquiry: A Pragmatic Approach', *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, 61: 2, 297-323.

2023   'Understanding the Rights of Nature: Working Together Across and Beyond Disciplines' co-authored with Jérémie Gilbert et al. *Human Ecology* 51, 363-377.

2023   'The Affective Preconditions of Inquiry: Hookway on Doubt, Sentiment, and Ethics', *Pragmatic Reason: Christopher and the American Philosophical Tradition*, Robert Talisse et al (eds.). London and New York: Routledge, 162-181

2023   'Freedom and Experience in Kant and James' co-authored with Joe Saunders, *Freedom After Kant*, Joe Saunders (ed.). London and New York: Bloomsbury

2021   'Radical Empiricism, British Idealism, and the Reality of Relations', *The Jamesian Mind*, Sarin Marchetti (ed.). London and New York: Routledge, 398-411.

2019   'James and Hegel: Looking for a Home', co-authored with Robert Stern. *The Oxford Handbook to William James*. Alex Klein (ed.). Oxford: OUP.

2018   'Practical Grounds for Belief: Kant and James on Religion' co-authored with Joe Saunders. *European Journal of Philosophy*, 26: 4, 1269 – 1282.

2017   'Kidnapping an Ugly Child: Is William James a Pragmaticist?' *British Journal for the History of Philosophy,* 26:1, 154-175.

2017   'Absolutism, Relativism, and Anarchy: Alain Locke and William James on Value Pluralism' *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society,* 53:3, 400-424.

2012   'Against Atomic Individualism in Plural Subject Theory' *Phenomenology and Mind* (3), 65-81.

Book Reviews

2020   '*Animals: A History*: Review'. *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 28:1, 209-212

2019   '*Pragmatism and Justice*: Review'. *Contemporary Political Theory*, 18, 236-239.

Commissioned Reports and Papers

2022   'The Future of the Rights of Nature: An Interdisciplinary Scoping Analysis' *Arts and Humanities Research Council* commissioned report.

AWARDS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2024 - 2028   AHRC Curiosity Grant – "A Meeting of Rivers: Towards a Rights of Nature Network in the UK". *Principal Investigator* (£99,000).

2023 - 2024   *The Royal Institute of Philosophy* Funding – "Connecting with Nature: Ideas from Environmental Philosophy". *Principal Investigator* (£5500)

2023 – 2030   Leverhulme Doctoral Programme – *Connected Waters* – *Co-applicant* and convenor of the "Human Agency" research theme. (£2m approx.)

2023   University of Roehampton AHRC Seed Funding – "Curating a Conversation on the Rights of Nature in the UK" *Co-investigator* (£5000)

2023   Susanna Wesley Foundation award. *Principal Investigator* (£3000)

2021- 2023   British Academy Small Grant Award: 'Representing the Rights of Nature – Learning from the Māori'. *Principal Investigator* (£9550)

2020 - 2021   AHRC Scoping Future Research Award: 'Guardians of the Rivers and the Future of Earth Law'. *Co-investigator* (£90,000).

2020   *Royal Institute of Philosophy* branch funding, Roehampton (£1500)

2019   *Society for Applied Philosophy* Conference Grant (£1300).

2017   *Mind* Major Grant (£2000); *BSHP* Grant (£1000); *Analysis* Grant (£500); *SWIP* Grant (£580); *WRoCAH* Grant (£750) – Conference funding (*Pragmatism and the Analytic – Continental Split*)

2015   *BSA* Grant (£1000); *Mind* Minor Grant (£750); *Analysis* Grant (£500); *Aristotelean Society* Grant (£150); *SAP* Grant (£500); *SWIP* Grant (£150); *WRoCAH* Grant (£2000). Conference Funding (*Understanding Value IV*)

2013   University Prize PhD Scholarship, University of Sheffield (£63,000 approx.)

2011   AHRC Masters Scholarship, University of Sheffield (£20,000 approx.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conferences and Symposia Organised:

Jun 2023   *Curating a Conversation on the Rights of Nature*, Dartington Hall.
Jun 2019   *Temperament in Philosophy*, University of Roehampton
Aug 2017   *Pragmatism and the Analytic - Continental Split*, University of Sheffield.
Jul 2015   *Understanding Value IV*, University of Sheffield, Co-organiser.
Jul 2014   *Understanding Value III*, University of Sheffield, organising committee

Panels Organised:

Apr 2017   "Affectivity in William James", *British Society for the History of Philosophy Annual Conference*, University of Sheffield.

Peer-reviewed Presentations (Selected):

Jun 2022   "The Rights of Nature – an Interdisciplinary Approach", Susanna Wesley Foundation Sustainability Conference

Mar 2022   "Religious Belief as a Vague Hypothesis", with Joshua Wilson Black – *Four Seminars on Spirituality and Experience*, University of Rome and Roehampton.

Mar 2021   "The Moral Grounding of the Legal Rights of Ecosystems", Durham University and IDEA Centre, University of Leeds

Mar 2020   "Class, Identity, and Alienation", *Royal Institute of Philosophy Talk* – Barnes Philosophy Club (Barnes, Public Philosophy Event)

Feb 2020   "The Role of Temperaments in Philosophical Inquiry", University of Nottingham.

