

Curriculum vitae

CHEUNG Wai Lok (Ray)

張煒樂

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I work on the epistemology of identity with my Master thesis, and am now working on epistemic reasonableness. I differentiate reasonableness from rationality with my safety theory, which measures with the likelihood of an act having been performed with perfect safety. I also work on Daoism, having developed a realist Daoism, and theology, with my contribution of a theology of humanity.

Born: Hong Kong, China
Nationality: Chinese (Hong Kong)
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Occupation

2017-22 Teaching Assistant, Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
2017-18 Part-time Lecturer, Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
2012, 2017 Demonstrator, Philosophy Department, The University of Hong Kong
2011 Translator, Macau Ricci Institute, Macau, China
2006 Research Assistant, Institute of Clinical Neuropsychology, The University of Hong Kong and MacLehose Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Hong Kong, China
2005 Summer Intern, Federation of European Data and Marketing, Brussels, Belgium
2004-2005 Intern, Psychological Services Group, Hong Kong Police Force, Hong Kong, China
2004 Summer Intern, China Central Television, Beijing, China

Education

2020-2021 Youth Leader Pre-Theology Programme, Alliance Bible Seminary
2012-2017 M.Phil., Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Thesis: Referential presuppositions, epistemic possibilities, and epistemic content
A study of Robert Stalnaker's theory of the necessary *a posteriori* in light of an exegesis of Saul Kripke's *Naming and Necessity*
2010-2012 M.A., Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Thesis: Conceivability, the *a priori*, and primary possibilities
A study of David Chalmers' theory of conceivability and its implication for the *a priori*

2003-2004 Worldwide Student Exchange, Philosophy Department, Tufts University
 2002-2006 B.Soc.Sc. (1st hon.), Social Sciences Faculty, The University of Hong Kong
 Thesis: Emotions, pleasantness of music, and risk taking behaviours
 A behavioural experimentation on the effect of mood induced by music interacting with its preference on decision-making and learning

Publication

- (forthcoming) Epistemic possibility: Kripke versus Soames. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*.
2025. Epistemic competence: empowerment through luck minimization. *Logos & Episteme*. 16(4):407-423.
2025. Holiness: contrasting a secular absence with its religious opposite. *Biblical Studies Journal*. 7(3):27-35.
2025. Fictionally fictional object: the alleged objecthood of nothingness. *Asian Studies*. 13(3):153-162.
2025. Epistemic safety: risk and its negativity in the good case. *Logos & Episteme*. 16(2):139-156.
2025. A situational hermeneutic: the priority of reference over meaning. *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics*. 48(2 supp):61-72.
2025. A respect restoration theory of reconciliation with the June Fourth Incident as a case study. *Biblical Studies Journal*. 7(1):23-36.
2024. A realist Daoism: reading *Zhuangzi* with Laozi's Daoist realism. *Comparative Philosophy*. 15(2):43-65.
2024. Epistemic responsibility: an agent's sensitivity towards the world. *Logos & Episteme*. 15(4):389-403.
2024. A theology of humanity through identity politics: reading the Book of Esther. *Biblical Studies Journal*. 6(4):25-38.

Presentation

2023.3.3 A situational theologian: duty of a Christian intellectual discharged through pastoral practice
 Ministerial Formation

- On This Rock I Will Build My Church: Ecclesiology in Africa
African Society for Evangelical Theology
Limuru, Kenya
- 2022.12.17 Queer theology: reading St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans with St. Mark's
Jesus as an exercise in situational hermeneutic
Sin and Forgiveness Symposium
Institute of Sino-Christian Studies
Hong Kong, China
- 2022.11.29 The subjectivity of others: an understanding of a Husserlian transcendental
idealism with a realism of affectivity
2022 Annual Conference
Australasian Society of Continental Philosophy
Melbourne, Australia
- 2022.11.26 *Der Übermensch*: an authenticity conception of his will to power through
self-respect
Zoom Conference
The British Personalist Forum
Loughborough, United Kingdom
- 2022.10.27 A philosopher's eagerness: an experience sharing of public engagement
Roundtable Presentations: Political Philosophy and Contemporary
Themes II
The 3rd Unifesp Philosophy Graduate Conference: What is
Philosophy? Minority Perspectives on Philosophical Production
Department of Philosophy, Federal University of São Paulo
Guarulhos, Brazil
- 2022.10.18 Illusory possibility: the way back to reality through clearly impossible
object
Modal Metaphysics: Tilburg Issues on the (Im)possible
Tilburg University
Tilburg, The Netherlands
- 2022.9.25 Son of Man and Kingdom of Heaven: a humanism reading of Paul's
Epistles to the Thessalonians
The eternity of this life Sunday school
Hong Kong Baptist Church
Hong Kong, China
- 2022.7.22 Chance and choice: a neurobiology of freewill through epistemic

