

Curriculum Vitae - Dr Tom McClelland

Areas of Research

- Areas of Specialisation: Philosophy of Cognitive Science & AI, Philosophy of Art
- Areas of Competence: General Philosophy of Science, Applied Ethics, Metaphysics, Epistemology

University Appointments

- Teaching Associate (fixed-term), Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge (Aug 2022 – present)
- Lecturer in Philosophy (fixed-term), Faculty of Philosophy, University of Cambridge (Sep 2019 – July 2022)
- Leverhulme Early Career Research Fellow, 'The Mental Action and Cognitive Phenomenology Project', University of Warwick (Sept 2016 – Aug 2019)
- Postdoctoral Research Associate, ERC-funded 'The Architecture of Consciousness Project', University of Manchester (Sept 2013 – Aug 2016)
- Lecturer in Philosophy (fixed-term), University of Glasgow (Nov 2012 – Aug 2013)

Other Affiliations

- Associate Fellow, Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence (2025 – present)
- Associate of the Senior Combination Room and Director of Studies, Kings College (2025 onward)
- College Research Associate and Director of Studies, Clare College (2019 – 2025)
- External Director of Studies for Selwyn College, Christs College and Gonville & Caius College (2020-2023)

Education

- AHRC-Funded PhD in Philosophy, University of Sussex (2009-2012)
- M.A. by Research in Philosophy, University of York (2008-2009)
- B.A. in Philosophy, Clare College, University of Cambridge (2004-2008)

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

1. Attention and Attendabilia: The Perception of Attentional Affordances, *European Journal of Philosophy*, 2024 DOI 10.1111/ejop.13010
2. Affording Imagination, (co-authored with Monika Dunin-Kozicka), *Philosophical Psychology: Special Issue on Expanding the Concept of Affordances*, 2024 DOI 10.1080/09515089.2024.2354433
3. Gendered Affordance Perception and Unequal Domestic Labour (co-authored with Paulina Sliwa), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Online First: 2022. DOI 10.1111/phpr.12929
4. Perceptual Motivation, (co-authored with Marta Jorba) *Review of Philosophy & Psychology*, 2022 DOI 10.1007/s13164-021-00608-8
5. Seeing the Forest for the Trees, *Philosophy&the Mind Sciences*. 2:1-27, 2021 10.33735/phimisci.2021.19
6. The Mental Affordance Hypothesis, *Mind*, 129(514): 401–427, 2020. DOI 10.1093/mind/fzz036
7. Ignorance and the Meta-Problem of Consciousness, *Journal of Consciousness Studies: Special Issue on the Meta-Problem of Consciousness*, 27(5-6): 108-119, 2020.
8. Ensemble Representation and the Contents of Visual Experience (co-authored with Tim Bayne), *Philosophical Studies*, 176:733–753, 2019. DOI 10.1007/s11098-018-1037-3.
9. Representing Our Options: The Perception of Affordances for Bodily and Mental Action, *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 26(3-4): 155-180, 2019.
10. Against Virtual Selves, *Erkenntnis*, 84:21-40, 2019. DOI 10.1007/s10670-017-9945-8.
11. The Problem of Consciousness: Easy, Hard or Tricky? *Topoi*, 36(1), 17-30, 2017 DOI 10.1007/s11245-014-9257-4.
12. Gappiness and the Case for Liberalism About Phenomenal Properties, *Philosophical Quarterly*, 66 (264): 536-558, 2016. DOI 10.1093/pq/pqv128.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals (cont.)

