

# Robert Knowles

## Curriculum Vitae

☎ 07789996021  
✉ rfknowles@gmail.com

**AOS:** Philosophy of mathematics, metaphysics, philosophy of language.  
**AOC:** Logic, epistemology, philosophy of religion.

### Employment

2020	<b>Teaching Fellow</b>	University of Leeds, Level 7 1.0 FTE
2017–2020	<b>British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow</b>	University of Leeds, Level 7 1.0 FTE
2016–2017	<b>Teaching Fellow</b>	University of Leeds, Level 7 1.0 FTE

### Publications

2020	<b>Platonic Relations and Mathematical Explanations</b>	(7)
	<i>The Philosophical Quarterly</i> DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/pq/pqaa053">https://doi.org/10.1093/pq/pqaa053</a>	
2019	<b>Mathematics and Explanatory Generality: Nothing but Cognitive Salience</b>	(6)
	<i>Erkenntnis</i> DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-019-00146-x">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-019-00146-x</a> (with Juha Saatsi)	
2019	<b>The Uncanny Accuracy of God’s Mathematical Beliefs</b>	(5)
	<i>Religious Studies</i> DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412519000283">https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412519000283</a>	
2016	<b>Semantic Assumptions in the Philosophy of Mathematics</b>	(4)
	<i>Boston Studies in the Philosophy of Science</i> 318: 43–65	
2015	<b>Good Weasel Hunting</b>	(3)
	<i>Synthese</i> 192: 3397–3412 (with David Liggins)	
2015	<b>What ‘The Number of Planets is Eight’ Means</b>	(2)
	<i>Philosophical Studies</i> 172: 2757–2775	
2015	<b>Heavy Duty Platonism</b>	(1)
	<i>Erkenntnis</i> 80: 1255–1270	

### Education

2011–2015	<b>PhD Philosophy</b> , University of Manchester (No corrections) Supervisors: David Liggins & Chris Daly Examiners: Mary Leng & Anthony Everett
2010–2011	<b>MRes Philosophy</b> , University of Manchester (Distinction)
2007–2010	<b>BA(hons) Philosophy</b> , University of Manchester (2:1)

### Teaching (University of Leeds)

#### Module Coordinator & Lecturer

2020	Philosophy of Logic and Mathematics	PHIL3123
2020	Introduction to Philosophy of Language	PHIL2121
2019	Topics in Epistemology: Knowledge and Justification	PHIL2422
2016	Realism and Antirealism	PHIL2521
2016	Introduction to Metaphysics	PHIL2542
2016	Philosophy of Religion	PHIL2532

### **Postgraduate Seminar Leader & Dissertation Supervisor**

2018–2020	Analytic B: Mathematics and Empirical Evidence	PHIL5002M
2017	Philosophy Dissertation	PHIL5170M

### **Undergraduate Tutor & Dissertation Supervisor**

2016–2020	Independent Research Project	PHIL3000
2016–2019	How to Think Clearly and Argue Well	PHIL1250
2017	Formal Logic	PHIL2122
2016	Topics in Epistemology: Knowledge and Justification	PHIL2422
2016	I Think Therefore I Am: The Philosophy of Descartes	PHIL1140
2016	The Mind	PHIL1005

### **Teaching (University of Manchester)**

#### **Lecturer**

2013	Philosophy of Mathematics	PHIL30721
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#### **Tutor**

2013–2015	Philosophy of Religion	PHIL20021
2012–2015	Critical Thinking	PHIL10041
2015	Values We Live By	PHIL10021
2015	History of Philosophy	PHIL10401
2014	Philosophy and Social Science	PHIL10641
2014	Discovering Reality	PHIL10622

### **Grants and Awards**

2019	BSPS Conference Grant	£500
2019	Aristotelian Society Conference Grant	£235
2017	British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship	£319,196
2015	Manchester Doctoral College Best Outstanding Output Award	
2014	Royal Institute of Philosophy's Jacobsen Studentship	
2013	Mind Association Minor Conference Grant	
2013	Analysis Trust Conference Grant	
2011	AHRC Studentship	

### **Research Events**

#### **Organiser & Host**

Sept 2019	Mathematics and its Applications: Philosophical Issues, University of Leeds
Nov 2018	Epistemology of Mathematics: Knowledge, Proof, and Explanation, University of Leeds
Dec 2017	Applicability of Mathematics: Explanation and Representation, University of Leeds
July 2013	Open Minds VIII Graduate Conference in Philosophy, University of Manchester

#### **Assistant**

July 2015	BSPS Annual Conference, University of Manchester
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## Selected Presentations

### Invited

March 2017 Non-Optimal Support for Mathematical Platonism  
The Explanatory Function of Abstract Objects, University of Santiago de Compostela

### Peer-reviewed

June 2018 Alethic Appearances  
Context, Cognition, and Communication, University of Warsaw

April 2018 Explanatory Mathematical Abstraction in Science  
Varieties of Mathematical Abstraction, University of Vienna

May 2016 Non-Optimal Support for Mathematical Realism  
FilMat: Truth, Existence, and Explanation, University of Chieti-Pescara

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: Objectivity, Cognition, and Proof, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University

Jan 2014 Heavy Duty Platonism  
6th 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 Reply to Liggins  
Ethics and Explanation, University of Nottingham

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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, Disputatio*

2017 **REF Grade Internal Peer-Review Committee**

School of PRHS, University of Leeds

2012–2013 **Graduate Representative**

Department of Philosophy, University of Manchester

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## Referees

Teaching: **Dr. Scott A. Shalkowski**

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy  
University of Leeds  
s.shalkowski@leeds.ac.uk  
+44 113 343 3280

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