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Matthieu Quelo

Academic Positions

SNSF Ambizione Fellow, University of Bern, CH. 2023–2027.
SNSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Bern, CH. 2022–2023.
Member of the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford, UK. 2019–2022.
Junior Research Fellow, Wolfson College, Oxford, UK. 2019–2022.
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Basel, CH. 2018–2019.
PhD Candidate, University of Basel, CH. 2015–2018.
Tutor in Philosophy, University of Zurich, CH. 2013–2015.

Education

PhD in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, University of Basel, 2018.
Advisors: Prof. Markus Wild and Prof. Martin Kusch. Title of PhD Thesis: *The Practical Origins of Concepts: From Hume and Nietzsche to Craig and Williams*. Nominated for the Faculty Prize for Outstanding Dissertations in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Funded through a Doc.CH grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation.

MA in Philosophy and Engl. Literature, *summa cum laude*, University of Zurich, 2015.
Advisor: Prof. Hans-Johann Glock. Title of Master Thesis: *Two Orders of Things: Wittgenstein on Reasons and Causes*. Nominated by Prof. Hans-Johann Glock for the University of Zurich Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work.

BA in Philosophy, Engl. Literature and Linguistics, *summa cum laude*, University of Basel, 2012.

Areas of Research

AOS: Metaphilosophy, Epistemology, Metaethics, Philosophy of Action, Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century European Philosophy (esp. Nietzsche, Wittgenstein, Bernard Williams)

AOC: Philosophy of Language, Social and Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law, Eighteenth-Century European Philosophy (esp. Hume, Smith, Rousseau)

Awards, Grants & Fellowships

Ambizione Grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation. CHF 570'380. 2022.

Lauener Prize for Up-and-Coming Philosophers, awarded by the Lauener Foundation for Analytical Philosophy.

Postdoc.Mobility Return Grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation. CHF 121'628. 2022.

Postdoc.Mobility Grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation. CHF 75'750. 2021.

Gold Open Access Publication Grant for *The Practical Origins of Ideas* (OUP 2021), Swiss National Science Foundation. CHF 12'000. 2020.

Junior Research Fellowship (3 years), Wolfson College, Oxford. 2019.

Early Postdoc.Mobility Grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation. CHF 100'800. 2018.

Excellent Junior Researcher Grant of the Max Geldner Foundation, Postdoctoral Level. CHF 79'999. 2018.

Doc.CH Grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation. CHF 175'508. 2015.

Fellow of the Swiss Study Foundation (Schweizerische Studienstiftung), which “promotes outstanding students (top 0.3%) during their undergraduate and postgraduate studies. Requirements for admission are: excellent academic records, motivation and enthusiasm, broad interests, creativity and intellectual curiosity, a sense of responsibility, strong communication skills, knowledge of foreign languages.” 2013–2019.

Swiss Scholarship for the James Joyce Summer School, University College Dublin. 2011.

Basler Maturandenpreis, Gymnasium am Münsterplatz (Humanistisches Gymnasium); awarded to the student with the highest scores at the matura (baccalaureate) graduation “to reward scholarly excellence and exceptional social commitment.” CHF 4000. 2008.

Monographs

- 1.2 *The Practical Origins of Ideas: Genealogy as Conceptual Reverse-Engineering*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021. Available open access [here](#). A symposium on the book is to appear in *Analysis*. Reviews have also appeared in *Mind* and *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. The book is to be translated into Arabic.
- 1.1 *Reasons for Reasons: An Essay on the Authority of Concepts*. In progress.

Edited Books

- 2.1 *Making Sense of the Past: Bernard Williams and the History of Philosophy*. Marcel van Ackeren and Matthieu Queloz (eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press, accepted.

