

Geordie McComb
Curriculum Vitae
March, 2026

geordie.mccomb@viu.ca
gmccomb@uvic.ca
geordiemccomb.com

EDUCATION

- 2020 Phd in philosophy – University of Toronto
Committee: James R. Brown (supervisor), Sonia Sedivy, Yiftach Fehige
External Examiner: Harald Wiltsche
Dissertation: *Thought Experiments & Literary Learning*
- 2009 MA in philosophy – Queen’s University
Advisor: Henry Laycock
Master’s Research Project: *On Definition and Thought Experiment*
- 2008 BA (honours with distinction) – University of Victoria

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR

- 2022-25 Sessional Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies,
Vancouver Island University
- | | |
|--------------|---|
| PHIL 448E | Directed Studies: Phil. Death & Dying |
| PHIL 232/448 | Bioethics |
| PHIL 248/448 | Philosophy of Science |
| PHIL 100 | Critical Thinking (5x) |
| PHIL 248/448 | Death & Dying (2x) |
| PHIL111 | Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge & Reality |
- 2023-26 Sessional Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of Victoria
- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| PHIL225 | Death & Dying (2x) |
|---------|--------------------|

PHIL 201 Critical Thinking (3x)
2014 Sessional Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of Saskatchewan

PHIL 281.3 Theory of Knowledge

TEACHING ASSISTANT

2023 Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, University of Victoria

PHIL 201 Critical Thinking

2009-20 Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto

PHL103 Intro. to Phil.: Knowledge & Reality

PHL232 Knowledge & Reality

PHL243 Philosophy of Sexuality

PHL240 Persons, Minds & Bodies

PHL100 Introduction to Philosophy

PHL210 17th & 18th Century Philosophy

2008-09 Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, Queen's University

PHL115 Fundamental Questions

RESEARCH AREAS

AOS: Epistemology, Aesthetics

AOC: Philosophy of Science, M&E, Early Analytic Philosophy, Bioethics

PUBLICATIONS

2012 “Thought Experiment, Definition and Literary Fiction” in *Thought Experiments in Philosophy, Science, and the Arts*. Eds. James R. Brown, Mélanie Frappier, Letitia Meynell. New York; London: Routledge.

TALKS - REFEREED

2021 “How Imaginings in Thought Experiments and Literary Stories Differ” – Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, University of Alberta

2014 “Are Thought Experiments and Arguments Token-Identical?” – Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Brock University

- 2013 “Thought Experiment, Fiction and Make-Believe” – Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, University of Victoria
- 2013 “Two Pictures of Thought Experiments” – Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science Annual Meeting, University of Victoria
- 2013 “When Thought Experiments are not Fictions” – Annual Meeting of the Society for Exact Philosophy, Université de Montréal and Université du Québec à Montréal
- 2011 “Naturalistic Methods, Constitutive Principles and Einstein’s Elevator” – OSSA Annual Conference, University of Windsor
- 2009 “Multiculturalism, Cultural Essentialism and Cultural Distinctness” – Midsouth Philosophy Conference, University of Memphis
- 2009 “Towards a Revised Goodmanian Account of Musical Works” – Canadian Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting, Carleton University
- 2009 “The Mathematical Aesthetics Thesis in the Philosophy of Science” – Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science Annual Meeting, Carleton U.

TALKS - INVITED

- 2023 “Consideration Machines: Short Stories as Thought Experiments” – Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Victoria
- 2014 “*Demons* and Details in the Laboratory of the Mind: Can Complex Literary Fictions be Thought Experiments?” – Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Saskatchewan
- 2014 Commentary on Andrew Brigham’s “Darwinian Epistemology and the Reliability of Commonsense” – Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Brock University
- 2014 “When are Fictions Thought Experiments?” – Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Saskatchewan
- 2013 Commentary on Robert Hudson’s “Versus Robustness Reasoning” – Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Winnipeg
- 2013 Commentary on Masashi Kasaki’s “Is Epistemological Disjunctivism Viable” – Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, University of Victoria
- 2013 Commentary on Thomas Heyd’s “Re-reading Kant on Free and Adherent Beauty” – Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, University of Victoria
- 2012 Commentary on Catherine Elgin’s “Literary Fictions and Thought Experiments” – Thought Experiments in Science: Four Blind Spots (An International Workshop), University of Toronto
- 2011 Commentary on Joshua Hollowell’s “Incompatibilism and the Exclusion Thesis” – 2011 University of Toronto Graduate Conference in Philosophy
- 2010 “Are Literary Fictions Thought Experiments?” – Halifax Thought Experiment Workshop, Dalhousie University

AWARDS

- 2014-15 University of Toronto Doctoral Completion Award (\$6,208)
2009-13 University of Toronto Foundation/Ontario Graduate Scholarship at the Faculty of Arts & Science (\$15,000/Award) (Awarded Three Times)
2008-09 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships Program, Master's Scholarship (\$17, 500)

SERVICE

- 2026 Reviewer – Eidos Philosophy Journal
2024-25 Second Reader - Honours Student Essay, Vancouver Island University (2x)
2023 Judge - Canadian High School Ethics Bowl, Vancouver Island University
2021-22 Reviewer – Journal for General Philosophy of Science
2015 Co-organizer – Walter Murray Lecture, U. of Saskatchewan Philosophy Dept.
2015 Lecturer – 12 Philosophy for Children Outreach Classes, Bedford Road Collegiate & Marion Graham Collegiate, University of Saskatchewan
2013 Public Philosophy Talk – Community Lecture Series, University of Saskatchewan
2013 Referee & Commentary Organizer – 2013 University of Toronto Graduate Conference in Philosophy
2012 Chair – 2012 University of Toronto Graduate Conference in Philosophy
2011-12 Graduate Student Union Representative – Graduate Philosophy Student Union, University of Toronto
2010-11 Referee – 2011 University of Toronto Graduate Conference in Philosophy
2010-11 Graduate Student Member of Colloquium Committee – Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto
2010-11 Secretary – Graduate Philosophy Student Union, University of Toronto
2008-09 Graduate Student Representative to Committee of Graduate Studies – Department of Philosophy, Queen's University

LANGUAGES

English	native
French	fluent
Spanish	reading, with dictionary

REFERENCES

James R. Brown (Professor, Philosophy, Toronto)	jrbrown@chass.utoronto.ca
Yiftach Fehige (Associate Professor, IHSPT, Toronto)	yiftach.fehige@utoronto.ca
Sonia Sedivy (Professor, Philosophy, Toronto)	sonia.sedivy@utoronto.ca

Harald Wiltsche (Professor, IKOS, Linköping)

harald.wiltsche@liu.se