

# CHRISTOPHER THOMPSON

EMAIL: [chris.thompson009@gmail.com](mailto:chris.thompson009@gmail.com)  
WEB: [www.christhompsonphilosophy.wordpress.com](http://www.christhompsonphilosophy.wordpress.com)

Department of Philosophy  
Faculty of Humanities, Social  
Sciences and Education  
UiT – The Arctic University of Norway  
Po. Box 6050 Langnes  
9037 Tromsø  
Norway

## CURRENT APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

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February 2017 - Ongoing

**Associate Professor in Practical Philosophy (Political Philosophy)**, Department of Philosophy, UiT The Arctic University of Norway.

November 2015 - Ongoing

**Research Associate**, Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science, London School of Economics and Political Science.

## PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

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July 2014 – February 2017

**Postdoctoral Researcher**, *Trusting Banks* project, University of Cambridge and University of Groningen.

October 2012 – June 2014

**Temporary Lecturer**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Cambridge.

October 2014 – August 2015

**College Lecturer**, Robinson College, University of Cambridge.

September 2003 – June 2006

**Policy Advisor**, Social Exclusion Unit, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister/ Dept. for Communities and Local Government, UK.

March 2003 – September 2003 (short term contract)

**Community Councils Officer**, London Borough of Southwark.

November 2002 – February 2003

**Senior Policy Analyst**, Strategic Social Policy Group, Ministry of Social Development, NZ.

February 2001 – November 2002

**Private Secretary (Social Policy)**, Office of the Minister of Social Services and Employment, NZ.

March 1999 – January 2001

**Policy Analyst**, Social Policy Agency/ Ministry of Social Policy, NZ.

## EDUCATION

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2012

**PhD** (Philosophy, London School of Economics and Political Science)

2006

**MA with Distinction** (Philosophy, King's College, University of London)

1998

**BA with First Class Honours** (Philosophy, University of Otago, NZ)

1995

**BSc** (Biochemistry, University of Otago, NZ)

## PHILOSOPHICAL INTERESTS

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**AOS:** Political philosophy, epistemology, philosophy of public policy.

**AOC:** Applied ethics, normative ethics, philosophy of science.

## PUBLICATIONS

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1. Thompson, C. (forthcoming) "Rose's Prevention Paradox", *Journal of Applied Philosophy*.
2. McKenzie Alexander, J., Himmelreich, J., and Thompson, C. (2015) "Epistemic Landscapes, Optimal Search and the Division of Cognitive Labor", *Philosophy of Science*, 82(3): 424-453. [ISSN: 00318248]
3. Thompson, C. (2015) Review of Schwartzberg, M. "Counting the Many: The Origins and Limits of Supermajority Rule", *Contemporary Political Theory*, 14: e35-e38. First published online November 2014 [ISSN: 1470-8914]
4. Thompson, C. (2013) "A general model of a group search procedure, applied to epistemic democracy" *Synthese*, 190(7): 1233-1252. [ISSN 0039-7857 (Print)/ ISSN 1573-0964 (Online)]
5. Bradley, R., and Thompson, C. (2012) "A (mainly epistemic) case for multiple-vote majority rule" *Episteme*, 9(1): 63-79. [ISSN 1750-0117]
6. Thompson, C. (2009) "How to tell when efficacy will NOT translate into effectiveness" *Contingency and Dissent in Science, Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science (CPNSS) Technical Report No. 03/09*. [ISSN 1750-7952 (Print)/ ISSN 1750-7960 (Online)]

## TALKS

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2016

- Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics seminar, Rotterdam/ VU University Amsterdam.  
*Trust without reliance*
- Trust and Belief workshop, Cambridge.

