Martin Smith

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Areas of Specialisation

Epistemology

Areas of Competence

Logic, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Risk, Ethics

Education and Qualifications

2001 – 2005   PhD in Philosophy at the Australian National University.

Awarded in December 2005.

1996 – 2000   Bachelor of Arts (Honours) at the University of Western Australia.

Academic Employment

Aug 2023 – present   Chair of Epistemology, University of Edinburgh

Aug 2019 – Jul 2023   Reader, University of Edinburgh

Jan 2016 – Jul 2019   Lecturer, University of Edinburgh

Sep 2008 – Dec 2015   Lecturer, University of Glasgow

Jan 2008 – Aug 2008   Lecturer, University of St Andrews

Sep 2006 – Dec 2007 Executive Director of Arché, University of St Andrews

Jan 2006 – Jun 2006 Lecturer, University of York

Honorary Positions

Sep 2009 – Sep 2015 Associate Fellow of the Northern Institute of Philosophy, University of Aberdeen

Sep 2009 – Sep 2015 Honorary Research Fellow, University of Aberdeen

Publications

Book

2016   *Between Probability and Certainty: What Justifies Belief* (Oxford University Press)

Papers

Forthcoming   'Probability, normalcy and the right against risk imposition' *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*

Forthcoming   'An objection to the modal account of risk' *Synthese*

Forthcoming   'Decision theory and de minimis risk' *Erkenntnis*

2023   'Risky belief' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* v106(3), pp597-611

2023   'Underdetermination and closure: Thoughts on two sceptical arguments' in Jope, M. and Pritchard, D. eds. *New Perspectives on Epistemic Closure* (Routledge)

2022   'Is ~K~KP a luminous condition?' *Asian Journal of Philosophy* v1(1), pp1-10

2022   'Two accounts of assertion' *Synthese* v200(3), pp1-18

2022	'The hardest paradox for closure' *Erkenntnis* v87(4), pp2003-2028
2021	'Civil liability and the 50%+ standard of proof' *International Journal of Evidence and Proof* v25(3), pp183-199
2021	'More on normic support and the criminal standard of proof' *Mind* v130(519), pp943-960
2021	'Against legal probabilism' in Robson, J. and Hoskins, Z. eds. *Truth and Trial* (Routledge)
2021	'Epistemic logic without closure' *Synthese* (with Stephan Leuenberger) v198(5), pp4751-4774
2021	'Four arguments for denying that lottery beliefs are justified' in Douven, I. ed *Lotteries, Knowledge and Rational Belief* (Cambridge University Press)
2020	'Varieties of risk' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* v101(2), pp432-455 (with Philip Ebert and Ian Durbach)
2019	'Full blooded entitlement' in Pedersen, N. and Graham, P. eds. *Epistemic Entitlement* (Oxford University Press)
2018	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' *Mind* v127(508), pp1193-1218, included in OUP's 'Best of Philosophy' list of 2018, selected for inclusion in the *Mind* special issue on *Evidence*
2018	'The logic of epistemic justification' *Synthese* v195(9), pp3857-3875
2018	'Coin trials' *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* v48(5), pp726-741
2018	'Lottery judgments: A philosophical and experimental study' *Philosophical Psychology* v31(1), pp110-138 (with Philip Ebert and Ian Durbach)
2017	'Why throwing 92 heads in a row is not surprising' *Philosophers' Imprint* v17, winner of the inaugural Sanders Prize for Public Philosophy

2017	'The cost of treating knowledge as a mental state' in Carter, A., Gordon, E. and Jarvis, B. eds. *Knowledge First* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
2017	'Intuitionistic probability and the Bayesian objection to dogmatism' *Synthese* v194(10), pp3997-4009
2016	'Scepticism by a thousand cuts' *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* v6(1), pp44-52
2015	'Evidential incomparability and the principle of indifference' *Erkenntnis* v80(3), pp605-616
2014	'Knowledge, justification and normative coincidence' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* v89(2), pp273-295
2014	'The arbitrariness of belief' in Zardini, E. and Dodd, D. eds. *Scepticism and Perceptual Justification* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
2014	'The epistemology of religion' *Analysis* v74(1), pp135-147
2013	'Entitlement and evidence' *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* v91(4), pp735-753
2013	'Two notions of epistemic risk' *Erkenntnis* v78(5), pp1069-1079
2012	'Some thoughts on the JK-rule' *Noûs* v46(4), pp791-802
2012	'Belief and degrees of belief' *Dialectica* v66(3), pp305-308 (with Philip Ebert)
2011	'God and the external world' *Ratio* v24(1), pp65-77
2010	'A generalised lottery paradox for infinite probability spaces' *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* v61(4), pp821-831
2010	'What else justification could be' *Noûs* v44(1), pp10-31 reprinted in Neta, R. ed. *Epistemology* (Routledge, 2012)
2009	'Transmission failure explained' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* v79(1), pp164-189

