

DENIS KAZANKOV
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Research Interests

AOS: philosophy of language (esp. metasemantics), ethics (esp. metaethics), philosophical methodology (esp. conceptual ethics and conceptual engineering)
AOC: epistemology, social philosophy, non-western philosophy (esp. Japanese philosophy)

Education

Central European University, PhD in Philosophy
September 2021-Present
PhD Thesis Topic: A Constitutivist Approach to Conceptual Ethics
Supervisor: Asya Passinsky

University of Oxford, St Cross College, BPhil in Philosophy (Merit overall with Distinction in the thesis component)

October 2019- June 2021
BPhil Thesis Topic: [On What Matters in Defining Concepts](#)
Supervisor: Ofra Magidor

University of Leeds, BA(Hons) in Japanese and Philosophy (1st Class, awarded with Distinction in Spoken Japanese)
September 2015- July 2019
BA Thesis Topic: What Are Epistemic Modals Relative to? (Score: 88, High Distinction)
Supervisor: Jessica Keiser

Osaka University, Center for Japanese Language and Culture
September 2016-September 2017
One year exchange program during which I studied 10 subjects in various areas of Japanese linguistics (all in Japanese).
Directed Independent Research Project in Japanese Linguistics: [敬語を言語行為理論から考える](#) (Japanese Honorifics and Speech Act Theory)
Supervisor: Hitoshi Nakata

Publications

“Linguistic Imposters” with Edison Yi
The Philosophical Quarterly Forthcoming.

“Is Kripke’s Puzzle about Belief a Genuine Puzzle?”
Arete, The Undergraduate Philosophy Journal of Rutgers University (2019)

In Preparation

“Conceptual Engineering and the Wrong Kind of Reasons”

“Metasemantic Evaluative Encroachment and Temporal Externalism”

“Why Conceptual Engineers Won’t Make Do Without Functions”

“Defining Properties vs. Explaining their Worth: A Case Study of Thick Concepts”

“How Bad Must Concepts Be to Be Eliminated?”

“Against Normative Pluralism in Conceptual Ethics”

Presentations

1. Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, June 2024: Defining Properties vs. Explaining their Worth: A Case Study of Thick Concepts
2. The Ruhr-Universität Bochum/University of Warsaw Workshop on Conceptual Engineering and its Place in the History of Philosophy, February 2024: De Novo Conceptual Engineering in Translation: A Case Study of Japanese Translation Words in the Meiji Era
3. CEU 12th In-House Philosophy Conference, October 2023: Linguistic Imposters
4. 11th European Congress for Analytic Philosophy, August 2023: Linguistic Imposters
5. Tokyo Forum for Analytic Philosophy, May 2023: Linguistic Imposters (with Edison Yi)
6. 8th International Conference on Philosophy of Language and Linguistics, University of Lodz, May 2023: Conceptual Engineering and The Wrong Kind of Reasons
7. Vienna Language and Mind Group, University of Vienna, April 2023: Linguistic Concepts as Functionally Individuated Kinds
8. CEU 13th In-House Philosophy Conference, October 2022: Conceptual Engineering and The Wrong Kind of Reasons
9. 5th Annual Tilburg History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop, August 2022: Carnapian Explication: Exactness and Fruitfulness of Explicata
10. Social Ontology 2022, August 2022: Social Ontology & Collective Intentionality: Multiple Groundability of Social Kinds
11. Utrecht Philosophy Graduate Conference, May 2022: Meta-Semantic Normative Encroachment
12. CEU 12th In-House Philosophy Conference, November 2021: Socially Conditioned Beliefs
13. University of Oxford, Ockham Society, May 2020: Thin Is Not Prior to Thick, or Why Thin Centralism Fails
14. University of Oxford, Ockham Society, October 2019: Context and Quantifier Domain Restriction
15. Sophia: Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy, September 2019: What Are Epistemic Modals Relative To?
16. Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy, September 2019: What Are Epistemic Modals Relative to?
17. Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy, June 2019: Conceivability and Its Role in Philosophical Arguments
18. The Afternoon Philosophy Society: University of Leeds, March 2018: Are There Evaluative Bridge Principles for Logical Norms?

19. Undergraduate Research Experience: University of Leeds, February 2018: Semantic Internalism and Twin Earth
20. Philosophers' Rally, April 2018: A Suggested Solution to the New Riddle of Induction
21. The Afternoon Philosophy Society: University of Leeds, November 2018: Is Kripke's Puzzle about Belief a Genuine Puzzle?
22. Osaka University, CJLC, August 2017: 敬語を言語行為理論から考える (Japanese Honorifics and Speech Act Theory)

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant for the first year BA Course 'Knowledge and Reality' (Lecturer: Prof Tim Crane) September 2023-January 2024.

Teaching Assistant for the MA Course 'Philosophy of Gender and Race' (Lecturer: Prof Asya Passinsky) January 2023-April 2023.

Teaching Assistant of the advanced BA Course 'Truth and Objectivity' (Lecturer: Prof Maria Kronfeldner) September 2022-January 2023.

