

# Christina Elizabeth Easton

## Curriculum Vitae

University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, UK.  
christina.easton@warwick.ac.uk

### SPECIALISATION

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AOS: Political Philosophy, Gender and Political Theory, Philosophy and Public Policy

AOC: Moral Philosophy and Applied Ethics, Feminist Philosophy, Education Policy

### TERTIARY EDUCATION

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**PhD in Philosophy** (no corrections)

Thesis title: 'Liberalism, education, and promoting 'British values' in schools'

*Supervisors: Luc Bovens and Alex Voorhoeve*

*Examiners: Matthew Clayton and Adam Swift*

London School of  
Economics and Political  
Science

(10/2015 – 07/2020)

*[Parental leave: 09/2018 –  
08/2019]*

**MA Religious Education** [Part-time]

Distinction

King's College London  
(10/2013 – 08/2014)

**Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching**

[Part-time]

Sheffield Hallam University  
(10/2011 – 09/2012)

**PGCE Secondary with Religious Education**

King's College London  
(09/2007 – 06/2008)

**BA Philosophy and Theology**

First class honours

King's College London  
(09/2004 – 06/2007)

**Associate of King's College**

King's College London  
(09/2004 – 06/2007)

### RECENT EMPLOYMENT

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**British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow at Warwick [0.5 FTE] (05/2022 – present)**

Research on British Academy funded project '[Opening minds: A new analysis of tolerance for the classroom](#)'.

**Parental leave (10/2021 – 04/2022)**

**Fellow in Philosophy at the LSE [0.6 FTE] (10/2020 – 10/2021)**

Responsibilities included delivering lectures and seminars to BSc and MSc students, BSc and MSc dissertation supervision and conducting original research.

**Lecturer in Public and International Affairs at Princeton (08/2020 – 01/2021)**

Responsibilities included teaching undergraduate classes online and assessing students in a varied and regular fashion.

### **LSE Studentship and Graduate Teaching Assistant at LSE (10/2015 – 07/2020)**

PhD dissertation research. Teaching undergraduates, including leading all seminars and marking coursework and examination scripts.

### **Parental leave (09/2018 – 08/2019)**

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant at King's College London (01/2018 – 05/2018)**

Responsibilities included teaching tutorials and marking student coursework.

### **Research Assistant for the LASAR (Learning about Science and Religion) Project (09/2016 – 08/2017)**

Analysed 53 interviews and wrote an interdisciplinary paper analysing whether primary-age students tend to view science and religion as opposed.

### **Head of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Surbiton High School (09/2009 – 08/2015)**

Ran a highly successful department of 5 teachers, reviewed in 2015 by Senior Management as 'outstanding' in all areas, including 'Teaching' and 'Leadership and Management'.

Responsibilities included creating schemes of work and resources, budgeting, timetabling, managing professional development and monitoring teaching and learning. I was originally appointed as a classroom teacher in 2009 to help initiate Philosophy A-Level. I was promoted to Assistant Head of Year 7 in 2010 and then to Head of Department in 2012.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Books**

Forthcoming [under contract; expected 2024/5]. *In Defence of Teaching Liberal Democratic Values: Implications for Pedagogy, Policy and Practice*. London: Bloomsbury.

2019. [\*Critical Religious Education in practice: A teacher's guide for the secondary classroom\*](#) (with A. Goodman, A. Wright, & A. Wright). London: Routledge.

### **Journal articles**

2024. Religion and Religious Education on the Journey to the Ideal Society. *Analysis*.

2023. ['Filling the Ranks': Moral Risk and the Ethics of Military Recruitment](#) (with Jonathan Parry). *American Political Science Review*.

2023. [LGBT-inclusive education in liberal pluralist societies](#). *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 40 (3), 550-568.

2022. [Winning in philosophy: Female under-representation, competitiveness, and implications for inclusive high school philosophy competitions](#). *Journal of Philosophy in Schools* 9 (1), 47-67.

2021. [Women and 'the philosophical personality': Evaluating whether gender differences in the Cognitive Reflection Test have significance for explaining the gender gap in Philosophy](#). *Synthese* 198, 139-167.

