

ELENA HOLMGREN

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
University of British Columbia

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Mind, Phenomenology,
Philosophy of Cognitive Science.

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Science, Epistemology, Early
Modern Philosophy (including Kant), Ethics
(including ethics of emerging technologies).

EDUCATION

2020- **PhD in Philosophy** - University of British Columbia
Committee: Evan Thompson (supervisor), Christopher Mole, Kimberley Brownlee
Dissertation: “Experience For Its Own Sake: A Phenomenological Account of Well-Being in Flow States”
Comprehensive Examination Paper: “The Flaw in the Diamond: Transcendental First Principles of Explanation and the Incompleteness of Naturalism”

2019-2020 **PhD in Philosophy** - University of Victoria (transfer after first year)

2019 **MA in Philosophy** - University of Victoria
Committee: Eric Hochstein (supervisor), David Scott
Thesis: “Conceptualizing the Explanandum for a Theory of Consciousness”

2018 **BA (Honours) in Philosophy** - University of Victoria
Graduated with distinction.
Supervisor: David Scott
Honours Thesis: “Being as Value: The Phenomenology of Value and the Ontology of Self-Realization in Charles Taylor’s *Sources of the Self*”

AWARDS

2024 UBC Faculty of Arts Graduate Award
2024 Don Brown Graduate Teaching Excellence Award, UBC

2022-2024	UBC Doctoral Fellowship (\$18200/year)
2020-2025	President's Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award (\$4490)
2022-2023	UBC Tuition Award (\$5300)
2019-2022	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Graduate Scholarship - Doctoral Award (\$35000/year)
2020-2021	UBC Faculty of Arts Graduate Award
2019	Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference Prize for Best Student Essay
2018-2019	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Graduate Scholarship - Master's (\$17500)
2017	University of Victoria - President's Scholarship (\$4000/year)
2017	University of Victoria - Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award
2017	Roger Beehler Best Undergraduate Philosophy Essay Award

PAPERS

Invited Chapter:

“Circling Around the Transcendental: the Conscious Subject as the Limit of Nature in Raymond Tallis’ Philosophy and in Phenomenology” - Forthcoming in *The Palgrave Companion to the Philosophical Humanism of Raymond Tallis*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Refereed Journal Articles:

Holmgren, Andrada-Elena. (2018) “Being as Value: The Phenomenology of Value and the Ontology of Self-Realization in Charles Taylor’s Sources of the Self.” *The Arbutus Review*. Vol. 9 No. 1. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18357/tar91201818381>

Holmgren, Andrada-Elena. (2017) “The Realization of Life in the Act of Knowing: A Phenomenological Re-Interpretation of Plato’s Theory of Forms in the Phaedo.” *Sophia* undergraduate philosophy journal, University of Victoria, Vol. XIII, p. 59-70.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Group Flow as Spontaneous Collective Agency: A Phenomenological Account”

2025 International Society for the Philosophy of the Sciences of the Mind (ISPSM), Virtual Conference

2025 The Spontaneity of Freedom Summer Workshop, University College London, London, United Kingdom. Personal participation funded by the workshop.

“Self-Shaping Actions: A Phenomenological Account of Flow States”

2025 American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, New York.
2024 Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) meeting, Annual Congress, Montreal, QC

“Experience For Its Own Sake: Towards a Phenomenology of Autotelic Experience and Well-being”

2025 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP), Virtual Conference
2024 International Society for the Philosophy of the Sciences of the Mind (ISPSM), Virtual Conference
2024 The Center for Subjectivity Research, Copenhagen, Denmark

“Is Consciousness Fundamental or Fictive? Why Realists and Illusionists About Consciousness Are Both Wrong”

2021 Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Victoria, BC

“Representation as Sensorimotor Orientation - The Role of Non-Propositional, Spatial Simulation in Scientific Representation”

2019 Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Lethbridge, AB
Winner of the WCPA Best Graduate Student Essay Prize

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2025 “Collective Agency in Group Flow States: A Phenomenological Account”

The Vancouver Neurophenomenology Group, Meeting on Agency in the Environment, University of British Columbia*

2024 “Can AI Be Transcendental Subjects? A Husserlian Perspective”

Invited speaker for “AI and Consciousness” workshop, James M. Houston Centre for Humanity & the Common Good, Vancouver, BC. Personal participation funded by the workshop.*

2024 Invited Tallis Scholars Workshop roundtable participant and respondent to Raymond Tallis’ “Rescuing the Self” lecture, James M. Houston Centre for

Humanity & the Common Good, Vancouver, BC. Personal participation funded by the workshop.*