2007   'Ceteris paribus conditionals and comparative normalcy' *Journal of Philosophical Logic* v36(1), pp97-121

Book Reviews

Forthcoming   Review of *Justification as Ignorance: An Essay in Epistemology* by Sven Rosenkranz *Mind*

2017   Review of *Pragmatic Encroachment, Religious Belief and Practice* by Aaron Rizzieri *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, v9

2014   Review of *Justification and the Truth Connection* by Clayton Littlejohn, *Philosophical Quarterly* v64

2013   Review of *Quitting Certainties* by Michael Titelbaum, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*

Research Grants

- Awarded, along with Dr Philip Ebert, an AHRC research grant for a project entitled **Varieties of Risk** (Sep 2020 – Jun 2023) Value: £767,237

- Awarded, along with Dr Stephan Leuenberger and Professor Burkhard Schafer, an AHRC Research Grant for a project entitled **The Whole Truth**, Jan 2016 – Aug 2017. Value: £186,781

- Awarded an AHRC Research Leadership Grant for a project entitled **Justification and Probability**, Sep 2014 – Mar 2015. Value: £64,543

- Awarded grants from the Scots Philosophical Association, the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association to support a series of workshops in epistemology and law. Combined Value: £4,050.

Teaching and Supervision

Teaching

I have taught extensively at sub-honours, honours and postgraduate levels. I have taught courses on the following topics:

- Epistemology
- Formal Epistemology
- Philosophy of Law
- Logic
- Critical Thinking
- Philosophy of Science
- Philosophy of Risk
- Metaphysics
- Russell and Ayer

Supervision

Topics I currently supervise/have supervised include:

- Decision Theory and Normative Ethics
- Fictionalism and Scepticism
- Epistemic Anxiety and Epistemic Risk
- The Analysis of Knowledge
- Epistemic Gradualism
- Externalist Accounts of Evidence
- Epistemological Disjunctivism
- Proper Functionalist Accounts of Warrant
- Foreknowledge and Predestination
- Counterfactual Analyses of Causation
- The Epistemology of Emotions

Recent Presentations

Aug 2023	'Is it ever rational to hold inconsistent beliefs?' Normal Meets Formal Workshop, COGITO Research Centre, University of Glasgow
Jun 2023	'Is it ever rational to hold inconsistent beliefs? Varieties of Risk Workshop, University of Edinburgh
Sep 2022	'An objection to the modal account of risk' Varieties of Risk seminar, University of Edinburgh
Sep 2022	'Decision theory and de minimis risk' Inaugural British Society for the Theory of Knowledge Conference, University of Glasgow
Sep 2022	'Rights and the ethics of risk imposition' MANCEPT Workshop on Imposing Risk, University of Manchester (online)
Mar 2022	'Decision theory and de minimis risk' Varieties of Risk Seminar, University of Edinburgh (online)
Jan 2022	'Probability, normality and the right against risk imposition' Epistemology and Normality Workshop, Australian Catholic University (online)
Dec 2021	'Two accounts of assertion' COGITO Knowledge and Society Conference, University of Glasgow (online)
Nov 2021	'Risky belief' Oxford Epistemology Group, Oxford University (online)
Apr 2021	'Rights and the ethics of risk imposition' Risk and Recklessness Workshop, University College London (online)
Jan 2021	'Risky belief' COGITO Work in Progress Workshop, University of Glasgow (online)
Oct 2020	'Lexical priority, decision theory and de minimis risk' CEPPA Seminar Series, University of St Andrews (online)
Feb 2020	'Lexical priority, decision theory and de minimis risk' Luck, Risk and Competence Workshop, University of Seville