- superposition
- CogSci 2022 Hong Kong Meetup & Symposium: Computational Approaches to Psychological Research
- Department of Computer Science, City University of Hong Kong
- Department of Psychology, The University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong, China
- 2022.7.15 Dissolution of the halting problem: a recognition conception of decision procedure
- Computability in Europe: Revolutions and Revelations in Computability
- School of Mathematics and Computer Science, Swansea University
- Swansea, United Kingdom
- 2022.6.30 A success conception of justification: externalist rationality through Gettier case
- 2022 Annual Conference
- Australasian Association of Philosophy <http://aap.org.au/>
- 2022.6.23 The Liar: paraconsistency with logical classicality through fictitiousness
- 2022 Annual Conference
- Australasian Association for Logic <http://sites.google.com/view/aalogic/>
- 2022.6.7 Religious exclusivism: the one real hinge versus the many fictitious ones
- 3rd Hinge Epistemology Conference: Hinge Epistemology and Religious Belief
- Nova Institute of Philosophy, Nova University of Lisbon
- Portugal, Lisbon
- 2022.6.4 A Kripkean understanding of contextual definition: a Russellian description theory of proper name through epistemic situationality
- 49th Annual Meeting: Remembering Russell 150 Years after His Birth
- The Bertrand Russell Society
- McMaster University
- Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
- 2022.5.28 A logic of logic: computation and modal logic through possibility quantification
- Logic and Philosophy: Historical and Contemporary Issues
- Institute of Philosophy, Vilnius University

Vilnius, Lithuania

- 2022.4.16 Deontic contextualism: utilitarianism without over-population
Ethics and Applied Philosophy Graduate Conference
The Philosophical Union, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Charlotte, North Carolina, United States of America
- 2022.3.7 A situational theologian: duty of a Christian intellectual discharged through
pastoral practice
The International Conference on Practical Theology
Imam Sadiq University
Tehran, Iran
- 2022.2.24 A humanistic agnosticism: psychology of significance projection and the
reality of sacredness
Religious Experience and Metaphysics
Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience Session
Central Division, American Philosophy Association
Chicago, Illinois, United States of America
- 2021.12.11 Liberal perfectionism: a dignity maximization through the illiberality of
addiction
Contemporary Challenges and Values
Culture and Values
Institute of Philosophy, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University.
Lublin, Poland
- 2021.12.11 Confucius' wisdom: a liberal reading of the Analects and its conservative
implications
Philosophies around East Asian Seas
International Society of East Asian Philosophy and Meiji Institute of
Philosophies, Meiji University
<http://iseap.jp/>
- 2021.11.12 A pretence understanding of the post-truth through an identity politic
STATE (IN)STABILITY 2021: State (in)stability in the age of post-
truth
Faculty of International Relations and Diplomacy, Libertas
International University
Zagreb, Croatia
- 2021.11.6 Citizenship: civility through self-liability
Moral Education for Social Justice

- 47th Annual Conference
 Association for Moral Education
<http://www.amenetwork.org/>
- 2021.11.6 Abortion: the fictitious face of the zygote and the insignificance of our feeling
 Inaugural conference
 Society of Christian Bioethics
<http://www.scbethics.com/>
- 2021.10.28 Infinity: reference without complete description
 The Complementarity Between Metaphysics and Mystical Life
 8th World Conference on Metaphysics
 The Idente Foundation for Studies and Research
 Rome, Italy
- 2021.10.27 God's choice: His decisions within and without our world
 Creation and Evolution. Metaphysics, Science, Ecology, and Religion
 8th World Conference on Metaphysics
 The Idente Foundation for Studies and Research
 Rome, Italy
- 2021.9.24 Heideggerian worldliness: an analytic theory of continental anti-Cartesianism
 Incomprehensibility, Irreality, and Worldliness
 2021 Annual Conference: Celebrating 40 Years of Doing Phenomenology in the Human Sciences around the World
 Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences <http://www.sphs.info/>
- 2021.9.21 Climate justice: peace through the punitively augmented Paris Agreement
 Partnerships and the Sustainable Development Goals
 9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
 Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
<http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.21 Green finance: an offer you can't refuse
 Sustainable Finance for the Implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement

- 9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
<http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.21 Ethics and politics of grass-fed cows
Water-Energy-Food Nexus Research Impact and Stakeholder Engagement
9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
<http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.20 A system conception of growth and development
Systems Approaches for Sustainability
9th International Conference on Sustainable Development: Research for Impact: An Inclusive and Sustainable Planet
Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network
<http://ic-sd.org/>
- 2021.9.5 On a pursuit of power for its own sake
Congress of the Swiss Philosophical Society: Knowledge – Power – Action
Swiss Philosophical Society
Lugano, Switzerland
- 2021.9.4 A choice theory of metaphysical possibility
6th Annual Conference of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science
Society for the Metaphysics of Science
Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2021.9.2 Naturalism: ontological necessitarianism through an actualism
Comment on Margarida Hermida's *Cats are not necessarily animals*
6th Annual Conference of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science
Society for the Metaphysics of Science
Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2021.8.26 Unsupervised learning: computation and connectionism through modal logic with grammar as a case study
Brain and Language 2021

Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Jyväskylä
Jyväskylä, Finland

- 2021.8.19 An economic of dignity: a meritocracy through competence
2021 Congress: Idea to Reality
Basic Income Earth Network
Glasgow, Scotland
- 2021.8.10 The Second Flood: a Messianic reading of the Book of Revelation
New Testament Session
Summer Conference for Early Career Researchers endorsed by the
Society of Biblical Literature
The Second Temple Early Career Academy
Birmingham, United Kingdom
- 2021.7.30 A teacher's liability: his participation in curriculum design and his
discretionary power
Student Corner
Teaching and Learning Innovation Expo 2021
Centre for Learning Enhancement And Research, Centre for eLearning
Innovation and Technology, and Information Technology Services
Centre, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.7.26 A decision-theoretic connectionism: increased sensitivity towards
punishment through reinforcement learning with better mood
Hong Kong Meetup and Symposium
43rd Annual Meeting: Comparative Cognition – Animal Minds
The Cognitive Science Society and The University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.7.17 Epistemic content: Stalnaker versus Kripke
The Open Session
The 95th Joint Session
The Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association
United Kingdom
- 2021.7.15 An ideology critique of ideology critique: indulgence in scratching a
phantom itch
Final Participants Conference
Critical Theory Workshop
Interdisciplinary Institute of Anthropology of the Contemporary,

School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences
Paris, France

- 2021.6.27 A conditional probability theory of probability of conditional
The Rump Session
The 18th Conference on Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge
Tsinghua University
Beijing, China
- 2021.6.23 Formalising conceptual analysis
Formal Philosophy 2021
International Laboratory for Logic, Linguistics and Formal Philosophy
National Research University Higher School of Economics
Moscow, Russia
- 2021.6.10 An epistemic theory of information
The Gong-Show
XXIV International Summer School in Philosophy of Physics: Black Holes and the Information Loss Paradox
University of Urbino
Urbino, Italy
- 2021.6.2 Irreversibility of climate change with some degree of global warming
The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
2020 Global University Climate Forum <http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>
- 2021.5.28 Self-efficacy and psychiatric outpatient
Mental Health Issues
7th Pan-Pacific Nursing Conference – From Evidence to Impact: Co-designing Care for Future
Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.5.28 An equality of opportunity conception of equity
Student Seminar on Health Equity
Inaugural Symposium on Health Equity in Hong Kong and Beyond
Institute of Health Equity, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.5.27 Moral judgment in the mental health profession

- Culture and Bioethics
Asia Pacific Bioethics Education Network 2021: Rethinking bioethics education after 2020
Deakin University
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2021.5.19 An epistemic theory of Fregean sense
12th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science: Linguistic and Cognitive Foundations of Meaning
The Central European Cognitive Science Association <http://www.cecog.eu/>
- 2021.5.17 The politics, ethics, and morality of deep ecology
Socially equitable green recovery
Climate Exp0: a fusion of science and policy – advancing a resilient, zero-carbon world
COP26 Universities Network and Italian University Network for Sustainable Development
<http://www.climateexp0.org/>
- 2021.4.22 Masculinity: individuality and Asian communitarianism
Understanding Masculinities and Social Change undergraduate course
Gender Studies Programme, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.4.20 Music, the structure of emotion expression, and the sharing of humanity
Music, Interiority and Affect
1st Annual Midlands Music Research Network Conference: Music and Adversity
Midlands Music Research Network <http://www.midlandsmusicresearchnetwork.com/>
- 2021.4.19 Transphobia: hatred out of self-disrespect
LGBTQI+ Studies Identities and Social Change undergraduate course
Gender Studies Programme, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China
- 2021.3.24 Phenomenality: indication without representation
Perspectives on Intentionality and Consciousness conference
The University of Waikato
Hamilton, New Zealand

