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30.09.2026

Areas of Specialization: Epistemology, Collective Epistemology, Philosophy of Science

Areas of Competence: Integrated History and Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:

- 2029 **FWF-Erwin Schrödinger Research Fellow (Return Phase)** at the *University of Graz*,
Section: Theoretical Philosophy.
- 2027 – 2028 **FWF-Erwin Schrödinger Research Fellow (Abroad Phase)** at the *Munich Centre of Mathematical Philosophy*, at the [Chair of Philosophy and Decision Theory](#), Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München.
- 2025 – 2026 **Postdoctoral Researcher** at the *Munich Centre of Mathematical Philosophy*, at the [Chair of Philosophy and Decision Theory](#), Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München
- 2020 – 2024 **Postgraduate Researcher** and PhD student at the ERC-funded project [Group Thinking: New Foundations](#) at the *University of Leeds*.

EDUCATION:

- 2020 – 2024 Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D; passed with no corrections)
University of Leeds; School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science
PhD thesis: *On the Nature and Relationship of Individual and Collective Justification*
Supervisors: J. Robert Williams; Haixin Dang; Andrew Peet; Joshua Habgood-Coote
Thesis grade: passed with no corrections (top grade)
- 2018 – 2020 Master of Arts in Philosophy (M.A.; with distinction)
University of Graz; Department of Philosophy
Area of specialisation: *History and Philosophy of Science*.
MA thesis: *Beyond Infinity: The Epistemology and Ontology of the Transfinite*.
Thesis advisor: David, Marian
Thesis grade: 1 (top grade)
- 2014 – 2018 Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (B.A.)
University of Graz; Department of Philosophy
BA-thesis (in German): *Select, Divide & Conquer: Selective Confirmation and the Success of Science*.
Thesis advisor: Wiltsche, Harald
Thesis grade: 1 (top grade)

VISITING:

- 2024 Institute Vienna Circle:
University of Vienna
Department of Philosophy
Research Fellow
(September – December 2024)
- 2018 IASP-Exchange
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Philosophy
Exchange student
(August – December 2018)

PUBLICATIONS:

Journal Articles (peer-reviewed):

- (8) Graf, Simon (2026). Generic Epistemology. *Ergo: An Open-Access Journal of Philosophy*. <https://doi.org/10.3998/ergo.8884>
- (7) Graf, Simon (2025). Epistemic Justification and Higher-Order Requirements. *Episteme*. First View. 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1017/epi.2025.10093>
- (6) Graf, Simon & Dang, Haixin (2025). Divergence Arguments in Collective Epistemology. *Philosophy Compass*, 20 (6). <https://doi.org/10.1111/phc3.70045>
- (5) Graf, Simon (2025). The No-Defeater Clause. *Episteme*. First View. 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1017/epi.2025.4>
- (4) Vickers, Peter,... Graf Simon,... (2024). Development of a Novel Methodology for Ascertaining Scientific Opinion and Extent of Agreement. *PLoS ONE*, 19 (12), <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0313541>
- (3) Graf, Simon (2023). Permissive Divergence. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 53 (3), 240-255. <https://doi.org/10.1017/can.2024.4>

Book Chapters (peer-reviewed):

- (2) Wang, Cuizhu, Graf, Simon, & Werner, Konrad (2025). An Operational Definition of Institutional Beliefs. In Dyrda Adam et al. (Eds.) *Ethics of Institutional Beliefs: from Theoretical to Empirical*. Edward Elga Publishing.

Book Reviews (peer-reviewed):

- (1) Graf, Simon (2021). The Epistemology of Groups by Jennifer Lackey. [Book Review] *Perspectives: International Postgraduate Journal of Philosophy* (9), 380-387.