*Trust without reliance*

- Hope and Trust Workshop, University of Frankfurt.  
*The moral responsibility of group agents*

2015

- OZSW Conference, VU University Amsterdam.  
*The moral responsibility of group agents*
- MANCEPT Workshop, University of Manchester.  
*Why buy local?*

2014

- Political Philosophy Workshop, University of Cambridge.  
*The Prevention Paradox, and distributive justice in health care*
- Free Speech, Public Deliberation, and Global Affairs conference, University of Tromsø.  
*An epistemic defence of deliberative democracy*

2013

- Political Philosophy Workshop, University of Cambridge.  
*An epistemic defence of deliberative democracy*

2012

- 5th Copenhagen Lund Workshop in Social Epistemology.  
*An epistemic defence of deliberative democracy*

2011

- 3rd Copenhagen Conference in Epistemology: Epistemic Inclusiveness and Trust.  
*A general model of a search procedure, applied to epistemic democracy*
- The Choice Group, LSE.  
*A general model of a search procedure, applied to epistemic democracy*

2010

- The Choice Group, LSE.  
*A (mainly epistemic) case for multiple-vote majority rule*
- Decisions, Games and Logic, Paris.  
*A (mainly epistemic) case for multiple-vote majority rule*

2009

- LSE-Groningen II, Groningen.  
*A defense of the Condorcet Jury Theorem*

2008

- The Epistemology of Liberal Democracy, Copenhagen.  
*Does the Condorcet Jury Theorem Really Underwrite Epistemic Democracy?*

## WORKING PAPERS

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1. “Rose’s Prevention Paradox”
2. “An epistemic defence of deliberative democracy”
3. “Virtuous versus vicious group coherence” (with Stefan Schubert, LSE)
4. “Trust in group agents”
5. “A reductive account of trust”
6. “Trust at a distance”
7. “Why buy local?” (with Ben Fergusson, VU Amsterdam)

## TEACHING

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### **As lecturer**

Philosophy Tripos (BA) (Cambridge, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15)

- First-year
  - Political Philosophy and Ethics: Punishment.
  - Set Texts: J. S. Mill’s *On Liberty* and *The Subjection of Women*.
- Second-year
  - Political philosophy: Liberty, Equality, Democracy, Political Obligation.
- Third-year
  - Political Philosophy: Global Justice.
  - Ethics: Ends of Action (wellbeing), ‘Trust’ Seminar.

MPhil (taught) in Public Policy (Cambridge, 2013/14, 2014/15)

- Deontology and Global Poverty
- Climate Change and Future People

PhD Seminar (LSE, 2011/12)

- Social Epistemic Mechanisms

### **As supervisor**

MPhil (research) in Philosophy (Cambridge, 2012/13, 2013/14)

- Incomparability and justified choice
- Government intervention in the economy and public goods
- A defense of Philippa Foot’s natural goodness account of morality
- Combat liability in revolution. Who counts as a legitimate target?
- Genuine friendships in virtual worlds
- Toleration and reasonable disagreement
- Distributive justice in online games

PhD supervision (Cambridge 2014/15 - Present)

- Marco Meyer “Justice in Global Finance” (second supervisor)
- Jens van’t Klooster “The Democratic Legitimacy of the Central Bank” (second supervisor)

**As class teacher**

- Political Philosophy, Ethics, and History of Philosophy. (Cambridge, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15)
- Philosophy and Public Policy, Morals and Politics, Introduction to Philosophy, Introductory Logic, and Philosophy of Mind. (LSE, 2007/08 – 2011/12)

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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April 2016

- Co-organiser (with Tony Booth) of a conference on Trust and Belief, University of Cambridge.

October 2012 – August 2015

- Director of Studies (Philosophy), Robinson College, University of Cambridge.
  - Admissions, course selection, examinations, mentoring and pastoral care.

October 2012 – June 2014

- Temporary Lecturer, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Cambridge.
  - Syllabus design, postgraduate admissions, exam boards.

October 2012 – September 2013

- Co-organiser (with Nicholas Vrousalis) of the Political Philosophy Workshop, University of Cambridge.

April – August 2012

- Acting Post Graduate Administrator, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method, LSE.

September 2011 – July 2012

- Administrator, Lakatos Award in Philosophy of Science, LSE.

June 2011

- Co-organiser of the Third Meeting of the Rationality and Decision Research Network “Deliberation – Individual and Public”, LSE.

June - July 2010

- Co-organiser of a master class on Deliberative Democracy, by John Dryzek (ANU), LSE.
- Co-organiser of a workshop on Deliberative Democracy, LSE.

**REFERENCES**

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Available on request.