

Lorenzo Spagnesi

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Areas of research

Specialization: Kant, Philosophy of Science, History of Philosophy (esp. Early Modern Philosophy and German Idealism)

Competence: Metaphysics, Epistemology

Employment

Trier University	
Habilitation Contract	2021-2027
Thyssen Visiting Scholar at Johns Hopkins University and University of Notre Dame	Feb. 2024-April 2024 (sched.)
DFG Post-doctoral Research Fellow (<i>Inductive Metaphysics in Kant and Neo-Kantianism</i>)	Oct. 2021-Jul. 2024
DFG Visiting Scholar at UC San Diego (advisor: Eric Watkins)	Feb. 2022-May 2022

Education

University of Edinburgh	
Ph.D., Philosophy (<i>awarded June 2021; funded by the European Research Council and the Royal Institute of Philosophy</i>)	2017-2021
Supervisors: Michela Massimi & Alix Cohen	
Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main	
Erasmus Traineeship (advisor: Marcus Willaschek)	Oct. 2019-Dec. 2019
Catholic University, Milan	
M.A., Philosophy (<i>first class honors</i>)	2014-2016
Bocconi University, Milan	
B.Sc., Economics (<i>first class honors</i>)	2011-2014

Peer-reviewed articles

“Kant on Phenomenal Substance.” <i>British Journal for the History of Philosophy</i> . DOI: 10.1080/09608788.2023.2299780.	Forthcoming
“Kant on Relational Properties and Real Changes.” <i>Kant's Project of Enlightenment. Proceedings of the 14th International Kant Congress</i> , Bonn 2024.	Forthcoming
“The Necessity of Empirical Laws of Nature through the Lens of Kant’s Dialectic.” <i>Kantian Review</i> , 28(3), 413–428. DOI: 10.1017/S1369415423000274.	2023

- “A Rule-based Account of the Regulative Use of Reason in Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason.” *European Journal of Philosophy*, 31(3), 673–688. DOI: [10.1111/ejop.12793](https://doi.org/10.1111/ejop.12793). 2023
- “Regulative Idealization: A Kantian Approach to Idealized Models.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 99, 1–9. DOI: [10.1016/j.shpsa.2023.02.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2023.02.002). 2023
Winner of the North American Kant Society Wilfrid Sellars Prize.
- “The Systematic Unity of Reason and Empirical Truth in Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason.” *Kant-Studien*, 114(3), 435–462. DOI: [10.1515/kant-2023-2027](https://doi.org/10.1515/kant-2023-2027). 2023
- “The Idea of God and the Investigation of Nature in Kant’s Transcendental Dialectic”, *Kantian Review*, 27(2), 279–297. DOI: [10.1017/S136941542100073X](https://doi.org/10.1017/S136941542100073X). 2022
- “Kant’s Space of Theoretical Reason and Science: A Perspectival Reading.” In *Kant and the Problem of Knowledge. Rethinking the Contemporary World*, edited by L. Caranti and A. Pinzani, London: Routledge, 109–135. DOI: [10.4324/978100305074](https://doi.org/10.4324/978100305074). 2022

Edited volume

- “Essences, Dispositions, and Laws in Kant.” Topical Collection, *Synthese*, co-edited with Kristina Engelhard. Forthcoming (2024)

Reviews

- “Perspectives on Kant’s Opus Postumum”, ed. by Giovanni Pietro Basile and Ansgar Lyssy (Routledge), *Rivista di Filosofia Neo-Scholastica*. Forthcoming (2024)
- Ido Geiger’s “Kant and the Claims of the Empirical World” (Cambridge University Press), *Society for German Idealism and Romanticism Review*, 6(1), 109–114. 2023
- Marcus Willaschek’s “Kant on the Sources of Metaphysics. The Dialectic of Pure Reason” (Cambridge University Press), *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 29(3), 570–573. DOI: [10.1080/09608788.2020.1813078](https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2020.1813078). 2021

Manuscripts in preparation

- “Natures, Ideas, and Essentialism in Kant.” Under review. *Synthese*.
- “Understanding and Truth in Scientific Models.” Under review. *Noûs*.
- “Reason and Knowledge in Kant”. In preparation
- “The Demand for Explanation”. In preparation
- A paper on Kant’s notion of causal explanation. WIP
- A paper on Kant’s mereology. WIP
- A paper on regulative essentialism. WIP