Manuscripts In Progress:

<i>Under Review</i>	a paper on Epistemic Conflicts
<i>Under Review</i>	a paper on Epistemic Freedom
<i>Under Review</i>	a paper on Expert-Consensus Reporting
<i>Under Review</i>	a paper on AI and Existential Dread
<i>In Preparation</i>	a paper on Epistemic Standards
<i>In Preparation</i>	a book on Evidentialism and Epistemic Justification

RESEARCH GRANTS and PRIZES

2026	Erwin-Schrödinger-Fellowship of the Austrian Science (Munich Centre of Mathematical Philosophy & University of Graz) (212 197,00 €)
2023	International Social Ontology Society Conference Grant: Awarded for the workshop Group Minds and Collective Agency at the University of Leeds.
2022	Analysis Trust Conference Grant: Awarded for the workshop Collective and Individual Epistemology at the University of Leeds.
2020	Full-Time ERC-Funded Ph.D. Scholarship within the ERC-funded research project "Group Thinking: New Foundations"; Awarded by the University of Leeds –School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science.

PRESENTATIONS:

Invited:

- 2024 “Epistemic Conflicts: Permissibility and Incommensurability” *Philosophy of Science Colloquium* at the **University of Vienna** (Austria).
- 2023 “How to cope with permissible Bias” *Workshop: Biases in acquisition and consideration of evidence* at the *Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF)*, **Bielefeld University** (Germany).
- 2023 “An Operational Definition of Institutional Beliefs” at the *Jagiellonian Center for Law, Language and Philosophy*, **Jagiellonian University** (Poland).

Conference Presentations (peer-reviewed):

- 2026 “Epistemic Conflicts” *Asian Epistemology Network Meeting 2026* at **Zhejiang University** (China).
- 2025 “Divergence Arguments in Social Epistemology” (cancelled) *Social Ontology 2025* organized by the International Social Ontology Society at **Trinity College Dublin** (Ireland).
- 2024 “An Operational Definition of Institutional Beliefs” with Cuizhu Wang and Konrad Werner, *Social Ontology 2024* organized by the International Social Ontology Society (ISOS) at **Duke University** (United States).
- 2023 “An Operational Definition of Institutional Beliefs” with Cuizhu Wang, *Society for Women in Philosophy Ireland* at **Maynooth University** (Ireland).
- 2023 “Incommensurability, Permissibility, and Epistemic Conflicts.” *Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA 2023)* at the **University of Salzburg** (Austria).
- 2022 “Permissive Divergence: When Member-Level and Group-Level Attitudes Ought to Diverge.” *Social Ontology & Collective Intentionality 2022* organized by the International Social Ontology Society (ISOS) at the **University of Vienna** (Austria).
- 2022 “Uniqueness, Permissivism, and Self-Fulfilling Beliefs.” *Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA 2022)* at the **University of Salzburg** (Austria).
- 2021 “Epistemic Divergence and Time Slice Rationality.” *Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA 2021)* at the **University of Salzburg** (Austria).
- 2021 “The Independent Epistemic Agent Account of Group Justification” *Social Ontology & Collective Intentionality 2021* organized by the International Social Ontology Society (ISOS) at the **University of California** (United States).
- 2020 “Playing the Game of Rationality: Language Games and Puzzle Solving in Epistemic Communities” (cancelled due to Covid-19). Symposium *Philosophy of Play* at the **University of Zagreb** (Croatia).
- 2019 “Beyond Infinity: Dialethism and the Ontology of the Transfinite.” *Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA 2019)* at the **University of Salzburg** (Austria).

Departmental Presentations (selected):

- 2026 “Epistemic Standards and Epistemic Conflicts” Research Seminar for Decision and Action Theory at the *Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy*, **LMU Munich**.
- 2025 “Against Epistemic Freedom” Work in Progress Seminar at the *Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy*, **LMU Munich**.

