

DR SIU-FAN LEE

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Areas of Specialisation

Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Philosophical Logic

Areas of Competence

Epistemology, Critical Thinking, History of Modern Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy, Ethics and Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Wittgenstein, Philosophy of Religion

Education and Academic Qualifications

PhD in Philosophy, King's College London, November 2009

Dissertation: Names and Empty Names. Supervisors: Mark Textor, Mark Sainsbury, Keith Hossack. Examiners: Dorothy Edgington, Manuel Garcia-Carpintero

MA, University of Oxford, September 2007

BA (Hon) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, University of Oxford, July 2002

Thesis: Was the Later Wittgenstein a Transcendental Idealist? Supervisor: Peter Hacker
MPhil in Philosophy, Chinese University of Hong Kong, July 1997

Dissertation: Wittgenstein's Conception of 'Form of Life' and Foundation of Rationality.
Supervisor: Tien-Ming Lee

BSocSci in Sociology (minor: Philosophy), Chinese University of Hong Kong, June 1989

Academic Employment

Associate Professor, Hong Kong Baptist University, since September 2019

Assistant Professor (tenure track), Hong Kong Baptist University, August 2011 – August 2019

Lecturer in Humanities, University of Hull, September 2010 – July 2011

Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Southampton, February – June 2011

Teaching Fellow in Philosophy, University of Exeter, October 2009 – October 2010

Associate Lecturer, Open University, January 2009 – July 2011

Teaching Tutor, Department of Philosophy, King's College London, January 2006 – July 2011

Tutor, Heythrop College, University of London, January 2006 – July 2011

Assistant Teaching Fellow, Philosophy, Lingnan University, August 2002 – August 2003

Demonstrator, City University of Hong Kong, September 1995 – October 2000

Tutor, School of Humanities, Open University of Hong Kong, October 1995 – August 1996

Graduate Assistant, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sept 1993 – June 1995

Research Grants

Government funding:

'How Proper Names Refer: Is Causal Descriptivism Defensible?' General Research Fund, Research Grants Council Hong Kong, 3 years, 1 Jan 2018 - 31 Dec 2020, HKD322,500, role: PI. Ongoing.

'Meaning and Modality: A Foundational Study towards a New Theory of Empty Names', Early Career Scheme, General Research Fund, Research Grants Council Hong Kong, 2.5 years, 1 January 2015 - 30 June 2017, HKD216,000, role: PI. Completed.

Internal grants:

'Chinese and Cross-Cultural Health Humanities: Body, Mind, and Well-Being in the Contemporary Context' (group project), Initiation Grant for Faculty Niche Research Areas (FNRA-IG) 2018/19, Hong Kong Baptist University, 30 June 2019 - 30 June 2021, HKD515,436, role: Co-I. Ongoing.

- 'Fiction and Impossible World', Faculty Research Grant Category I, Hong Kong Baptist University, 1 Sep 2017 - 31 Aug 2018, HKD50,000, role: PI. Completed.
- 'Two-Dimensionalism and Epistemic Possibility', Faculty Research Grant Category I, Hong Kong Baptist University, 1 Dec 2013 - 30 Nov 2015, HKD50,000, role: PI. Completed.
- 'Meaning and Mind', Faculty Research Grant Category II, Hong Kong Baptist University, 1 August 2012 - 31 July 2016, HKD100,000, role: PI. Completed.

Publications

Books:

Philosophy of Names and Empty Names. Under the series of Studies in Philosophy of Language and Linguistics, series editor: Piotr Stalmaszczyk. Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 200 pages, forthcoming.

Logic: A Complete Introduction. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 12 January 2017, 384 pages. (ISBN: 9781473608436 or eISBN: 9781473608443)
<https://www.hodder.co.uk/books/detail.page?isbn=9781473608436>

Book chapters:

'Can There Be a Davidsonian Theory of Empty Names?' in Linguistic and Philosophical Investigations into Proper Names, eds. Piotr Stalmaszczyk & Luis Fernández Moreno, Frankfurt: Peter Lang, February 2016, pp. 203-226. (ISBN: 978-3-631-66265-6)

'Who Wants To Be a Russellian About Names?' in Philosophy of Language and Linguistics: The Legacy of Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein, ed. Piotr Stalmaszczyk, Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter, March 2014, pp. 161-180. (ISBN: 978-3-11-034275-8)

Journal articles:

'Two Approaches to Empty Names: An Analysis of Scientific Theoretical Terms', Studies in Dialectics of Nature, February 2018, Vol. 34 (2): 14-19. (ISSN: 1000-8934. DOI: 10.19484/j.cnki.1000-8934.2018.02.003.)

