

# Mark Bowker

EMAIL: markalanbowker@gmail.com

WEBSITE: <http://markbowker.xyz>

## RESEARCH AREAS

---

**Research Specialisation:** Philosophy of Language

**Primary Teaching Experience:** Language, Logic, Epistemology, Early Analytic Philosophy

**Further Teaching Experience:** Ethics, Metaethics, Political Philosophy, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Science, and Ancient Greek Philosophy

## AFFILIATIONS

---

**Postdoctoral Researcher.** InFraMinds Project, Univeristy College Dublin. January 2021 – present

**Visiting Scholar.** Cognitive Development Lab, NYU. January 2021 – present

**IRC Postdoctoral Researcher.** University College Dublin. October 2018 – January 2021

**External Tutor (Part Time).** University of St Andrews. February 2018 – September 2018

**Postdoctoral Research Fellow.** Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy (MCMP), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich (LMU). August 2016 – November 2017

**Associate Researcher.** St Leonards School, St Andrews. September 2013 – September 2014

## PUBLICATIONS

---

1. Truth in Fiction, Underdetermination, and the Experience of Actuality. Forthcoming. *British Journal of Aesthetics*.
2. Ineliminable Underdetermination and Context-Shifting Arguments. Forthcoming. *Inquiry*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2019.1688176>
3. Saying a Bundle: Meaning, Intention, and Underdetermination. 2019. *Synthese*, 196/10: 4229-4252. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-017-1652-0>
4. Underdetermination, Domain Restriction, and Theory Choice. 2019. *Mind & Language*, 34/2: 205-220. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mila.12207>
5. Rich Situated Attitudes. 2017. With Kristina Liefke. In: Kurahashi S., Ohta Y., Arai S., Satoh K., Bekki D. (eds) *New Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence*. JSAI-isAI 2016. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 10247. Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-61572-1\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-61572-1_4)

## PUBLICATIONS AS EDITOR

---

Topical Collection on 'Indeterminacy and Underdetermination'. *Synthese*. In preparation. With Maria Baghramian

## EDUCATION

---

**PhD in Philosophy.** University of St Andrews. June 2016.

Dissertation Title: 'Saying Nothing: In Defence of Syntactic and Semantic Underdetermination'

**Master of Letters (with Distinction) in Philosophy.** University of St Andrews and University of Stirling. November 2011. Dissertation Title: 'The Epistemic Significance of Disagreement'

**Master of Arts (First Class Honours) in Philosophy.** University of St Andrews. June 2010

## RESEARCH GRANTS

---

**Conference Funding 2019.** Irish Research Council, New Foundations: €5,000

**Conference Funding 2019.** University College Dublin, Seed Funding: €1,000

**Postdoctoral Research Fellowship 2018-2020.** Irish Research Council: €91,846

**Postdoctoral Research Fellowship 2016-2017.** LMU: €24,236

**PhD Studentship 2011-2014.** AHRC: Full scholarship. £52,230

**Travel Scholarship 2013.** University of St Andrews: £1600

**Masters Scholarship 2010.** University of St Andrews: £4000

**Undergraduate Research Internship Programme 2009.** University of St Andrews: £1800

## TEACHING

---

**The Analytic Revolution. University College Dublin. Spring Trimester 2019**

16/24 lectures. Undergraduate. Taught with Marinus Ferreira

**Insults, Lies, and Bullshit. Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich. Summer Semester 2017**

Fourteen lectures. Open to master's students and advanced undergraduates

**Theory of Knowledge. St Leonards School, St Andrews, 2013/14**

Series of eight lectures delivered to two classes of high-school students

**Postgraduate Tutor. University of St Andrews. 2011-2016**

Reasoning (Informal logic and introduction to formal logic)

Formal and Philosophical Logic

Reasoning and Knowledge (Logic and Epistemology)

Mind and Reality (Philosophy of Mind and Metaphysics)

Metaphysics and Science

Moral and Political Controversies

Rationality and Action (Metaethics)

Foundations of Western Philosophy (Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics, Sceptics, and Epicureans)

**Private tutor to 2nd year undergraduate. 2016**

Logic: truth tables, semantic trees, and natural deduction for propositional and quantified logic

## CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

---

**Primary Organiser:** Indeterminacy and Underdetermination.  
UCD. 24th-25th January 2020. With Maria Baghramian

**Organising Committee:** Situations, Information, and Semantic Content.  
MCMP, LMU. 15th-18th December 2016. Chair: Kristina Liefke

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

**Journal Referee:** Mind & Language, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Inquiry, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Southern Journal of Philosophy, Ergo, Stance

**Conference Referee:** CCC 2020, Warsaw; ECAP 9, Munich; Arché Graduate Conferences 2011-2016, St Andrews

**Editorial Board Member:** Stance: An International Undergraduate Philosophy Journal. 2009/10

**Officer:** British Undergraduate Philosophy Society. 2009-10

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

---

Teaching and Learning. Two-and-a-half day seminar series. UCD. Dec. 2019-Jan. 2020