13. Can Self-Representationalism Explain Away the Apparent Irreducibility of Consciousness? *Synthese*, 193(6), 1755-1776, 2016. DOI 10.1007/s11229-015-0806-1.
14. Concepts, Contents and Consciousness, (co-authored with Tim Bayne) *Neuroscience of Consciousness*, (Vol. 1) 2016. DOI: 10.1093/nc/niv012.
15. Finding the Feel: The Matching Content Challenge to Cognitive Phenomenology (co-authored with Tim Bayne) *Phenomenology and Mind*, 10, 26-43, 2016. DOI: 10.13128/Phe_Mi-20090.
16. Affording Introspection: An Alternative Model of Inner Awareness, *Philosophical Studies*, Vol.172, No. 9, 2469-2492, 2015. DOI 10.1007/s11098-014-0421-x.
17. In Defence of Kantian Humility, *Thought*, Vol.1, 62-70, 2012. DOI 10.1002/tht.9.
18. Philosophy of Film & Film as Philosophy, *Cinema: Journal of Philosophy & the Moving Image*, Vol. 2, 2011.
19. The Neo-Russellian Ignorance Hypothesis: A Hybrid Account of Phenomenal Consciousness, *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 20(3-4): 125-51, 2013.

Anthology Contributions

20. The Ability Strategy: Seeking a Middle-Ground in the Inner Awareness Debate, in A. Giustina ed. *Consciousness and Inner Awareness*, CUP, forthcoming.
21. Mental Action and the Scope of Affordance Perception, (co-authored with Max Jones), in M. Mangalam, M. ed. *The Modern Legacy of Gibson's Affordances for the Sciences of Organisms*, Resources for Ecological Psychology, 2024
22. Four Impediments to the Case for Mineness, in M. Guillot & M. García-Carpintero (eds.) *Self Experience: Essays on Inner Awareness*, Oxford University Press, 2023, pp.50-76
23. Suffering and Affordances for Mental Action, in D. Bain, M. Brady and J. Corns (eds.) *The Philosophy of Suffering: Metaphysics, Value and Normativity*, Routledge Press, 2020, pp.37-54
24. Self-Representational Theories of Consciousness, in U. Kriegel (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of Consciousness*, Oxford University Press, 2020, 458-481.
25. Film as Philosophical Thought Experiment: Some Challenges and Solutions, in C. Rawls, D. Neiva & S. Gouveia (eds.) *Philosophy and Film: Bridging Divides*, Routledge Press, 2019, pp.92-115.
26. The Knowledge Argument is Either Indefensible or Redundant, in S. Coleman (ed.) *The Knowledge Argument*, Cambridge University Press, 2019, pp. 180-197.

Monographs and Edited Collections

27. *Intruders in the Mind: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Thought Insertion*, (co-edited with Pablo López Silva), 2024, OUP.
28. *What is Philosophy of Mind?*, May 2021, Polity Press.
29. Consciousness and Inner Awareness, (co-edited with Jonathan Farrell) Special issue of *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 8(1), 2017.

Conference Proceedings and Other Publications

30. The Winds of Culture: AI Art Generators and the Aeolian Harp, letter in *AI & Society*, forthcoming.
31. Misembodied Experiences of Artificial Art, *Proceedings of the ICCA'22 Workshop: The Role of Embodiment in the Perception of Human & Artificial Creativity*, 2022.
32. AI and Affordances for Mental Action, *Proceedings of the 10th AISB Symposium*, 372-379, 2017.
33. Editorial: Consciousness and Inner Awareness, (co-authored with Jonathan Farrell) *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 8(1), 1-22, 2017. (Special Issue on Consciousness and Inner Awareness).
34. Ensemble Coding and Two Conceptions of Perceptual Sparsity (co-authored with Tim Bayne), letter published in *Trends in Cognitive Science*, Vol.20, No. 9, 641-642, 2016. DOI: 10.1016/j.tics.2016.06.008.
35. Receptivity and Phenomenal Self-Knowledge, *Thought*, Special Issue: Proceedings of the Northern Institute of Philosophy Early Career Conference, Vol.2, No. 4, 293-302, 2013. DOI:10.1002/tht.3.96.
36. Consciousness, Ignorance and the Explanatory Gap, *Philosophical Writings*, Special Issue: Proceedings of the Fourteenth BPPA Conference, 45-57, 2011.
37. What is it like to be John Malkovich?, *The Postgraduate Journal of Aesthetics*, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2010.

