

Maciej Tarnowski

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Faculty of Philosophy, University of Warsaw

Research interests

AOS Philosophy of language, epistemology, experimental philosophy

AOC Philosophy of mind, philosophical logic, social ontology, metaphysics

Currently, I am working on my PhD thesis on **Moore's Paradox** and other epistemic paradoxes and their connection with speech act theory, transparency accounts of self-knowledge, and philosophical logic.

Education

- 2020 – Present **University of Warsaw** – Doctoral School of Humanities
PhD in Philosophy
Advisor: Professor Tadeusz Ciecierski.
Thesis: *Moore's Paradox in Language and Thought: Towards a Unified Strategy of Explanation*
Thesis submitted in September 2024
- 2018 – 2020 **University of Warsaw** – College of Interdisciplinary Individual Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences
MA in Philosophy, *cum laude*
Advisor: Professor Tadeusz Ciecierski.
Thesis: *Proper Names as Demonstratives.*
- 2015 – 2018 **University of Warsaw** – College of Interdisciplinary Individual Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences
BA in Philosophy
Advisor: Joanna Komorowska-Mach, PhD.
Thesis: *Belief Ascription and Rationality. Discussion and criticism of arguments for the Psychological Principle of Non-Contradiction..*

Awards and scholarships

- 2024 "Polityka" Science Awards, finalist ("Polityka" Weekly Journal Foundation)
5000 PLN (ca. 1300 USD)

- 2024 START Stipend for Young Scholars (Foundation for Polish Science)
30000 PLN (ca. 7800 USD)
- 2023 Fulbright Junior Research Award (Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission)
21485 USD
- 2019 Scholarship of the Minister of Science and Higher Education for outstanding scientific achievements (Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education)
17000 PLN (ca. 4000 USD)
- 2019 Scholarship of the University of Warsaw Chancellor for outstanding scientific achievements (University of Warsaw)
7000 PLN (ca. 1600 USD)
- 2019 Research Grant for the project "What are words? Philosophical Foundations of Linguistics" (College of Interdisciplinary Individual Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences)
3000 PLN (ca. 700 USD)

Research visits

- October 2024 – COGITO Epistemology Research Center, University of Glasgow
November 2024 *Foundation for Polish Science START travel scholarship, research under supervision of Christoph Kelp*
- September 2023 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
– February 2024 *Fulbright Junior Researcher, research under supervision of Alex Byrne*
- January 2023 – University of Turin
June 2023 *Erasmus+ Doctoral Scholarship, research under supervision of Jan Sprenger*

Publications

- 2024 **Knowing what one likes: epistemicist solution to faultless disagreement**
Tarnowski, M.
Acta Analytica, *OnlineFirst*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12136-024-00593-4>
- 2023 **My religion preaches ‘p’, but I don’t believe that p: Moore’s Paradox in religious assertions**
Tarnowski, M.
Religious Studies, *FirstView*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412523000938>

- 2023 **Davidsonian Metasemantics and Radical Interpretation**
Tarnowski, M.
Axiomathes (Global Philosophy) 33(2). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10516-023-09679-x>
- 2023 **Western Skeptic vs Indian Realist. Cross-Cultural Differences in Zebra Case Intuitions.**
Sekowski, K., Ziółkowski, A., Tarnowski, M.
Review of Philosophy and Psychology. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13164-021-00586-x>
- 2022 **The Group Knobe Effect revisited: epistemic and doxastic side-effect effects in intuitive judgments concerning group agents**
Tarnowski, M., Ziółkowski, A., Tałasiewicz, M.
Synthese, 200(6). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03917-2>
- 2022 **Knowledge by acquaintance and the transparency of introspection**
Tarnowski, M.
Przegląd Filozoficzny: Nowa Seria. In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.24425/pfns.2022.143864>
- 2022 **Words on Kripke's Puzzle**
Tarnowski, M., Głowacki, M.
Synthese, 200(4). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03769-w>
- 2022 **Proper Names as Demonstratives**
Tarnowski, M.
Argumenta, 8(1). <https://doi.org/10.14275/2465-2334/202200.tar>
- 2022 **Proper Names as Demonstratives in Fiction**
Tarnowski, M.
Studia Semiotyczne, 36(1). <https://doi.org/10.26333/sts.xxxvi1.05>
- 2021 **Do societies dream of a fair pasture? Interpretation of Jean Jacques Rousseau's "Social Contract"**
Tarnowski, M.
Studies in the History of Philosophy, 12(2). In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.12775/SZHF.2021.011>

