

Areas of Research Specialism

Logic, Philosophy of Mathematics, History of Analytic Philosophy

Additional Areas of Teaching Expertise

Metaphysics, Epistemology, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Science

Employment History

Sep. 2022–Aug. 2025: LSE Fellow, The London School of Economics

Full-time teaching and research appointment. Duties include providing undergraduate lectures and classes, graduate teaching, and associated administration, such as examining.

Jan. 2020 – Sep. 2022: Departmental Lecturer, University of Oxford

Full-time teaching and research appointment. I was also a stipendiary lecturer at The Queen's and St Catherine's Colleges (2021-2022 only).

Sep. 2018 – Dec. 2019: Guest Teacher, The London School of Economics

Full-time teaching associateship focused on undergraduate class teaching and examining.

Education

2015–2019: PhD in Philosophy, University of Cambridge

Thesis Title: *Axiomatization and Incompleteness in Arithmetic and Set Theory*

Thesis Supervisors: Tim Button and Michael Potter

Examiners: Alex Oliver and Daniel Isaacson

Submitted: 26/04/2019. Viva: 28/06/2019. Result: Pass (with minor corrections)

Funding: AHRC Doctoral Scholarship

2013–2015: BPhil in Philosophy, University of Oxford

Thesis Title: *Quantifier Variance and Relativism*

Thesis Supervisor: Adrian Moore

Examined Subjects: Early Modern Philosophy I, Ethics I, History of Philosophy 1800–1950 I & II, Philosophy of Language I & II, Philosophy of Mathematics I

Result: Pass (with distinction in the essay component)

2010–2013: BA in Philosophy, University of Cambridge

Awarded First Class Honours.

Achieved the second-highest overall mark in final examinations for Philosophy.

Awarded two King's College Scholarships for outstanding examination results.

BA dissertation archived in the Cambridge Philosophy Library.

Publication

Monograph

1. Paseau, A.C. and W. Wrigley (2024), *The Euclidean Programme*. In Cambridge University Press' *Elements in the Philosophy of Mathematics* series (approximately 33,000 words).

Research Papers

4. Paseau, A.C. and W. Wrigley (forthcoming 2025), 'Lakatos on the Euclidean Programme'. In *The Continuing Influence of Imre Lakatos's Philosophy: a Celebration of the Centenary of his Birth*, edited by R. Frigg, J. Alexander, L. Hudetz, M. Redei, L. Ross, and J. Worrall. Springer (Synthese Library) (approximately 10,000 words).
3. Wrigley, W. (2022), 'Gödel's Disjunctive Argument'. *Philosophia Mathematica* 30.3: 306–342 (approximately 20,000 words). First published online 2022: <https://doi.org/10.1093/phimat/nkac013>
2. Wrigley, W. (2022), 'Gödelian Platonism and Mathematical Intuition'. *The European Journal of Philosophy* 30.2: 578–600 (approximately 16,000 words). First published online 2021: <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.12671>
Wiley has certified that this was amongst the most downloaded articles of 2021 in *The European Journal of Philosophy* in the twelve months following its publication.
1. Wrigley, W. (2018), 'Sider's Ontologese Introduction Instructions'. *Theoria* 84.4: 295–308 (approximately 6,500 words). First published online 2018: <https://doi.org/10.1111/theo.12153>

Book Reviews

1. Wrigley, W. (forthcoming), Review of *Syllogistic Logic and Mathematical Proof* by Paolo Mancosu and Massimo Mugnai. *The Mathematical Gazette* (approximately 1,500 words).

Public Engagement

2. Wrigley, W. (2024), 'The Euclidean Programme'. *LSE Philosophy Blog* (Approximately 2,000 words). Available at: <https://www.lse.ac.uk/philosophy/blog/2024/01/31/the-euclidean-programme/>
1. Wrigley, W. (2022), 'Infinite Reasoning and Arithmetical Undecidability'. *The Reasoner* 16.7: 64–65 (approximately 1,100 words).

In Preparation

1. Hamkins, J.D. and W. Wrigley, 'Parallels of Cantor in the Gödelian Anti-Mechanism Debate'. Journal article in preparation with Joel David Hamkins.

Selected Talks & Presentations

14. 2024 - *Indefinite Extensibility, Platonism, and Classical Logic*. Theoretical Philosophy Seminar, University of Bergen.

