

Wouter A. Cohen

July 2023

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Areas of specialisation: history of analytic philosophy, (meta)metaphysics

Areas of competence: philosophy of language, logic, philosophy of music

Employment

2023–2024 Analysis Studentship (postdoctoral researcher)
 University of Manchester

Education

2019– PhD Philosophy
 Gonville & Caius College, University of Cambridge

 Dissertation title
 Frege, Russell and Wittgenstein on existence and negative existentials

2018–2019 Logic Year
 ILLC, University of Amsterdam

2017–2018 MPhil Philosophy (distinction)
 Gonville & Caius College, University of Cambridge

2014–2017 BA Musicology (*cum laude*)
 Utrecht University

2013–2017 BA Philosophy (*cum laude*)
 Utrecht University

Publications

2023 Would Carnap have tolerated modern metaphysics?
 (with Benjamin Marschall)
 The Monist 106: 326–341.

forthcoming Frege's many existence concepts.
 In *Varieties of Being: Comparative Historical Essays*, ed. D. Rami (Springer).

forthcoming The audibility problem and indirect listening.
 Australasian Journal of Philosophy.

2022 Denoting concepts and ontology in Russell's *Principles of Mathematics*.
 Journal for the History of Analytical Philosophy 10(7): 1–22.

2021 Ways of being have no way of being useful.
 Thought 10: 293–301.

2017 Fictional realism and metaphysically indeterminate identity.
 Analysis 77: 511–19.

Presentations (* = refereed, † = invited)

- 2023† Russell on negative existentials.
Higher-order Approaches to Existence: Systematic and Historic Perspectives
(Dortmund)
- 2023* A note on existence and negative existentials in Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*.
44th International Wittgenstein Symposium 2023 (Kirchberg am Wechsel)
- 2023* A Russellian theory of modality.
11th European Congress for Analytic Philosophy (University of Vienna)
- 2023* Russell's existential struggles 1910–1914.
Society for the Study of the History of Analytical Philosophy Annual Conference
(Humboldt University, Berlin)
- 2023* Would Carnap have tolerated modern metaphysics?
10th Annual Dutch Research School of Philosophy (OZSW) Conference (Leiden University)
- 2023 A Russellian theory of modality.
Graduate seminar (University of Cambridge)
- 2022† Appreciating music.
Moral Sciences Club (University of Cambridge)
- 2022 Would Carnap have tolerated Sider? (with Benjamin Marschall)
Serious Metaphysics Group (University of Cambridge)
- 2021 Frege on existence.
Serious Metaphysics Group (University of Cambridge)
- 2019 What it takes to hear a work of music.
Graduate seminar (University of Cambridge)
- 2018 The logic of relative modality.
Cool logic seminar (IILC, University of Amsterdam)

Awards and scholarships

- 2023 Travel bursary
Women in London Philosophy Conference, Institute of Philosophy (University of London)
- 2022 Postgraduate fellowship
British Society for the History of Philosophy
- 2022 Student bursary
The Aristotelian Society
- 2022 Student bursary
Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds
- 2019–2022 Bauer PhD scholarship
Gonville and Caius College

- 2019 Travel bursary
CUSO Summer School in Recursion Theory and Philosophy
- 2017 MPhil bursary
Hendrik Mullerfonds
- 2017 MPhil bursary
Fundatie van Renswoude

Teaching

- 2019–2023 **University of Cambridge**
 Lecturer:
 - *IB Modality*
- Supervisor:
 - *IA Meaning*
 - *IB Knowledge, Language and World*
 - *IB History of Analytic Philosophy*
 - *II Mathematical Logic*
- Class leader:
 - *IA Formal Methods*
- Discussion group leader:
 - *IA Metaphysics*
 - *IB History of Analytic Philosophy*
- 2016–2017 **Utrecht University**
 Teaching assistant:
 - *Mathematics for A.I. (Wiskunde voor K.I.)*
 - *Philosophy of Mind (Filosofie van de Geest)*

Service

- 2023 Co-organiser of the Extended Essays and Dissertations Workshop for second- and third-year undergraduates
University of Cambridge
- 2021 Co-organiser of the 14th Annual Graduate Conference of Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic
University of Cambridge
- 2020–2021 Co-convenor of the Serious Metaphysics Group
University of Cambridge
- 2020–2021 Secretary of the Moral Sciences Club
University of Cambridge
- 2020 Philosophy Tripos admissions interviewer
University of Cambridge (Lucy Cavendish College; Churchill College)
- 2020 Chair of the Graduate Seminar (Easter term)
University of Cambridge

2020 Co-organiser of the 13th Annual Graduate Conference of Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic
University of Cambridge

Summer schools

2019 CUSO summer school in recursion theory and philosophy
University of Geneva

2016 28th European summer school in logic, language and information
Free University of Bolzano-Bozen

2016 The challenges of natural teleology: final causes from Aristotle to Darwin
University of Groningen

Outreach

Columnist for *Bij Nader Inzien*: <https://bijnaderinzien.com/author/wouter-cohen/>

2023 Hoeveel haren heb je nodig om niet meer kaal te zijn?
[How many hairs do you need to not be bald?]

2022 Moet je expert zijn om kunst te waarderen?
[Do you have to be an expert to appreciate art?]

2022 Moeten we controversiële standbeelden toch maar laten staan?
[Should controversial statues stand?]

2022 Bertrand Russell en de dochter van Mark Rutte.
[Bertrand Russell and the daughter of Mark Rutte.]

2021 Waarom diversiteit belangrijk is: *stereotype threat*.
[Why diversity is important: the danger of stereotypes.]

2021 Problematische grappen doen meer dan kwetsen.
[Problematic jokes do more than hurt.]

2021 We moeten af van 'hij' en 'zij'.
[We should stop using 'he' and 'she'.]