

SILVAN WITTWER

Emerson Hall, Harvard University
25 Quincy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
silvan.wittwer@bluewin.ch
<https://silvanwittwer.com>

Education & Employment

- Postdoctoral Associate in Philosophy**, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA 9/2019 – 6/2020
- Postdoctoral Fellow**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA 1/2019 – 6/2019
- Visiting Lecturer**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, USA 7/2016 – 6/2017
- PhD in Philosophy**, University of Edinburgh, UK 9/2013 – 11/2018
Thesis: *Evolution and the Possibility of Moral Knowledge*, passed without corrections
Supervisors: Prof. Matthew Chrisman, Prof. Duncan Pritchard FRSE & Prof. Geoffrey Sayre-McCord
Examiners: Prof. Jamie Dreier (Brown University) & Dr. Debbie Roberts (Edinburgh)
- Bachelor of Philosophy (B. Phil) in Philosophy**, University of Oxford, UK 7/2012
Thesis: *Evolutionary Debunking Arguments*, supervised by Prof. Scott Sturgeon
- Master of Arts (Honours) in Philosophy** (First Class), University of St. Andrews, UK 6/2010

Research Interests

- **Area of Specialization:** Ethics, Epistemology
- **Area of Competence:** Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics

Publications

1. [2020a] ‘Moral Error Theory, Explanatory Dispensability and the Limits of Guilt’, *Philosophical Studies*
2. [2020b] ‘Evolutionary Debunking, Self-Defeat and All the Evidence’, in: *Higher-Order Evidence and Moral Epistemology*, Michael Klenk (ed.), Routledge

Selected Awards

- *Early Postdoc.Mobility Fellowship* (CHF 74'700), Swiss National Science Foundation 1/2019 – 6/2020
- *Doc.Mobility Fellowship* (CHF 48'000), Swiss National Science Foundation 7/2017 – 8/2018
- *PhD Thesis Completion Scholarship* (CHF 10'000), Janggen-Poehn Foundation, Switzerland 8/2017 – 8/2018
- *Visiting Lectureship* (\$ 15'800; 2 p.a. per department), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA 7/2016 – 6/2017
- *Principal's Career Development PhD Scholarship* (£ 55'000; 1 per school), University of Edinburgh, UK 9/2013 – 8/2016
- *Honours Philosophy Prize* (Best Overall Performance in Philosophy), University of St. Andrews, UK 6/2010

Refereed Talks

- ‘Evolutionary Debunking, Self-Defeat and All the Evidence’, 4th Foundations of Normativity Workshop, University of Edinburgh, UK 6/2018
- ‘Evolutionary Debunking, Self-Defeat and All the Evidence’, Philosophy in Progress Graduate Conference, University of Nottingham, UK 1/2018
- ‘Moral Realism, Evolutionary Debunking and Self-Defeat’, Varieties of Moral Realism Workshop, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, CZ 10/2017

- ‘The Reliability Challenge to Moral Realism’, 7/2015
Understanding Value Graduate Conference, University of Sheffield, UK
- ‘Evolutionary Debunking as Reliability Challenge’, 10/2014
Workshop on Debunking Arguments in Ethics, Universität Tübingen, GER
- ‘Epistemic Luck and Moral Belief’, 7/2014
Moral Epistemology Summer School, CEU Budapest, HUN

Teaching

- *Lecturer:*
 - ‘Bioethics’ (Paternalism, Euthanasia, Animal Rights, etc.) 8/2016 – 5/2017
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
 - ‘Knowledge & Reality’ (Scepticism & Analysis of Knowledge), 2 & 3/2016
University of Edinburgh, UK
 - ‘Morality & Value’ (Practical Ethics, Free Will & Moral Responsibility), 9/2015 – 12/2015
University of Edinburgh, UK
- *Tutor:*
 - ‘Knowledge & Reality’ (2nd Year Course), 1 – 4/2014 & 2015 & 2016
University of Edinburgh, UK
 - ‘Morality & Value’ (1st Year Course), 9 – 12/2013 & 2014 & 2015
University of Edinburgh, UK
 - ‘Philosophy of Mind’ (3rd & 4th Year Course, Oxford-style supervisions), 4/2013 – 6/2014
Stanford Exchange Programme at Oxford University, UK

Academic Service

- *Principal Organizer:* 4th Foundations of Normativity Workshop, 9/2017 – 7/2018
University of Edinburgh, UK
- *Postgraduate Philosophy Student Representative,* 10/2017 – 8/2018
University of Edinburgh, UK
- *Principal Organizer:* Ethics Fest Graduate Workshop, 12/2014 – 4/2015
University of Edinburgh, UK & 12/2015 – 4/2016
- *Finance Officer:* 5th Edinburgh Graduate Epistemology Conference, 10/2014 – 6/2015
University of Edinburgh, UK
- *Journal Referee:* Analysis (2x), Australasian Journal of Philosophy (2x), Dialectica (2x), 4/2015 – present
Ergo (1x), International Journal for the Study of Scepticism (1x), JESP (2x),
Social Theory and Practice (1x), Thought (1x)

Referees

Prof. Matthew Chrisman, Professor of Ethics and Epistemology, University of Edinburgh, UK	1 st PhD Supervisor
Prof. Duncan Pritchard, Professor & Chair in Epistemology, University of Edinburgh, UK	2 nd PhD Supervisor
Prof. Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, Morehead-Cain Alumni Distinguished Professor & Director of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Program, UNC Chapel Hill, USA	3 rd PhD Supervisor
Prof. Jamie Dreier, Judy C. Lewent and Mark L. Shapiro Professor of Philosophy, Brown University, USA	External PhD Examiner
Dr. Debbie Roberts, Senior Lecturer, University of Edinburgh, UK	Internal PhD Examiner