Margherita Harris

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Fellow 2024-2025

SOCRATES Centre, Leibniz University Hannover.

Postdoctoral Fellow 2023-2024

Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh.

Guest Teacher 2022-2023

Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Visiting Fellow 2021-2024

Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method, LSE.

EDUCATION

PhD Philosophy, LSE

2017-2021

Thesis: Conceptualizing uncertainty: the IPCC, model robustness and the weight of evidence Supervisors: Roman Frigg, Liam Kofi Bright

MSc Philosophy of Science, LSE

2015-2016

MMath Mathematics, University of Warwick

2008-2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

AoS: Philosophy of Science, Epistemology, Philosophy of Statistics

AoC: Philosophy of Climate Science, Decision Theory, Logic

PUBLICATIONS

- Harris, M. (2025). The IPCC Uncertainty Framework: What Some Decision Makers Want (and Why They Shouldn't). Climatic Change 178, 105. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-025-03931-6
- Harris, M., Frigg, R. (2023). Climate Models and Robustness Analysis Part I: Core Concepts and Premises. In: Pellegrino, G., Di Paola, M. (eds) Handbook of Philosophy of Climate Change. Handbooks in Philosophy. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-16960-2_146-1

- Harris, M., Frigg, R. (2023). Climate Models and Robustness Analysis Part II: The Justificatory Challenge. In: Pellegrino, G., Di Paola, M. (eds) Handbook of Philosophy of Climate Change. Handbooks in Philosophy. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-16960-2_147-1
- Harris, M. (2021). The Epistemic Value of Independent Lies: False Analogies and Equivocations. Synthese 199, 14577–14597. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-021-03434-8

WORK IN PROGRESS

- "Some Conceptual Problems in the IPCC Uncertainty Framework, How They Came About, and Where to Go from Here." (under Review)
- "Robustness Reexamined: Unpacking the Limits of Model-Based Robustness Analysis as Explanatory Reasoning" (Under Review)
- "Beyond Inductive Risk: Recognizing Quantifauxcation for What It Is" (Under Review)
- "Letting go of Weight-and of Probabilism"
- "What's the Purpose? A Critical Evaluation of Contemporary Philosophical Accounts of Scientific Representation" with Arnon Levy
- "Just Pay Attention to Me: Flourishing Relationships without Commitments" with Henry Schiller

PRESENTATIONS

- 16. "From False Precision to Blind Caution", *Philosophy of Climate Science (PhiCliSci) work-shop*, May, 2025, University of St Andrews
- 15. "From Inductive Risk to Quantifauxcation", Higher Seminar in Philosophy of Science, February 2025, University of Stockholm
- 14. "Beyond Inductive Risk: Unraveling the Equivocations and Misconceptions Hiding Quantifauxcation", SOCRATES, November 2024, Hannover
- 13. "Just Pay Attention to Me: Flourishing Relationships without Commitments", XXV World Congress of Philosophy, August 2024, Rome
- 12. "Probabilism Under Scrutiny: Grappling with the Weight of Evidence", Center for Philosophy of Science, April 2024, Pittsburgh

- 11. "Some Conceptual Problems in the IPCC Uncertainty Framework, and Where to Go from Here", Center for Philosophy of Science, November 2023, Pittsburgh
- 10. "The Detrimental Impact of Quantifauxcation on Our Understanding of the Evolution of the Climate", European Philosophy of Science Association, September 2023, Belgrade, Online (due to environmental concerns)
- 9. "The Ubiquity of Quantifauxcation and Why it Must Stop", 17th International Congress on Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology (CLMPST 2023), July 2023, Buenos Aires
- 8. "On Severity, the Weight of Evidence, and the Relationship Between the Two", *The Statistics Wars and Their Casualties*, December 2022, LSE, Online
- 7. "Model Robustness: Schupbach's Explanatory Account of Robustness Analysis to the Rescue?", Sigma Club, March 2022, LSE, Online
- 6. "Some Conceptual Problems in the IPCC Uncertainty Framework, and How They Came About", Conference on Climate Change and Studies of the Future; October 2021, A Coruña
- 5. "What Does the Bayesian Have to Say about Model-Based Robustness Analysis?", Bayesian Epistemology: Perspectives and Challenges, August 2020, Munich, Online (due to Covid 19)
- 4. "What Does the Bayesian have to Say about Model-Based Robustness Analysis?", *Choice Group*, June 2020, LSE, Online (due to Covid 19)
- 3. "The Epistemic Value of Independent Lies: False Analogies and Equivocations", London Graduate Philosophy Conference, June 2020, Online (due to Covid 19)
- 2. "On the Relationship between Confidence and Likelihood in the IPCC Uncertainty Framework", European Philosophy of Science Association, September 2019, Geneva
- 1. "On the Relationship between Confidence and Likelihood in the IPCC Uncertainty Framework", British Society for the Philosophy of Science, July 2019, Durham

TEACHING

At the LSE, GTAs are responsible for small-group classes, marking and feedback.

2022-23: Philosophy of Science. LSE. Guest Teacher. 3 classes, 45 students. A tour of the philosophical underpinnings of modern science. (LT)

2021-22: Historical and Global Perspectives on Philosophy. LSE. GTA. 3 classes, 46 students. Example topics: Zhuangzi as a Political Philosopher, Plato's Politeia, Confucius' and Aristotle's Virtue Ethics, Elisabeth of Bohemia's Philosophy of Mind. (LT)

2021-22: Genes, Brains and Society. LSE. GTA. 4 classes, 60 students. Example topics: human nature; gender and the brain; race and the genome. (MT)

2019-20: Einstein for Everyone: From Time Travel to the Edge of the Universe. LSE. GTA. 3 classes, 45 students. Introduction to relativity theory and its philosophical implications. (MT)

2017-19, 2021-23: The Big Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy. LSE. GTA. Several classes. Example topics: scepticism; the existence of God; consciousness; persistence; time, numbers; ethics; justice; meaning. (MT & LT)

2014-2017: Mathematics A-level. Cambridge Assessment, Cambridge. Part-time examiner (twice a year) for A-Levels Mathematics international examinations.

2013-14: Mathematics A-Level. CATS College, Cambridge. Main roles: teaching A-Levels Maths and advanced classes in preparation for STEP (Cambridge Maths entry requirement).

SERVICE

2022-2025: Referee for the British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, the European Journal of Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Science, Theoria, Erkenntnis, the National Science Foundation USA (NSF) and Cambridge Elements.

2022: Co-organizer of The Statistics Wars and Their Casualties workshop (LSE)

2020-2022: Co-organizer of Conjectures and Refutations seminar series (LSE)

AWARDS

Global Priorities Institute accommodation & travel fund for participating in the symposium "Scientific Evidence and Uncertainty about the Long-Run Future" at CLMPST 2023, Buenos Aires.

John Watkins memorial prize: LSE award for the paper "The Epistemic Value of Independent Lies: False Analogies and Equivocations" (2022)

LSE doctoral studentship (tuition fees and full living expenses, 2017-2021)

AHRC Northern Bridge doctoral studentship (tuition fees and full living expenses, 2017-2020) (declined)

LSE 120th anniversary MSc scholarship (tuition fees and contribution to living expenses, 2015-2016)