
GRAF SIMON Immanuel Michael

Phone: +43 (0)676/7309032

E-Mail: prsimongr@gmail.com

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

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

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:

2025 - **Postdoctoral Researcher** at the *Munich Centre of Mathematical Philosophy*, at the [Chair in 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 Doctoral Programme in 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 G 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*.
Master 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
Bachelor 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 (peer-reviewed):

- Forthcoming Graf, Simon (forthcoming). The No-Defeater Clause. *Episteme*.
- Forthcoming Wang, Cuizhu, Graf, Simon, & Konrad, Werner (forthcoming). An Operational Definition of Institutional Beliefs. In Dyrda Adam et al. (Eds.) *Ethics of Institutional Beliefs: from Theoretical to Empirical*. Edward Elga Publishing.
- 2024 Vickers, Peter,... Graf Simon,... (forthcoming). 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>.
- 2023 Graf, Simon (2023). Permissive Divergence. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 53 (3), 240-255. <https://doi.org/10.1017/can.2024.4>.
- 2021 Graf, Simon (2021). The Epistemology of Groups by Jennifer Lackey. [Book Review] *Perspectives: International Postgraduate Journal of Philosophy* (9), 380-387.

Manuscripts In Progress:

- Under Review A paper on Generic Epistemology
- Under Review A paper on Epistemic Conflicts
- Under Review A paper on Epistemic Freedom and Self-Fulfilling Beliefs
- In Preparation A paper on Divergence Arguments in Social Epistemology (with Haixin Dang)
- In Preparation A paper on Higher-Order Requirements
- In Preparation A paper on Collective/Group Epistemic Justification
- In Preparation A paper on Expert-Consensus Reporting and Media Representation

EXTERNAL 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):

- 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).

Curriculum Vitae

- 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):

- 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 “In Defence of Epistemic Continuity: A Plea for a United Epistemology” *Philosophy Postgraduate Research Seminar* at the *University of Leeds* (United Kingdom).
- 2022 “Uniqueness, Permissivism, and Self-Fulfilling Beliefs” *Philosophy Seminar* at the *University of Leeds* (United Kingdom).
- 2022 “Uniqueness, Permissivism, and Self-Fulfilling Beliefs” *Philosophy Postgraduate Research 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).
- 2020 “Becoming in Spacetime: The Metaphysics of Light Clocks and Proper Time in Special Relativity.” *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).

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS:

- 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.
- 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.

TEACHING:

Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy:

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

Jagiellonian University (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 (Postgraduate Teaching Assistant):

- 2022 - 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, induction, testability, scientific values, and reductionism.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Peer Review:

2024 – **Referee:** Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Social Epistemology

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 & Timekeeper** 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/journals.

Public outreach:

2024 [New Work in Philosophy: A Multimedia Newsletter](#). Permissive Divergence. In preparation.

EXTRACURRICULAR EDUCATION:

2022 **Workshop:** “Conventions in Science: Conceptual, Epistemic and Ethical” at the *Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA)* at the University of Salzburg. Lecturer: Quill Kukla.

2021 **Workshop:** “Moral and Scientific Expertise” at the *Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA)* at the University of Salzburg.

2020 **Summer School (cancelled due to Covid-19):** “USS-SWC Scientific World Conceptions: Representation in Art and Science” organized by the University of Vienna. Lecturers: Chiara Ambrosio, Angela Breitenbach, Dominic McIver Lopes.

2020 **Symposium (cancelled due to Covid-19):** “Philosophy of Play” at the University of Zagreb.

2020 **Workshop:** “Alterity, Community, and Morality: Phenomenological Accounts of (Inter)Subjectivity between Theory and Praxis” at the University of Graz. Lecturer: Dan Zahavi.

2019 **Workshop:** “Mindless explanations? The Causal and Explanatory Role of Mental States” at the Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA).

2019 **Summer School:** “Philosophy and Technology” at the University of Zagreb.

Curriculum Vitae

- 2019 **Interdisciplinary Workshop:** “Symmetries, Structures and the Philosophy of Modern Physics” at the *University of Graz*. Lecturer: Holger Lyre.
- 2018 **Summer School:** “USS-SWC Scientific World Conceptions: Thought Experiments” organized by the *University of Vienna* and the *Institute Vienna Circle*. Lecturers: James Robert Brown, John Norton, Elke Brendel.
- 2018 **Workshop:** “Philosophy of Mathematics” at the *University of Graz*. Lecturer: James Robert Brown.

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
- marginally employed besides study
- 2008 – 2013 Restorer Assistant (Austria):
- 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:

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)
harald.wiltsche@liu.se*

David, Marian

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

Peet, Andrew

*Ass. Professor of Philosophy
Umeå University (Sweden)
andrewpeet123@gmail.com*

Dang, Haixin

*Ass. Professor of Philosophy
University of Nebraska Omaha (US)
haixindang@unomaha.edu*

Brown, James Robert

*Emeritus Professor of Philosophy
University of Toronto (Canada)
jrbrown@chass.utoronto.ca*