

# DAVID EGAN

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**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:** Wittgenstein, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Continental Philosophy (esp. Heidegger), Aesthetics

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:** 19<sup>th</sup> Century Continental Philosophy, History of Analytic Philosophy, Ethics, Asian Philosophy, Philosophy of Language

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## CAREER

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| 2017–2020   | CUNY Hunter College                 | Visiting Assistant Professor (2017–19)<br>Substitute Doctoral Lecturer (2019–20) |
| 2013–17     | University of Chicago               | Society of Fellows   |
| 2012–13     | Christ Church, University of Oxford | Lecturer in Philosophy   |
| Winter 2012 | McMaster University                 | Sessional Instructor   |
| 2012        | University of Oxford                | DPhil in Philosophy  |
| 2006        | University of Toronto               | MA in Philosophy   |
| 2000        | Harvard University                  | BA <i>cum laude</i> in Philosophy  |

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## PUBLISHED OR FORTHCOMING ACADEMIC WORK

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| Forthcoming | ‘Rule Following, Anxiety, and Authenticity’. Forthcoming in <i>Mind</i> .<br>‘Wittgenstein’s <i>Confessions</i> : Reading <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> with St. Augustine’. Forthcoming in <i>The Heythrop Journal</i> .   |
| 2019        | <i>The Pursuit of an Authentic Philosophy: Wittgenstein, Heidegger, and the Everyday</i> . Single-author book published by Oxford University Press.   |
| 2018        | ‘Rehabilitating Austin, Reassessing Grice: The Case of Cancellability’. <i>Archiv für die Geschichte der Philosophie</i> 100:4, 469–90.   |
| 2016        | ‘Literature and Thought Experiments’. <i>Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism</i> 74:2, 139–50.<br>Review of <i>What Is Fiction For?: Literary Humanism Restored</i> by Bernard Harrison. <i>Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism</i> 74:2, 212–15.   |
| 2013        | <i>Wittgenstein and Heidegger</i> (Routledge). Co-edited collection of essays.<br>‘The Authenticity of the Ordinary’. In <i>Wittgenstein and Heidegger</i> (see above), 66–81.<br>‘Introduction’ (co-authored). In <i>Wittgenstein and Heidegger</i> (see above), 1–18.<br>‘Playing Well: Wittgenstein’s Language-Games and the Ethics of Discourse’. In <i>The Philosophy of Play</i> (Routledge), ed. Emily Ryall, Wendy Russell, Malcolm MacLean, 54–63.<br>Review of <i>Heidegger</i> by John Richardson. <i>European Journal of Philosophy</i> 21:S3, 10–15. |
| 2012        | ‘Das Man and Distantiality in <i>Being and Time</i> ’. <i>Inquiry</i> 55:3, 289–306.  |
| 2011        | ‘Pictures in Wittgenstein’s Later Philosophy’. <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> 34:1, 55–76.   |

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**WORK UNDER REVIEW**

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- R & R            'Games and Stories'. Revise and resubmit at *British Journal of Aesthetics*.  
Under review   [Title redacted: a paper on Heidegger and death]

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**PHILOSOPHICAL WORK FOR A NON-SPECIALIST AUDIENCE**

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- 2019            'Is There Anything Especially Expert About Being a Philosopher?' *Aeon* online  
                  'Can You Step in the Same River Twice? Wittgenstein v. Heraclitus'. *Aeon* online  
2018            'Calling Bullshit'. *The Point* online (featured article in *Arts & Letters Daily*)  
2017            'Speaking Nonsense'. *The Point* online  
                  'Donald Trump's Victory Shows Why We Need Philosophy Students More Than Ever'  
                  (with Simona Aimar). *Times Higher Education*  
2016            'All Made Up'. *The Point* online  
2012            'Seeing Double: Children and Animals'. *The Point* 6, 138–42.