13. 2023 - *Gödelian Platonism and Mathematical Intuition*. Gödel and Kant on Mathematics and Physics Conference, University of Tübingen.
12. 2023 - *Lakatos on Euclidean and Quasi-Empirical Theories in Mathematics*. Lunchtime with a Philosopher series, London School of Economics.
11. 2023 - *The Axiomatic Method and the Dialogical Account of Deduction*. Lakatos Award Expert Workshop, London School of Economics.
10. 2023 - *Absolutely Undecidable Arithmetical Propositions*. Philosophy of Mathematics Seminar, Oxford.
9. 2022 - *Lakatos on the Euclidean Programme* (with A.C. Paseau). Lakatos Centenary Conference, London School of Economics.
8. 2022 - *The Euclidean Programme in the Philosophy of Mathematics*. LSESU Philosophical Society, London School of Economics.
7. 2022 - *Incompleteness*. A series of research-led presentations (sixteen hours total) for the LMU Munich Philosophy Summer Academy.
6. 2022 - Response to *Purity of Formal Proofs* by Robin Martinot. 15th Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic.
5. 2020 - Response to *The Modal Logic of Branching Infinity* by Ethan Brauer. 13th Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic.
4. 2019 - *Is the Concept Natural Number Vague?* Serious Metaphysics Group, Cambridge.
3. 2018 - *Absolutely Undecidable Arithmetical Propositions*. Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association, Oxford.
2. 2017 - *Sider's Ontologese Introduction Instructions*. Serious Metaphysics Group, Cambridge.
1. 2016 - *Sider's Ontologese Introduction Instructions*. Arché Graduate Conference, St Andrews.

External Research Funding Bids

MSCA Individual Fellowships My most recent bid for a two year EU-funded fellowship at the University of Oslo was evaluated at 96.2% by assessors, and accepted for funding by the European Commission. The value of the grant was €226,751.03, subject to negotiations with the EC (2023). I did not take up the grant for personal reasons.

European Commission Seal of Excellence. My earlier bid for the MSCA fellowship was evaluated at 91.6% by assessors. The project could not be funded due to budgetary constraints, but was awarded the programme's *Seal of Excellence*, an official recommendation by the European Commission that the project be funded by other sources at the European and National level (2022).

Doctoral Fellowships. My proposed PhD project received four offers of full AHRC funding at the Universities of Oxford, York, Birmingham and Cambridge (2015).

Conference Organisation & Support

Academic mentor providing research feedback and career guidance for students contributing to the *Lakatos' Undone Work* graduate conference. LSE (2020).

Senior Organizer for the 11th Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic (2018).

Junior Organizer for the 10th Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic (2017).

Teaching Experience

I have more than 1,000 hours of teaching experience, including lectures, classes, seminars and tutorials, and the supervision of graduate students at all levels. Teaching between April 2020 and October 2021 was delivered online, using a variety of platforms.

Lectures

Introduction to Logic. A 15-hour lecture course for undergraduates providing a comprehensive introduction to propositional and first-order logic (LSE 2023–2024).

Intermediate Logic & Probability. A 15-hour lecture course for undergraduates covering selected topics in logic and an introduction to probability theory and its philosophical applications (LSE 2022–2023 and 2023–2024).

Advanced Logic. A 15-hour lecture course introducing advanced undergraduates and graduate students to the metatheory of first-order logic, the incompleteness theorems, and selected non-classical logics (LSE 2022–23 and 2023–2024).

Set Theory. A 15-hour lecture course introducing advanced undergraduates and graduate students to set theory and related philosophical issues (LSE 2022–23).

Elements of Deductive Logic. An eight-lecture course introducing the metatheory of propositional logic to first-year undergraduates reading Philosophy with Computer Science, Mathematics, or Physics (Oxford, 2019–2020 and 2020–2021).

Theories. A four-lecture course for second-year students introducing the elementary properties of axiomatic theories (particularly theories of arithmetic and geometry), and the Frege–Hilbert controversy (Cambridge, 2017–2018 and 2018–2019).

Undergraduate Classes, Seminars, and Reading Groups

LSE: Introduction to Logic; Intermediate Logic; Advanced Logic; Set Theory.

University of Oxford: Introduction to Logic; Elements of Deductive Logic; Philosophical Logic.

University of Cambridge: Logic (first-year); Logic (second-year).

Undergraduate Tutorials and Supervisions

LSE: Undergraduate Dissertation.

University of Oxford: General Philosophy (first-year); Frege's *Grundlagen* (first-year); Turing on Computing Machinery and Intelligence (first-year); Knowledge & Reality (finals); Philosophy of Logic & Language (finals); Philosophy of Mathematics (finals).

University of Cambridge: Metaphysics and Philosophy of Mind (first-year); Metaphysics and Epistemology (second-year); Metaphysics (third-year); Logic (first- and second-year); Philosophical Logic (third-year); Mathematical Logic (third-year); Wittgenstein (third-year); Dissertation (third-year).

Graduate Teaching

Advanced Logic. A 15-hour taught seminar series on set theory and advanced topics in logic (LSE 2022–2023 and 2022–2023).

