

Owen Pikkert

Department of Philosophy / University of Toronto
Jackman Humanities Building / 4th floor
170 St. George St. / Toronto, ON / M5R 2M8 / Canada
owen.pikkert@mail.utoronto.ca / owenpikkert.com

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Toronto
Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream, 2018-21

EDUCATION

University of Toronto
Ph.D. in Philosophy, November 2018
Leibniz and the Principle of Sufficient Reason (Winner of the David Savan Dissertation Prize)
Committee: Marleen Rozemond (supervisor), Donald Ainslie, Karolina Hübner, William Seager, Deborah Black (internal reader), Martin Lin (external reader)

Yale University
Visiting Assistant in Research, 2016
Advisor: Michael Della Rocca

McMaster University
M.A. in Philosophy, 2012
B.A. in History and Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, 2010

AOS/AOC

AOS: Early modern philosophy
AOC: Philosophy of religion, metaphysics, ancient philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

“Leibniz on the Grounds of the Principle of Sufficient Reason”
Forthcoming in *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*.
“The Modal Status of Leibniz’s Principle of Sufficient Reason”
Journal of the American Philosophical Association (2020).

IN PROGRESS

- “Pascal, Cosmic Infinity, and Fear”
- “Leibniz’s Cosmological Argument”
- “Why does Leibniz’s God Create the Best of All Possible Worlds?”
- “Pascal’s Wager and Human Nature”

PRESENTATIONS

- University of Toronto, Modern Philosophy Research Group, 2019
 - “Clarke, Leibniz, and du Châtelet on the existence of a necessary being”
- University of Bucharest, Natural and Revealed Theology in the German Enlightenment, 2019
 - “Leibniz on the cosmological argument”
- American Philosophical Association (Eastern), 2018
 - “The modal status of Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- University of Toronto, Modern Philosophy Research Group, 2017
 - “Leibniz on God’s choice of the best”
- University of Groningen, Berlin-Groningen-Harvard-Toronto Workshop, 2017
 - “The modal status of Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- Princeton University, Graduate Conference in Early Modern Philosophy, 2017
 - “The modal status of Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- Leibniz Society of North America, 2016
 - “Leibniz’s arguments from the PSR to the PII”
- Leibniz Universität Hannover, Leibniz Doctoral Seminar, 2016
 - “Grounding Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- Yale University, The Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale, 2016
 - “Grounding Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- Erasmus University Rotterdam, Dutch Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, 2016
 - “Grounding Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- University of Toronto, Modern Philosophy Research Group, 2015
 - “Leibniz’s arguments from the PSR to the PII”
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin-Toronto-Groningen Workshop, 2015
 - “Grounding Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- University of Toronto, Modern Philosophy Research Group, 2015
 - “Grounding Leibniz’s principle of sufficient reason”
- Canadian Philosophical Association, 2012
 - “Two deflationary approaches to ontology”
- Western Canadian Philosophical Association, 2011
 - “Multiple universes and the explanation of the physical constants”
- University of Colorado, Boulder, History and Philosophy of Science Conference, 2011
 - “Multiple universes and the explanation of the physical constants”

COMMENTS

- Québec-Ontario Conference in Early Modern Philosophy, 2019
C. Dyck, “Wolff and the dogmas of classical rationalism”
Québec-Ontario Conference in Early Modern Philosophy, 2018
C. Leduc, “Sophie of Hanover on physical influence”
University of Toronto, 2015
G. Rodriguez-Pereyra, “The identity of indiscernibles, atoms, and absolute space”

TEACHING

Teaching awards at the University of Toronto

- As primary instructor: honourable mention for the Martha Lile Love Teaching Award, 2017
As tutorial instructor: nominated for a Teaching Assistant Excellence award, 2018

Primary instructor at the University of Toronto

- 402: Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, 2020
311: The Empiricists, 2020, 2021
331: Metaphysics, 2019
310: The Rationalists, 2019, 2020
204: Philosophy in Everyday Life, 2019
235: Philosophy of Religion, 2018
210: 17th and 18th Century Philosophy, 2016, 2018-9, 2020-1

Tutorial instructor at the University of Toronto and McMaster University

- 200: Ancient Philosophy, 2017-8
210: 17th and 18th Century Philosophy, 2014-5
1D03: Philosophy and the Sciences, 2012
1E03: Problems of Philosophy, 2011-2
2CT3: Critical Thinking, 2010

GRANTS AND PRIZES

Prizes for written work

- David Savan Dissertation Prize, University of Toronto, 2019
Student paper prize (second place), Canadian Philosophical Association, 2012

Government awards

- SSHRC CGS doctoral grant, \$105,000 CAN, 2012-5
Ontario graduate scholarship, \$15,000 CAN, (declined in 2010 and 2012), 2011
SSHRC master's research grant, \$17,500 CAN, 2010

University awards

Balzan-University travel award, 2016

Michael J. Herman graduate fellowship in philosophy, 2015-6

The Avie Bennett award, 2012

Ten separate undergraduate awards, 2006-10

LANGUAGES

Passed reading requirement for the University of Toronto

French

Latin

REFERENCES

Note: To obtain confidential letters of reference from any of the following persons, please email Mary Frances Ellison at placement.philosophy@utoronto.ca.

Marleen Rozemond	University of Toronto
Donald Ainslie	University of Toronto
Sergio Tenenbaum (teaching reference)	University of Toronto
Karolina Hübner	Cornell University
Michael Della Rocca	Yale University
Jeffrey McDonough	Harvard University