- 2021 **How to Describe Irrationality? Irrational Belief Systems and Interpretation-ism in Philosophy of Mind**
Tarnowski, M.
Avant. Trends in Interdisciplinary Studies, 12(3). In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.26913/avant.2021.03.02>
- 2020 **Is Having Contradictory Beliefs Possible? Discussion and Critique of Arguments for the Psychological Principle of Non-Contradiction**
Tarnowski, M.
Studia Semiotyczne - English Supplement, 31. English translation of the 2019 article. <https://doi.org/10.26333/stsen.xxxi.04>
- 2020 **Pointing in One's Mind: Object-Dependent Thoughts and the Semantics of Complex Demonstratives**
Tarnowski, M.
Filozofia Nauki, 28(1). In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.14394/FILNAU.2020.004>
- 2019 **Is Having Contradictory Beliefs Possible? Discussion and Critique of Arguments for the Psychological Principle of Non-Contradiction**
Tarnowski, M.
Studia Semiotyczne, 33(2). In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.26333/sts.xxxiii2.11>

Reviews:

- 2020 **What theory of action? On Michał Barcz's *Mechanics of Action***
Tarnowski, M.
Filozofia Nauki, 28(4). In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.14394/filnau.2020.0023>
- 2018 **Tradition: An Intellectual Museum or a Communication Structure? (Paweł Grad, *O pojęciu tradycji. Studium krytyczne kultury pamięci*)**
Tarnowski, M.
Civitas. Studia z filozofii polityki. In Polish. <https://doi.org/10.35757/CIV.2018.22.14>

Grants

January 2022 – Present
PRELUDIUM 20 Grant “Moore’s Paradox in language and thought: towards a unified strategy of explanation”
Funded by National Science Center, 103 150 PLN (ca. 24000 USD).
Principal Investigator.

Teaching experience

- Spring 2024 **Instructor, Philosophy of Language II for Cognitive Science (University of Warsaw)**
Conducting tutorials, preparing teaching materials, grading.
Average student rating: 4.9/5.
- Fall 2022 **Instructor, Philosophy of Language (University of Warsaw)**
Conducting tutorials, preparing teaching materials, grading.
Average student rating: 5/5.
- Fall 2021 **Instructor, Philosophy of Language (University of Warsaw)**
Conducting tutorials, preparing teaching materials, grading.
Average student rating: 5/5.
- Fall 2020 **Instructor, Logic and Metaphysics A (University of Warsaw)**
Conducting tutorials, preparing teaching materials, grading.
Average student rating: 4.8/5.

Work experience

- 2018 – Present **Public speaking and debating trainer** – Fundacja Nowy Głos, Fundacja Polska Debatuje, Centrum Edukacji Obywatelskiej
I carried out more than 70 workshops and lessons related to argumentation and public speaking for audiences from elementary school level to university students and teachers. I also organized debating competitions, managing general organizational tasks as well as adjudication and equity teams.
- September 2016 – August 2022 **High school philosophy and rhetoric teacher** – I SLO “Bednarska”, WLH im. Jacka Kuronia
I taught philosophy and argumentation to high school students. I co-designed two innovative curriculums for teaching rhetoric and scientific method. Many of my students achieved success in the Philosophy Olympiad and debating competitions.

April 2016 – **Science communicator** – Copernicus Science Center
September 2017 *I carried out workshops and science demonstrations for the visitors of Copernicus Science Center.*

Talks (selected)

- November 2024 "¬K¬K thesis and knowledge-first logic of belief"
Work in Progress Seminar, COGITO Epistemology Research Center, University of Glasgow (invited talk)
- August 2024 "Moorean non-assertoric speech acts"
7th Philosophy of Language and Mind Network Conference, Charles University in Prague also presented at: 3^d Philosophy of Language Association Meeting, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, September 2024
- August 2024 "Knowing that one believes without knowing that one knows"
2nd Analytic Philosophy Forum in Latvia, University of Latvia also presented at: Seminar of Polish Semiotic Society, University of Warsaw, May 2024 (invited talk)
- June 2024 "Knobe Effect is (probably) not what you think it is"
4th European Experimental Philosophy Conference, Jagiellonian University (with Adrian Ziółkowski)
- June 2023 "Moore's Paradox in non-assertoric speech acts"
FINO Seminar, University of Genoa (invited talk)
- May 2023 "Moorean Lies"
PhiLang 2023, University of Łódź
- January 2023 "No doxastically innocent explanation of Moore's Paradox"
16th Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference on the Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic, University of Cambridge
Comments by: Michael Potter, Cambridge
also presented at: SPLogic 2023, University of Campinas, February 2023; Science+More Research Seminar, University of Turin, March 2023 (invited talk); Work In Progress seminar, MIT, October 2023; APA Eastern, New York, January 2024
- November 2022 "My religion says 'p', but I don't believe that p"
3^d World Congress on Logic and Religion, Banaras Hindu University