Jun 2019   The Role of Temperament in Philosophical Inquiry, *Temperaments in Philosophy Workshop*, University of Roehampton

Jun 2018   "James and Affective States in Philosophical Inquiry", *Third European Pragmatism Conference*, University of Helsinki.

Apr 2018   "Towards a Pragmatist Virtue Ethics: Epistemic and Ethical Habits of Inquiry, *British Society for the History of Philosophy Annual Conference,* University of Durham.

Nov 2017   "A Defence of Pluralist Pragmatism", IDEA CETL Department Talk, University of Leeds.

Apr 2017   "Sentimentalism and Classical Pragmatism", *British Society for the History of Philosophy Annual Conference*, University of Sheffield.

May 2016   "The Natural and the Ideal in William James", *Nature and Normativity Conference*, University of West England

Sep 2015   "James on Hegel", *Second European Pragmatism Conference*, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris and Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales.

Sep 2015	"William James and Alain Locke on Value Pluralism", *Second European Pragmatism Conference*, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris and Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales
Jun 2015	"James's Critique of Hegel", *Rethinking Modern Philosophy: Origins Connections and Traditions*, University of Sheffield.
Jun 2015	"Alain Locke and William James on Value Pluralism", *The American Voice SIAP Conference,* Dublin University.
May 2015	"James and Hegel: Looking for A Home", *Idealism and Pragmatism: Ethics, Politics and Social Thought*, College de France.
Apr 2014	"James's Application of Peirce", *Applying Peirce Conference*, Tallinn University
Jun 2013	"A Jamesian Environmental Ethics", *International Environmental Ethics Conference X*, University of East Anglia

TEACHING

Programmes Convened:

MA – Environmental Humanities (2021-)
BA – Philosophy and Literature (2019-2022)

PhD Supervision:

2020 -	"Towards a Deleuzian Interpellation of Nomadic Civic Subjectivity"
2019 -	"The Question of Art in the French Spiritualist Tradition"

Environmental Philosophy:

2023-24	*Earth in Crisis: Interdisciplinary Approaches*, University of Roehampton (Year 3). Co-convenor, co-designer, lecturer, tutor.
2020-22	*Popular Ecologies: Literature and Environmental Ethics*, University of Roehampton (MA). Module Convenor, co-designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor.
2018-20	*Animals Rights and Environmental Ethics*, University of Roehampton (Year 3)
2014-15	*Environmental Ethics*, University of Sheffield (Year 1) Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

Applied and Professional Ethics (selected):

2021-24   *Beyond Profit: Responsibility and Sustainability in Business*, University of Roehampton (MBA). Module Convenor, Designer, Lecturer, and Tutor.

2023-24   *Business Ethics and Responsible Management*, University of Roehampton (Year 3), Seminar Tutor

2019-20   *Philosophy, Film and Literature*, University of Roehampton (Year 1) Module Convener, Designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

2017-18   *Autonomy, Rationality, and Psychiatric Issues,* University of Leeds (MA) Module Convenor, Lecturer, and Online Facilitator

2017-18   *Ethical Issues at the Beginning of Life*, University of Leeds (MA) Lecturer, Online Facilitator and Seminar Tutor

2017-18   *Computer Ethics*, University of Leeds (Years 1-3; MSc) Academic Lead, Module Convenor; Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

2017-18   *Ethical Issues in Chemistry*, University of Leeds (Years 1-3) Academic Lead, Course-designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

Ethics:

2018-21   *Ethical Theory,* University of Roehampton (Year 1) Module Convenor, Designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

2017-18   *Reasons, Virtues and Obligations*, University of Leeds (MA) Lecturer, Seminar Tutor and Online Facilitator

History of Philosophy (selected):

2019-20   *Research in the History of Philosophy: American Philosophy*, University of Roehampton (Year 3) Module Convenor, Designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

2018-21   *Classical Philosophy,* University of Roehampton (Year 1) Module Convenor, Designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

2015-16   *History of Ethics,* University of Sheffield (Year 1) Module Convenor, Designer, and Lecturer

Epistemology:

2018-19   *Epistemology*, University of Roehampton (Year 2) Module Convenor, Designer, Lecturer and Seminar Tutor

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE AND TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS

Current roles:

- Editor (Philosophy), *Public Humanities* Journal (CUP)
- Institutional Lead (SENSS) – Sustainability and Climate Emergency Panel
- Steering Committee – Committee for Sustainability and Energy, University of Roehampton
- Philosophy Lead – Centre for the Inclusive Humanities
- External Examiner (Philosophy) – Anglia Ruskin University
- Research Lead – Research Student Development Programme, Roehampton
- Convenor – "Human Agency" Research Theme – *Connected Waters Doctoral Programme.*

Qualifications:

- Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA)
- Qualified Mental Health First Aider (MHFA, 2020 -)

Previous Roles (selected):