Fellowships and Awards

Thyssen Stiftung Travel Subsidy, Johns Hopkins University and University of Notre Dame	2023
North American Kant Society Wilfrid Sellars Junior Scholar Prize, for best paper by scholar within 10 years of PhD.	2022
DFG Postdoctoral Fellowship, Trier University.	2021-2023
IRC Postdoctoral Fellowship, University College Dublin.	2021-2023 (<i>declined to accept current job</i>)
DAAD Postdoctoral Grant, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main.	2021 (<i>declined to accept current job</i>)
Royal Institute of Philosophy Bursary.	2020-2021
ERC Full Studentship, 'Perspectival Realism'.	2017-2021
Erasmus Traineeship, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main.	2019
Conference funds from Scots Phil, Eidyn, and the University of Edinburgh Philosophy Department.	2019
Analysis Trust Bursary.	2018
International Centre for Philosophy North Rhine-Westphalia Fellowship.	2018
Graduated with full honors.	2016
Bocconi Exchange Program & Bocconi Talent Scout Program	2011-2012
Albo Nazionale delle Eccellenze (prize awarded by the Italian Ministry of Education and Research to the top 1 percent high-school leavers graduating with full honors).	2011

Selected Talks

† denotes refereed

“Reason and Knowledge in Kant”	
Discursive Cognition in Classical German Philosophy. University of Luxembourg.	Sep. 2024 (planned)
History of Philosophy Forum. University of Notre Dame.	Apr. 2024 (planned)
Kant Workshop. Johns Hopkins University.	Mar. 2024 (planned)
“Kant on Relational Properties and Real Changes.”	
XIV Kant-Kongress, Universität Bonn. †	Sep. 2024 (planned)
“Idealized Models in Science and Metaphysics: A Kantian Approach”	
300 Jahre Kant: Perspektiven für die Philosophie des 21. Jahrhundert, BBAW (Berlin).	Apr. 2024 (planned)
Inductive Metaphysics: Insights, Challenges, and Prospects, HHU Düsseldorf †	Aug. 2023
“Natures, Ideas, and Essentialism in Kant”	
VI International Congress of SEKLE. Santiago de Compostela. †	Jul. 2024 (planned)
UK Kant Society & Hegel Society of Great Britain Conference, University of Oxford. †	Sep. 2023
Kant's Regulative Ideas (Israeli Science Foundation). Bar-Ilan University and Tel Aviv University.	Jun. 2023
“Kant on Phenomenal Substance”	
VI North American Kant Society Biennial, Mexico City. †	Mar. 2023
Trier Research Colloquium, Trier University.	Jan. 2023
“Kant on Substances, Properties, and Systematicity”	

Systematizität und Zweckmäßigkeit der Natur in Kants Kritik der reinen Vernunft, FU Berlin.	Nov. 2022
“Understanding, Truth, and Systematicity in Idealized Modeling” Trier Research Colloquium, Trier University.	Dec. 2022
Scientific Modeling and the Classic Tradition. NOVA University Lisbon.	Nov. 2022
“Kant on Phenomenal Substances and Relational Properties.” Trier Research Colloquium, Trier University.	Jan. 2023
UK Kant Society Annual Conference, King’s College London. †	Sep. 2022
Essences, Dispositions, and Laws in Kant, Trier University.	Aug. 2022
“A Rule-based Account of the Regulative Use of Reason in Kant's Critique of Pure Reason.” British Society for the History of Philosophy Annual Conference, University of Edinburgh. †	Apr. 2022
“The Necessity of Empirical Laws of Nature through the Lens of Kant’s Dialectic.” History of Philosophy Roundtable (HOPR), UC San Diego.	Apr. 2022
“Laws of Nature and Kinds of Matter in Kant’s Philosophy of Nature.” Key Concepts in Philosophy: Matter, Trier University.	Feb. 2022
“Regulative Idealization: A Kantian Approach to Idealized Models.” Virtual North American Kant Society, with comments by Angela Potochnik and Eric Watkins. †	Oct. 2022
International Conference of the German Society for Philosophy of Science, TU Berlin. †	Aug. 2022
British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, Exeter. †	Jul. 2022
Metaphysics as Modeling. Contemporary and Kantian Issues. Trier University.	Oct. 2021
“The Regulative Use of Reason: From Transcendental Illusion to Ideas as Prescriptive Rules.” Congrès International de la SEKLF. Catholic University. †	Sep. 2021
Multilateral Kant Colloquium. Tsinghua University. †	Oct. 2020 (cancelled)
Reason, Ideas, and Norms in Kant. University of Edinburgh.	Jun. 2020 (cancelled)
“The Systematic Unity of Reason as a Criterion of Empirical Truth.” Leuven Kant Conference. KU Leuven. †	May 2019
Respondent to manuscript chapter “The Conceptual Purposiveness of Nature” by Ido Geiger. Kant and the Systematicity of Nature, University of Edinburgh.	May 2019
“Reason as the ‘Touchstone of Truth’.” Kant’s Scots. University of Edinburgh.	Nov. 2018
Multilateral Kant Colloquium. University of Catania. †	Oct. 2018
UKKS Annual Conference 2018. Cardiff University. †	Sep. 2018

