

Dr. phil. Silvia Jonas

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT DETAILS

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

AOS: Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mathematics, Philosophy of Religion
AOC: Metaethics, Epistemology, Aesthetics

POSITIONS

Post-doc

Fellow of the Minerva Foundation, Max Planck-Society since 2017
Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy (MCMP)
Research Project: Mathematics Analogies

Polonsky Postdoctoral Fellow 2012-2017
Van Leer Institute; Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Research Project: Mathematical Realism and Theism

Pre-doc

Research Assistant 2007-2008
University of St Andrews
Research Assistance at the Chair of Philosophy of Mathematics (Peter Clark)

Research Assistant 2007-2008
University of St Andrews
Research Assistance at the Chair of Philosophy of Religion (John Haldane)

Research Assistant 2006-2007
Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich
Research Assistance at the Chair of German Idealism (Axel Hutter)

EDUCATION

PhD in Philosophy 2012
Humboldt University Berlin
Dissertation on the Metaphysics of Ineffability in Art, Religion, and Philosophy
Advisors: Tobias Rosefeldt (Berlin), Michael Inwood (Oxford)

BPhil in Philosophy 2010
University of Oxford
BPhil Thesis on the Metaphysics of Ineffability
Advisor: A.W. Moore

MLitt in Philosophy <i>University of St. Andrews</i> MLitt Thesis on Minimalist Theories of Truth Advisors: Stewart Shapiro, Peter Clark	2008
Magister Artium <i>Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich</i> Political Science (Major), Philosophy, Religious Studies; final grade: 1,15	2007
Exchange year <i>Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel</i> Master program in Political Science	2004-2005
High School Graduation (Abitur) <i>Gymnasium Oberhaching near Munich</i> Finals in English, French, Mathematics, and History (final grade: 1,2)	2002

SHORTLIST PLACEMENTS

Shortlisted for the Lise-Meitner-Excellence-Program (research group leader, tenure-track) <i>Max-Planck-Society, Germany</i>	2018
2nd place on shortlist, Assistant Professorship (tenure track) <i>Ben Gurion University, Israel</i>	2017

RESEARCH FUNDING (TOTAL €138,400)

Excellence programmes

Robert Bosch Foundation since 2017
Fellow in the *Fast Track* Program for Outstanding Women in Science ([Link](#))

Third-party research funding

Max Planck Society €64,500
Minerva Fellowship for the research project *Mathematics Analogies* (2017-2019)

John Templeton Foundation €6000
Research Fellow in the interdisciplinary and interfaith research project (2016-2019)
Abrahamic Reflections on Science and Religion ([Link](#))

Polonsky Academy €5000
Grant for the organisation of the international research workshop *New Work on Ineffability* ([Link](#))

Awards and Scholarships

Humboldt University Berlin €6600
Humboldt University Doctoral Grant for outstanding academic achievements (2011)

Konrad Adenauer Foundation Graduate Research and Doctoral Scholarship (2008-2011)	€39.600
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Graduate Research Scholarship (2007-2008)	€13.200
Rothberg Family Prize Scholarship for Graduate Studies at the Rothberg International School of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2004)	\$4.000

TEACHING

God, Belief, Justification: Themes in analytic philosophy of religion <i>Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich</i> Seminar in analytic philosophy of religion for BA-students Topics: arguments for the existence of God; rationality and justification of religious belief; the problem of evil; explanations of religious experiences	WS 2018
Indispensability Arguments for Realism <i>Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich</i> Seminar in contemporary analytic metaphysics for MA- and advanced BA-students Topics: indispensability and ontological commitment; confirmational holism; unwanted entailments	SS 2017
From Existence to Expression <i>The Hebrew University of Jerusalem</i> Seminar in contemporary analytic metaphysics for MA- and advanced BA-students Topics: necessary existents; identity; perspective; language and conceptualisation	WS 2015/16
Mathematics, its Foundations, and their Implications <i>The Hebrew University of Jerusalem</i> Introduction to contemporary Philosophy of Mathematics for MA-Students Topics: foundations of mathematics; ontological implications of set theory; mathematical Platonism; fictionalism; and structuralism	SS 2014
Aesthetics and Critical Philosophy <i>University of Oxford, Trinity College</i> Undergraduate tutorial: Introduction to philosophical aesthetics and critical philosophy Topics: the aesthetic theories of Kant, Schopenhauer, Wittgenstein, Heidegger, and Adorno; art and truth; artistic expression and the expressiveness of art	SS 2010
Political Theory and Philosophy I <i>Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich</i> Undergraduate tutorial and exam preparation Topics: the political theories of Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, and Hobbes	SS 2006
Political Theory and Philosophy II <i>Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich</i> Undergraduate tutorial and exam preparation Topics: the political theories of Locke, Rousseau, Weber, and Rawls	SS 2006

PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations

- Frankfurt School of Finance and Management** 11/2018
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy
Presentation title: "Metaethics and Metamathematics"
- University of Erlangen-Nürnberg** 11/2018
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy
Presentation title: "Mathematical and Moral Realism, and the Problem of Disagreement"
- Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy (MCMP)** 10/2018
Workshop: *Analogical Reasoning in Mathematics and Science*
Presentation title: "Analogical Reasoning and Non-empirical Domains"
- Cologne University** 10/2018
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy
Presentation title: "Mathematical and Moral Disagreement"
- Munich University** 07/2018
MCMP Summer School for female students
Presentation title: "Mathematics: A model for Ethics, Aesthetics, and Religion?"
- John Templeton Foundation** 06/2018
Workshop: *Abrahamic Reflections on Science and Religion*
Location: Ohrid, Republic of North Macedonia
Presentation title: "Spurious Correlations and Emergence"
- Munich Center for Ethics, Munich University** 05/2018
Workshop 'Werkstattgespräch': *Women in Philosophy*
Presentation title: "Pluralist mathematics: How foundational debates in mathematics might change the way philosophers understand realism"
- Max Planck Society** 04/2018
Meeting of Minerva Fellows
Presentation title: "Mathematics Analogies"
- Munich University** 04/2018
Workshop: *Foundations in Mathematics: Modern Views*
Presentation title: "Why should philosophers care about the foundations of mathematics?"
- Cornell University** 05/2017
Workshop on my monograph *Ineffability and its Metaphysics*
Presentation title: "Ineffability"
- Tel Aviv University** 01/2017
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy
Presentation title: "Philosophy and the Mathematical Paradigm"
- Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science, Tel Aviv** 11/2016
Institute Colloquium
Presentation title: "Analogical Reasoning about Non-empirical Domains of Truth"
- University of Kent** 11/2016
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy
Presentation title: "Realism, Evolution, and the A priori"

Haifa University	11/2016
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy	
Presentation title: "Debunking vs. Safety: Realism and Arguments from Evolution"	
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem	06/2016
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy	
Presentation title: "Access Problems and Explanatory Overkill"	
University of London, Heythrop College	03/2016
Colloquium of the faculty of philosophy	
Presentation title: "Self-acquaintance"	
University of Oxford	03/2015
Workshop: <i>New Insights and Directions for Religious Epistemology</i>	
Presentation title: "A Case for Religion in Light of Mathematics"	
The Polonsky Academy, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute	07/2014
Academy Colloquium	
Presentation title: "Symmetries Between Mathematical and Religious Belief"	
Association for the Philosophy of Judaism	01/2013
Online-Symposium on J. Golding's 'The rationality of being a traditional religious Jew'	
Presentation title: "Is Religious Rationality Insular Rationality?"	
American Philosophical Association	12/2012
Eastern Division Meeting, Atlanta	
Presentation title: "Ineffability Assertions"	
University of Oxford	05/2010
Ockham Society for Philosophy	
Presentation title: "Ineffability Assertions"	
Selected presentations	
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European Society for Analytic Philosophy (ESAP)	08/2017
9. International Congress of the European Society for Analytic Philosophy	
Presentation title: "Analogical Reasoning and A Priori Truth"	
The Aristotelian Society	07/2017
Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society	
Location: University of Edinburgh	
Presentation title: "Reasoning by Analogy"	
Institute for Advanced Studies, University of London	06/2016
Conference: <i>Investigating Conscious Acquaintance</i>	
Presentation title: "Conscious Acquaintance and Ineffable Knowledge"	
German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP)	09/2015
Congress of the German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP.9)	
Presentation title: "Abstract Belief and its Rational Acceptability"	
University of Cambridge	11/2011
Conference: <i>Music and Transcendence</i>	
Presentation title: "On the Metaphysical Structure of Ineffable Content in Music"	
German Society for Philosophy (DGPhil)	09/2011
12. Congress of the German Society for Philosophy	
Location: Munich University	
Presentation title: "Can There Be Extended Simples?"	

