

# NIKK EFFINGHAM

## Academic Posts

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Senior Lecturer, University of Birmingham 2012 onwards.  
Lecturer, University of Birmingham, 2009 - 12  
Lecturer (Fixed-term), University of Birmingham, 2008-09.  
Lecturer (Fixed-term), University of Glasgow, 2007-08.  
Teaching Assistant, University of Leeds, 2000-07.  
CMM Administrator, Centre of Metaphysics and Mind, 2004-07.

## Education

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Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Leeds, Leeds, England, 2007.  
Taught M.A., Philosophy, University of Leeds, Leeds, England, 2001.  
Joint Honours B.A. Philosophy and English, University of Leeds, Leeds, England, 2000.

## Area of Specialisation

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Metaphysics

Philosophy of Religion

## Areas of Competence

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Philosophy of Science  
Philosophy of Mind

Philosophy of Language

## Books

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*Persistence* (Polity Press; manuscript to be completed 2015)  
*An Introduction to Ontology* (Polity Press, 2013)  
*Key Concepts in Metaphysics* (Routledge, 2010) (co-authored with Helen Beebe and Philip Goff)

## Articles and Book Chapters

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The Philosophy of Filioque, *Religious Studies* (invited submission, due 2017).  
The Location of Properties, *Noûs* 49 (2015): 643-66.  
Properties are Potatoes: An essay on ontological parsimony, in *The Palgrave Handbook of Philosophical Methods* ed. Chris Daly (2015): 282-305.  
Multiple Location and Christian Philosophical Theology, *Faith and Philosophy* 32 (2015): 25-44.  
Contemporary Philosophy, in *Time Travel in the Media: Philosophy and Theory* ed. Matthew Jones and Joan Ormrod (2015): 20-34.  
Harmoniously Investigating Concrete Structures, *Thought* 2 (2013): 190-95.  
Impure Sets May Be Located: A reply to Cook, *Thought* 1 (2013): 330-36.  
An Unwelcome Consequence of the Multiverse Thesis, *Synthese* 184 (2012): 375-86.  
Talking about something (but really talking about nothing), *Analysis* 72 (2012): 329-40.

Endurantism and Perdurantism, in *Continuum Companion to Metaphysics* ed. Manson and Barnard (2012): 179-97.

Undermining Motivations for Universalism, *Noûs* 45 (2011): 696-713

Sider, Hawley, Sider and the Vagueness Argument, *Philosophical Studies* 154 (2011): 241-50.

Temporal Parts and Time Travel, *Erkenntnis* 74 (2011): 225-40.

Universalism and Classes, *dialectica* 65 (2011): 451-72.

The Metaphysics of Groups, *Philosophical Studies* 149 (2010): 251-67.

Mereological Explanation and Time Travel, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 88 (2010): 333-45.

Universalism, Vagueness and Supersubstantivalism, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 87 (2009): 35-42.

Composition, Persistence and Identity, in *The Routledge Companion to Metaphysics* ed. Le Poidevin, Simons, McGonigal and Cameron (2009): 296-309.

A Mereological Challenge to Endurantism, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 85 (2007): 633-40 (co-authored with Jon Robson).

Endurantism and Timeless Worlds, *Analysis* 67 (2007): 140-7 (co-authored with Joseph Melia).

## Book Reviews

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*The Problem of Universals in Contemporary Philosophy* by Gabriele Galluzzo and Michael J. Loux's (eds.), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (invited submission).

*The Double Lives of Objects* by Thomas Sattig, *Philosophical Quarterly* (invited submission).

*The Metaphysics of Perfect Beings* by Michael Almeida, *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion* (forthcoming).

*The Nonexistent* by Anthony Everett, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2014), available at <https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/49985-the-nonexistent/>.

## Work in Progress

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The Philosophy of Time Travel (*monograph; in preparation*)

Mereological Nominalism Renewed (*soon to be under consideration*)

## Research Grants

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'Anderson Visiting Fellow': \$17,850 from the University of Sydney.

'Probability and Time Travel': \$14,300 from the Centre for Time (Sydney). Co-Principal Investigator.

