

Róbert Mátyási

Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto
170 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5R 2M8

robbie.matyasi@mail.utoronto.ca

Education

PhD, Philosophy, University of Toronto, 2014 – present

- Dissertation topic: Spinoza's metaphysics of the finite
- Dissertation committee: Karolina Hübner (supervisor), Nick Stang, Marleen Rozemond
- Expected Completion: 2020

Visiting assistant in research, Yale University, 2019

- Advisor: Michael Della Rocca

MA, Philosophy, Central European University, 2014

BA, Philosophy, University of Pécs, 2012

Areas of Specialization

17th and 18th Century Philosophy, Metaphysics

Areas of Competence

Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, 20th Century Philosophy, Ethics, Logic

Publications

Articles

"Spinoza on Composition, Monism and Beings of Reason", *Journal of Modern Philosophy*, 2(1). 2020.

<http://doi.org/10.32881/jomp.74>

Reviews

(with Karolina Hübner) *Reconceiving Spinoza*, by Samuel Newlands, *Mind*, 129(513): 307-314. 2020.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/mind/fzz015>

Talks and Conference Papers

(* = refereed, # = invited)

Spinoza on Essence and Determination

- NYC Early Modern WIP Workshop, New York University, April 20, 2019
- #International Workshop on Early Modern Philosophy, Harvard University, September 29, 2018, Commentator: Sebastian Bender

Spinoza on Composition

- SEMPY, Yale University, March 5, 2019

Spinoza on Objective Being and Modality

- *8th Margaret Wilson conference, University of Buffalo, June 16, 2018
- *Canadian Philosophical Association Congress, Université du Québec à Montréal, June 7, 2018
- *Finnish-Hungarian Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Central European University, 28 May, 2018

Moore on the Unreality of Agent Relative Value (with Damian Melamedoff)

- *Canadian Philosophical Association Congress, University of British Columbia, June 4, 2019 (winner of the English Student Essay Prize), commentator: Graham Moore

Spinoza's Two Concepts of Parthood

- *Collegium Spinozanum II, University of Groningen, July 7, 2017
- History of Modern Philosophy Research Group talk, University of Toronto, March 23, 2017

Need Recurrence be Eternal? (with James Davies)

- *Canadian Philosophers Association Congress, Ryerson University, May 27, 2017

Spinoza on Expression

- #Early Modern Symposium, Research Group for the History and Philosophy of Science, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, August 3, 2016
- (with Karolina Hübner) History of Modern Philosophy Research Group talk, University of Toronto, April 25, 2016

Causal Eliminativism and Ordinary Objects (titles may vary)

- *Sixth Conference of the Dutch-Flemish Association for Analytic Philosophy (VAF 2014); University of Groningen, January 29-31, 2014
- 6th In-house Graduate Philosophy Conference; Central European University, October 11, 2013
- #Logic and Philosophy of Mathematics seminar (LaPoM). The student and faculty seminar of the Department of Logic, Eötvös Lóránd University, October 14, 2011

Episztemikus lázadók és a szkepticizmus kihívása ("Epistemic Renegades and the Challenge of Skepticism")

- *Megértés és magyarázat ("Understanding and explanation") | Analytic Philosophy and Phenomenology Conference Series; University of Kaposvár, January 18, 2013

Metametafizika mint még több metafizika ("Metametaphysics as More Metaphysics")

- *Realizmus a fenomenológiában és az analitikus filozófiában ("Realism in phenomenology and analytic philosophy") | Analytic philosophy and Phenomenology Conference Series, University of Kaposvár, January 15, 2012

Hogyan értsük a Hume-diktumot, és miért érdemes alkalmaznunk a kortárs metafizikában? ("How to Understand Hume's Dictum, and Why It's worth Using in Contemporary Metaphysics?")

- *David Hume évszázadai ("Centuries of David Hume"), Eötvös Lóránd University, September 30, 2011

Invited Comments

Torin Doppelt, "A Sadness Born of a Fact': a Study of Spinoza's Humility", Canadian Philosophical Association Congress, Université du Québec à Montréal, June 7, 2018

Teaching

Course Instructor

- Knowledge and Reality, 200-level, University of Toronto St. George, Summer, 2019
- Knowledge and Reality, 200-level, University of Toronto St. George, Summer, 2018

Tutorial Leader

- 17-18th Century Philosophy, 200-level, University of Toronto Mississauga, Fall/Spring 2017– 2018
- Knowledge and Reality, 200-level, University of Toronto St. George, Summer 2017
- 17-18th Century Philosophy, 200-level, University of Toronto St. George, Fall/Spring 2016 – 2017

Teaching Assistant

- Critical reasoning, 100-level, University of Toronto Mississauga, Summer 2016
- Modern Symbolic Logic, 200-level, University of Toronto St. George, Spring 2016
- Minds and Machines, 300-level, University of Toronto St. George, Fall 2015
- Ethics, 300-level, University of Toronto St. George, Summer 2015
- Puzzles and paradoxes, University of Toronto Scarborough, Spring 2015

Guest Lectures

- Spinoza's Metaphysics and Philosophy of Mind, 2019 Summer, University of Toronto, St. George, Graduate course
- Advanced Topics in Rationalism: Minds, Thinking, and Idealism, 300-level, University of Toronto, Scarborough, 2017 Spring
- Topics in 17th and 18th Century Philosophy, 300-level, University of Toronto Mississauga, Fall 2017

Other Academic Contributions

Philosophy for General Audience

I am a frequent contributor to the *Kiskáté* column in the Hungarian journal *Műút*. In *Kiskáté* (somewhat ironically named after the Hungarian word for “catechism”) we write short introductions explaining philosophical debates—especially ones that have little or no discussion available in Hungarian—on the occasion of discussing a recent major publication.