'Two Senses of Critical Thinking Teaching: Some Reflections and Experience', Studies in Logic, December 2014, Vol. 7 (4): 105-116. (ISSN: 1674-3202)

'Fregean Free Logic', Philosophical Researches, December 2009, pp.123-129. (ISSN: 1000-0216)

Works in progress or conference papers:

'Metaphysics of Pregnancy and a Four-Dimensional View of Personhood', submitted to The Philosophical Quarterly, under review.

'Metaphysics of Pregnancy, Personal Identity and the Objectification of Women', submitted to Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, under review.

Counterfactual Reference: A Unified Theory of Names and Empty Names (book)

'The Ontology About Names'

'Interpretations to Two-Dimensional Semantics'

'Causal Theories of Names'

'Two-Dimensional Semantics and the Justification of Supervaluational Free Logic'

'The Mozi and Some Western Approaches to Peace'

Research Positions

Visiting Research Associate, King's College London, July 2018 – July 2019.

Research Fellow, Centre of Applied Ethics, Hong Kong Baptist University, 2012-15.

Conference Presentations

'A Survey Report on How Proper Name Refers', The 5th Philosophy of Language and Mind Network Conference (PLM5), University of St Andrews, UK, 29-31 August 2019.

'How to Name an Empty Name', NZAP AAP 2018 Conference, Victoria University Wellington, New Zealand, 8-12 July 2018.

- 'A Two-Dimensional Semantic Framework for Empty Names', accepted for Joint Session, organised by Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University of Oxford, 6-8 July 2018.
- 'Metaphysics of Pregnancy, Personal Identity and the Objectification of Women', Conference for The Philosophy of Pregnancy, Birth, and Early Motherhood, organised in association with SWIP, BUMP & PHILBIRTH, University of Southampton, UK, 21-22 June 2018.
- 'The Semantics of Empty Names (II): Counterfactual Reference', Philosophy of Language (I) Conference: Semantics of Fictional Discourse, Institute of Philosophy, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovak Republic, 20-21 October 2016.
- 'Two Approaches to Empty Names', Conference on Analysis, Practice and Creative Thinking, organised by Macau Chinese Philosophy Association, Macau, 22-24 August 2016.
- 'The Semantics of Empty Names', Joint Session, organised by Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, Cardiff University, UK, 8-10 July 2016.
- 'The Mozi and Some Western Approaches to Perpetual Peace', International Conference on Waging Peace and Restraining War, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, 22-23 Aug 2013.
- 'Two Senses of Critical Thinking Teaching', The 2013 Cross Strait Conference on Logical and Critical Thinking Teaching, organized by the Institute of Logic and Cognition of Sun Yat-Sen University and the Inner Mongolia University for the Nationalities, held at Tong Liao, Inner Mongolia, China, 10-12 August 2013.
- 'Who Wants to Be a Russellian About Names?', The Third International Conference on Philosophy of Language and Linguistics (PhiLang 2013), University of Lodz, Poland, 9-11 May 2013.
- 'Causal Theories of Names', International Conference on Kripke, Logic, Philosophy, Peking University, China, 2-4 September 2012.
- 'On Causal Theories of Names', Mini-Conference on Michael Devitt, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 3 May 2012.
- 'Truth Condition and Empty Names', Taiwan Logic and Analytic Philosophy Inaugural Conference, National Taiwan University, Taiwan, 31 Oct -1 Nov 2009.
- 'A Counterfactual Reference Theory', Joint Session, organised by the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University of East Anglia, UK, 10-12 July 2009.
- 'Fregean Free Logic', The 4th Cross Strait Conference on Logic Education and Research, organised by Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, 24-25 June 2009.
- 'A Counterfactual Reference Theory of Fictional Discourse', The 8th National Conference of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy (SIFA): Ontology, Mind, and Language, University of Bergamo, Italy, 25-27 September 2008.
- 'Empty Names and Free Logic', Joint Session, organised by the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University of Aberdeen, UK, 11-13 July 2008.
- 'Supervaluation and Fregean Free Logic', Open Minds Conference, University of Manchester, UK, 9-10 June 2008.