## Selected Presentations

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'The Markov Process and Mushy Credences', at the University of Johannesburg, September 2016 (*invitation yet to be accepted*).

TBA at the University of Sydney, Summer 2016.

'The Philosophy of Filioque' at the University of Oxford *The Metaphysics of the Trinity: New Directions?*, March 2016.

'Time Travel and Torturing Nikk Effingham' at the University of Illinois, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

'Restricted Composition and Automereological Objects' at the University of Southern California *The 5<sup>th</sup> California Metaphysics Conference* 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

'Time Travel and Torturing Nikk Effingham' at the University of Belfast School of Politics, International Studies, and Philosophy Research Seminar, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

'Time Travel and Torturing Nikk Effingham' at the University of Birmingham Work in Progress Seminar, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015.

- ‘Time Travel and Torturing Nikk Effingham’ at the University of Manchester Philosophy Research Seminar, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015.
- ‘Heterodox Ludovicianism’ at the Slovak Metaphysical Society *Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible III* September 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- ‘Comments on Essence and Possibility’ invited response for the Slovak Metaphysical Society *Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible III* September 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- ‘The Grandfather Paradox Revisited’ at the University of Warwick *Joint Session Conference 2015* July 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- ‘Ludovicianism: Orthodox and Heterodox’ at the University of Birmingham *Workshop on Probability and Time Travel* 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May 2015.
- ‘Probability in Time Travel Scenarios’ at the University of Sydney *Workshop on Probability and Time Travel*, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014.
- ‘Properties aren’t constituents’ at *Grounding and Existence Workshop*, Geneva, 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014.
- ‘Closing the NeoAristotelian Soup Kitchen’ at PERSP, University of Barcelona, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014.
- ‘Probability in Time Travel Scenarios’ at the *Joint Session Conference 2013*, 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> July 2013.
- ‘Probability and Time Travel’ at the University of Birmingham Research Seminar, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012.
- ‘Multi-Location and Christian Philosophical Theology’ at the *Philosophy of Religion One-Day Workshop*, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012.
- ‘How some people (but definitely not most of us) can (kind of) commit autoinfanticide’ at the University of Birmingham Research Seminar, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012.
- ‘If all the songs were sets’, at the *London Aesthetics Forum* 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011.
- ‘Mereological Nominalism Renewed’, at the *Joint Session Conference 2011* 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July 2011.
- ‘Arbitrary Identifications in Setist Ontologies’ at the Universität Rostock, *Collectives in Space and Time*, 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> June 2011.
- ‘Trying to Understand Ontological Dependence’ at the University of Birmingham *Metametaphysics Workshop*, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011.
- ‘The Location of Properties’ at the University of Manchester Philosophy Research Seminar, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011.
- ‘The Location of Properties’ at the University of Birmingham Research Seminar, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010.
- ‘Pythagoreanism’ at the University of Birmingham Research Seminar, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010.
- ‘Eleatic Composition’ at the Logic and Metaphysics Forum, University of London, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009.
- ‘Eleatic Composition’ at the University of Nottingham Research Seminar, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009.
- ‘Invited Response to Jeffrey Snapper’s ‘Stating Quantifier Variance’’ at the 4<sup>th</sup> CMM Graduate Conference, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009.
- ‘Chorology’ at the University of Geneva *ειδος Metaphysics Conference*, 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> July 2008.
- ‘Sider, Hawley, Sider and the Vagueness Argument’ at the *Joint Session Conference 2008*, 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> July 2008.
- ‘Cultural Prejudice and the Plenitude Principle’ at the University of Glasgow Senior Seminar, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008.
- ‘An Unwelcome Consequence of the Multiverse Approach’ at the University of Manchester *Open Minds Graduate Conference* 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2007.
- ‘From Composition as Identity to Universalism’ at the University of St. Andrews 3<sup>rd</sup> Arché Graduate Conference, 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November 2006.
- ‘Another Brick In The Wall: A Mereological Challenge to Endurantism’ (presented with Jon Robson) at the University of Manchester *Open Minds Graduate Conference* 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2006.