So far I wrote pieces on the following:

- Michael O. Hardimon: Rethinking Race
- Timothy Williamson: Modal Logic as Metaphysics
- Herman Cappelen: Philosophy without Intuitions (with Tibor Bárány)
- Daniel Z. Korman: Objects: Nothing out of the Ordinary
- Diana Raffman: Unruly Words

Our essays (until 2017) are also published as a collection:

Kiskáté. Kortárs filozófiai kiskönyvtár. Tibor Bárány, László Jenei (editors), Műút Könyvek, Miskolc, 2017

Reviews in Hungarian (fiction, political philosophy)

“Bagi Zsolt: Helyi Arcok, Egyetemes Tekintetek. Facies Localis Universi”, *Jelenkor* 56:7-8, 2013

“Paul Verhaeghen: Omega Minor”, *Jelenkor* 55:3, 2012

Graduate Coursework

(* = attended)

Yale University

- *Leibniz, Michael Della Rocca, Spring 2019
- *Wittgenstein, Ken Winkler, Spring 2019

University of Toronto

- Teaching in Higher Education (THE500), Anne Urbancic, Spring 2020
- *Spinoza's Theological-Political Treatise, Michael Rosenthal, Spring 2020
- *Seminar on Aristotle's Metaphysics, Christian Pfeiffer, Fall 2019
- *Spinoza's Metaphysics and Philosophy of Mind, Karolina Hübner, Summer 2019
- *The Rise and Fall of the early David Lewis, Benj Hellie, Spring 2018
- *Hegel's Science of Logic, Nick Stang, Fall 2017
- *Metaphysical Dependence and Fundamentality, Jessica Wilson, Spring 2017
- *Kant and Analytic Metaphysics, Nick Stang, Fall 2017
- Vagueness, Diana Raffman, Summer 2016
- Consciousness Then and Now, Marleen Rozemond and William Seager, Spring 2016
- Reading Course: Semantics for Philosophy, Nate Charlow, Spring 2016
- Cambridge Pragmatism, Cheryl Misak, Fall 2015
- Kant's Political Philosophy, Arthur Ripstein, Fall 2015
- How To Think About Linguistic Meaning, Nate Charlow, Fall 2015
- Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics, James R. Brown and William Seager, Spring 2015
- Causal Approaches to Realization: Composition and Constitution, Jessica Wilson, Spring 2015
- The Early Spinoza, Karolina Hübner, Spring 2015
- Leibniz, Marleen Rozemond, Fall 2014
- Kant and Hegel, Nick Stang, Fall 2014
- Proseminar in Epistemology, Jonathan Weisberg, Fall 2014

Central European University

- Spinoza's Metaphysics, Michael V. Griffin, Spring 2014
- Philosophy of Mind, Howard Robinson, Spring 2014
- Hume's Moral Theory, Simon Rippon, Spring 2014
- Dispositions and Powers, Ferenc Huoranszki, Spring 2014
- Cognitive Science, Günther Knoblich, Fall 2013
- Language and Social Cognition, Anne Tamm, Fall 2013
- Philosophy of Social Science, Fall 2013
- Special Relativity, Time and Cause, Hanoch Ben-Yami, Fall 2013
- Epistemology, Katalin Farkas, Spring 2013
- Possible Worlds, Michael V. Griffin, Spring 2013
- Rationalism and Empiricism, Michael V. Griffin, Spring 2013
- *Wittgenstein, Hanoch Ben-Yami, Spring 2013
- Philosophy of Religion, Howard Robinson, Spring 2013
- Philosophy of Language, Hanoch Ben-Yami, Spring 2013
- Metaphysics, Ferenc Huoranszki, Fall 2012
- Ancient Philosophy, Gábor Betegh, Fall 2012
- Advanced Topics in Logic, Hanoch Ben-Yami, Fall 2012
- Varieties of Scepticism, Katalin Farkas, Fall 2012
- Continental Philosophy since Kant, David Weberman, Fall 2012
- Being, Katalin Farkas, Spring 2012

Summer Schools

Humanist and Scholastic Roots of Early Modern Philosophy, Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome March 12-19, 2018

Collegium Spinozanum II, University of Groningen, July 4-7, 2017

Spinoza and German Idealism, University of Toronto, May 16-19, 2016

Ontology and Metaontology, Central European University, July 13-24, 2015

Awards and Grants

Canadian Philosophical Association Student Essay Prize, 2019

School of Graduate Studies Doctoral Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2014 – 2019

Balzan Travel Fellowship, Department of Philosophy University of Toronto, 2015; 2018

Department of Philosophy Graduate Travel Grant, University of Toronto, 2016; 2017; 2018

Full CEU Fellowship, Central European University, 2012 – 2014

University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities, Institutional, Professional, and Scientific Scholarship, 2010 – 2012

Service

Board member of the Spinoza Society of Canada, 2016 – present

Editor of the Philpapers entry “Spinoza: Teleology”, 2016 – present

Conference organizing:

- “Spinoza: Method, Metaphysics, & Morality” (with the Spinoza Society of Canada), American Philosophical Association Central Meeting, February 21, 2018
- “Spinoza: New Directions of Research” (with Karolina Hübner) at the University of Toronto, September 9-10, 2017.

Student coordinator of Erasmus College for Advanced Studies, Budapest, Hungary, 2012 – 2014

Student council member in Kerényi Károly College for Advanced Studies, University of Pécs, 2010 – 2012

Last updated March, 2020