

# Tim Smartt

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## Areas of Specialization

Epistemology, Ethics, Decision Theory

## Areas of Competence

Social & Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Logic

## Employment

University of Notre Dame Australia, Sydney

Senior Lecturer, Institute for Ethics & Society, 2026–*present*

Lecturer, Institute for Ethics & Society, 2019–2025

Associate Lecturer, Institute for Ethics & Society, 2016–2018

University of Sydney

Anderson Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Philosophy, 2025

## Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Sydney, 2025

Thesis: "The Demands of Rationality: Epistemology & Normative Guidance"

Supervisors: Brian Hedden (primary), Mark Colyvan, Philip Pettit

Examiners: Daniel Greco, Jessica Brown — *thesis passed with no corrections*

M.Phil. in Philosophy, University of Sydney, awarded with *High Distinction*, 2011

B.A. in Philosophy, University of Sydney, awarded with *First Class Honours*, 2008

## Publications

*Papers (continued on next page)*

"Does *Ought* Imply *Can* in Epistemology?"

*American Philosophical Quarterly*. Forthcoming

"More Scepticism about Epistemic Blame"

*Philosophical Studies* vol. 183, no. 1 (2026): 375–384

"Formal Epistemology without Demandingness"

*Synthese* vol. 206, no. 184 (2025): 1–22

"Do Conspiracy Theory Interventions Rest on a Mistake?" (with Mark Colyvan and Hannah Tierney)

*Synthese* vol. 206, no. 164 (2025): 1–19

"Scepticism about Epistemic Blame"

*Philosophical Studies* vol. 180, no. 5–6 (2023): 1813–1828

"Reconsidering the Rule of Consideration: Probabilistic Knowledge and Legal Proof"

*Episteme* vol. 19, no. 2 (2022): 303–318

"Arbitrariness Arguments Against Temporal Discounting"

*Australasian Philosophical Review* vol. 5, no. 3 (2021): 302–308

### Book Review

"Review of *Probabilistic Knowledge* by Sarah Moss"

*Ethics* vol. 129, no. 2 (2019): 430–438

### Edited Collections

Topical Collection on "Responsible Beliefs: Accountability Practices in Epistemology" (co-edited with Adam Piovarchy)

*Synthese*. Forthcoming

### Teaching Articles

"Knowing Your Own Mind: René Descartes' *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Meditation 2"

*The Philosophy Teaching Library* (2024), edited by Wes Siscoe

### Public Philosophy

"Episode 164. *The Long Goodbye* (dir. Robert Altman, 1973)"

Podcast appearance on *Cows in the Field* hosted by Justin Khoo and Laura Khoo, April 24 (2026)

"*Bugonia* and the Psychology of Belief: What Yorgos Lanthimos's Film Can Teach Us About Conspiracy Theories"

*ABC Religion & Ethics*, November 21 (2025)

"Where There's Smoke, There's Conspiracy Theorists" (with Mark Colyvan and Hannah Tierney)

*ABC Religion & Ethics*, November 3 (2020)

"Compulsory COVID-19 Vaccination Makes Sense"

*Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age*, *Brisbane Times*, *WA Today*, August 10 (2020)

## Talks

- "Ethics and Epistemology: Two Different Animals" (with Nomy Arpaly)  
Department Colloquium, Cornell University. March 2026. (Presented by Nomy Arpaly)
- "More Scepticism about Epistemic Blame"  
Epistemic Accountability Workshop, University of Notre Dame Australia. August 2024.
- "Scepticism about Epistemic Blame"  
Notre Dame/Northwestern Graduate Epistemology Conference, Notre Dame (USA). April 2022.  
Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Philosophy Conference, Brown University. April 2022.  
Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder. April 2022.  
Humboldt-Southampton Normativity Conference, University of Southampton. December 2021.
- "Do Conspiracy Theory Interventions Rest on a Mistake?" (with Mark Colyvan and Hannah Tierney)  
Utrecht-Sydney Conspiracy Theories Workshop, University of Sydney. April 2021.  
UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Centre, University of California, Davis. March 2021.
- "Reconsidering the Rule of Consideration: Probabilistic Knowledge and Legal Proof"  
UT Austin Philosophy Graduate Conference, University of Texas at Austin. May 2020.  
SLLERG Seminar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. October 2019.
- "Does *Ought* Imply *Can* in Epistemology?"  
2019 Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference, University of Wollongong. July 2019.  
Goethe Epistemology Meeting, Goethe University Frankfurt. May 2019.  
Current Projects Seminar, University of Sydney. May 2018.  
Formal Methods Research Seminar, King's College London. February 2018.  
Vienna Forum for Analytic Philosophy, University of Vienna. June 2017.  
CUNY Graduate Conference, City University of New York Graduate Centre. March 2017.

## Comments

- Jordan Myers, "An Indirect Response to Skepticism about Epistemic Blame"  
2026 American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting. April 2026.
- Meghan Sullivan, "Navigating Moral Burnout"  
Workshop on Meghan Sullivan's *Loving Strangers: Moral Responsibility and Our Inner Lives*, University of Notre Dame Australia. March 2026.
- Wes Siscoe, "The Structure of Justice"  
Character & Moral Responsibility, University of Notre Dame Australia. October 2023.
- Tyler Paytas, "The Redundancy of Anger"  
Good Feelings: Virtues, Vices & Emotions, University of Notre Dame Australia. October 2022.
- Christian Miller, "Honesty: The Philosophy and Psychology of a Neglected Virtue"  
Notre Dame School of Virtue & Character, University of Notre Dame Australia. October 2020.
- Amia Srinivasan, "Genealogical Scepticism and Genealogical Luck"  
Workshop on Amia Srinivasan's *The Contingent World*, University of Basel. June 2018.