## Refereeing Experience

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### *Refereed Book Manuscripts/Proposals:*

Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge, Continuum, Springer Verlag.

### *Refereed Journal Articles:*

*Noûs*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Mind*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *The Philosophical Quarterly*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal of Aesthetics*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Synthese*, *Thought*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Faith and Philosophy*, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Philosophy Compass*, *Erkenntnis*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *dialectica*, *Philosophia*, *Res Philosophica*, *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Theoria*, *Analytic Philosophy*, *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, *Inquiry*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *Disputatio*, *Crítica*, *The Journal of Philosophical Research*, and *Perspectives*.

### *Refereed Grant Proposals / Expert Commentator:*

Swiss National Science Foundation.

### *Papers for Refereed Conference:*

Society for Women in Philosophy UK.

## Professional Services

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I am currently the external examiner for the University of Glasgow. I have examined PhDs at the University of Sydney and the University of Manchester.

## Teaching Experience

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Fourteen years teaching experience (includes two years teaching medical students as part of interdisciplinary modules and two years teaching computer skills to students from all disciplines).

### *PhD Students:*

Naomi Thompson (2012-2014)  
Jennifer Morgan (2012-Present)  
Callum Yeo (2014 – Present)

Michael Grech (2012-Present)  
Matthew Owen (2014-Present)

### *Masters level courses taught:*

Metaphysics  
Metaontology

Metaphysics component of Masters conversion course  
Philosophy of Mind

### *Upper level courses taught:*

Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Mind  
Philosophy of Time Travel  
Philosophy of Religion  
Medical Ethics  
Philosophy of Language

Philosophy of Space, Time and Causation  
Philosophy of Science  
Vagueness  
Time and Representation\*  
Philosophical Texts

### *First year courses taught:*

Introduction to Philosophy  
Modern Philosophy  
Epistemology  
Descartes  
Leibniz and Locke  
Reason and Argument  
Medieval Philosophy  
Basic Readings in the History of Philosophy\*

Philosophy of Mind  
Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Science  
Ethics  
Medical Ethics  
Elementary Logic  
Essay Writing Skills\*

\* Indicates I only gave a small handful of lectures/seminars rather than an entire course.

## **Administrative Roles**

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### *Major Roles:*

Head of Department, University of Birmingham, 2014 onwards.

Chair of the Philosophy, and Theology and Religion Extenuating Circumstances Panel, University of Birmingham, 2015 onwards.

School Exams Officer, University of Birmingham, 2012-14.

Chair of the English, Drama, American and Canadian Studies, Philosophy, and Theology and Religion Extenuating Circumstances Panel, University of Birmingham, 2011-13.

School Extenuating Circumstances Officer, 2011-2012.

School of Philosophy, Theology and Religion Plagiarism Officer, University of Birmingham, 2010-2012.

Department of Philosophy Admissions Officer, University of Birmingham, 2011.

Undergraduate Welfare and Mitigations Officer (Philosophy), University of Birmingham, 2009-11.

Departmental Website Office, University of Birmingham, 2008-11.

Administrator, Centre for Metaphysics and Mind, University of Leeds, 2004-07.

### *Minor Roles:*

Member of the School of Law Extenuating Circumstances Panel, 2015 onwards.

Postgraduate Teaching Assistant Co-ordinator, University of Birmingham, 2014 onwards.

Departmental Induction Officer, University of Birmingham, 2012 onwards.

Member of the College Misconduct Committee Pool, University of Birmingham, 2010 onwards.

Member of the School of Law Promotion Panel, University of Birmingham 2014 onwards.

Member of the College Postgraduate Extenuating Circumstances Panel, University of Birmingham, 2013-2015.

Member of the College English, Drama, American and Canadian Studies, Philosophy, and Theology and Religion Extenuating Circumstances Panel, University of Birmingham, 2014-2015,

ERASMUS and International Student Officer, University of Birmingham, 2014-15.

Member of the College of Arts and Law e-Learning Committee, University of Birmingham, 2010-14.

Philosophy Subject Expert for College Postgraduate Research Scholarships, 2013.

Postgraduate seminar convenor, University of Birmingham, 2008-2012.