Invited talks and seminars: 'A Counterfactual Reference Theory of Empty Names'

- International Meeting, Hongo Metaphysics Club, University of Tokyo, Japan, 14 Feb 2011
- Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Hull, UK, 14 December 2010
- National Yang Ming University, Taiwan, 6 November 2009
- National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan, 3 November 2009
- Staff Seminar, Monash University, Australia, 6 March 2009
- Department Seminar, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, 23 February 2009
- Philosophy Seminar, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 19 February 2009

Teaching

MA level

1. Social Justice
2. Critical Thinking for Public Affairs

BA level

3. Problems of Philosophy
4. Logic and Philosophy of Logic
5. Philosophy, Meaning and Knowledge
6. History of Modern Western Philosophy: From Descartes to Marx
7. Social Justice, Liberalism and Economic Equality
8. Whose Justice? And for Whom?
9. Critical Thinking
10. Philosophy of Life in the Postmodern Age
11. Philosophy of Life in Laozi and Zhuangzi
12. Nature and Human Being in Chinese and Western Cultures
13. Philosophy of Religion – University of Southampton, UK
14. Kant's Critique of Pure Reason – University of Hull, UK
15. Mind, Brain and Behaviour – University of Hull, UK
16. Philosophical Texts: Descartes' Meditations & Mill's On Liberty – University of Hull UK
17. Reason, Logic and Argument – University of Hull, UK
18. Philosophy of Mind: Language and Thought – University of Exeter, UK
19. Philosophy and the Human Situation – Open University, UK
20. Philosophy of Science & Social Sciences – Lingnan University
21. Understanding Knowledge – Lingnan University
22. Critical and Creative Thinking – City University of Hong Kong

Guest lectures

- 'Be Smart – Critical and Creative Thinking', Ju Ching Chu Secondary School (Yuen Long), 28 Nov 2019
- 'Personal Identity' – University of Hong Kong, SPACE, May 2012
- 'Be Smart – Critical and Creative Thinking', Tuen Mun Catholic Secondary School, 9 March 2012
- 'Fictional Names' – Heythrop College, London, December 2008
- 'Scepticism' – University of Hong Kong, June 2003

Tutorials (apart from those I lectured, from one-on-one sessions to groups of 25)

- Evidence and Argument (1st year) – University of Exeter, 2009
- Introduction to Philosophical Analysis (1st year) – University of Exeter, 2010
- Philosophy of Mind: Mind-Body Problem (2nd year) – University of Exeter, 2009
- Metaphysics (1st and 2nd years) – King's College London and Heythrop College, since 2006
- Epistemology (1st year) – King's College London, since 2006
- Ethics (1st and 3rd years) – King's College London, since 2009
- Philosophical Logic (2nd year) – King's College London, Heythrop College, since 2006
- Philosophy of Wittgenstein (2nd and 3rd years) – Heythrop College, 2006-2009
- Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein (3rd year) – King's College London 2007
- Philosophy of Mind (3rd year) – King's College London, 2010
- Social and Political Philosophy – City University of Hong Kong, 1995-2000
- Social Context of Science and Technology – City University of Hong Kong, 1996-1998
- Applied Ethics – Chinese University of Hong Kong, 1994-1995

Curriculum Development

Programmes developed:

1. BA (Hon) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics – Initiator and leader of a cross-faculty and interdisciplinary workforce, Jan 2013 – Sept 2014
2. BA (Hon) in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics – Among the first to propose a full comprehensively different curriculum, also proposed the framework and most courses in the Philosophy area of study, Jan 2016 to March 2017, implemented in AY2017-18.
3. MA in Ethics and Public Affairs – Sept 2013 - June 2014, implemented since 2014-15.

New course proposals:

1. Experiencing Poverty (Service-Learning course)
2. Social Justice and Sustainable Communities (interdisciplinary course)
3. Technology, Gender and Feminism (interdisciplinary course)
4. Happiness: East and West (interdisciplinary course)
5. Contemporary Analytic Philosophy
6. History of Modern Western Philosophy: From Descartes to Marx
7. Logic and Philosophy of Logic
8. Scientific Methodology and Philosophy of Science
9. Theory of Knowledge
10. Philosophy of Language
11. Philosophy of Mind, Consciousness and Personal Identity
12. Social Justice, Liberalism and Economic Equality
13. Philosophy, Modernism and Postmodernism
14. Selected Topics in Philosophy: Names and Modality

Supervision and Mentoring

PhD supervision:

Co-supervisor, 'Rawls's Kantian Constructivism and Kant's Political Philosophy', Simon Wong, Hong Kong Baptist University, July 2015-November 2018.

Co-supervisor, 'Metaphysics as Transcendental Philosophy: Kant's Transformation of an Aristotelian Scholastic Tradition', Brandon Love, Hong Kong Baptist University, September 2013-October 2018.

MPhil supervision:

Principal supervisor, 'Fictional Characters: Ontology and Metaontology', Howard Mok, Hong Kong Baptist University, October 2014-October 2018.

MA dissertations:

Jiang Tingting Fion, 'A Comparison of Liberal, Marxist and Radical Feminist Thoughts on Sex and Gender: Betty Friedan, Margaret Benston and Kate Millett', Hong Kong Baptist University, 2018-19.

Diane To, 'Examining Privacy Dilemmas in Hong Kong Through Nissenbaum's Contextual Integrity Approach', Hong Kong Baptist University, 2016-18.

