

# Déborah C. Marber

Email: deb.marber@dmu.ac.uk

Phone: +44 116 207 8178 (UK)

Website: www.debmarber.info

Areas of Specialization: Ethics (including Metaethics, Ethics of technology, and Business Ethics), Epistemology

Areas of Competence: Aesthetics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Science & Technology

## Academic Positions

2023-present	Lecturer in Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility, De Montfort University (UK, tenured)
2023-2024	Postdoctoral Research Associate, Durham University (UK)
2022-2023	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Notre Dame (USA)
2022-2024	Honorary Research and Teaching Fellow, University of Bristol (UK)
2021- 2022	Lecturer (Fixed Term), University of Bristol (UK)

## Education

2021	University of St Andrews St Andrews Stirling Programme in Philosophy (SASP)	PhD in Philosophy Thesis: 'Believing, imagining, and their relationship: A new theory of belief via the imagination' Primary supervisor: Patrick Greenough, Secondary supervisor: Justin Snedegar External examiner: Andy Egan; Internal examiner: Derek Ball
2016-2017	Institut Jean Nicod, Paris (ENS/EHESS)	Visiting PhD Student, supervisor: Joelle Proust
2014	University of St Andrews (SASP)	M.Litt in Philosophy - Merit with Distinction on the dissertation Master's dissertation in Metaethics: 'Can self- constitution ground morality? Evaluating Korsgaard's answer to the normative (i.e., why be moral) question.' Supervisor: Sarah Broadie
2013	University of St Andrews	M.A. Philosophy – First Class Curriculum including Ethics, Philosophy of Art, Philosophy of Mind and Language, and Advanced Logic Dissertation: 'Are attitudes <i>de dicto</i> essentially <i>de se</i> ?', awarded Gray prize for best dissertation in Philosophy

## Awards

2024	Beyond the Ivory Tower, \$2000 towards attending a workshop with New York Times Editor James Ryerson on communicating academic work to the public.
2022	Research Fellowship at the University of Notre Dame, Center for Philosophy of Religion, \$75 000 to develop my project 'The Moral and Epistemic Virtue of Imagination in the Age of Anxiety.'
2019	Major Conference Grant, the Mind Association £2000, towards the BPPA Masterclass I led: 'Conceptual engineering and its Consequences in Society' (see: <a href="http://dangerousconcepts.org/">http://dangerousconcepts.org/</a> )
2019	Analysis trust £500, for BPPA 2019 Masterclass
2019	CAPOD £600 and Arché £300 (University of St Andrews), for BPPA 2019 Masterclass
2018	Royal Institute of Philosophy Bursary
2018	Arché Travel bursary to visit Rutgers University (declined for family reasons)

- 2017 Arché Travel bursary to visit Institut Jean Nicod
- 2016 SASP PhD Grant (running between 2016-2019)
- 2013 Philosophical Quarterly Bursary covering MLitt tuition fees
- 2013 Gray prize for best undergraduate dissertation in Philosophy: ‘Are attitudes *de dicto* essentially *de se*?’
- 2012 Research Grant for Undergraduate Research Internship Programme (URIP), University of St Andrews, ‘How do consciousness and self-awareness arise? Investigating Hofstadter’s Strange Loops’, supervised by Simon Prosser

---

## Academic Publications

- **Imagination as an intellectual virtue**  
with Alan Wilson  
*Analysis* (2024) online first (anae051, <https://doi.org/10.1093/analys/anae051>)

---

## Academic Works Under Review (drafts available upon request)

- **A paper on Imagination’s role in motivation**  
presented at ISOS2024 at Duke University in July 2024 and at RoME at UC Boulder in August 2024

---

## Academic Works In Progress (at various stages)

- **Collective Intellectual Humility through the Lens of Scientific Institutions** – In progress, draft available and nearing submission, with Nancy Cartwright and Sam Colclough, presented at University of Bristol, San Jose State University, Durham University and University of Notre Dame (pre-read)
- **Vices of the imagination** – In progress, new work with Alan Wilson, presented at Vice Theory 2024 at the University of New Brunswick (Canada) in October 2024
- **The Problem of Empathic Resistance** – In progress (new work, presented at the University of Notre Dame (pre-read) and Fulbright Chicago)
- **Believing as Imagining** – In progress (summarizing my PhD thesis, requires prior publication of my paper on imagination and motivation (see under review))
- **Want to live forever? Assessing the desirability of life extension technology and immortality through De Beauvoir and Williams** (new work, early stages, presented at ‘Relating to Death, Relating to the Dead’ at University of Edinburgh 3/5/2024)
- **The counterfactual imagination: what we learn by engaging with fiction** – Paused, draft update needed.
- **On reducing prejudice by watching our mouths: generics and essentialization** – Paused, draft update needed.
- **Moral Vision and Moral Imagination in Business** – New work with Pooria Assadi (very early stages)
- **Empathy through VR** – New work with Riana Betzler (very early stages)