Journal Articles

- 3.29 **Function-Based Conceptual Engineering and the Authority Problem**. *Mind*. Forthcoming. [doi:10/jbdx](#)
- 3.28 **Nietzsche's Conceptual Ethics**. *Inquiry*. Proceedings of the International Society of Nietzsche Studies. Under consideration.
- 3.27 **The Shaken Realist: Bernard Williams, the War, and Philosophy as Cultural Critique**. *European Journal of Philosophy*. 2022. With Nikhil Krishnan. [doi:10/hxnr](#)
- 3.26 **On the Self-Undermining Functionality Critique of Morality**. *European Journal of Philosophy*. Symposium on Reginster's *The Will to Nothingness*. Forthcoming.
- 3.25 **Genealogy, Evaluation, and Engineering**. *The Monist* 105 (4): 435–51. 2022. [doi:10/jcz7](#)
- 3.24 **Defending *The Practical Origins of Ideas***. *Analysis*. Forthcoming.

- 3.23 **Précis of *The Practical Origins of Ideas. Analysis***. Forthcoming.
- 3.22 **The Normative Significance of Critical Histories for International Law**. *Journal of the History of International Law*. 2022. With Damian Cueni. doi:10/h6d4
- 3.21 **Conceptual Engineering and the Politics of Implementation**. *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*. 2021. With Friedemann Bieber. doi:10/g35g
- 3.20 **The Essential Superficiality of the Voluntary and the Moralization of Psychology**. *Philosophical Studies* 179 (5): 1591–1620. 2022. doi:10/gt63
- 3.19 **Choosing Values? Williams contra Nietzsche**. *The Philosophical Quarterly* 71 (2): 286–307. 2021. doi:10/drj5
- 3.18 **The Self-Effacing Functionality of Blame**. *Philosophical Studies* 178 (4): 1361–1379. 2021. doi:10/dwh4
- 3.17 **Whence the Demand for Ethical Theory?** *American Philosophical Quarterly* 58 (2): 135–46. 2021. With Damian Cueni. doi:10/f5qs
- 3.16 **Left Wittgensteinianism**. *European Journal of Philosophy* 29 (4): 758–77. 2021. With Damian Cueni. doi:10/fbwb
- 3.15 **From Paradigm-Based Explanation to Pragmatic Genealogy**. *Mind* 129 (515): 683–714. 2020. doi:10/c6mv
- 3.14 **Nietzsche’s English Genealogy of Truthfulness**. *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 103 (2): 341–63. 2021. doi:10/f5qt
- 3.13 **How Genealogies Can Affect the Space of Reasons**. *Synthese* 197 (5): 2005–2027. 2020. doi:10/gc8qs3
- 3.12 **The Points of Concepts: Their Types, Tensions, and Connections**. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 49 (8): 1122–1145. 2019. doi:10/c6mw
- 3.11 **Genealogy and Knowledge-First Epistemology: A Mismatch?** *The Philosophical Quarterly* 69 (274): 100–120. 2019. doi:10/c6mx
- 3.10 **Nietzsche as a Critic of Genealogical Debunking: Making Room for Naturalism without Subversion**. *The Monist* 102 (3): 277–297. 2019. With Damian Cueni. doi:10/c6m7
- 3.9 **On Ordered Pluralism**. *Australasian Philosophical Review* 3 (3): 305–11. 2019. doi:10/f5qr
- 3.8 **Nietzsches affirmative Genealogien**. *Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie* 67 (3): 429–439. 2019. doi:10/dwh5
- 3.7 **Davidsonian Causalism and Wittgensteinian Anti-Causalism: A Rapprochement**. *Ergo* 5 (6): 153–72. 2018. doi:10/c6mz
- 3.6 **Williams’s Pragmatic Genealogy and Self-Effacing Functionality**. *Philosophers’ Imprint* 18 (17): 1–20. 2018. doi:2027/spo.3521354.0018.017
- 3.5 **Two Orders of Things: Wittgenstein on Reasons and Causes**. *Philosophy* 92 (3): 369–97. 2017. doi:10/c6m2
- 3.4 **Nietzsche’s Pragmatic Genealogy of Justice**. *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 25 (4): 727–49. 2017. doi:10/c6m3
- 3.3 **Does Philosophy Have a Vindictory History? Bernard Williams on the History of Philosophy**. *Studia Philosophica* 76: 137–52. 2017. doi:10/c6m4
- 3.2 **Wittgenstein on the Chain of Reasons**. *Wittgenstein-Studien* 7 (1): 105–30. 2016. doi:10/c6m5