- 2021.3.22 Logicality, reasonableness, and fictitiousness
 Work-in-progress session
 Virtual International Consortium for Truth Research [http://
 oohlah.wixsite.com/mysite/](http://oohlah.wixsite.com/mysite/)
- 2021.3.14 Food production as a case of the malfunctioning of the free market
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
 2020 Global University Climate Forum [http://campuspress.yale.edu/
 climateforum/](http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/)
- 2021.3.13 An epistemic contextualism: competence with sensitivity
 Super Saturday Seminar
 Hyderabad theory of knowledge group
 Hyderabad, India
- 2021.3.7 By faith alone: 1-6 of Martin Luther's *Von den guten werckenn*
 Tracing God's footprints: a Church history exploration Sunday school
 Hong Kong Baptist Church
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.3.3 A Daoist pluralism: realism with relativity
 Ethics in the *Zhuangzi* graduate seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.2.27 The ugliness of evil: anthropology through social activism
 Public Philosophy and Activism
 Minorities and Philosophy Group Session
 Central Division, American Philosophy Association
 New Orleans, Louisiana, United States of America
- 2021.2.15 Incentivising fossil fuel companies to transition into renewable energy with
 green finance
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
 2020 Global University Climate Forum
 <http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>
- 2021.1.29 Sustainability and dignity
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
 2020 Global University Climate Forum
 <http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/>

- 2021.1.26 Women pornography: understanding gender through fieldwork
 Critical Introduction to Pornography undergraduate course
 Department of Cultural and Religious Studies, The Chinese University
 of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2021.1.23 A measure of dignity
 For a New Global Social Contract
 The Future of Global Cooperation: Ethics and Governance
 Global Negotiation Conference
<http://www.global-negotiation.org/>
- 2021.1.16 A spirituality theory of personal development
 Monthly meeting
 Christian Association for the Psychology of Religion Limited
 Hong Kong, China
- 2020.12.14 A knowledge-first virtue epistemology
 Epistemology meeting with Ernest Sosa
 Hyderabad theory of knowledge group
 Hyderabad, India
- 2020.12.6 Freedom of conscience and freedom of expression
 2020 International eConference on Interreligious Dialogue
 Global Center for Religious Research
 Denver, Colorado, United States of America
- 2020.12.1 Augmentation of the Paris Agreement with punitive measures, and its
 mandatory participation
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong team meeting
 2020 Global University Climate Forum [http://campuspress.yale.edu/
 climateforum/](http://campuspress.yale.edu/climateforum/)
- 2020.11.6 Weak preference as deontic accessibility
 Research methodology seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2020.6.15 A metaphysic of society
 Mini-seminar for graduate students
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China

- 2020.2.25 Agency: recursivity of self-determination through the materiality of causation
 Comments on Alyssa Ney's *Physical Causation and Difference-Making*
 Metaphysics of causation graduate seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2019.11.8 A metaphysic of action
 Research methodology seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2019.11.3 A Daoist theory of self-expansion
 The Chinese Society for Dialectics of Nature 2019 Conference
 The Chinese Society for Dialectics of Nature
 Beijing, China
- 2019.10.27 A fictitiousness theory of Wittgensteinian nonsense
 The Fourth International Wittgenstein Symposium
 Chinese Wittgenstein Society, Chinese Society for Contemporary Foreign Philosophy
 School of Philosophy, Northwest University, China
 Xi'an, China
- 2019.8.22 An ignorance of obligation explanation of blamelessness
 Cologne Summer School on Epistemology with Clayton Littlejohn
 University of Cologne
 Cologne, Germany
- 2017.8.10 Modus ponens and scepticism
 M.A. in philosophy summer preparatory class
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2016.3.8 Quine and Linsky on reference, modality, and essentialism
 Kripke and metaphysics graduate seminar
 Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
 Hong Kong, China
- 2014.10.10 'Jack the Ripper' and the contingent a priori
 Research methodology seminar

Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

2012.11.30

'I have my brain in a vat'

Research methodology seminar

Philosophy Department, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China