Presenting Your Research Effectively. One-day training programme. UCD. Feb. 2019

Sharing Your Research Interests Through Blogging. One-day seminar. UCD Library. Nov. 2018

Student Diversity Online Training Module. University of St Andrews. Sep. 2014

Training in Good Academic Practice. Half-day seminar. University of St Andrews. Sep. 2014

Tutoring and Demonstrating. One-day seminar. University of St Andrews. Sep. 2011

Assessment and Academic Misconduct: An introduction. Online training. University of St Andrews. Sep. 2011

## PEER-REVIEWED TALKS

---

The Aesthetic Experience of Fictional Truth. American Society of Aesthetics Rocky Mountain Division Meeting. Santa Fe. July 2019

Generics as Hedges. Annual Conference of the Israeli Philosophical Association. Bar Ilan University. February 2019

Generics Without Truth-Conditions. The 2nd Context, Cognition and Communication Conference: Contexts, Concepts, Objects. University of Warsaw. June 2018

Semantic Restrictivism. Fourth Philosophy of Language and Mind Conference (PLM4). Ruhr-Universität Bochum. September 2017

Reviving Semantic Descriptivism. Ninth European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP 9). LMU. September 2017

Denying Semantic Content. Situations, Information, and Semantic Content. MCMP, LMU. December 2016

Rich Situated Propositions: The 'Right' Objects for the Content of Propositional Attitudes. Logic and Engineering of Natural Language Semantics (LENLS13). 8th JSAI International Symposium on AI. Keio University, Tokyo. November 2016

Saying Nothing. Semantics and Pragmatics at Manchester. University of Manchester. July 2015

Propositional Equivalence and the Referential/Attributive Distinction. Eighth European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP 8). University of Bucharest. September 2014

Against Syntactic and Semantic Determinacy. Annual conference of the Israel Philosophy Society. Tel Aviv University. February 2014

Context and Content. 9th National Conference of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy (SIFA). University of Padua. September 2010

Frege's Objections to Mill's Theory of Arithmetic. British Undergraduate Philosophy Society. The University of Warwick. May 2010

Kaplan's Framework for Indexicals and Explanations of Communication. British Undergraduate Philosophy Society Summer Conference. University of St Andrews. July 2009

#### FURTHER TALKS

---

The Generic Bootstrapping Hypothesis. NYU, Cognitive Development Lab Meeting. January 2021.

'Fake News', Expertise, and 'Conspiracy Theories'. St Andrews Diaspora Seminar. November 2020

Expressive Generics. *Work in Progress Seminar*. University College Dublin. May 2020

Truth and Paradoxes of Self-Reference. *Work in Progress Seminar*. University College Dublin. March 2020

Generics Fast and Slow. The University of Edinburgh. February 2020

Sterken on Generics. University of Vienna. January 2020

Generics, Propositions, and Cognitive Structure. *Indeterminacy and Underdetermination*. University College Dublin. January 2020

The A-Quantifier Test. *Arché 20th Anniversary Conference*. University of St Andrews. June 2019

Fictional Characters in the Actual World. *Work in Progress Seminar*. University College Dublin. January 2019

Generics as Hedges. *Work in Progress Seminar*. University College Dublin. October 2018

Generic Disagreement. Arché Language & Mind Seminar. University of St Andrews. May 2018

Sainbury and Tye, 'Seven Puzzles'. Arché Language & Mind Seminar. University of St Andrews. April 2018

Language Without Content. *Work-In-Progress Seminar*. MCMP, LMU. May 2017

Towards a Rich Situated Account of Semantic Underdetermination. Colloquium in Philosophy, Logic, and Philosophy of Science. MCMP, LMU. October 2016

Contrary Linguistic Theories. Arché Language & Mind Seminar. University of St Andrews. October 2015

Underdetermination. Arché PITT Seminar. University of St Andrews. May 2015

Multiplicity of Content. Friday Seminar. University of St Andrews. October 2014

Yablo's Aboutness. Arché PITT Seminar. University of St Andrews. September 2014

Lackey's Lessons From Lies and Bullshit. Arché Evidence, Justification, and Knowledge Seminar. University of St Andrews. June 2014

Syntactic and Semantic Determinacy. PITT Seminar. University of St Andrews. November 2013

How Do We Know What People Mean by the Words They Use? Interview presentation. St Leonards School, St Andrews. November 2013

"That's What He Said!" Friday Seminar. University of St Andrews. October 2013

Semantics and Metasemantics. Arché PITT Seminar. University of St Andrews. October 2013

Against the Two-Step Theory . Arché PITT Seminar. University of St Andrews. June 2013

In Defence of the Standard View. Friday Seminar. University of St Andrews. April 2013

On What is Said. Arché PITT Seminar. University of St Andrews. October 2012

The Two-Step Theory. Arché Reading Party. Ardtornish. September 2012

Positional Representation of Context. Arché Contextualism and Relativism Seminar. University of St Andrews. May 2012

What is or Would Be Said. University of St Andrews. March 2012

Papineau on the Poverty of Analysis. Arché Methodology Seminar. November 2011