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**RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

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- 2019            'Calling Bullshit: A Debate about Philosophical Method'. With Daniel Harris. Hunter  
                  College Fall Faculty Seminar, 19 November 2019.  
                  'Rule Following, Anxiety, and Authenticity'. Oxford University Post-Kantian and  
                  European Philosophy Workshop, 22 January 2019 and University of East Anglia  
                  Wittgenstein Workshop, 23 January 2019  
2018            'Rule Following, Anxiety, and Authenticity'. CUNY Hunter College, 10 October 2018  
2017            'Games and Stories'. Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Society,  
                  University of Edinburgh, 16 July 2017  
                  'Anxiety, Skepticism, and Authenticity'. University of Chicago's Society of Fellows  
                  Workshop, 9 January 2017.  
2016            'Brazening it Out'. Weissbourd Fall Symposium, University of Chicago, 22 October  
                  2016.  
                  'Who Is the Happiest Mortal in the *Iliad*?'. Human Being and Citizen Sequence-Wide  
                  Quarterly Lecture, University of Chicago, 20 October 2016.  
2015            'How To Undo Things With Words: Wittgenstein and Heidegger on Dissolving  
                  Philosophical Problems'. 'Heidegger, Wittgenstein, Mulhall: chemins croisés'  
                  Conference, Institut Catholique de Paris, 6 November 2015.  
                  '*Homo neotenicus* and *Homo ludens*'. 'The Human Difference' Conference, University  
                  of Oxford, 24 July 2015.  
                  'Rehabilitating Austin: A Critical Appraisal of Grice's Criticism'. Joint Session of the  
                  Aristotelian Society and the Mind Society, University of Warwick, 11 July 2015.  
                  'Later Wittgenstein as Literature'. Literature and Philosophy Workshop, University of  
                  Chicago, 28 May 2015.  
                  'Transformation and Improvisation in Wittgenstein's Later Philosophy'. 2<sup>nd</sup> Biennial  
                  Performance Philosophy Conference, Chicago, 12 April 2015.  
                  'Games and Stories'. Colloquium Presentation at APA-Pacific Division Conference,  
                  Vancouver, 2 April 2015.  
                  'How To Undo Things With Words: Wittgenstein and Heidegger on Dissolving  
                  Philosophical Problems'. Wittgenstein Workshop, University of Chicago, 13 February  
                  2015.

(LIST OF PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

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**RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (CONT'D)**

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- 2014 'Explanations and Ordinary Language'. 'Know Thyself' Conference, Prometheus Trust, London, 5 July 2014.  
'The Deferral of Authority in the Opening Passages of St. Augustine's *Confessions* and Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations*'. Paradoxes of Authority/Authority of Paradoxes Conference, University of Chicago, 10 May 2014.  
'Rehabilitating Austin'. University of Chicago's Society of Fellows Workshop, 14 March 2014.
- 2013 'Stories as Games'. Weissbourd Fall Symposium, University of Chicago, 18 October 2013.  
'Later Wittgenstein as Literature'. University College Dublin Philosophies of Philosophy conference, 18 June 2013.  
'The Difficulty of Description'. Oxford Post-Kantian Seminar, 5 February 2013.
- 2012 'Later Wittgenstein as Literature'. Art as a Mode of Enquiry, graduate symposium, University of Oxford, 17 June 2012.
- 2011 'Wittgenstein and Play'. Philosophy at Play Conference, University of Gloucestershire, 12 April 2011.
- 2010 'The Authenticity of the Ordinary in Wittgenstein and Heidegger'. Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference, 20 November 2010.  
'Recollection and Authenticity in Wittgenstein and Heidegger'. University of Sussex Graduate Conference on Phenomenology, 20 May 2010.
- 2009 'Sceptical Themes: Groundlessness and the Uncanny in Heidegger and Wittgenstein'. University of Southampton Graduate Conference, 6 June 2009.  
'What is Philosophical Knowledge, and How is it Possible?' Oriel Interdisciplinary Student Conference, Oriel College, Oxford, 16 May 2009.  
'Necessity, the First Person Plural, and the Appeal to Ordinary Language in Wittgenstein's Later Philosophy'. North American Wittgenstein Society, APA-Pacific Division Conference, Vancouver, 8 April 2009.  
'What's the Difference Between Humour and Horror?' Ockham Society, Oxford, 27 January 2009.
- 2008 'Bringing It All Back Home: Humour, Nostalgia, and the Ordinary'. University of Toronto Graduate Conference, 10 May 2008.
- 2006 'Words Are Not Dead: Humour, Seriousness, and Irony in the Work of J. L. Austin'. University of British Columbia Graduate Philosophy Conference, 7 April 2006.