Foundations of Teaching in Higher Education (The Yehuda Elkana Center for Teaching, Learning, and Higher Education Research, CEU) September 2022-December 2022.

I completed an intensive 12-week training course in which I gained a solid intellectual and practical grounding in a wide range of skills associated with academic teaching.

Proctoring at the University of Leeds, PRHS October 2018-May 2019.

I facilitated 'proctorials' which are informal discussion classes for first-year philosophy students that prepare them for seminars. I acted as a proctor in the following modules: Introduction to Philosophy of Religion, Introduction to Moral and Political Philosophy, Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology.

Academic Service

11th European Congress for Analytic Philosophy 2023. A student assistant and session chair.

CEU 13th In-House Philosophy Conference 2022. A member of the organising team of the annual doctoral in-house conference at CEU.

CEU 12th In-House Philosophy Conference 2021. A member of the organising team of the annual doctoral in-house conference at CEU.

The 25th Oxford philosophy Graduate Conference 2021. A student reviewer of submitted papers.

The 24th Oxford Philosophy Graduate Conference 2021. As a committee member of one of the world most prestigious philosophy conferences at a graduate level, I was the managing editor of the peer-review process of 120 submitted papers. I was also in charge of external communication.

The Jowett Society (Oxford) 2019-2020. Philosophical discussion forum for all members of

the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Oxford. As a committee member, I was involved in organising and chairing the talks.

Ockham Society (Oxford) 2019-2020. Philosophical discussion forum for graduate students in philosophy at the University of Oxford. As a committee member, I was involved in organising and chairing the talks.

The Afternoon Philosophy Society (Leeds) 2018-2019. I organised weekly meetings that consisted of presentations of student work in the PRHS department at the University of Leeds.

Other Academic Activities

Vienna/Hamburg Summer School on Alien Languages and Alien Metaphysics with Matti Eklund, July 24-28, 2023

Central European University, Department of Philosophy, Research Assistant for Prof Asya Passinsky, May 2023

Summer School on Conceptual Engineering, Experimental Methods and Politically Correct Language, July 4-8, 2022, in Zurich, Switzerland.

Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy, Analytic Philosophy Department June 2019-September 2019

I conducted research on the role of modal reasoning in understanding and conceptual engineering and participated in the reading groups of the department.

University of Leeds, School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science October 2018-May 2019

I acted as a member of the Student Staff Forum responsible for representing the views of Language and Philosophy students at the University of Leeds.

Public Philosophy Writing:

[‘Does Our Existence Imply Suffering?’](#) Undercurrent Philosophy, 2021

[“Nie som vinný, pretože som nemohol konať inak.” Platí?](#) (In Slovak) DenníkN, 2018

[Čo je to poznanie?](#) (In Slovak), DenníkN, 2018,

[The Problem of Peer Disagreement](#) (In Slovak), DenníkN, 2018

Awards

Award for Slovak Students Studying Abroad (Tatra Banka Foundation): € 5,000, May 2019

Award for Best Year Abroad Work (University of Leeds, School of Languages, Cultures and Societies), November 2017

JASSO scholarship for International Students in Japan (Japan Student Services Organisation): ¥ 80,000/Month, September 2016 - August 2017

Miscellaneous Activities

NPO Nihoncha Instructor Association, Nihoncha (Japanese Tea) Instructor Certification Program, May 2019-October 2019. I successfully completed this correspondence course that has provided me with extensive knowledge on all aspects of Japanese tea. The course was conducted fully in Japanese. At the end of the course, I was certified as a Japanese Tea Advisor.

Kapital (Slovak Publishing Company) January 2018-April 2022. I translated the book ‘**Black Box**’ from Japanese to Slovak in which Japanese journalist Shiori Itō reveals the problem of sexual violence in Japanese society based on her own experience of being raped.

CEU Tea Tasting Society (Vienna) February 2022-Present. I established this society as a successor of my previous tea tasting society. Its purpose is to give CEU students a unique opportunity to taste interesting tea samples.

St Cross College Tea Tasting Society (Oxford) October 2019-August 2021. I established this society with the purpose of giving students in Oxford a unique opportunity to taste interesting tea samples. In two years, I organised 54 tea tasting sessions during which we tasted around 130 high-quality teas from all around the world.

Zero Waste Academy August 2018-September 2018. Internship at a local non-profit organization in the Japanese town, Kamikatsu, which is famous for its waste management. I was responsible for the preparation of a point campaign for reduction of plastic bags in the town and co-ordination of an accreditation system for the restaurants that comply with the zero-waste policy.

Osaka University Urasenke Tea Ceremony Club September 2016-June 2017. I was actively involved in weekly 11-hours long training tea ceremony sessions and assisted in the organisation of formal tea ceremony events at Osaka University.

Denník N (Daily N) February 2017-March 2017. I worked as an interpreter and assistant to the Slovak journalist Tomas Bella, who came to Japan to write a report on Japan’s ageing population. Our cooperation resulted in the most comprehensive article about Japan that has been ever published in any Slovak newspaper and was nominated for Slovak Newspaper Award 2017.

References

Available upon request.