

Curriculum vitae

Details

Name: Brandt Hielke van der Gaast

Address: Reitdiepstraat 83, 3522 GG, Utrecht

Email: b.h.vandergaast@uu.nl

Nationality: Dutch

Date of birth: February 13, 1974

Specialization: Philosophy of mind and language

Teaching competence: Metaphysics and epistemology, logic, applied ethics, philosophy of technology

Current position

February 2019 – current

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University

Responsibilities: developing courses and teaching in philosophy, artificial intelligence, and PPE (philosophy, politics, and economics)

Past positions

March 2016 – February 2019

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Twente

Responsibilities: developing and coordinating courses and modules, teaching

2008 – 2013

Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Auburn University, Alabama, US

Responsibilities: full-time teaching in medical ethics, business ethics, and introduction to ethics

2007 – 2008

Graduate Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Smith College, Massachusetts, US

Responsibilities: part-time teaching in formal and informal logic

2006 – 2008

Graduate Instructor, Department of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts Amherst, US

Responsibilities: part-time teaching in philosophy and ethics

Education

2000 – 2008: Ph.D. in Philosophy (2014), University of Massachusetts Amherst, US

Dissertation thesis: A Defense of Russellian Descriptivism

Supervisor: Jonathan Schaffer

1999 – 2000: Program visitor, Rutgers University, New Jersey, US

1993 – 1999: B.A./M.A. in Philosophy, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

MA Thesis: Immediate Knowledge: Chisholm and Sellars on the Given

Supervisor: René van Woudenberg

Teaching

2019 – current, at Utrecht University

Teaching in philosophy, artificial intelligence, and PPE. Designing new courses, coordinating courses, giving lectures, and running discussion seminars. Supervising student theses and internships on the bachelor's as well as the master's level.

- 2021, 2020: Knowledge in Debate, PPE
- 2021, 2020: Reasoning and Argumentation, PPE
- 2021, 2020: Kennis en Wetenschap I, Filosofie
- 2021: Ethiek: Technologie en AI in de Zorg, Minor Medical Humanities
- 2020, 2019: Philosophy of Language, Filosofie
- 2020, 2019: Filosofie voor KI (BA), Kunstmatige Intelligentie
- 2020, 2019: Filosofische Reflectie op Wetenschappelijke Modellen van de Mens, Filosofie
- 2020: Filosofie van de Geest, Filosofie
- 2019: Inleiding Logica, Kunstmatige Intelligentie
- 2019: Modal Logic, Kunstmatige Intelligentie
- 2019: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence (MA), Kunstmatige Intelligentie
- 2019: Kennis en Wetenschap I, Kunstmatige Intelligentie

2016 – 2019, at University of Twente

Designing courses, teaching courses, and service teaching on topics such as computer ethics, business ethics, critical thinking, philosophy of technology, philosophy of computing, and history, ethics and philosophy of psychology.

- 2018, 2017: History, Ethics, and Philosophy of Psychology, Psychology
- 2018, 2017: Reflection on Technology for CreaTe, Creative Technology
- 2018: Reflection on Technology, Technical Computer Science, Business and IT
- 2017: Business Ethics, International Business Administration
- 2016: Critical Thinking, Reading & Writing, Industrial Engineering and Management
- 2016: Value-Sensitive Design, ATLAS (University of Twente's University College)
- 2016: Introduction to Ethics, ATLAS (University of Twente's University College)
- 2016: Philosophy of Psychology, Psychology
- 2016: Data & Information Ethics, Technical Computer Science

2008 – 2013, at Auburn University

Designing, developing, and teaching courses in medical ethics, business ethics, and introduction to ethics, with full responsibility. These courses were taught to students from a variety of disciplines, including pre-med students.

- 2013, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008: Medical Ethics
- 2013, 2011, 2010: Introduction to Ethics
- 2012: Business Ethics

2005 – 2008, at Smith College

Working as teaching assistant for a large logic course. Designing, developing, and teaching courses in formal and informal logic, with full responsibility.

- 2008: Logic 101: Informal Reasoning, Smith College
- 2006, 2005: Logic 100: Valid and Invalid Reasoning, Smith College

2002 – 2007, at the University of Massachusetts

Designing, developing and teaching courses in theoretical and applied ethics, introduction to philosophy, and existentialism. These courses were both for philosophy undergraduates as well as other students.

- 2006, 2003: Medical Ethics
- 2004: Existentialism
- 2002: Introduction to Ethics
- 2002: Introduction to Philosophy

Supervising experience

Throughout the years, I have supervised many BA and MA theses on a variety of topics, ranging from traditional theses on contemporary or historical philosophy to interdisciplinary theses that incorporate empirical research. I have also supervised theses in artificial intelligence, both on the bachelor's and master's level. Supervising internships, both practice-oriented and research internships, has been another one of my activities.

Selected recent presentations

August 2020: Fregeanism or Magnetism, but Not Both. ECAP10, European Congress of Analytic Philosophy

November 2019: No Harm, No Foul: A Person-Affecting Axiology. OZSW yearly conference, University of Amsterdam

June 2018: Defining 'Digital', IACAP 2018, International Association for Computing And Philosophy, Warsaw, Poland

Dec 2017: Defining 'Digital', International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Information, University of Porto, Portugal

October 2016: Functionalism and Action Individuation, workshop on agency and causation, Ghent University, Belgium

Selected recent science communication

June 2021: Why Words Matter, Utrechtse Dag van de Filosofie

March 2018: Filosofie van het spel, Concordia Gallery, Enschede

February 2018: Wittgenstein, Studium Generale, University of Twente, Enschede

June 2017: Foute Kunst, Concordia Gallery, Enschede

Certificates/memberships

Affiliate member, 4TU.Centre for Ethics and Technology

Member, Descartes Center, University of Utrecht

Regular member of Onderzoeksschool Wijsbegeerte (OZSW)

Skills

Social/organizational: coordinating teacher teams, developing course material, presenting lectures to different types of audiences, guiding/supervising students during theses or internships, organizing and participating in discussion panels

Personal/technical: excellent proficiency in English (near-native, written and spoken), excellent proficiency in Dutch (native language), extensive knowledge of office applications, digital learning environments, and video conferencing software (Zoom, Teams, Starleaf, Blackboard, Osiris, Moodle, Canvas, Remindo, Caracal, Feedback Fruits, etc.)