- September 2022 "My philosophical position implies 'p, but I don't believe that p'"
6th Philosophy of Language and Mind Network Conference, University of Warsaw
also presented at: Nature of Belief, University of Warsaw, May 2023; COGITO Research Seminar, University of Bologna, June 2023 (invited talk)
- January 2022 "The Group Knobe Effect Revisited. Epistemic and Doxastic Side-Effect Effects in Intuitive Judgments Concerning Group Agents"
Agency and Intentions in Language 2 Interdisciplinary Workshop, Harvey Mudd College
- November 2021 "Careless assertions, Moore's Paradox and the KK principle"
25th Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Oxford
 Comments by: Timothy Williamson, Oxford
- May 2021 "Proper Names and Demonstratives in Fiction"
PhiLang 2021 Conference, University of Łódź
- November 2019 "What are names? On the metaphysics of words and identity puzzles"
Propositions, Reference and Meaning 2019 Conference, University of Bratislava
also presented at the Seminar of Polish Semiotic Society, University of Warsaw, January 2020 (invited talk)
- September 2019 "Identity of Words"
Semantics and Philosophy in Europe 11 Conference, University of Warsaw
- January 2019 "(Ir)Rationality and Belief Ascription: Towards a New Model of Interpretation Theory"
Philosophy in Progress 2019 Conference, University of Nottingham

Professional memberships

- 2021 – Present Centre for Philosophical Research (OBF)
Regular member.
- 2023 – Present American Philosophical Association (APA)
International member, Eastern Division.

Service to the profession

Organized conferences and workshops

September 2022 3rd Context, Cognition and Communication Conference
University of Warsaw

September 2018 XVIII Logic Workshop (Warsztaty Logiczne) in Jachranka
University of Warsaw Logic Group

Reviewer

Synthese (x2), Semiotica, Studia Semiotyczne

Popular work

2024 Invited host of the Philosophical Meeting at *Kino Muranów*; film: *Upon Entry* (2022)

2023 Popular article introducing philosophy to prospective university students for *Edukacja: Można Inaczej* portal.

<https://moznainaczej.edu.pl/po-co-ci-te-studia-filozofia/>

2022 Educational video on approaching philosophy-related topics in debating, realized for *Krakowskie Stowarzyszenie Mówców* and *Zadebatuj.pl*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8-2ayNUFp0w>

2021 – 2022 Tutor at *Akademia Badaczy* (Scholars' Academy), cycle of academic skills trainings for students of University of Gdańsk, realized for *Instytut Debaty Publicznej*.

2021 Popular interview with Nursulu Sagimbayeva on philosophy of language, mind and epistemic paradoxes, published on *Medium*.

<https://medium.com/@nurs.sagimbayeva/>

[maciej-tarnowski-on-language-and-mind-epistemic-paradoxes-and-how-to-approach-them](https://medium.com/@nurs.sagimbayeva/maciej-tarnowski-on-language-and-mind-epistemic-paradoxes-and-how-to-approach-them)

2019 Translation of Andrei Platonov's *On the first socialist tragedy* from Russian to Polish, published in *Maly Format*.

<http://malyformat.com/2019/12/o-pierwszej-socjalistycznej-tragedii>

Skills

Software

LaTeX, Microsoft Office package, Canva, Qualtrics, LimeSurvey, Prolific

Languages

English (fluent), Russian (advanced), German (beginner)

Other interests and achievements

Apart from my interest in philosophy, I am also devoted to **competitive debating**. In 2020, I won the Polish National British Parliamentary Debating Championship. I also represented the University of Warsaw at numerous international competitions, including the European Universities Debating Championships (2019-2022) and World Universities Debating Championships (2022), where I became **the Grand Finalist in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) category**. From 2019 to 2021 I was also a part of the University of Warsaw Debate Club board.