Book Reviews

38. Review of Varela, Thompson, Rosch, *The Embodied Mind* (Revised Edition), *Phenomenological Reviews*, 2017.
39. Review of U. Kriegel *The Varieties of Consciousness*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, 2015. Online first: DOI 10.1093/pq/pqv111.
40. Review of R. Howell *Consciousness and the Limits of Objectivity*, *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, Vol. 21, No. 5-6, 236-241, 2014.
41. Review of D. Pereboom *Consciousness and the Prospects of Physicalism*, *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, Vol. 20, No.9-10, 193-200, 2013.
42. Review of M. Rowlands *Can Animals be Moral*, *Metapsychology Online Reviews* Vol.17, Issue 29, 2013.

Selected Conference Papers and Invited Talks

- The Science of Artificial Consciousness as ‘Fast Science’, *BSPS*, Glasgow, July 2025
- Hosting Round Table on Artificial Consciousness, *Coleridge Literary and Philosophical Society*, Cambridge, April 2025
- Discussant for Neural Mechanisms Online Symposium, Ned Block, Only a Meat Machine Can be Conscious: Maybe.
- Salience, Skill and Asking the “Right” Questions”, Salience symposium at *BSPS*, York, July 2024
- Imaginative Affordances in Virtual Worlds, *Playing in VR: Imagination, Affordances & Aesthetic Experience*, Antwerp, May 2024
- Agnosticism About Artificial Consciousness, Cambridge Neuroscience Seminar, April 2024
- On Seeing Women as Objects (with Paulina Sliwa), *CEPPA Talk*, St. Andrews, Sept 2023
- Perceptual Wronging and Perceptual Injustice, *Logos Colloquium*, Open University, Oct 2023
- Mental Affordances and Psychopathology, *Philosophy of Psychiatry Workshop*, University of Cambridge, Jun 2023
- Perceptual Wronging and Perceptual Injustice, *Logos Colloquium*, Barcelona, Apr 2023
- The Ethics of Dreams, *Cambrian Neurotalks*, Cambridge, Apr 2023
- Being Human in an AI World, ZJU Summer Lecture Series, Aug 2022
- Misembodied Experiences of Artificial Art, *ICCC’22 Workshop: The Role of Embodiment in the Perception of Human & Artificial Creativity*, Bolzano, Jun 2022
- Rethinking Inner Awareness, invited speaker for *Inner Awareness: Past and Present*, Liège, Dec 2021
- Gendered Affordance Perception (with Paulina Sliwa), *Society for Women in Philosophy*, Joint Sessions, Jul 2021
- The Scope of Affordances for Human and Non-Human Animals, guest lecture at University of Athens, May 2021
- Conscious AI Will Be With Us by the end of This Century, opponent in *Dialectic* debate series, Cambridge, Feb 2021
- Perceptual Motivation for Action (with Marta Jorba), *Consciousness, Agency and First-Person Representation*, Barcelona, Nov 2020
- New Work for Mental Affordances, invited webinar with respondents, *University of Campinas*, Jul 2020
- Regulating Mental Impulses, presentation for *The Blakemore Lab*, University of Cambridge, Dec 2019
- The Affordance Theory of Salience, *University of Porto MLAG Research Seminar*, Sep 2018
- Film as Philosophy: A Defence of an Analytic Account (with Diana Neiva) *University of Lisbon Symposium*, Sep 2018
- Mental Action and Mental Affordance, *The City College New York Philosophy Club*, Apr 2018
- Attention! The Affordance Theory of Salience *Science of Consciousness*, Tucson Arizona, Apr 2018
- Affordances for Mathematical Mental Actions, *Mathematics and Mental Action*, University of Warwick, Jan 2018
- Fusion and Confusion for Russellian Monists *Russellian Monism: Time for the Details*, CEU, Aug 2017
- Understanding the Mental Actions of Others, *iCog 4: Action Perception*, University of Oxford, Jun 2017
- AI and Affordances for Mental Action, *AISB Computing and Philosophy Symposium*, University of Bath, Apr 2017
- Suffering & Cognitive Phenomenology *Suffering and Phenomenal Consciousness*, University of Glasgow, May 2016
- Is the Virtual Self Theory Coherent? *British Psychological Society*, University of Cambridge, Sep 2015
- Do We Perceptually Experience High-level Properties of Visual Scenes? *Jean Nicod Institute Colloquium*, Mar 2015
- Affording Self-Consciousness, *Brentano and Beyond*, Universität Salzburg, Jun 2014
- Moving Forward on Russellian Physicalism, *Consciousness in a Physical World*, Charles University Prague, Jun 2014
- Science and Consciousness: A Neo-Russellian Proposal, *BSPS Annual Conference*, Sussex, Jul 2011
- Science, Consciousness and the Russellian Speculation, *Toward a Science of Consciousness*, Stockholm, May 2011