Teaching

Trier University (Lecturer; courses designed and taught)

Theories of Knowledge and Understanding (BA)	2024/25 (sched.)
Metaphysics of Nature (BA)	2024/25 (sched.)
Kant's Philosophy of Nature (MA)	2024 (sched.)
Realism and Anti-Realism (BA)	2023/24
Kant: The Dialectic (MA)	2023
Essences and Natural Kinds (BA)	2022/23
Theories of Causation (BA)	2021/22; 2023/24
Kant and the Unity of Science (MA)	2021
Introduction to Philosophy of Science (BA)	2021; 2024 (sched.)

University of Edinburgh (Teaching Assistant)	
Greats (History of Philosophy; BA)	2018-2020
Philosophy of Science (BA)	2020-2021
Teaching Training	2018-2021

Kant's Copernican Revolution. *The Philosophy Teaching Library*. Notre Dame University. Peer-reviewed article. Forthcoming (2024)

Academic Service

<i>Kant Yearbook</i> , Editorial Assistant	2023-
Teaching Organizer (Department of Philosophy, Trier University)	2023-
Budget Manager (Department of Philosophy, Trier University)	2023-
Organizer (with Kristina Engelhard), 1 st Kant Research Centre Trier Summer School and Workshop <i>Essence, Dispositions, and Laws in Kant</i> . Trier University.	Aug. 2022
Organizer (with Kristina Engelhard), <i>Dispositions in the Life Sciences</i> . Trier University.	Jun. 2022
Organizer (with Michela Massimi), <i>Reason, Ideas and Norms in Kant</i> . University of Edinburgh.	Jun. 2020 (cancelled)
Organizer (with Alix Cohen), <i>Kant and the Systematicity of Nature</i> . University of Edinburgh.	May 2019
Co-organizer of two reading groups at the University of Edinburgh: EPIPHENy Reading Group (Edinburgh Philosophy and Phenomenology) and the Early Modern Philosophy Reading Group.	2017-2020
Reviewer for <i>Synthese</i> , <i>British Journal for the History of Philosophy</i> , <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> , <i>Kantian Review</i> , <i>Journal of Transcendental Philosophy</i> , <i>Con-Textos Kantianos</i> , and <i>Studi Kantiani</i> .	

Languages

Italian (native), English (proficient), German (excellent reading and writing; good speaking), French (excellent reading), Latin (good reading), Ancient Greek (good reading).

Professional Memberships

Kant-Forschungsstelle Trier
British Society for the History of Philosophy (BSHP)
British Society for Philosophy of Science (BSPS)
German Society for Philosophy of Science (GWP)
UK Kant Society (UKKS)
North American Kant Society (NAKS)
Society for German Idealism and Romanticism (SGIR)
Società Italiana di Studi Kantiani (SISK).
Sociedad de Estudios Kantianos en Lengua Española (SEKLE)

Other

Equality and Diversity Training (University of Edinburgh). 2018-2021

Have taught Philosophy of Science to Primary 6 Children during a Summer School at George Heriot's School (Edinburgh) as part of the ERC project *Perspectival Realism: Science, Knowledge, and Truth from a Human Vantage Point*. May 2018