Set Theory. A 15-hour taught seminar series on set theory (LSE 2022–2023).

Realism and Indeterminacy. A sixteen-hour student-led seminar on topics at the intersection of metaphysics and logic (Oxford 2021).

Philosophy of Mathematics. A sixteen-hour research-led seminar, co-taught with Joel David Hamkins (Oxford 2020).

Graduate Supervision: Regularly supervision of Master’s students at Oxford and the LSE. At Oxford I was also co-supervisor (with A.C. Paseau) of one doctoral student.

Teaching Award and Evaluations

In 2023, I received an *Excellence in Education* award from the LSE in recognition of the quality of my teaching. In 2023–24, my advanced logic course received an average student rating of 4.8/5, my intermediate logic course had an average rating of 4.6/5, and my introductory logic course had an average rating of 4.2/5. I did not receive numerical feedback at Oxford, but here is a sample of student testimonials from my time there:

- “Wes is an excellent tutor. More so than any other I’ve had, he is approachable and understanding. He also has a great knack for clearly explaining complicated topics from the literature and, in the same stroke, making sense of at times poorly expressed student submissions. I can’t fault him.”
- “Wes has been excellent. As a director of studies, he is particularly engaged, organised and supportive. As a tutor, he is great. The revision tutorials I had with him (Knowledge and Reality) were extremely helpful.”
- “I find [Wes’s] tutorials very useful: I appreciate that he points out everything that is important to know about each topic and suggests further reading depending on the position we have taken in our essays. He also sends a detailed written comment on our essays after the tutorial, that gives us the opportunity to revise the important points and not repeat the same mistakes.”
- “Wesley’s realism and indeterminacy class was fantastic, and there was a number of qualities that I liked about it[...] First, I found the opportunity to give a presentation was a valuable experience, and was encouraged but not forced upon anyone. I also found breaking into small groups to be useful, as in these groups I could take a more active role in discussion and clarification with peers, especially where doing so in front of a large group can be intimidating.”
- “Speaking as someone who came to the BPhil from a very Continental / History of Philosophy undergrad, it’s been so useful to have this class covering some key figures in debates that come up in Oxford so often[...] Dr. Wrigley was a welcoming and attentive classgiver, and made a number of very helpful interventions into discussion with his expertise.”

Administrative Experience

Examinations & Assessment

Examiner, LSE. Duties include developing a new format for logic exams at the school, setting exam questions, marking examination scripts, and moderating the work of other examiners (2019, 2022–present).

Graduate Assessor, LSE. Duties include marking master’s-level coursework and theses (2022–present).

Examinations setter and marker, Oxford. Duties include primary and shared responsibility for setting and marking exam papers related to logic and philosophy of mathematics, as well as attendance at associated meetings (2020–2022).

Graduate Assessor, Oxford. Duties include assessing master’s-level coursework and theses, and arranging and conducting transfer and confirmation of status interviews for doctoral candidates (2020–2022).

Pastoral & Admissions

Academic Mentor, LSE. Duties include academic oversight of, and pastoral responsibility for, 27 undergraduate philosophy students (2022–2023).

Organizing Tutor for Joint Schools Philosophy, Wadham College, Oxford. Duties included organizing the philosophy tuition and college exams of students reading Philosophy with Modern Languages, Mathematics, and Physics, as well as organising the annual admissions process in these subjects (2020–2021).

Tutorial Board member, Wadham College, Oxford. This body meets nine times per year to discuss teaching and student-related issues in the College (2020–2021).

Director of Studies in Philosophy, St John’s College, Cambridge. Duties included organising the admission of undergraduates applying for Philosophy, administrative and pastoral responsibility for undergraduates reading Philosophy, the organisation of social occasions, and overseeing small grant applications (2019).

Undergraduate Admissions Interviewer. Wadham College, Oxford (2020, 2021); The Queen’s College, Oxford (2021), St Catherine’s College, Oxford (2021), St John’s College, Cambridge (2017, 2019).

Other Service

Peer Reviewing. I regularly act as a peer reviewer for both general philosophy journals (such as *Mind*) and specialist journals (such as *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*).

Development of course material (sample exam paper) for the forthcoming *Philosophical Topics in Logic and Probability* paper, soon to replace *Elements of Deductive Logic* at Oxford (2022).

Preparation of model answers for logic past papers (2013–2015) at the Cambridge Philosophy Faculty (2017).

Editorial Assistant for Alex Paseau, preparing *Critical Concepts in Philosophy: Philosophy of Mathematics*. Duties included preparation of electronic versions of more than eighty extracts, chapters, and articles, as well as making suggestions on the material included and giving feedback on the editor’s introduction (2015).