

# Robert Knowles

## *Curriculum Vitae*

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**AOS:** Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics

**AOC:** Logic, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Religion

### — Employment

- 2017– **British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow**, *University of Leeds*.  
2016–2017 **Teaching Fellow**, *University of Leeds*.

### — Publications

- 2016 **Semantic Assumptions in the Philosophy of Mathematics**. In F. Bocconi, A. Sereni (eds.), *Objectivity, Realism, and Proof. FilMat Studies in the Philosophy of Mathematics*, Boston Studies in the Philosophy and History of Science. Springer.
- 2015 **What ‘The Number of Planets is Eight’ Means**, *Philosophical Studies*, 172: 2757-2775.
- 2015 **Heavy Duty Platonism**, *Erkenntnis*, 80: 1255-1270.
- 2015 **Good Weasel Hunting**, *Synthese*, 192: 3397-3412, (with David Liggins).
- R&R **Platonic Relations**, at *Philosophical Studies*.
- R&R **The Uncanny Accuracy of God’s Mathematical Beliefs**, at *Religious Studies*.
- Under Review **Mathematics, Explanatory Generality, and Ontological Commitment**, at *Erkenntnis*, (with Juha Saatsi).

### — Education

- 2011–2015 **PhD Philosophy**, *University of Manchester*, No Corrections.  
Thesis: Towards a Fictionalist Philosophy of Mathematics  
Examiners: Mary Leng, Anthony Everett
- 2010–2011 **MRes Philosophy**, *University of Manchester*, Distinction.  
Courses: Meta-Ethics, Philosophy of Emotion, Philosophy of John McDowell, Logical Properties  
Dissertation: Analysis of Stephen Yablo’s Work on Presupposition
- 2007–2010 **BA(hons) Philosophy**, *University of Manchester*.  
Dissertation: Is an Intuitionistic Interpretation of the Logical Constants Plausible?

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## Grants and Awards

- 2017–2020 **British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship**, £319,196 over 3 years.  
2015 **Manchester Doctoral College Best Outstanding Output Award 2015**,  
*Faculty of Humanities, University of Manchester.*  
2014–2015 **Royal Institute of Philosophy’s Jacobsen Studentship**, for 1 year.  
2011–2014 **AHRC Studentship**, for 3 years.  
2013 **Mind Association Minor Conference Grant**, *Open Minds VIII Graduate  
Conference, University of Manchester.*  
2013 **Analysis Trust Conference Grant**, *Open Minds VIII Graduate Conference,  
University of Manchester.*

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## Teaching

### Module Leader, Lecturer.

- PHIL2422 Topics in Epistemology: Knowledge and Justification, 2018–2019.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL5002M Mathematics and Empirical Evidence, 2017–2018.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL3123 Philosophy of Logic and Mathematics, 2017–2018.  
/MATH3021 *University of Leeds*
- PHIL2521 Realism and Antirealism, 2016–2017.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL2542 Introduction to Metaphysics, 2015–2016.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL2532 Philosophy of Religion, 2015–2016.  
*University of Leeds*
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- ### Tutor.
- PHIL2422 Topics in Epistemology: Knowledge and Justification, 2016–2017.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL1250 How to Think Clearly and Argue Well, 2016–2017.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL1140 I Think Therefore I Am: The Philosophy of Descartes, 2015–2016.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL1005 The Mind, 2015–2016.  
*University of Leeds*
- PHIL10021 Introduction to Ethics, 2015–2016.  
*University of Manchester*
- PHIL10401 History of Philosophy, 2014–2015.  
*University of Manchester*

PHIL10641	Philosophy and Social Science, <i>University of Manchester</i>	2014–2015.
PHIL10622	Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology, <i>University of Manchester</i>	2013–2014.
PHIL20021	Philosophy of Religion, <i>University of Manchester</i>	2013–2014.
PHIL10041	Critical Thinking, <i>University of Manchester</i>	2012–2016.

## Selected Presentations

- June 2018 **Alethic Appearances: In Conversation with ‘The King of France’.**  
Context, Cognition, and Communication  
*University of Warsaw*
- April 2018 **Explanatory Mathematical Abstraction in Science.**  
Varieties of Mathematical Abstraction  
*University of Vienna*
- Dec 2017 **Mathematics, Explanatory Generality, and Ontological Commitment.**  
Applicability of Mathematics: Explanation and Representation  
*University of Leeds*
- March 2017 **Non-Optimal Support for Mathematical Platonism.**  
The Explanatory Function of Abstract Objects  
*University of Santiago de Compostela*
- Oct 2016 **In Conversation with *The King of France*.**  
Philosophy Research Seminar Series  
*University of Leeds*
- May 2016 **Non-Optimal Support for Mathematical Realism.**  
FilMat: Philosophy of Mathematics: Truth, Existence, and Explanation  
*University of Chieti-Pescara*
- Oct 2014 **The Indispensability Argument Dispensed With.**  
Philosophy Research Seminar Series  
*University of Manchester*
- July 2014 **The Indispensability Argument Dispensed With.**  
88th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association  
*University of Cambridge*
- May 2014 **What *The Number of Planets is Eight* Means.**  
FilMat: Philosophy of Mathematics: Objectivity, Cognition, and Proof  
*Vita-Salute San Raffaele University*
- Jan 2014 **Heavy Duty Platonism.**  
Sixth Conference of the Dutch-Flemish Association for Analytic Philosophy  
*University of Groningen*
- June 2013 **The Problem of Mathematical Communication.**  
Graduate Conference on Ontology  
*University of Warsaw*

- Jan 2013 **Mathematical Explanation and Program Properties.**  
Sixth Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Logic and Mathematics  
*University of Cambridge*
- Jan 2013 **Reply to Liggins.**  
Ethics and Explanation  
*University of Nottingham*
- Jan 2013 **Mathematical Explanation and Program Properties.**  
Open Minds Graduate Conference  
*University of Manchester*
- Dec 2011 **When Compassion Fails.**  
Workshop on Emotion, Character, and Virtue  
*University of Manchester*

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## Academic Service

### Referee.

*Analysis, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Synthese, Religious Studies*

### Organiser.

Applicability of Mathematics: Explanation and Representation <i>University of Leeds</i>	Dec 2017
Open Minds VIII Graduate Conference in Philosophy <i>University of Manchester</i>	July 2013

### Graduate Representative.

Department of Philosophy <i>University of Manchester</i>	2012–2013
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## Referees

Teaching: **Dr. Léa Salje.**

Lecturer in Philosophy  
University of Leeds  
l.c.salje@leeds.ac.uk  
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Research: **Dr. Anthony Everett.**

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy  
University of Bristol  
PhD External Examiner  
anthony.everett@bristol.ac.uk  
+44 117 954 6796

Research: **Dr. Juha Saatsi.**

Associate Professor of Philosophy  
University of Leeds  
J.T.Saatsi@leeds.ac.uk  
+44 113 343 3383

Research: **Dr. Mary Leng.**

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy  
University of York  
PhD External Examiner  
mary.leng@york.ac.uk  
+44 190 432 3256