

Michael Paskaru

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PROFILE

Learner and educator holding a Master's in Philosophy of Mind and Psychology, bringing a professional, warm, and authentic attitude. Utilizing analytical, communication, and conceptual thinking skills honed during post-graduate studies to empower teams and individuals for success.

EDUCATION

- 2023 Tilburg University, MA in Philosophy of Mind and Psychology.
Thesis Topic: *Situationism, Factitious Virtue, and the Relevance of Traditional Virtue Ethics: A Conceptual Analysis of Bullying & Mental-health in American Youth.*
- 2021 York University, BA in Psychology with Honors.
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CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2025 5th European Experimental Philosophy Conference, poster presentation.
University of East Anglia, Poster Topic: *Perceptions of Virtue: An Experimental Approach*
- 2025 5th International Conference on Philosophy of Mind: Natural and Artificial Intelligence, Online Presentation.
University of Porto. Talk Topic: *The Detail in Cognitive Architecture*
- 2025 Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Georgia, Alabama. Talk Topic:
The good in evil deeds: Exploring moral ambiguity and developmental contexts in adolescent behavior
- 2024 50th Bertrand Russell Society Annual Meeting, Center of Inquiry. Talk Topic:
Russell Style Questions
- 2024 Exploring Identity and Virtue in the Context of Human-AI Interaction, University of Ljubljana.
Talk Topic: *Intuitive Judgements of Awareness in AI Systems*
- 2024 Social Cognition in VR, University of Bucharest, Online Presentation. Talk Topic:
Picturing Virtual Reality
- 2023 24th annual Ethics Across the Curriculum: Designing Just Futures, James Madison
University. Talk Topic: *Fabricating ChatGPT – A Philosophical Analysis*
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WORK EXPERIENCE

- Sep 2024 – Present Humber College, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Science Part-time Professor.
 - Teaching psychology and philosophy courses to thirty-to-sixty students per class.
 - Creating lesson plans and assessment criteria in accordance with the course syllabus, preparing practical classes and examination materials.
 - Maintaining a safe and inclusive learning environment within a group of varying levels of preparation, ages, ethnicities, and cultures.
- Sep 2023 — Jun 2024 Ontario College of Arts & Design Teacher Assistant.
 - Oversaw over eighty students per semester in an Introduction to Psychology course.
 - Supported students in their questions, and completed assessment gradings on an ad hoc basis.
 - Provided timely and constructive feedback to help students obtain a better understanding of the course content and expectations.
- Sep 2023 — Jun 2024 Roots Private School Afterschool & Supply Teacher.
 - Provided personal tutoring to children ages 6-13, revealing and utilizing their individual strengths.
 - In cooperation with colleagues, identified and helped to fill the gaps in the child's learning.
 - Identified similarities and differences between grade levels.
- Feb 2018 — Jul 2024 Speakedia, Tutor Doctor, Go Beyond Academy (nonconsecutive) English Teacher.
 - Worked individually and in small groups with kids ages 6-18 teaching English and Social Science.
 - Practiced distinctive approaches focused on maximizing the personal potential of each student.
 - Used a tailored approach aimed at identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each student.
 - Prepared custom lesson plans as per the Ontario curriculum and expectations of staff and parents.

Feb 2019 — Aug 2020

Distress Centers of Greater Toronto

Crisis Responder, Volunteer.

- Served as a first-responder for callers in need of mental and emotional support.
- Connected to three major priority lines: Canadian Suicide Prevention Service, CAMH and EMS.
- Increased service access by operating within a framework of cultural competency, including the promotion of diversity in all areas of service.

Jan 2017 — Apr 2020

InLight Network, York University

Co-founder, Volunteer.

- Organized a group of like-minded individuals to study the problems of the transition between high school to post-secondary.
- Co-lead the club where post-secondary students mentored eleventh and twelfth graders to ease challenges faced during the transition to post-secondary education.
- Worked in a paradigm of prevention and ease, meeting students at their high schools and speaking their language allowed mentors to provide advice on a more relational level.

LANGUAGES

English: Native speaker

Hebrew: Working knowledge

French: Working knowledge

Russian: Highly proficient

AREAS OF SPECIAL INTREST

Creative writing, Yoga, Goju-ryu karate-do, Violin

CERTIFICATIONS

TESOL and TEFL.
National Lifeguard and CPR(C) & AED.

References available upon request