- 2025 “Epistemic Conflicts: Incommensurability and Permissibility” Research Seminar for Decision and Action Theory, *Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, LMU Munich*.
- 2024 “Against Epistemic Freedom” HOPOS seminar at the *Institute Vienna Circle, University of Vienna* (Austria).
- 2023 “Incommensurability, Permissibility, and Epistemic Conflicts.” *Philosophy Seminar* at the **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2023 “Optional & Non-Optional Permissibility” *Philosophy Postgraduate Research Seminar* at the **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2022 “In Defence of Epistemic Continuity: A Plea for a United Epistemology” *Workshop: Collective and Individual Epistemology* organized by the ERC-funded research project *Group Thinking New Foundations*, **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2022 “Uniqueness, Permissivism, and Self-Fulfilling Beliefs” *Philosophy Seminar* at the **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2021 “Permissivism, Time Slice Rationality, and Epistemic Divergence” *Grounds Seminar* at the **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2021 “The Independent Epistemic Agent Account of Group Justification” *Grounds Seminar* at the **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2021 “On the Relationship between Doxastic and Propositional Group Justification” *Philosophy Postgraduate Research Seminar* at the **University of Leeds** (United Kingdom).
- 2019 “Paradoxes of the Infinite” (in German) at the *Interdisciplinary Colloquium* “Wissen und Realität im Netzwerk von Vergangenheit, Gegenwart und Zukunft” under the supervision of Götschl, Johann at the **University of Graz** (Austria).

TEACHING:

Ludwig-Maximillan Universität; Germany (Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy)

- WS 2027/27 **Epistemic Conflicts**
Upper-level module on various topics concerning rational/normative conflicts. Such as decision making in parity cases, the incommensurability of values, epistemic standards, epistemic permissibility, and epistemic dilemmas.
- SS 2026 **Ausgewählte Themen in der analytischen Erkenntnistheorie (in German):**
Intermediate module in epistemology covering topics concerning epistemic justification and epistemic rationality, internalism vs. externalism, rationalism and empiricism, evidentialism and process reliabilism.
- WS 2025/26 **Peer Disagreement and Epistemic Permissibility**
Upper-level module on various topics in epistemology, having to do with rational disagreement, higher-order evidence, epistemic permissibility, evidentialism and epistemic standards.
- WS 2025/26 & WS 2027/27 **Einführung in das wissenschaftliche Arbeiten (in German):**
Introductory module on philosophical methodology and academic standards. Teaching practical tools for properly engaging in philosophical work and producing written content. Covering topics such as conceptual analysis, critical thinking, textual analysis and thought experiments.
- SS 2025 & SS 2026 **Collective Epistemology**
Upper-level module on various topics in social and collective epistemology, covering topics such as group beliefs, collective justification, group knowledge and the relationship between individual and collective epistemology.

SS 2025 **Einführung in die analytische Erkenntnistheorie (in German):**
Lower-level introductory module in epistemology covering topics such as scepticism, the analysis of knowledge, epistemic justification, internalism vs. externalism, rationalism and empiricism.

Jagiellonian University; Poland (Guest Lecturer)

2024 - 2025 **An Operational Account of Institutional Belief** (with Dawn Wang & Konrad Werner) *Interdisciplinary Massive Open Online Course* on various themes in social philosophy and economics covering topics such as group beliefs, the ethics of belief, interpretationism, functionalism, institutions, experimental design, statistical methods.

University of Leeds; UK (Postgraduate Teaching Assistant):

WS 2023 **Knowledge, Self, and Reality** (with Helen Steward)
Lower-level introductory module in philosophy of mind, epistemology, and metaphysics covering topics such as personal identity, the nature of the self, truth, scepticism, objectivity, natural vs. social kinds, and the reality of the past and the future.

SS 2022
&
SS 2023 **How Science Works** (with Juha Saatsi (2022) & Ellen Clarke (2023))
Lower-level introductory module in philosophy of science covering topics such as scientific realism, structural realism, instrumentalism, induction, testability and falsifiability, scientific values, and reductionism.

SS 2022 **Introduction to Epistemology** (with Daniel Elstein)
Upper-level introductory module in epistemology covering topics such as scepticism, the analysis of knowledge, justification, internalism vs. externalism, epistemic luck, and testimony.