2019. [Religious Education – reform, not abolition: A reply to Matthew Clayton and David Stephens](#). *Theory and Research in Education* 17 (1), 100-111.

2019. [Dietary double-think](#). *Think* 18 (52), 75-80.

2018. [Educating in respect: Against neutral discourse as a norm for respectful classroom discussion](#). *Philosophy* 93 (2), 187-210.

2017. [Did most Brits fail in their civic duties in the EU referendum?](#) *Think* 16 (45), 7-14.

### **Book chapters**

Forthcoming. Forming an orderly queue: Remediating educational inequality in the post-Covid world. In [The Future of Education: Reimagining Its Aims and Responsibilities](#). New York: Oxford University Press.

2023. [Political Philosophy](#). In *Short Cuts: Philosophy*, ed. Laura D'Olimpio, 106-119, London: IconBooks.

2022. [Teaching liberal values: The case of promoting 'British values' in schools](#). In *Liberal Democratic Education: A Paradigm in Crisis*, ed. J. Culp, J. Drerup, I. de Groot, A. Schinkel, & D. Yacek, 47-66, Paderborn, Germany: Brill mentis.

2019. [Truth in science and 'truth' in religion: An enquiry into student views on different types of truth-claim](#). In *Science and Religion in Education*, ed. B. Billingsley, K. Chappell & M. J. Reiss, 123-139, London: Springer.

2018. ['Words that wound' in the classroom: Should they be silenced or discussed?](#) In *The Value and Limits of Academic Speech: Philosophical, Political, and Legal Perspectives*, ed. D. A. Downs & C. W. Surprenant, 167-186, London: Routledge.

### **Edited collection**

Forthcoming [under contract; expected 2024/5]. [The Future of Education: Reimagining Its Aims and Responsibilities](#). New York: Oxford University Press.

### **Book review**

2018. [Countering extremism in British schools? The truth about the Birmingham Trojan Horse Affair](#). *Journal of Education Policy* 33 (4), 584-585.

### **TEACHING AWARDS**

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LSE Excellence in Education Award Certificate, 2021

School-wide LSE Student-Led Teaching Excellence Award for 'Feedback and Communication' (runner-up), 2017

LSE Class Teacher Award, Department of Philosophy, 2017

Nominated for LSE Student-Led Teaching Excellence Award, 2016 (multiple)

### **AWARDS**

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British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship (£266,556.04), 2022-2027

Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain Large Grant (£3000), 2022

ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship with SeNSS DTP, 2021-2 (*declined*)

ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship with Midlands DTP, 2021-2 (*declined*)

Winner of New Philosopher Writers' Award XXVII (\$1000), 2020

LSE studentship (tuition fees and full living expenses - £54,000), 2015-2020

AHRC scholarship (tuition fees and full living expenses), 2015-2018 (*declined*)  
Runner-up prize in New Philosopher Writers' Award XIX, 2018  
Royal Institute of Philosophy Essay Prize: Runner-up, 2017  
Culham St. Gabriel's Trust partial grant for MA, 2013-2014  
Hanson Prize in Philosophy of Religion, KCL, 2007  
Paul Caudwell Prize for best first year results, KCL, 2005

#### **SELECTED PUBLIC-FACING WRITING**

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[Military recruitment is a moral minefield](#), *British Politics and Policy at LSE*, 5 March 2024.  
[Why schools should teach that it's okay to be LGBT](#), *Justice Everywhere*, 16 March 2023.  
[Teaching tolerance in schools cannot avoid controversy](#). *Psyche/Aeon*, 25 January 2022.  
Growing and betraying. *New Philosopher* #29, August-October 2020.  
Critical Religious Education in practice: A teacher's guide for the secondary classroom. *RE Today* 37 (3), Summer 2020.  
[Women and the 'philosophical personality'](#). *Daily Nous*, 17 October 2019.  
The decision to create life. *New Philosopher* #21, August-October 2018.  
[How philosophy can help us have better arguments](#). *Prospect*, 18 May 2018.  
[A year without clothes shopping](#). *Huffington Post*, 25 March 2018.  
[An education in diversity?](#) *Philosophy Now* 123, December 2017-January 2018.  
[How to teach children about tolerance – and its limits](#). *Times Literary Supplement*, 18 July 2017.  
[An education in diversity?](#) *LSE Philosophy Blog*, 3 July 2017.  
[Teaching \(in\)tolerance in schools](#). *Huffington Post*, 7 June 2017.  
[Don't mention Jesus! Why excluding beliefs from the public sphere is mistaken](#). *Open Democracy*, 29 March 2017 [audio version released 18 April 2017].