- 3.1 **The Double Nature of DNA: Reevaluating the Common Heritage Idea.** *The Journal of Political Philosophy* 24 (1): 47–66. 2016. [doi:10/c6m6](https://doi.org/10.1017/c6m6)

Book Chapters

- 4.7 **Law as a Crucible for Concepts.** In *Bernard Williams and Jurisprudence*. Daniel Peixoto Murata and Veronica Rodriguez-Blanco (eds.). Commissioned.
- 4.6 **Reasons of Love and Conceptual Good-for-Nothings.** In *Themes from Susan Wolf*. Michael Frauchiger (ed.). Berlin: De Gruyter. Forthcoming.
- 4.5 **Making Past Thinkers Speak to Us through Pragmatic Genealogies.** In *Historiography and the Formation of Philosophical Canons*. Sandra Lapointe and Erich Reck (eds.). London: Routledge. Forthcoming.
- 4.4 **Williams’s Left Wittgensteinianism.** In *Making Sense of the Past: Bernard Williams and the History of Philosophy*. Marcel van Ackeren and Matthieu Queloz (eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press. Forthcoming.
- 4.3 **Introduction.** With Marcel van Ackeren. In *Making Sense of the Past: Bernard Williams and the History of Philosophy*. Marcel van Ackeren and Matthieu Queloz (eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press. Forthcoming.
- 4.2 **A Shelter from Luck: The Morality System Reconstructed.** In *Morality and Agency: Themes from Bernard Williams*. András Szigeti and Matthew Talbert (eds.), 184–211. New York: Oxford University Press. 2022. [doi:10/jcz8](https://doi.org/10.1017/jcz8)
- 4.1 **Revealing Social Functions through Pragmatic Genealogies.** In *Social Functions in Philosophy: Metaphysical, Normative, and Methodological Perspectives*. Rebekka Hufendiek, Daniel James, and Raphael Van Riel (eds.), 200–218. London: Routledge. 2020. [doi:10/gmf6](https://doi.org/10.1017/gmf6)

Book Reviews

- 5.1 **Ethics Beyond the Limits: New Essays on Bernard Williams’ Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy.** *Mind*. 2021. [doi:10/grgf](https://doi.org/10.1017/grgf)

Media and Outreach

- 6.16 **Richard Marshall interviews Matthieu Queloz.** *3:16 AM, End Times Series*. Forthcoming. www.3-16am.co.uk
- 6.15 **Tracing Concepts to Needs.** *The Philosopher* 109 (3): 34–39. 2021. www.thephilosopher1923.org
- 6.14 **Ideas that Work.** *Aeon: A World of Ideas*, June 24, 2021. <https://aeon.co/essays/our-most-abstract-concepts-emerged-as-solutions-to-our-needs>
- 6.13 **Warum die liberale Demokratie laufend verteidigt werden muss.** *Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen (SRF Kultur)*, 2015. With Damian Cueni.
- 6.12 **Relativismus und Toleranz.** *Giordano Bruno Stiftung Schweiz*, November 26, 2013.
- 6.11 **Problem und Chance zugleich.** *Basler Zeitung*, May 4, 2011.
- 6.10 **Momentaufnahme der Kunst im Wandel.** *Basler Zeitung*, March 11, 2011.
- 6.9 **Kunst auf Wanderschaft.** *Basler Zeitung*, March 9, 2011. With Andrea Fopp.