WS 2021 **Introduction to the History of Science** (with Graeme Gooday)
Lower-level introductory module in history of science covering topics such as the scientific revolution, perpetual motion machines, thermodynamics, conservation laws, the history of energy usage, earth sciences, and climate change.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS:

2020 **MA Research Certificate** (*zertifizierter Masterschwerpunkt*): certificated area of specialization: *History of Science and Philosophy of Science*. GPA of 1.0.

2019 **Performance Scholarship** (*Leistungsstipendium*) for academic excellence in the year 2018/19. Awarded by the *University of Graz* – Faculty of Humanities.

2019 **Promotional Scholarship** (*Förderungsstipendium*) for research expenses related to the MA-thesis in the year 2018/19. Awarded by the *University of Graz* – Faculty of Humanities.

2010 **Essay Award:** Won the federal state “*Philosophy-Essay Olympics*” for Austrian pupils and qualified for the national contest.

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Peer Review:

2024 – **Referee:** Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Studies, Erkenntnis, Synthese, Acta Analytica, Social Epistemology, Philosophia, Thought.

Organization of conferences and workshops:

- 2023 **Co-Organizer** of the workshop [Group Minds and Collective Agency](#) at the *University of Leeds* as part of work affiliated with the *Group Thinking: New Foundations* project. Keynote Speakers: Robbie Williams, Alessandro Salice.
- 2022 **Organizer** of the workshop [Collective and Individual Epistemology](#) at the *University of Leeds* as part of work affiliated with the *Group Thinking: New Foundations* project. Speakers: Jennifer Lackey, Christian List, Jessica Brown, Jesper Kallestrup, Joshua Habgood-Coote, and Simon Graf.

Other services:

- 2022 – 2024 **Spoke representative** at the University of Leeds (together with Ludovica Adamo) for the [Institute of Ascertaining Scientific Consensus](#) led by Professor Peter Vickers (Durham). An international spoke-and-hub network, capable of regularly polling >100,000 scientists on various scientific questions.
- 2021 – 2022 **Postgraduate Research Seminar convenor** at the *University of Leeds* at the School of *Philosophy, Religion, and History of Science*: Organization and chairing of weekly work-in-progress seminars.
- 2021 **Moderator** at the regional *John Stuart Mill Cup* at the *University of Leeds*.
- 2016 – 2018 **Co-founder** of the ‘Graz Philosophy Club’: Organization of bi-weekly meetings for discussions of papers/books or feedback for member-written papers intended for conferences/seminar presentations.

NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE:

- 2015 – 2020 [ISI “Initiative Social Integration” \(Austria\):](#)
- diversity management / disabled care
 - assisting students with disabilities at the *University of Graz*
 - assisting students with disabilities at the *University of Applied Sciences Graz*
 - part-time employed besides study
- 2014 – 2019 [Personal Assistant \(Austria\):](#)
- disabled care
 - part-time employed besides study
- 2008 – 2013 [Restorer Assistant \(Austria\):](#)
- restoration and conservation of artworks and architectural heritage
 - working on a case-by-case basis on different projects

Community Service:

- 2012 [Community Service at “Lebenshilfe Fürstenfeld” \(Austria\):](#)
- disabled care

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:

- German native speaker
- English fluent written and oral; IELTS overall band: 8.0/9.0 (2020)
- Latin intermediate Latin qualification (equivalent to the Austrian ‘Latinum’)

ACADEMIC REFERENCES:

List, Christian

Professor of Philosophy
Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy (GER)
c.list@lmu.de

Williams, J. Robert G.

Professor of Philosophy
University of Leeds (UK)
j.r.g.williams@leeds.ac.uk

Wiltsche, Harald

*Professor of Philosophy
University of Linköping (Sweden)
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David, Marian

*Professor of Philosophy
University of Graz (Austria)
marian.david@uni-graz.at*

Dang, Haixin

*Ass. Professor of Philosophy
University of Nebraska Omaha (US)
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Peet, Andrew

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Umeå University (Sweden)
andrewpeet123@gmail.com*