#### **PUBLIC-FACING TALKS, RADIO APPEARANCES AND INTERVIEWS**

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Panel discussion on 'Liberalism: Tolerance and Its Limits' (with David Enoch and Paul Billingham), Oxford Philosophy Society, 27 February 2024.  
LBC radio interview on military recruitment, 12 February 2024.  
Interview with Dan Sabbagh, the Guardian's defence and security editor, on military recruitment, 25 January 2024.  
Newsreel Appearances, Free Radio (Coventry and Warwickshire), discussing Conservative Party Conference, 5 October 2022.  
Invited Chair, *The Women Are Up to Something*, online public [talk](#), LSE, 18 November 2021.

Interview on 'discussing controversial issues' for podcast on discussion, University of Groningen, April 2021.

Radio interview on the [Shoreditch Radio Education Show](#), 11 June 2020.

Talk on 'Justifying the teaching of homosexuality in schools'. LSESU Philosophy Society, 5 March 2020.

## TEACHING

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**Guest lecturer on PGCE (King's College London, 2024, 2022, 2021):** Gave interactive lecture on 'Promoting Tolerance and Managing Controversy' to PGCE students.

**MSc Philosophy and Public Policy (LSE, 2020-21):** Delivered lectures on social justice, liberal neutrality and education. Took seminars throughout the year, including on Covid-19 responses, economic sanctions, hate speech, environmental policy and democratic inclusion.

**BSc Philosophy and Public Policy (LSE, 2020):** Delivered lectures on social justice, liberal neutrality and education policy.

**Ethics and Public Policy (Princeton, Fall 2020):** Example topics: Utilitarianism, dirty hands, torture, war, property rights, criminal justice, migration and global justice.

**The Big Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy (LSE, 2017-18):** Example topics: Scepticism, the existence of God, consciousness, persistence, time, numbers, utilitarianism, lotocracy, the meaning of life.

**Elements Of Ethics (King's College London, Lent Term 2018):** Example topics: Objectivity and subjectivity of moral values, relativism, the social sources of morality.

**Philosophy & Public Policy (LSE, 2016-17):** Example topics: Immigration, global aid, statistical discrimination, paying for Higher Education, population policy, freedom of speech.

**Philosophy & Public Policy (LSE, 2015-16):** Example topics: Healthcare ethics (responsibility, risk, resource distribution), climate justice, killing vs. letting die, intellectual property.

**Philosophy A-Level (2009-15):** Epistemology, Political Philosophy, Mill's *On Liberty* (set text), Moral Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind.

**Religious Studies A-Level (2008-15):** Moral Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (\* = INVITED)

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\* *Title TBC.* MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory 2024, University of Manchester, 4 September 2024 – 6 September 2024.

*"But you're her mother": The moral exploitation of women in family decision-making.*

- Society of Applied Philosophy Annual Conference 2024, St Anne's College, University of Oxford, 28 June 2024 – 30 June 2024.
- MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory 2023, 11 September 2023 – 13 September 2023.

*Thin comprehensive liberalism and its implications for values education.* PESGB Annual Conference 2024, New College, Oxford, 22 March 2024 – 24 March 2024.

*“Filling the Ranks”: Moral Risk and the Ethics of Military Recruitment.*

- \* Workshop for Applied Political Theorists, Newcastle, 22 May 2023 – 23 May 2023.
- \* Philosophy Departmental Seminar, Nottingham, 3 May 2023.
- \* Just War workshop, University of Warwick, 23 January 2023. [With Jonathan Parry]

*Why understanding the nature of science must be a core aim of science education*, PESGB Annual Conference 2023, New College, Oxford, 31 March 2023 – 2 April 2023.

*LGBT-inclusive education in liberal pluralist societies.*

- \* CELPA, University of Warwick, 11 October 2022.
- Society of Applied Philosophy Annual Conference 2022, University of Edinburgh, 1 July 2022 – 03 July 2022.
- PESGB North West branch (online), 25 May 2022.