Chaired and organised the University of Leeds Postgraduate Seminar, 2004-07.

Worked for the Research and Support Unit at the University of Leeds: a part of the University dedicated to helping academics achieve research grants, 2004.

### *Management Training:*

Emerging Leader's Programme, University of Birmingham, Feb 2015 – June 2015.

### *Conference/Workshop Organisation:*

#### University of Leeds

Metaphysics and Paradox (Nov 13<sup>th</sup>, 2004)  
Space, Time and Ontology (16<sup>th</sup> April, 2005)  
Metaphysics of Value (14<sup>th</sup> May, 2005)  
Existence and Time (4<sup>th</sup> June, 2005)  
Mind, Art and Beauty (24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> August, 2006)  
Structure in Metaphysics (10<sup>th</sup> March, 2007)

1<sup>st</sup> Annual CMM Graduate Conference (31<sup>st</sup> 2006)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CMM Graduate Conference (20<sup>th</sup> June, 2007)  
Mimesis, Metaphysics and Make-Believe: A Conference in Honour of Kendall Walton (21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2007)

#### University of Birmingham

Is there more than one notion of existence? (4<sup>th</sup> June, 2009)  
Philosophy of Darwin Royal Institute of Philosophy Conference (June 10<sup>th</sup> 2009)  
Metaphysics of Physics Royal Institute of Philosophy Conference (June 25<sup>th</sup> 2009)  
Time and Modality (10<sup>th</sup> September, 2012)  
Metaphysics of Time (1<sup>st</sup> May 2013)

Fundamentality (11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013)  
Probability and Time Travel: Conference One (arranged in Sydney) (18<sup>th</sup> November 2014)  
Probability and Time Travel: Conference Two (27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May 2015)  
Probability and Time Travel: Conference Three (TBC)

## **Outside Engagement**

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As part of the *Probability and Time Travel* project I have engaged with various media outlets:

BBC News Website (<http://tinyurl.com/odktm55>) 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
Birmingham Mail (<http://tinyurl.com/ow5zvha>) 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
BBC West Midlands ‘Sunny and Shay’ 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
W Radio (a Colombian radio station) 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2015  
BBC West Midlands ‘Dan Keely Show’ 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
BBC Hereford and Worcester ‘Malcolm Boyden’ 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015  
‘The Time Machine’ Podcast for Radio Wolfgang’s *Scienceish* 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Al Wilson, co-investigator on the project, also dealt with *The Modern Weekly* (a paper in Shanghai, China) as part of the project.

I have given school talks, including those at:

University of Birmingham School, Edgbaston (30<sup>th</sup> September 2015)  
Wheelers Lane Technology College, King’s Heath (14<sup>th</sup> December, 2012)  
King Edward’s School, Edgbaston (15<sup>th</sup> October 2012)

I have provided outreach activities at other academic institutions, including:

Talk on Masters Study, School of Politics, International Studies, and Philosophy, University of Belfast, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

I have given talks to a variety of non-specialist institutions, including:

‘We Live In A Computer Simulation’ at the University of Birmingham Philosophy Society 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015.  
‘Defending the Tommy Westphall Hypothesis’ at the University of Birmingham Philosophy Society, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013.  
‘Aliens and Time Travel’, for Karmarama (a London-based PR agency), 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013 (an article from the *Financial Times* on the series, mentioning my participation, appears at <http://tinyurl.com/ofnnuh5>).  
‘The Multiverse and Time Travel’ at the University of Birmingham Philosophy Society, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012.  
‘It Was Us All Along: A possible resolution to the Fermi Paradox’ at the University of Birmingham Philosophy Society, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010.  
‘It Was Us All Along: A possible resolution to the Fermi Paradox’ at the Glasgow University Philosophy Society, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007.

## References

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Philosophy Departments, Edgecliffe, The Scores, The  
University of St Andrews, St Andrews, KY16 9AL  
Telephone Number: +44 (0)1334 462486  
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Professor Daniel Nolan, Professor of Philosophy  
The Australian National University, School of Philosophy,  
Coombs Building 9, Rm. 2223, Canberra  
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