- 6.8 **Kaleidoskop der Elemente.** *Basler Zeitung*, February 17, 2011.
- 6.7 **Hymne an die Solidarität.** *Basler Zeitung*, March 10, 2011.
- 6.6 **Arche Noah der Universalmaschinen.** *Basler Zeitung*, March 2, 2011.
- 6.5 **Woher weisst du, dass der Wurm drin ist?** *Basler Zeitung*, January 20, 2011.
- 6.4 **Ein Spiegelkabinett der Urängste.** *Basler Zeitung*, January 20, 2011.
- 6.3 **Ein Casting für Caesar und Napoleon.** *Basler Zeitung*, January 11, 2011.
- 6.2 **Nostalgische Lautmalerei.** *Basler Zeitung*, December 28, 2010.
- 6.1 **Ästhetik des Urbanen.** *Basler Zeitung*, December 21, 2010.

Peer-Reviewed Talks

- 7.4 **Whence the Authority of Concepts? Cambridge Pragmatism and Genealogical Reverse-Engineering.** *Conceptual Engineering and Pragmatism*. University of Bologna, Italy, July 8-9, 2021.
- 7.3 **A Shelter from Luck: The Roots, Point, and Purity of the Morality System.** *Agency, Fate and Luck: Themes from Bernard Williams*. Lund University, Sweden, June 14-16, 2019.
- 7.2 **Pragmatic Genealogy from Hume to Williams: Norm Institution in the State of Nature.** *Norm und Natur, XXIV. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Philosophie*. Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, 2017.
- 7.1 **Bringing History and Philosophy Together: Nietzsche and Williams on Historical Philosophy.** *International Symposium of the Swiss Philosophical Society*. University of Geneva, CH, 2016.

Invited Talks

- 8.29 **TBD.** *The Moral Sciences Club*, University of Cambridge, UK, November 15, 2022.
- 8.28 **The Place of Morality.** *9th International Lauener Symposium on Analytical Philosophy on Themes from Susan Wolf*, Bern, CH, August 26, 2022.
- 8.27 **Nietzsche's Conceptual Ethics.** *2022 Meeting of the International Society for Nietzsche Studies*, University of Oxford, UK, June 24–25, 2022.
- 8.26 **What Can Nietzsche Teach Us About the Evaluation of Concepts?** *Philosophy Research Seminar*, University of Southampton, UK, May 10, 2022.
- 8.25 **The Practical Origins of Ideas.** *The Moral and Political Philosophy Research Seminar*, University of Helsinki, Finland, November 24, 2021.
- 8.24 **Comments on Boed, 'Internal Reasons and Making Sense in the Political Thought of Bernard Williams'.** *Bernard Williams Virtual Workshop*, University of Cambridge, UK, November 23, 2021.
- 8.23 **Reverse-Engineering the Points of Concepts through Pragmatic Genealogy.** *PhilEAs Conference Cycle*, University of Geneva, CH, November 11, 2021.
- 8.22 **The Points and Perils of Systematicity.** University of Bern, CH, October 18, 2021.
- 8.21 **Genealogy, Conceptual Ethics, Conceptual Engineering.** University of Warwick, UK, June 3-4, 2021.

