

Robert Michels

Curriculum Vitae

Département de philosophie
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Employment

- 2014-2017 Postdoc, SNSF-funded research project “Formal Concepts and Indeterminacy”, Department of Philosophy, University of Geneva
- 2014 Postdoc, Department of Philosophy, University of Geneva (January-July 2014)
- 2010-2013 Scientific collaborator, Department of Philosophy, University of Geneva (funded by the European Union’s Marie Curie Actions framework via the FP7 Initial Training Network “PETAF” (October 2010-September 2013) and by the University of Geneva (October 2013-December 2013))
- 2006-09 Teaching assistant, University of Constance

Education

- 2010–2013 **PhD in philosophy**, *University of Geneva*, Thesis title: *Metaphysical Modality and Essentiality*, Supervisor: Kevin Mulligan.
Degree Awarded on 16 December 2013
- 2008–10 PhD-student, University of Constance, supervised by Wolfgang Spohn
- 2008 **MA in philosophy**, *University of Constance*.
- 2005 **BA in pedagogics/art history**, *University of Karlsruhe (TH)*.

Publication

- 2012 Soames’s Argument 1 Against Strong Two-Dimensionalism – *Philosophical Studies*, Volume 161, Issue 3, pp 403-420; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11098-011-9746-x>

Presentations (selection)

- 2016 Is ‘Metaphysical Necessity’ Ambiguous? – *Issues on the (Im)Possible IV*, Bratislava (peer-reviewed)
Rosen’s Correct-Conceivability-Based Argument for Contingentism – *Fifth Italian Conference in Analytic Ontology*, Padua (peer-reviewed)
- 2015 One-Dimensional versus Two-Dimensional Zombies – *Toward a Science of Consciousness 2015*, Helsinki (peer-reviewed) & *GAP.9*, Osnabrück (peer-reviewed)
An Argument Against the Claim that Grounding is Minimal – *Truth and Grounds*, Ascona (peer-reviewed)
- 2014 Epistemic Rigidity and the Zombie Argument – *Workshop with David Chalmers*, Fribourg

- 2013 Fine on Necessity – *Fine Conference*, Varano Borghi (peer-reviewed)
- 2012 Can Conceptual Possibilities Be Metaphysically Impossible? – *GAP.8*, Constance (peer-reviewed)
- 2011 Worldly Indeterminacy and Modality – *ECAP7*, Milan (peer-reviewed)
Two Kinds of ‘Actually’-Operators – *PETAF Semantics Workshop*, Centre Culturel International de Cerisy-la-Salle
- 2010 Soames’s Critique of Two-Dimensional Semantics – *MMA-Symposium, Research Workshop with Scott Soames*, Cologne (peer-reviewed)
- 2009 “Soames’s Critique of Two-Dimensional Semantics” – *GAP.7*, Bremen (peer-reviewed)

Teaching Experience

As an instructor

- 2016 (with T. Rechnitzer, R. Reick, M. Rudolph) Philosophy and Society (in German, German title: *Philosophie und Gesellschaft*, interdisciplinary undergraduate-level seminar, University of Karlsruhe (KIT))
- 2016 (with A. Frischhut, K. Mulligan) On Existence, Quantification, and Modes of Being (in English, graduate-level seminar, University of Geneva)
- 2015 Modality (in English, graduate-level seminar, University of Geneva)
- 2014 (with M. Dusseldorp, R. Reick, M. Rudolph) The Role of Scientific Knowledge in Society (in German, German title: *Wissen als Gut*, interdisciplinary undergraduate- and graduate-level seminar, University of Karlsruhe (KIT))
- 2014 (with K. Mulligan) Formal Concepts (in French, French title: *Concepts formels*, graduate-level seminar, University of Geneva)

As a teaching assistant

- 2009 Wittgenstein – Rule-Following and Private Language (in German, University of Constance) – Grading (homework assignments and take-home exam).
- 2008–9 Introduction to the Philosophy of Wittgenstein (in German, University of Constance) – Grading (homework assignments and take-home exam).
- 2007–8 Introduction to the Philosophy of Language (in German, University of Constance) – Tutorials.
- 2007 Introduction to Epistemology (in German, University of Constance) – Tutorials, Grading (homework assignments and written examination).
- 2006-7 Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking (in German, University of Constance) – Tutorials, Grading (homework assignments and written examination).

Scholarships & Individual Grants

- 2010–13 “Early Stage Researcher” within the FP7 Marie Curie Initial Training Network PETAF
- 2009 SUN Scholarship, CEU Summer University, Budapest

2008-10 PhD research grant of the University of Constance (Stipendium nach Landesgraduiertenförderungsgesetz)

Academic Fundraising

2014 (with Kevin Mulligan (principal investigator)) Grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) for the research project ‘Indeterminacy and Formal Concepts’ (3 years, one postdoc-position)

Academic Visits & Summerschools

- 2012 Visiting student, Stockholm University, supervised by Peter Pagin (3 months)
- 2012 Attended the 10th BPPA Masterclass: “Modality and the A Priori / A Posteriori Distinction” (instructor: Timothy Williamson), Institute of Philosophy, London
- 2011 Visiting student, Birkbeck, University of London, supervised by Keith Hossack (2 months)
- 2010 Visiting student, Emmy Noether research group *Understanding and the A Priori*, University of Cologne, led by Magdalena and Brendan Balcerak Jackson (2 months,)
- 2009 Attended the summer school “Conditionals: Philosophical and Linguistic Issues”, CEU Summer University, Budapest

Refereeing

Member of the editorial committee of *dialectica* (since 2010)

Journal refereeing: *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Philosophical Studies*

Referee for the Lake Geneva Graduate Conference (2016)

Other Academic Activities

In cooperation with Phileas, the association of philosophy students of the University of Geneva: organisation of a reading group on Frege for students (2016)

Member of a job committee for a professorship in theoretical philosophy (student representative), University of Constance (2009)

Co-author of a short report on the First Formal Epistemology Festival in Constance: Fritz, Peter; Michels, Robert; Ramanava, Maryia; Zinke, Alexandra: First Formal Epistemology Festival, 28–30 July. In: *The Reasoner*, Volume 2, Number 9 - September 2008, pp. 13-14.

Languages

German **native speaker**

English **fluent**

French **intermediate**