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**AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

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- 2011–12 APRA (Adrian Piper Research Archive) Foundation Berlin, Multi-Disciplinary Fellowship
- 2010–11 Oriel College Graduate Scholarship
- 2008–11 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Doctoral Fellowship
- 2008–10 Overseas Research Studentship
- 2008 John Locke Prize in Mental Philosophy, Subsidiary Prize (one of two runner-up prizes in a competition open to all Oxford graduates in their first three years of study)
- 2007–10 Clarendon Fellowship (for overseas students at Oxford, awarded to fewer than 10% of eligible candidates)
- 2007–10 Graduate Studentship in Philosophy

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**SERVICE**

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| Refereeing | <i>European Journal of Philosophy</i> (2015, 2019–20), <i>Continental Philosophy Review</i> (2019), <i>Estetika: The Central European Journal of Aesthetics</i> (2018), <i>Idealistic Studies</i> (2018), <i>Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism</i> (2015, 2017, 2018), <i>British Journal of the History of Philosophy</i> (2017), <i>International Journal of Philosophical Studies</i> (2017), <i>Synthese</i> (2016–17), <i>Brill Publishers</i> (2015), <i>Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress</i> (2014), <i>Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference</i> (2008–10), <i>University of Toronto Graduate Philosophy Conference</i> (2005–6) |
| 2017       | Prison + Neighborhood Arts Program: taught philosophy course at Stateville Correctional Center, a maximum security prison near Chicago   |
| 2014–15    | Weissbourd Conference Coordinating Fellow (Society of Fellows): co-chair   |
| 2012–13    | Christ Church Undergraduate Philosophy Reading Group: convener   |
| 2012–13    | Oxford Post-Kantian and European Philosophy Seminar: co-convener   |
| 2012       | Christ Church undergraduate admissions: interviewer  |
| 2008–10    | Oxford University Buddhist Society: treasurer (2008–09), president (2009–10)   |
| 2008       | Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference: conference organizer  |

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**CUNY Hunter College**

Heidegger • Twentieth-Century Philosophy • Humans and Animals • Wittgenstein • Introduction to Philosophy • Philosophy, Life, and Literature • Games, Play, and Philosophy • Aesthetics • Existentialism

**University of Chicago**

Human Being and Citizen (Western philosophy and literature from antiquity to the present) • Philosophy of Play and Games

**University of Oxford**

General Philosophy (introductory metaphysics and epistemology) • History of Philosophy (Descartes to Hume) • Post-Kantian Philosophy • Frege, Russell, and Early Wittgenstein • Later Wittgenstein • Wittgenstein and Heidegger • Aesthetics

**McMaster University**

Technology & Society II

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**OTHER SKILLS AND INTERESTS**

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**Languages:** French and German, some Russian

**Theater:** In my earlier life, I was a semi-professional playwright. I won several awards, and in 2003 I was nominated for the American Theater Critics Association's New Play Award for *The Fly-Bottle*, which deals with Wittgenstein's notorious encounter with Popper. My experience in the theater informs my thinking in aesthetics.

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## REFERENCES

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Prof. Stephen Mulhall  
New College, University of Oxford  
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Dr. Joseph Shear  
Christ Church, University of Oxford  
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Dr. Anita Avramides  
St. Hilda's College, University of Oxford  
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Prof. Michael Kremer  
University of Chicago  
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Prof. James Conant  
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Prof. Ronald de Sousa  
University of Toronto (emeritus)  
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Prof. Omar Dahbour (teaching reference)  
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Dr. Samantha Fenno (teaching reference)  
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