- 8.20 **Dworkin, Williams, and the Conceptual Integrity Debate.** *HongKong ConceptLab Workshop on Political Philosophy and Methodology*, University of Hong Kong, China, April 27–28, 2021.
- 8.19 **Pragmatic Genealogy and Conceptual Reverse-Engineering.** *Workshop on Genealogy & Conceptual Engineering*, Arché: Philosophical Research Centre, University of St Andrews, Scotland, April 2021. [postponed]
- 8.18 **Authority, Rationality, and Voluntariness in *Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy*.** *Lund Gothenburg Responsibility Project Seminar*, Lund University, Sweden, March 24, 2021.
- 8.17 **From Paradigm-Based Explanation to Pragmatic Genealogy.** University of Cambridge, UK, February 5, 2021.
- 8.16 **Identifying the Functions of Concepts.** *Workshop on Functions in Conceptual Engineering*, University of Oslo, Norway, June 12–13, 2020. [postponed]
- 8.15 **Revealing Social Functions through Pragmatic Genealogies.** *Graduate Seminar on Genealogy, Biology, and Naturalizing Normative Discourse*, University of California-Santa Cruz, USA, April 2020.
- 8.14 **Nietzsche’s Pragmatic Genealogies.** *Post-Kantian European Philosophy Seminar*. University of Oxford, UK, February 2020.
- 8.13 **Conceptual Reverse-Engineering.** *Colloquium for Theoretical Philosophy*. University of Basel, CH, October 2019.
- 8.12 **Pragmatic Genealogy as Conceptual Reverse-Engineering.** *ConceptLab*. University of Oslo, Norway, September 2019.
- 8.11 **The Point of Pragmatic Genealogy.** *ConceptLab*. University of Oslo, Norway, September 2019.
- 8.10 **Whence the Demand for Ethical Theory?** *Philosophy Retreat*, organised by Markus Wild. Villa Garbald, Castasegna, CH, September 2019.
- 8.9 **Nietzsche as a Critic of Genealogical Debunking.** With Damian Cueni. *Nietzsche Seminar*. Birkbeck College, University of London, UK, January 2019.
- 8.8 **What is Pragmatic Genealogy and When Do We Need It?** *Colloquium for Practical Philosophy*. University of Bern, CH, 2018.
- 8.7 **In the Beginning was the Deed: Engineering Conceptual Practices.** With Friedemann Bieber. *Conceptual Analysis in Practical Philosophy*. University of Zurich, CH, 2018.
- 8.6 **Genealogy and Worldmaking.** *The Contingent World: Genealogy, Epistemology, Politics*. Workshop with Amia Srinivasan. University of Basel, CH, 2018.
- 8.5 **The Will to Truth: Pragmatic Arguments in Nietzsche’s Philosophy.** With Johannes Steizinger. *International Conference on European Pragmatism: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*. University of Vienna, Austria, 2018.
- 8.4 **Nietzsches affirmative Genealogien.** *Genealogie, Historismus und Relativismus*. University of Basel, CH, 2018.
- 8.3 **Functional Explanations and Genealogical Explanations.** *Artifactual, Biological, and Social Functions. Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*. University of Bern, CH, 2017.
- 8.2 **Conceptual Relativism and the Genealogical Method of Bernard Williams.** *Conceptual Relativism*. Workshop with A.W. Moore. University of Zurich, CH, 2016.

- 8.1 **The Genesis of Unicepts.** *Biosemanctics, Unicepts, Language, and Natural Information.* Conference with Ruth Millikan. University of Basel, CH, 2016.

Doctoral Supervision

- Anton Emilsson, PhD in Philosophy, Lund University, Sweden, 2022– (Assistant Supervisor).
Julian Ratcliffe, DPhil in Philosophy, University of Oxford, 2022 (Assessor, Transfer of Status Exam).
Francesco Testini, PhD in Political Science, University of Milan, 2021 (External Examiner).