## Visiting Positions

Visiting Graduate Student, University of Chicago, Autumn 2018.

Visiting Graduate Student, King's College London, February–March 2018.

Visiting Graduate Student, Princeton University, Spring 2010.

## Teaching

### *Primary Instructor and Coordinator*

PHIL2140/6140 Contemporary Philosophy	Notre Dame Australia	2022, 2021
PHIL3950/6950 Philosophy as a Way of Life	Notre Dame Australia	2020
PHIL3613 Philosophy of Human Rights	University of Sydney	2019
MED5003 Bioethics (School of Medicine)	Notre Dame Australia	2019
PHIL2070 Philosophy of Language	Notre Dame Australia	2018
PHIL6020 Practical and Professional Ethics	Notre Dame Australia	2016–2022 (x6)
PHIL132 Philosophy, Morality, and Society	Macquarie University	2011

### *Guest Lectures*

"Bayes' Theorem and Conditionalization"		
PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory	University of Sydney	2018
"Interpretations of Probability"		
PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory	University of Sydney	2018
"Expected Utility Theory"		
PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory	University of Sydney	2018

### *Tutor/TA*

PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory	University of Sydney	2018, 2017
GOVT2112 Modern Political Thought	University of Sydney	2017
PHIL3613 Philosophy of Human Rights	University of Sydney	2016
PHIL2642 Critical Thinking	University of Sydney	2015, 2010
PHIL1012 Introductory Logic	University of Sydney	2016, 2015
PHIL1011 Reality, Ethics, Beauty	University of Sydney	2012, 2011, 2009
PHIL1013 Society, Self, Knowledge	University of Sydney	2011, 2010, 2009
PHL137 Critical Thinking	Macquarie University	2012
PHL132 Philosophy, Morality, and Society	Macquarie University	2012, 2011
PHL131 Mind, Meaning, and Metaphysics	Macquarie University	2012, 2010
PHIL106 Media, Ethics, and Law	University of Wollongong	2011

## Awards

### Research Grants

Early Career Researcher Award, Notre Dame Australia, 2026, **\$9,690**. "Beyond Blame: A New Approach to the Ethics of Belief"

Early Career Researcher Award, Notre Dame Australia, 2023, **\$3,633**. "Responsible Beliefs: Accountability Practices in Epistemology" (Co-PI with Adam Piovarchy)

Research Development Grant, Notre Dame Australia, 2023, **\$7,500**. "Becoming Good: Virtue & Moral Development in Ancient Ethics" (Co-PI with David Bronstein)

Industry Research Grant, The Scots College, 2020–2021, **\$20,000**. "Developing Virtuous Character in Educational Institutions" (Co-PI with Annette Pierdziwol and John Lippitt)

Sydney-Utrecht Partnership Collaboration Award, University of Sydney & Utrecht University, 2019–2020, **\$30,000**. "Conspiracy Theories in the Information Age" (PIs: Mark Colyvan & Daniel Cohnitz)

### Teaching Awards & Honours

Member, *Mellon Philosophy as a Way of Life Network*, University of Notre Dame (USA), 2019–2022

Instructor, *Teaching Development Program*, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Sydney, 2019

*Dean's Teaching Award*, School of Medicine, University of Notre Dame Australia, 2019

*Dean's Citation for Excellence in Tutorials with Distinction*, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Sydney, 2017, **\$500**

*Student Teaching Commendations*, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Sydney (x35)

PHIL3613 Philosophy of Human Rights, 2019 (x24) – *Lecturer*

PHIL2620 Probability and Decision Theory, 2018 (x9) – *Tutor*

GOVT2112 Modern Political Thought, 2017 (x2) – *Tutor*

*Dean's Letter of Commendation for Teaching Evaluation*, University of Notre Dame Australia (x5)

Tutor for PHIL3613 Philosophy of Human Rights, University of Sydney which was awarded the 2017 *Australasian Association of Philosophy Prize for Innovation in Inclusive Curricula*.

### Prizes etc.

*Travel Grant*, The Honesty Project, Wake Forest University & Carnegie Mellon University, 2023, **\$9,000**

*Paulette Isabel Jones Scholarship*, University of Sydney, 2023, **\$7,000**

*David Harold Tribe Research Fellowship*, University of Sydney, 2021, **\$12,000**

*Travel Grant*, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2019, **\$1,699**

*Postgraduate Research Travel Award*, Society for Applied Philosophy, 2019, **\$1,237**

*Lucy Firth Prize in Philosophy* (x3), University of Sydney, **\$4,500 (total)**

*Postgraduate Research Support Grant* (x3), University of Sydney, **\$7,750 (total)**

*Research Incentive Scheme Prize*, University of Notre Dame Australia, 2018, **\$750**

*Travel Grant*, Princeton University Centre for Human Values, Princeton University, 2010, **US\$1,000.**

*Australian Postgraduate Award*, 2009–2011, **\$61,500**

## Academic Service

### Refereeing

*Mind, Ethics, Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Quarterly, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Episteme, Synthese, Erkenntnis, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Inquiry, Asian Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Value Inquiry*

Australasian Association of Philosophy Annette Baier Prize

### University of Notre Dame Australia

Academic Council (elected member), 2023–*present*

University Research Committee, 2020–2021, 2025–*present*

University Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee, 2025–*present*

Admissions interviewer, School of Medicine, 2017–2019

Capstone thesis supervisor, Master of Liberal Arts, 2019–*present* (x4)

Last updated: April 28, 2026