Humboldt University Berlin Berlin–Princeton Graduate Conference Presentation title: “A Separate Reality: Enquiry into the Nature of Ineffability”	07/2011
Israeli Philosophical Association The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Presentation title: “Ineffability and Haecceities”	02/2011
Salzburg University Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy (SOPhiA) Presentation title: “Against Metaphysics Running Amok”	09/2011

LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

Polonsky Philosophy Seminar Leader of the Van Leer Philosophy Group and organizer of the weekly Philosophy Colloquium at the Polonsky Academy of the Van Leer Institute	2014-2017
Workshop: New Work on Ineffability Organiser of the international workshop <i>New Work on Ineffability</i> at the Polonsky Academy of the Van Leer Institute (Link)	2016

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

LMU Mentoring Programme Mentor in the LMU Mentoring Programme for female students	since 2018
Selection Committee for PhD and Postdoc Fellowships <i>Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy</i>	2018
Undergraduate Admissions Interviews <i>University of Oxford, Trinity College</i>	2009-2010
Journal Refereeing Referee for Palgrave Macmillan; Erkenntnis; Analysis; Bloomsbury; Ratio; KRITERION–Journal of Philosophy	since 2015
Conference Refereeing European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP) First Irvine-Munich-PoliMi-Salzburg Conference in Philosophy and Foundations of Physics (IMPS 2018)	since 2016
Membership in professional societies Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP) Germany German Society of Analytic Philosophy (GAP) German Society of Philosophy (DGPhil) The Aristotelian Society American Philosophical Association (APA) Oxford Union	

REFERENCES

Prof. Dr. Stephan Hartmann

Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

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Prof. A.W. Moore

University of Oxford

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Prof. Dr. Gabriel Motzkin

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; The Van Leer Institute

Professor of Philosophy

Former Director of the Van Leer Institute

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem 9190501, Israel

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Website: <http://en.philosophy.huji.ac.il/people/gabriel-motzkin>

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University of Oxford

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Prof. Fiona Ellis

Heythrop College and University of Roehampton

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PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Ineffability and its Metaphysics: The Unspeakable in Art, Religion, and Philosophy 2016
Palgrave Macmillan, New York

Reviews by Keith Ward for *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* ([Link](#)); by Guy Bennett-Hunter for *The Expository Times* ([Link](#)); by Sebastian Gäb for *Zeitschrift für philosophische Literatur* ([Link](#)); by Carrie Figdor for *New Books in Philosophy* ([Link](#)); by William Franke and Chance Woods for *The Year's Work in Critical and Cultural Theory* ([Link](#)); by Sameer Yadav for the *Journal of Analytic Theology* ([Link](#))

Book symposium (invited) at Cornell University (8. May 2017)

Articles (peer-reviewed)

Spurious Correlations and Emergence in progress
(with Karl Svozil)

Mathematical and moral disagreement under review

Word and object: divine language forthcoming
In: D. Frank and A. Segal (eds.), *Cambridge Critical Guide to Maimonides's Guide of the Perplexed*, Cambridge University Press.

Modal Structuralism and Theism 2018
In: Fiona Ellis (ed.), *New Models of Religious Understanding*, Oxford University Press.

Aesthetic Ineffability 2017
Philosophy Compass, Vol. 12 No. 2.

Access Problems and Explanatory Overkill 2017
Philosophical Studies, Vol. 174 No. 11.

Mathematical and Religious Belief 2016
In: Rico Gutschmidt, Thomas Rentsch (ed.), *New Positions on a Timeless Question*. Münster: Mentis.

On Mathematical and Religious Belief, and On Epistemic Snobbery 2015
Philosophy, Vol. 91 No. 1.

Against Metaphysics Running Amok: Hegel, Adorno, and the Ineffable 2013
In: Lisa Herzog (ed.), *Hegel's Thought in Europe*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.

Reviews

Fiona Ellis' God, Value, and Nature, OUP 2014 2015
Philosophy, Vol. 91 No. 2.

Howard Wettstein's The Significance of Religious Experience, OUP 2012 <i>Religious Studies</i> , Vol. 50 No. 1.	2014
David Chalmers' Constructing the World, OUP 2012 <i>The Philosophical Quarterly</i> , Vol. 64 No. 257.	2014
Science communication	
What's hot in Mathematical Philosophy? <i>The Reasoner</i> , Vol. 12, No. 8 (Link)	2018
Unspeakable things: Life's most meaningful experiences can leave us tongue-tied. What can be said, let alone understood, about what's unsayable? <i>Aeon. A digital magazine of ideas and culture</i> (Link)	2017
Whereof one cannot speak <i>Alaxon. A digital magazine for thoughts, articles of notes and new ideas</i> (Link)	2017
Interview on "God, Science, and Ineffable Knowledge" <i>Templeton Foundation</i> . (Link)	2017
Interview on "Ineffability and its Metaphysics" Monograph <i>New Books in Philosophy</i> . (Link)	2016
Book launch and panel discussion of "Ineffability and its Metaphysics" Monograph <i>Polonsky Academy, Van Leer Institute</i> . (Link)	2016