- Public Engagement Lead – *Roehampton Climate Network* (2021-2023)
- Developer and Programme Convenor – *Environmental Humanities* MA (2021 - 2023)
- Developer and Programme Convenor - *Literature and Philosophy* BA (2019 - 2022)
- Committee - Learning and Teaching Quality Committee, Roehampton (2020- 2022)
- Committee - Research Student Review Board, Roehampton (2019-21)
- Committee - Centre for Practical Philosophy, Theology and Religion (2021-2023)
- Steering Committee - The 'London Post-Kantian Network' (2019 - 2023)
- Outreach Officer – School of Humanities, University of Roehampton (2020-21)
- Co-developer - Early Career Academic Network, Roehampton (2019-2021)
- Academic Lead for Ethics – Schools of Computer Engineering and Civil Engineering, University of Leeds (2018-19)

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (SELECTED)

- Panellist - Wandsworth Net Zero Summit (March 2024)
- Project Lead - Green Party UK commissioned philosophy paper on the rights of nature to provide conceptual support a UK-wide Rights of Nature Bill. (2023-24)
- Speaker - Responsibilities and Representation: Rights of Nature in the UK. Part of the *Rivers Summit* (Nov, 2023). Video here.

- Speaker - Introduction to the Rights of Nature. Talk for volunteers at Essex Wildlife Trust (Aug, 2023).
- Interviewee – *Advocating for Nature* podcast. (Jun 2023) Available here.
- Organiser and Speaker - Curating a Conversation on the Rights of Nature in the UK. Roehampton seed funding (Jun 2023).
- Speaker - Declaration of the Rights of the River Cam (Jun 2023)
- Speaker – "Can Rivers Have Rights?" – Stuart Low Trust (Feb 2023)
- Organizer - *An Evening with a Philosopher Public Lecture Series*, University of Roehampton RIP funded Public Philosophy events (2021-).
- Speaker - "How to Value Nature (Before it's Too Late) *Wimbledon Bookfest* (2020)
- Designer - Institute of Engineering Technology (IET) courses: designer of two online ethics courses for professional engineers ("Engineering Ethics" and "Computer Ethics") (2018-2019).
- Designer - Chartered Banker Course: 'The Future of Banking: Sustainability and Artificial Intelligence' module for Chartered Banker Diploma.
- Designer - Development of CPD materials for various professional bodies (IET, Charted Banking, IoFA) (2018-2019)
- Speaker - "Animal Ethics" and "American Pragmatism" - Public philosophy events for The Stuart Low Trust (May, 2019)
- Speaker - "Philosophy at the Cinema" presentations on *The Master* – Leeds and Sheffield (2017-2018)
- Speaker - "Valuing Nature in a World of 10 Billion", Interdisciplinary Panel Discussion, University of Sheffield (May 2016).

APPENDIX: STUDENT EVALUATION FEEDBACK

Qualitive Teaching Evaluations for University of Roehampton:

	Overall Satisfaction	Teaching Standard	Assessment /Feedback	Academic Support	Organisation of Module
Beyond Profit (2022-23)	4.9/5	4.9/5	4.9/5	4.9/5	4.9/5
Popular Ecologies (2021-22)	4.7	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
American Philosophy (2019-20)	5/5	4.9/5	4.9/5	4.9/5	5/5
Ethical Theory (2019-20)	4.8/5	4.8/5	4.6/5	4.8/5	4.8
Classical Philosophy (2019-20)	4.9/5	4.8/5	4.6/5	4.8/5	4.9/5
Animals and Environment (2018-19)	5/5	5/5	4.9/5	5/5	5/5
Philosophical Ethics (2018-19)	4.9/5	4.9/5	4.8/5	4.8/5	4.9/5
Epistemology (2018-19)	4.5/5	4.5/5	4.2/5	4.6/5	4.4/5

The following are responses to the question 'What was best about this module?'. Full details of student evaluation questionaries are available upon request.

- '[T]he lecturers were designed highly intellectually and delivered in an academic manner. I really enjoyed the lectures and seminars. (Beyond Profit, 2022-23).
- 'I definitely felt challenged in a supported, positive manner. Lecturers were genuinely interested in what they were teaching and has an excellent subject knowledge that helped broaden my understanding. Thank you! Such a fun module! (Popular Ecologies, 2021-22)
- 'The lectures are interactive. Neil comes around and engages with us, which ensures we understand the work' (American Philosophy, 2019-20).
- 'Neil makes lectures and seminars very engaging which allows me to stay better focused' (Classical Philosophy, 2019-20).
- 'Really good explanations, really well thought out sound support and advice and amazing as a history student to study!' (Animal Rights and Environment, 2018-19).
- 'The structure of the essay and assessment is manageable, and [the] case studies are useful for understanding the topic of the week' (Ethical Theory, 2019-20).
- 'Very well organised Moodle and lectures makes learning a smooth process. Seminars are a great opportunity to talk things through which helps consolidate new ideas' (Classical Philosophy, 2019-20).
- 'Neil is a very good lecturer who constantly tries to change the format to further improve student's grasp of the content' (Epistemology, 2018-19).
- 'Neil made an interesting subject even more captivating and encouraged everyone's voice [and] opinion to be heard. He is so knowledgeable and makes me want to talk about ethics outside of class' (Ethical Theory, 2018-19)