Courses Taught

Teaching Associate, History and Philosophy of Science, Univ. of Cambridge (Sep 2022 – present)

- Ethics and Politics of Technology
- AI and Philosophy of Art
- Ethical Issues in Psychiatry
- Philosophy of Cognitive Science
- Philosophy and Ethics of Medicine
- Writing Skills

Lecturer in Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, Univ. of Cambridge (Sep 2019 – Jul 2022)

- Metaphysics and Epistemology
- Philosophy of Art
- Philosophy of Language
- Philosophy of Mind
- Research Methods
- Philosophy of Film

Distance-learning course leader for CCIR and ICE (June 2020 – Jan 2023)

- Ethics of Artificial Intelligence
- Philosophy of Cognitive Science
- Epistemology
- Business Ethics
- Philosophy and Entrepreneurship
- Philosophy of Mind

Leverhulme Research Fellow, University of Warwick (Sep 2016 – Aug 2018)

- Research Methods
- Mind and Action Graduate Seminar

Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Manchester (Sep 2013 – Aug 2016)

- Philosophy of Psychology
- Philosophy of Mind

Lecturer in Philosophy (fixed-term), University of Glasgow (Nov 2012 – Aug 2013)

- Philosophy of Science
- Logic, Epistemology and Metaphysics
- Philosophy of Mind

Associate Tutor in Philosophy, University of Sussex (Sep 2009- Jul 2012)

- Philosophy of Science
- Reading Philosophy: Hume's Dialogues
- Philosophy of Mind
- Metaphysics

Outreach

- Session leader the Clare College Outreach webinar series (2023-present)
- Eight online talks introducing philosophy to secondary school students in Bulgaria, India, Indonesia, USA and the UK (2021-present).
- Course leader for the Cambridge *Sutton Summer School* outreach programme, introducing marginalised secondary school students to university study (2020-2022).
- Judge for the *Re:Think* international essay competition for school students writing about COVID-19
- Contributor the *Cambridge Applicant Support Programme*, running information sessions and mock interviews for applicants from deprived areas (2020 and 2021).
- Participant in the AHRC *Researchers in Residence* scheme running philosophy of religion workshops for students at a Brighton school (2011)

Public Engagement

- Media engagement for work on artificial consciousness:
 - Letter in *The Guardian* on artificial consciousness and AI ethics
 - Interviewee for *Metro* on pursuit of artificial consciousness
- Media engagement for co-authored paper on gendered division of domestic labour (2022-present):
 - Radio interviews for *Times Radio*; *LBC*; *Radio Cambridgeshire*; *Radio Kildare*
 - Television interview for German TV network *RTL* and New Zealand network *NZTV*
 - Interviewee for article in the *Daily Telegraph*
 - Co-authored blog piece on the research for *The Conversation*
 - Press release picked up in UK and International media including *The Guardian*; *The Times*; *The Telegraph*; *The Independent*; *The Daily Mail*; *ITV News*; *Clarín*; *South China Morning Post*.
- Panelist at Cambridge Festival on neuroscience and consciousness (March 2025)
- APA public philosophy blog on *Barbie as Philosophy* (April 2024)
- Speaker at Cambridge Festival talking on gender and domestic labour (March 2024)
- Interviewee on the *Panpsychast* podcast (Jan 2024)
- Interviewee for *How it Works Magazine* on ChatGPT and artificial intelligence (July 2023)
- Speaker at *Cambridge Rotary Club* on the gendered division of domestic labour (June 2023)
- Discussant on *Philosophy Takes on the News* podcast, (Sep 2022 & Nov 2022)
- Speaker at *Barnes Philosophy Club* on 'Agnosticism About Artificial Consciousness' (Jan 2022)
- Speaker at the *Cambridge Film Festival* introducing philosophically engaged cinema (Nov 2021)
- Interviewee on the *Interdisciplinary Legal Society* podcast, discussing consciousness (Oct 2021)
- Speaker at the *Fitzwilliam Museum* public talk series, presenting on art and simulation (Feb 2020)
- Speaker at the *Pint of Science Festival*, presenting on art, action and neuroscience (May 2019)
- Finalist on AHRC/Radio 3 New Generation Thinker scheme (Jan 2019)
- Discussant on the *Philosophy Now* radio show on Resonance FM, discussing consciousness (May 2014)
- Speaker in public debate on religion at the Manchester Debating Union, with participants included Mr Peter Hitchens and Professor Helen Beebe (Nov 2013)
- Member of the Cambridge Public Engagement Advisory Group (2023-present)

