

# CV - FONS DEWULF (°9/10/1991)

Affiliation: Department of Humanities, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

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Area of Specialization History of Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Science, History of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy

Area of Competence (Analytic and Historical) Epistemology, History of Science

## Employment History

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- 2024 - Research Assistant Professor; Department of Humanities, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- 2022 - 2024 Post-Doctoral Researcher; Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University; ERC/NWO project *Exiled Empiricists*; PI: Prof. Dr. Sander Verhaegh
- 2021 - 2022 Doctor-Assistant (50%); Higher Institute for Philosophy, KU Leuven
- 2018 - 2021 Post-Doctoral Fellow of the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO); Department of Philosophy and Moral Science, Ghent University
- 2014 - 2018 PhD Fellow of the Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO); Department of Philosophy and Moral Science, Ghent University

## Education

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- 2014-2018 PhD, Philosophy, Ghent University
- Dissertation:* A Genealogy of Scientific Explanation, The Emergence of the Covering-Law Model at the Intersection of German Historical and Scientific Philosophy  
*Supervisor:* Prof. Dr. Maarten Van Dyck  
*Committee:* Prof. Dr. Alan Richardson, Prof. Dr. Paul Roth, Dr. Christian Damböck, Prof. Dr. Erik Weber
- 2013-2014 Special Teacher's Program: Philosophy and Moral Science, Magna cum Laude, Ghent University
- 2013-2014 Master of Arts Literature and Linguistics: Greek, Summa cum Laude, Ghent University
- 2012-2013 Master of Arts Philosophy, Summa cum Laude, Ghent University
- 2009-2012 Bachelor of Arts Philosophy, Summa cum Laude, Ghent University

## Publications

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### Journal Articles

- Dewulf, Fons. “Chang’s Hermeneutic Operational Coherence: Ambiguities and Prospects.” *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* 16 (28). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-026-00735-y>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2025) “Disciplinary Bounds and Their Upkeep: A Framework to Capture 20th Century Philosophy in its Context.” *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 15 (1), 9-34. <https://doi.org/10.1086/734066>
- Petrovich, E., Verhaegh, S., Bös, G. et al. (2024) “Bibliometrics beyond citations: introducing mention extraction and analysis”. *Scientometrics* 129, 5731–5768. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-024-05116-x>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2023) “Wittgenstein & het logisch empiricisme. Een gespannen verhouding.” *Algemeen Nederlands Tijdschrift voor Wijsbegeerte*, 115 (2), 180-195. <https://doi.org/10.5117/ANTW2023.2.006.DEWU>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2022) “Beyond Hempel: Reframing the Debate about Scientific Explanation.” *Philosophy of Science*, 89, 585–603. <https://doi.org/10.1017/psa.2021.45>
- Dewulf, Fons and Roth, Paul. (2022) “Real True Facts: a Reply to Currie and Swaim.” *Journal of the Philosophy of History* 16, 207–225. <https://doi.org/10.1163/18722636-12341478>
- Dewulf, Fons and Massimiliano, Simons. (2021) “Positivism in Action: The Case of Louis Rougier” *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 11 (2), 461-487. <https://doi.org/10.1086/715873>
- Dewulf, Fons (2021) “The Institutional Stabilization of Philosophy of Science and its Withdrawal from Social Concerns after the Second World War.” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 29 (5), 935-953. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2020.1848794>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2020) “The Place of Historiography in the Network of Logical Empiricism.” *Intellectual History Review* 30 (2), 321-345. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17496977.2019.1648056>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2018) “Revisiting Hempel's Contribution to Philosophy of History.” *Journal of the History of Ideas* 79 (3), 285-406. <https://doi.org/10.1353/jhi.2018.0023>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2017) “Rudolf Carnap's Incorporation of the Geisteswissenschaften in the Aufbau.” *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 7 (2), 199-225. <https://doi.org/10.1086/693420>