Teaching

- “Affirmative Genealogien”, lecture given as part of the Certificate of Advanced Studies course “Philosophie für Fachleute aus Medizin und Psychotherapie (BS): Genealogie als Kritik”, Medizinische Fakultät und Philosophische Fakultät der Universität Zürich, ST 2022.
- “Nietzsches Genealogie”, lecture given as part of the course “Nietzsche: Grundbegriffe”, University of Basel. FT 2021.
- College Advisor, Wolfson College, University of Oxford. 2021–22.
- Graduate Supervision and Tutorials, St Peter’s College, University of Oxford. 2020.
- “Genealogy”, class taught as part of the Graduate Seminar *Narrative, History and Epistemology* (Convener: Alexander Prescott-Couch), University of Oxford. Hilary Term 2020.
- Introductory Block Course for the Master Seminar “Hume: A Treatise of Human Nature,” co-taught with Prof. Markus Wild and Prof. Anik Waldow, University of Basel. ST 2018.
- Proseminar “David Hume: An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals,” University of Basel. ST 2017.
- Proseminar “Thick Concepts,” co-taught with Deborah Mühlebach, University of Basel. ST 2016.
- Tutorial for the Seminar “Bertrand Russell: Problems of Philosophy” (with Dr. Joachim Schulte), University of Zurich. ST 2015.
- Tutorial for the Master Seminar “Wittgensteins Philosophie der Psychologie” (with Dr. Joachim Schulte). FT 2014.
- Tutorial for the Master Seminar “Wittgensteins Philosophische Untersuchungen: Die ersten Kapitel (§§ 1-88)” (with Dr. Joachim Schulte), University of Zurich. ST 2014.
- Tutorial for the Master Seminar “Nietzsche-Blockseminar mit Exkursion nach Sils Maria” (with Prof. Katia Saporiti and Prof. Wolfram Groddeck), University of Zurich. FT 2013.
- Tutorial for the Master Seminar “Wittgenstein: Über Gewissheit” (with Dr. Joachim Schulte), University of Zurich. FT 2013.

Professional Service

- Assessor of DPhil Thesis Projects for the Philosophy Faculty’s Graduate Studies Committee, University of Oxford
- Editor for *PhilPapers* (categories: genealogical method, Bernard Williams, genealogical justification, fictional genealogy).
- Evaluator of Project Proposals for the *European Research Council* (ERC).

Referee for *Oxford University Press*, *MIND*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Synthese*, *Erkenntnis*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *The Journal of Political Philosophy*, *Ergo*, *Inquiry*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Philosophy*, *Ratio*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, *Res Publica*, *Analytic Philosophy*, and *Philosophia*.

Convener (with Nikhil Krishnan) of the Bernard Williams Virtual Workshops, a monthly workshop series bringing together scholars from all over the world on a regular basis (running since November 2021).

Co-Organiser of a Workshop entitled “Hume and Nietzsche: Projection, Realism, Genealogy” with Prof. Peter Kail (Oxford). 06/2018.

Co-Organiser of a Workshop with Prof. Amia Srinivasan (UCL, Oxford) on her book *The Contingent World: Genealogy, Epistemology, Politics*. 06/2018.

Co-Organiser of a Conference on “Genealogie, Historismus und Relativismus” with Prof. Martin Kusch (Vienna), Dr. Katherina Kinzel (Vienna), and Dr. Johannes Steizinger (Vienna) at the University of Basel. 02/2018.

Co-Organiser of a Workshop with Prof. Rebecca Kukla (Georgetown) on “Language and Ideology”. 03/2016.

Co-Organiser of a Public Lecture with Prof. Rebecca Kukla (Georgetown) on “Ingrouping and Outgrouping Speech”. 03/2016.

Co-Organiser of the Swiss Study Foundation Interdisciplinary Discussion Group “Translating Humanity Back Into Nature: Placement Problems and the Role of Philosophy Today”. 2015.

Active Memberships in Societies

Lifetime Member of *The Aristotelian Society*

Member of the *GAP (Gesellschaft für analytische Philosophie)*

Member of the *European Moral Responsibility Consortium*

Member of the *Swiss Political Theory Network*

Languages

German (native)

French (native)

Swiss German (native)

English (native level)

Italian (passive fluency)

Spanish (reading knowledge)

Latin (reading knowledge)

References

Markus Wild, University of Basel.

Hans-Johann Glock, University of Zurich.

Martin Kusch, University of Vienna.

Simon Blackburn, University of Cambridge.

Adrian Moore, University of Oxford.