---

## Popular Publications

- (Re)creation, imagination, and sunbathing, published in 2021 on The Junkyard of the Mind
- Belief, Knowledge and Imagination – a common thread, published in 2019 blog post on The Junkyard of the Mind

---

## Teaching Experience

As a lecturer (or module leader):

- **Digital Transformation and Innovation in Business** (BABM3001), DMU (Fall 2024)
- **Dimensions of Digital Transformation** (BAIB3003) (Fall 2024)
- **Metaethics**, as part of Realism & Normativity (PHIL20046) with Max Jones, University of Bristol (Fall 2021)
- **Writing and Reading Philosophy** Second Year workshops, University of Bristol (Fall 2021)
- **Academic Skills: Philosophy**, University of St Andrews  
I was responsible for course design and delivery on the following topics:  
Arguments in Philosophy (1st year undergraduates) (Fall 2015)

As a tutor (or seminar leader):

- **Ethical and Responsible Leadership** (BABM2004), De Montfort University Leicester (Spring 2024)
- **Contemporary Issues in Sustainable Business** (BABM2002), De Montfort University Leicester (Fall 2023)
- **Moral and Political Controversies** (PY1011), University of St Andrews (Falls 2017, 2018, 2019)
- **Applied Ethics**, International Programme, St Andrews (Summer 2018)
- **Mind and World** (PY1010), University of St Andrews (Fall 2015)
- **Private tutor** in English, French, Biology and Chemistry (2017-Current), Personal Tutors Ltd. (2017-2019) and Enjoy Education Ltd (2021-2022) (Edinburgh and London respectively)
- **Enterprise and Creativity** (MN2112), School of Management, University of St Andrews (Fall 2011)

As a supervisor or other:

- At De Montfort University, I have so far supervised 15 MSc dissertations on a range of topics in Management, Sustainability and CSR and 6 MSc entrepreneurship projects.
- At the University of Bristol, I supervised 11 undergraduate dissertations on a wide range of topics, roughly including: Chalmers' zombie argument, the possibility of consciousness for AI, accounting for echo chambers through trust, epistemic akrasia, the social construction of gender, an existentialist metaethics as proposed by Simone de Beauvoir, and the philosophy of dreams. I also co-conducted a PhD annual review in political philosophy on theories of disadvantage in education.

### Selected Presentations

---

- Vices of the imagination  
19/10/2024 Vice Theory 2024, University of New Brunswick (Canada)
- Imagination and the Motivation of Social and Collective action  
10/8/2024 Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME), University of Colorado Boulder (USA) (refereed)  
24/7/2024 International Social Ontology Society Conference, Duke University (USA) (refereed)
- 'Want to live forever? Immortality, Life extension, and the Meaningful Life in de Beauvoir and Williams'  
Relating to Death, Relating to the Dead Conference, University of Edinburgh 3/5/2024 (refereed)
- 'Collective Intellectual Humility through the Lens of Scientific Institutions'  
27/6/2024 De Montfort University Leicester (UK)  
5/4/2024 University of Notre Dame (USA)  
5/10/2023 Durham University (UK)  
5/12/2023 Durham University (UK)  
22/9/2023 San Jose State University (USA) (invited)  
13/9/2023 University of Bristol (UK)
- 'Imagination as an intellectual virtue'  
5/5/2023 Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame
- 'The Problem of Empathic resistance'  
9/11/2022 Keynote talk at Fulbright event celebrating International Relations at the Czech Republic Consulate, Chicago, USA (invited)  
7/10/2022 Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame  
8/09/2022 MANCEPT workshop on Democracy and Empathy, University of Manchester (refereed)
- 'Feeling like an impostor'  
7/2022 Katherine Hawley Memorial Conference, University of St Andrews (refereed)
- 'Knowing by imagining: what justification do we gain?'  
21/5/2020 Amy Kind's C.O.V.I.D. gathering, online talk (with responses by Catherine Wearing (Wellesley College) and Michael T. Stewart (University of York)) (invited)  
14/4/2020 Language and Mind Seminar, Arché (online talk)
- 'The counterfactual imagination: what we learn by engaging with fiction'  
14/11/2019 Northern Imagination Forum, University of Sheffield, UK (invited)  
27/06/2019 Fiction, Imagination, Epistemology Conference, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany (refereed)  
15/02/2019 The Aesthetic Mind, 2nd Workshop, University of Fribourg, Switzerland (invited)
- 'Belief and Imagination in Pretence'  
11/11/2022 CPR, Discussion group, University of Notre Dame  
22/06/2018 Doc'In Nicod Seminar, Institut Jean Nicod, ENS/EHESS Paris, France
- 'Imagining to Remember'  
24/03/2018 Duquesne University's Graduate Students in Philosophy Conference, Pittsburgh, USA (refereed)