Don Lee, 'Moral Standing of Robots: Perspectives from Contemporary Confucianism and Non-Anthropocentric Theories in Western Philosophy', Hong Kong Baptist University, 2017-18.

Zhu Yingying, 'Single Women in Contemporary China: Textual Analysis from Liberal Feminist Perspectives', Hong Kong Baptist University, 2017-18.

BA dissertations:

Sixteen BA honour projects at Hong Kong Baptist University, five philosophy dissertations at the University of Exeter, many pre-submissions at the University of London, eighteen final year projects and six group empirical researches in City University of Hong Kong.

Pastoral care:

Mentor of many undergraduates in Hong Kong Baptist University, personal tutor of 26 undergraduates at the University of Exeter in 2009-10 and 100 adult learners at the Open University in 2009-11.

Honours and Awards

Teaching Award, Nominee, University of Exeter, 2010
Partnership Visit Grant, King's College London, 2009
Visiting Scholar, University of Hong Kong and Monash University, Australia, 2009
Norman Malcolm Fellowship, Cornell University, USA, 2005
Pearl Award for Media Excellence, Finalist, The Pearl Foundation, 2005 and 2006

Academic Services

Member, Internal Accreditation Panel, PPE Programme, Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, 2019-20.
Consultation, Philosophy Curriculum Development, Hong Kong Academy of Gifted Education, June, 2016.
Editor-In-Chief, the GSTF Journal of General Philosophy, since September 2015.
Referee, Praxis, October 2007 – August 2011.
External Examiner, 'Is There a Distinction between the A Priori and the A Posteriori?', MPhil in Philosophy, Lingnan University, June 2014.
Examination Paper Moderator, College of International Education, HKBU, since November 2012.
Organiser, Philosophy Club, Hong Kong Baptist University, since January 2013.
Convenor, Philosophy Writers' Forum, King's College London, 2010-2011.
Organising Committee member, 13th British Postgraduate Philosophy Association Annual Conference, King's College London, 14-15 July 2009.

University Administration (Hong Kong Baptist University, unless otherwise stated)

Elected Staff Representative, Staff Consultative Committee, 2017-2019.
Member, Scholarship Selection Panels, Office of Student Affairs, 2013-2017.
Faculty Academic Advisor, Arts Faculty, 2019-20.
Library co-ordinator and member of Arts Faculty Library Committee, since Sept 2015.
Member, Arts Faculty Student Admission Panel, 2015, 2018, 2019.
Senior Year Students' Advisor, Department of Religion and Philosophy, 2018-20.
Team leader, Production of Department Promotion Video, Oct 2017 – Dec 18.
Member, Department Student Admission Panel, 2013, 2015-2019.
Member, General Education Committee, since 2011.
Proposer, BA (Hon) in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics, 2016.
Proposer, BA (Hon) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, 2013-2014.
Member, Committee for the proposal of MA in Ethics and Public Affairs, 2013-2014.
Member, Recruitment Panel for Junior Lecturers, 2017.
Adviser, Religion and Philosophy Society, 2016.
Co-Leader, Study Tour to Lanzhou and Dunhuang, 2012.
Member, committee for handling a sexual harassment case, 2011-2012.
Member, Language Institute Management Board, Lingnan University, 2002-2003.
Student induction, City University of Hong Kong, 1998-2000.
Student admission, City University of Hong Kong, 1996-2000.
Departmental marketing, City University of Hong Kong, 1995-1997.

Professional Membership

Aristotelian Society – life member since 2016
Australasian Association of Philosophy – member since 2018

American Philosophical Association – member since 2005
The Chinese Association of Logic – member since 2012
Community of Practice for Service-Learning in Hong Kong Higher Education – member since March 2018.
Centre for Cultural Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong – affiliated member since Sept 2014.

Professional Development

Mental Health First Aid Standard Course (12 Hours with Certificate of Completion), organised by the Mental Health Association of Hong Kong, November 2017.

Referees

Prof Mark Textor, Professor, Department of Philosophy, King's College London (email: mark.textor@kcl.ac.uk)

Prof David Papineau, Professor, Department of Philosophy, King's College London and City University of New York (email: david.papineau@kcl.ac.uk)

Prof Kathleen Lennon, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, University of Hull (email: K.Lennon@hull.ac.uk)

Prof Manuel Garcia-Carpintero, Professor, University of Barcelona (email: m.garciacarpintero@ub.edu)

Prof Dorothy Edgington, Senior Research Professor, Birkbeck College, University of London (email: d.edgington@bbk.ac.uk)

Prof Douglas Robinson, Chair Professor of English, Hong Kong Baptist University (email: robinson@hkbu.edu.hk)