Business and Policy Engagement

- Talk on Innovation and Entrepreneurship for *Gilead Sciences* (2025)
- Panelist for UK-China forum on *AI Ethics and Governance* hosted by the British Embassy in Beijing.
- Interview for *We Not Me* team management podcast on salience in group dynamics.
- Consultant and course leader for professional development business *Outstanding Global*. Delivered workshops on transferable skills to: *Gilead Sciences*; *The Officers' Association* and *HSBC*. Co-developed online workshop on empowering language for *International Women's Day* (2019-present)
- Consultant for a food tech start-up through the *Cambridge Centre for International Research* (2021)
- Professional development workshop at *Black Country Reinvestment Society* on how to promote trust (2019)
- Keynote speaker at the launch of *Capgemini's* 'Future Leaders' programme with a talk on innovative thinking (2018)
- Graduate of the University of Warwick's 'Venture Into Business Engagement' programme (2018)
- Public blog on 'Philosophy in Business' (ongoing)

Funding, Awards and Recognitions

- Bergen 3-year postdoctoral fellowship (declined)
- Leverhulme Early Career Research Fellowship, University of Warwick, 2016-2019
- AHRC Doctoral Research Grant, University of Sussex, 2009-2012
- Scholar of Clare College Cambridge, 2006
- Associate of the Higher Education Academy (AHEA)

Selected Events Organised

- Co-organiser of the *Mental Sciences Club* seminar series, University of Cambridge, Sep 2019 - present
- Co-organiser of the *Saliency, Priority and Attention* discussion group May 2021 – present
- Organiser of *Actions: The Bodily and the Mental*, University of Warwick, July 2019
- Co-organiser of *The Admissible Contents of Experience*, University of Manchester, July 2015
- Lead organiser of *The Subjective Structure of Consciousness*, University of Manchester, June 2014
- Organiser of *The Philosophy of Tyler Burge*, University of Glasgow, June 2013

Peer Reviewing

- *Noûs*; *Mind*; *Philosophy of Science*; *Scientific Reports*; *Philosophy & Phenomenological Research*; *Philosophical Quarterly*; *Philosophical Studies*; *Mind & Language*; *Frontiers in Neuroscience*; *Frontiers in Psychology*; *Neuroscience of Consciousness*; *Synthese*; *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*; *Philosophical Psychology*; *Journal of Cognitive Science*; *Erkenntnis*; *Topoi*; *Dialectica*; *Debates in Aesthetics*; *Theoria*; *American Philosophical Quarterly*; *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*; *Acta Analytica*; *Journal of Consciousness Studies*; *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*; *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*; *Phenomenology of Mind*; *The Journal of Philosophical Research*; *Ratio*; *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*; *Disputatio*; *Philosophy and the Mind Sciences*; *Discipline Filosofiche*; *New Review of Film & Television Studies*; *Academy of Management*; *Routledge Press*; *Agenda Press*; *Psychology Press*; *Oxford University Press*.