15/08/2017 ESPP (European Society of Philosophy and Psychology), University of Herefordshire, UK (refereed)  
 21/07/2017 Workshop: Memory, Mental Time Travel, and Self-Control, University of Roma Tre, Italy (refereed)  
 • ‘On addressing prejudice by watching our mouths: generics and essentialization’  
 15/07/2017 Open Session at the Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association, University of Edinburgh (refereed)  
 10-13/08/2016 24<sup>th</sup> ESPP Annual Meeting (European Society of Philosophy and Psychology), St Andrews (refereed)

## Conference Organisation

---

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-organiser (with Andrea Blomkvist (Sheffield) and Jacopo Frascaroli (York)), Imagination and Perception, Northern Imagination 4 (see <a href="https://northernimaginationforum.weebly.com/upcoming-events.html">https://northernimaginationforum.weebly.com/upcoming-events.html</a>)</li> </ul>     |
| 2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-organiser, The Science and Philosophy of Imagination, with Max Jones (Bristol) and Sam Wilkinson (Exeter) (see, <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/science-philosophy-imagination/home?authuser=0">https://sites.google.com/view/science-philosophy-imagination/home?authuser=0</a>)</li> </ul> |
| 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-organiser, Northern Imagination Forum (with Andrea Blomkvist (Sheffield) and Jacopo Frascaroli (York))</li> </ul>   |
| 2019 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Organiser (with Mirela Fus (SASP/Oslo) and Jakob Hinze(SASP)) British Postgraduate Philosophical Association (BPPA) 2019 Masterclass - Workshop on ‘Conceptual engineering and its Consequences in Society’</li> </ul>  |
| 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convenor, Arché Language and Mind Seminar</li> </ul>   |
| 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convenor, Arché, Normativity Reading Group</li> </ul>  |
| 2016 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-organizer, Arché Reading Party (with Claire Field and Caroline Touborg)</li> <li>• Student Assistant, 24<sup>th</sup> European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP) Annual Meeting</li> </ul>   |

## Administration & Service

---

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 2022- current | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Virtue of Imagination, Bi-weekly online reading group, co-organiser and co-founder, based at the University of Bristol</li> </ul>   |
| 2021          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewer for the Journal of the American Philosophical Association</li> </ul>   |
| 2019          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEPPA (Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs) Grants</li> </ul>  |
| 2018          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application Assistant, working with Theron Pummer (St Andrews)</li> <li>• Research Assistant for Herman Cappelen and Josh Dever’s book ‘Bad Language’ (OUP), University of Oslo (remote)</li> </ul> |
| 2017          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CTEER Committee ‘Young people on Brexit’ participant, Scottish Parliament</li> </ul>  |

## Professional Memberships

---

- Institute of Responsible Business, Law and Social Justice at De Montfort University
- Royal Society of Arts
- International Social Ontology Society (ISOS)
- The Aristotelian Society

## Public Engagement

---

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2021      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Series of Youtube interviews with Philosophers working on the imagination (see: <a href="https://junkyardofthemind.com/new-page">https://junkyardofthemind.com/new-page</a>)</li> </ul>   |
| 2019      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stand-Up Philosophy, ‘Philosophy and Scientific Innovation’, performed at the Edinburgh Fringe</li> </ul>   |
| 2018-2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The John Stuart Mill Cup, Finals and Semi-Finals Judge in debating competition modelled after the Ethics Bowl for Scottish high school students to debate the ethical implications of contemporary events and business news (organised by Ben Sachs); I also helped to train judges in 2021.</li> </ul> |