Feb 2020	'The hardest paradox for closure' Institute of Philosophy, University of London
Jun 2019	'The hardest paradox for closure' Closure and Transmission Workshop, University of Edinburgh
Apr 2019	'Accuracy, proof and the right against wrongful conviction' University of Helsinki
Apr 2019	'The hardest paradox for closure' Competence and Success in Epistemology Workshop, University of Helsinki
Apr 2019	'Accuracy, proof and the right against wrongful conviction' Evidence in Ethics and the Law Conference, Jagiellonian University, Krakow
Mar 2019	'Accuracy, proof and the right against wrongful conviction' JC Smith Trust Fund Visiting Scholar Workshop, University of Nottingham
Aug 2018	'Civil liability and the 50%+ standard of proof', University of Gdansk
Aug 2018	'When does evidence support belief?' Formal Philosophy Workshop, University of Gdansk
Jun 2018	'Civil liability and the 50%+ standard of proof' University of Edinburgh
Apr 2018	'Civil liability and the 50%+ standard of proof', University of Aarhus
Nov 2017	'Epistemic logic without closure' Glasgow/Melbourne Formal Philosophy Workshop (with Stephan Leuenberger)
Sep 2017	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' Epistemology Research Group, University of Edinburgh
Jun 2017	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' Workshop on Truth, Knowledge and the Criminal Trial, University of Nottingham
Jun 2017	'The logic of epistemic justification' Workshop on Fallibility, Rational Belief and Knowledge, University of Barcelona

May 2017	'The logic of epistemic justification' Leuven-Cologne Epistemology Workshop, University of Leuven
May 2017	'Violence risk assessment in the law and the group to individual problem' Total Evidence Workshop, University of Edinburgh
Feb 2017	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' Workshop on Legal Standards of Proof, University of Edinburgh
Nov 2016	'Fallibilism, infallibilism and the logic of epistemic justification' Certainty and Infallibilism Conference, Collége de France, Paris
Oct 2016	'A puzzle about knowledge, justification and the future' University of St Andrews
Jun 2016	'The logic of epistemic justification' Epistemology Workshop, University of Stockholm
Apr 2016	'Why throwing 92 heads in a row is not surprising' University of Edinburgh
Nov 2015	'Lottery beliefs are not justified' University of Glasgow
Oct 2015	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' University of St Andrews
Feb 2015	'Every belief has a right to be true' Glasgow Centre for Open Studies Public Lecture Series
Dec 2014	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' Workshop on Statistical Evidence in Epistemology and the Law, University of Glasgow
Nov 2014	'The cost of treating knowledge as a mental state' Knowledge First Workshop, University of Edinburgh
Sep 2014	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' Norms of Reasoning Workshop, University of Bochum
Jun 2014	'Every belief has a right to be true' Yonsei University, Seoul
Apr 2014	'When does evidence suffice for conviction?' University of Groningen

Professional Service

Examiner Appointments

- I have served three times as external examiner for a PhD thesis (2010, 2018, 2022)

- I have served twice as external examiner for a research Masters thesis (2015, 2022).

- I have served five times as internal examiner for a PhD thesis (2012, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020).

Memberships/Editorships

- I am a member of the scientific board of the *British Society for the Theory of Knowledge*, 2020 –

- I am a member of the editorial board of the *Philosophical Quarterly*, 2015 –

- I am a member of the editorial panel of the journal *Thought*, 2011 –

- I am an area editor for the *PhilPapers* directory of online philosophical books and articles, editing the category 'Transmission of Warrant' (2010 –) and 'Evidence and Proof in Law (2017 –)

- I was guest editor for the journal *Dialectica*, 2012-2013

Refereeing

- I have refereed research grant applications for the Leverhulme Trust and for the University of Leuven (2016, 2017).

- I was appointed as an external assessor for the University of Aberdeen trial REF. (2012)

- I have refereed for the following journals: *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Asian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Dialectica, Dialogue, Episteme,*

Erkenntnis, *Ergo*, *Grazer Philosophische Studien*, *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Journal of Applied Philosophy, Journal of Philosophical Logic, Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Political Philosophy, Law and Philosophy, Logic and Logical Philosophy, Mind*, *Modern Law Review, Noûs*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Polish Journal of Philosophy, Synthese*, *Theoria*, *Thought*

- I have refereed book proposals and manuscripts for Routledge and for Oxford University Press.

Conference Organisation

Jun 2022	Conference on risk and the law at the University of Edinburgh
May 2017	Conference on the requirement of total evidence at the University of Edinburgh
Dec 2014	Conference on statistical evidence in epistemology and the law at the University of Glasgow
May 2010	Conference on belief and degrees of belief at the University of Stirling
Dec 2009	Conference on the lottery paradox at the University of Glasgow