COMMENTARIES

2024 Commentary on Emmanuel Cuisinier's "Perception, Heroism and the Problem of Expression"
Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) meeting, Annual Congress, Montreal, QC

2023 "Phenomenological Philosophy of Science and the Inextricability of the Methodological and Ontological Projects of Naturalism About Representation: Commentary on Hochstein"
Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Vancouver BC

2019 "Manifesting Morality: Affective Experience and Character Cultivation in Kant's Moral Philosophy: Commentary on Hamm"
Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Lethbridge AB

2019 "Temporality and the Sense of the Background in Paintings: Commentary On Gatten"
Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Vancouver BC

TEACHING

Appointments:

Continuing Philosophy Instructor, Part Time

Humanities Department, Camosun College, Victoria, Canada (2024-Present)

Courses Taught As Instructor of Record:

For detailed course descriptions and syllabi, please visit: <https://elena.holmgren.ca/>

University of British Columbia:

2025 *PHIL 337: Ethics for the Sciences* (Winter Term 1, Online-Synchronous, Undergraduate Lecture, ~55 students).

2024 *PHIL 240: Introduction to Epistemology* (Winter Term 1, Online-Synchronous, Undergraduate Lecture, ~50 students)

2023 *PHIL 250: Minds and Machines* (Summer Term 1, In Person, Undergraduate Lecture, ~30 students).

Camosun College, Victoria: ~35 students/section.

2025	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Fall, In Person, Undergraduate Lecture).
2025	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Fall, Online-Asynchronous, Undergraduate Lecture).
2024	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Fall, In Person, Undergraduate Lecture).
2024	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Fall, Online-Asynchronous, Undergraduate Lecture).
2022 (x3)	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Fall x2 & Winter, In Person, Undergraduate Lecture).
2022	<i>PHIL 207: Philosophy of Mind</i> (Winter, In Person, Undergraduate Lecture).
2021 (x2)	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Fall, In Person, Undergraduate Lecture).
2021	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Summer, Online-Asynchronous, Undergraduate Lecture).
2021 (x2)	<i>PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy, Classics</i> (Winter, Online-Asynchronous, Undergraduate Lecture).
2020	<i>PHIL 207: Philosophy of Mind</i> (Fall, Online-Asynchronous, Undergraduate Lecture).

Professional Development in Teaching:

2023	Completed “Foundations of Pedagogy”: an eight week course on evidence-based effective pedagogical practices offered by CIRTL (Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning) at the University of British Columbia. Obtained CIRTL Associate certificate.
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Teaching Assistant:

University of British Columbia:

Responsibilities included: leading tutorials, essay and exam grading, student consultations and office hours.

2024	<i>PHIL 250: Minds and Machines</i> (Winter)
2023	<i>PHIL 441: Philosophy of Perception</i> (Fall)

University of Victoria:

Responsibilities included: designing and leading workshops on essay-writing skills and spotting logical fallacies, essay and exam grading, student consultations and office hours.

2020 *PHIL 260: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind* (Spring)

2020 *PHIL 239: Philosophy and Feminism* (Spring)

2019 *PHIL 260: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind* (Fall)
-Guest lecture on JJC Smart's Brain Identity Theory

2018-2019 *PHIL 260: Introduction to Philosophy of Mind* (Fall and Spring Terms)

2019 *HUMA 295: Dean's Seminar: Being Human* (Fall)

2019 *PHIL 201: Critical Thinking* (Summer)

2018-2019 *PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy* (Fall and Spring Terms)

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

2019-2020 *Responsibilities:* Assisted Dr. Patrick Rysiew's research on Thomas Reid's epistemology by identifying and summarizing current debates in philosophy of mind that relate to key issues in Reid scholarship.
Department of Philosophy, University of Victoria

REFEREEING

Canadian Philosophical Association (x4), *The Arbutus Review* journal.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

2024 Completed the *PhD Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind* at the Center For Subjectivity Research, Copenhagen (In Person)

2024 Completed the “Phenomenological Interview: A Scientific Methodology for the Study of Consciousness” 5 week course led by David Martinez Pernia and Mayte Vergara Manriquez of Empirical 5E Lab, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez. (Virtual)

2021 Completed the *PhD Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind* at the Center For Subjectivity Research, Copenhagen (Virtual)

TEACHING REFERENCES

Frank Jankunis
Chair
Humanities Department
Camosun College
jankunisf@camosun.ca

Janice Shewey
Chair 2020-2023
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ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Evan Thompson

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Philosophy Department

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Eric Hochstein

Associate Professor

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