\* *Truth, Truthfulness and Religion and Worldviews* (with Angela Goodman and Angela Wright). RExChange 2022 (training/CPD event for Religious Education teachers), 7 October 2022.

*Forming an orderly queue: Remediating educational inequality in the post-Covid world.* The Future of Education: Reimagining Its Aims and Responsibilities, St. Anthony’s College, Oxford, 16 September 2022 – 17 September 2022.

*Liberalism, education, and promoting ‘British values’ in schools.*

- \* Templeton ‘From Values to Virtues’ Reading Group, 13 December 2021. [Online and available as a [podcast](#)]
- \* Liberal Democratic Education: A Paradigm in Crisis Conference, VU Amsterdam, 28 August 2021 – 29 August 2021.
- \* Children, Justice and the Future Conference, University of Swansea, 17 December 2019.

\* *Symposium on Tim Fowler’s ‘Liberalism, Childhood and Justice’*, University of Swansea, 16 December 2019.

*Women and ‘the philosophical personality’: Evaluating whether gender differences in the Cognitive Reflection Test have significance for explaining the gender gap in Philosophy.*

- \* Departmental seminar, University of Salzburg, 7 October 2019.
- [Selected LSE representative] 15th Annual London-Berkeley Philosophy Conference, Senate House, 17 May 2018.
- Choice Group, LSE, 24 January 2018.
- 91st Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University of Edinburgh, 15 July 2017.

*Two types of liberalism*, 16th Annual MANCEPT Conference, University of Manchester, 9 September 2019 – 11 September 2019.

\* *‘Words that wound’ in the classroom: Should they be silenced or discussed?* Philosophy of Education Research Seminar Series 2018-19, University of Birmingham, 4 June 2019.

Book launch, *Critical Religious Education in practice: A teacher’s guide for the secondary classroom*, King’s College London, 21 May 2019.

*Educating Amish children: Neutrality and the hierarchy of values objection*, London Graduate Moral and Political Philosophy Workshop, King's College London, 4 May 2018.

*Investigating barriers to representation of marginalized groups in philosophy*. Panel. PPE Society Annual Conference, New Orleans, 16 March 2018.

\* *Philosophy at GCSE and A-Level*, The Public Face of Philosophy: Reflections in the Mirror of Experience, University of Hertfordshire, 8 March 2018.

*Liberalisms and perfectionisms*, Warwick Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Theory, University of Warwick, 17 February 2018.

*'For the love of wisdom': Diversity arguments for increased representation of women in philosophy*, SWIP UK Annual Conference, University of Manchester, 15 May 2017.

*Truth in science and 'truth' in religion: An enquiry into student views on different types of truth-claim*, Science and Religion in Education, Somerville College Oxford, 28 October 2016.

*Decriminalising polygamy in the UK: Reflections on policy change*, Warwick Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Theory, University of Warwick, 13 February 2016.

\* *Exemplifying a Critical RE approach to philosophy and ethics* (with A. Goodman and A. Wright), Energising RE Conference, Culham St. Gabriel's, 3 October 2015.

\* *Applying a critical realist pedagogy: A case study on Islam* (with A. Goodman and A. Wright), Leaders for Changing RE: Defining our Future Conference, Culham St. Gabriel's, 28 September 2013.

*Does critical realist religious education conflict with the 'social cohesion agenda'?* Religion, Education and Critical Realism Conference, Oxford Brookes University, 07 September 2012.

*Discriminating tolerance and religious education: Dealing with incompatible truth-claims in the classroom*.

- Teaching and Studying Religion: Choices and Challenges, British Sociological Association, 15 December 2011.
- \* Forum of Religious and Spiritual Education, King's College London, 2 November 2011.

## **EXAMPLES OF SERVICE**

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Reviewer for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *International Journal of Wellbeing*, *Journal of Philosophy in Schools*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Synthese*, and *Theory and Research in Education*.

Co-organiser of the Critical Religious Education Webinar Series (2022).

Co-organiser of the conference 'The Future of Education: Re-imagining its Aims and Responsibilities' (2022).