### Book Chapters

- Dewulf, Fons (Forthcoming) “Der Logische Aufbau der Welt.” In: Damböck, C. and Schiemer, G. (eds.) *Rudolf Carnap Handbook*. Stuttgart: J.B. Metzler Verlag. (Accepted for publication)
- Dewulf, Fons (Forthcoming) “Carnap, Feigl and Hempel.” In: Damböck, C. and Schiemer, G. (eds.) *Rudolf Carnap Handbook*. Stuttgart: J.B. Metzler Verlag. (Accepted for publication)

- Dewulf, Fons. (2025) "The Failed Reception of the Voluntarism in Logical Empiricism." In: Verhaegh, S. (ed.), *From Hamburg to Harvard, from Jena to Yale: Euro-American Migration and the Development of Postwar Philosophy*, 211-232. Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783111335209-012>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2022) "The Heuristic and Epistemic Account of Verstehen in 20th century American Philosophy." In: Tuboly, A. and Sivadó, A. (eds), *The History of Understanding in Analytic Philosophy: Before and After Logical Empiricism*. London: Bloomsbury. <https://doi.org/10.5040/9781350159235.ch-003>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2022) "Leo Apostel and Rudolf Carnap: The Development of Logical Empiricist Ethics in Post-War Europe." In: Tuboly, A. and Damböck, C. (eds.), *The Socio-Ethical Dimension of Knowledge*, 127-147. Cham: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-80363-6\\_7](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-80363-6_7)
- Dewulf, Fons (2021) "The Emergence of Scientific Explanation as a Problem for Philosophy of Science: Aristotle, Nagel and Hempel." In: Tuboly, A. and Neuber, M. (eds), *Ernest Nagel: Between Pragmatist Naturalism and Logical Empiricism*, 67-87. Cham: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81010-8\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81010-8_4)
- Dewulf, Fons. (2021) "Carnap's Opposition to Logic of the Geisteswissenschaften." In: Wolters, G. and Damböck, C. (eds), *Young Carnap in an Historical Context: 1918–1935*, 55-73. Cham: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58251-7\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-58251-7_3)
- Dewulf, Fons. (2017) "The Epistemic Indispensability of Understanding in Historiography." In: Massimi M., Romeijn JW., Schurz G. (eds), *EPSA15 Selected Papers*, 25-36. European Studies in Philosophy of Science, Vol. 5. Cham: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-53730-6\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-53730-6_3)

### **Reviews**

- Dewulf, Fons. (2020) "Review - Paul A. Roth, *The Philosophical Structure of Historical Explanation*." *Oeconomia. History, Methodology, Philosophy* 10 (2): 363-367. <https://doi.org/10.4000/oeconomia.8092>
- Dewulf, Fons. (2025) "Alan Richardson and Adam Tamas Tuboly, eds., *Interpreting Carnap: Critical Essays*." *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 15 (1): 296-272.

### **Dissertation**

- Dewulf, Fons. (2018) *A Genealogy of Scientific Explanation: the Emergence of the Deductive-Nomological Model at the Intersection of German Historical and Scientific philosophy. PhD Dissertation*. Ghent University. <http://hdl.handle.net/1854/LU-8562228>

### **Teaching Experience**

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| 2025-2026 | <i>Science and Values</i> , Primary Instructor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  |
|           | Postgraduate course on the recent literature about the role of values in scientific inquiry (Heather Douglas, Helen Longino), and a historical investigation into the |

values that have been advocated as central to the scientific life (Merton, Weber, Shapin).

2024-2025 *Introduction to Analytic Philosophy*, Primary Instructor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

“Common core” course aimed at general students (business, science, engineering) as an introduction to analytic philosophy through reading primary texts (Plato, Moore, Russell, Frege, Anscombe, Haslanger). Approximately 85 students. Student evaluations available.

2021-2022 *Philosophy (Civil Engineers)*, Primary Instructor, KU Leuven

The epistemology, logic and philosophy of science part of this course was written by myself. The ethics and political philosophy part was taken from the textbook of prof. Stefan Rummens. Approximately 400 students.

*Philosophy and Bio-ethics (Bio-Engineers)*, Primary Instructor, KU Leuven

Introductory course to problems in epistemology, logic, philosophy of science and the relation between science and society. Part of this course was written by myself, another by prof. Pieter Adriaens. Approximately 350 students.

*Introduction to Philosophy (Psychology)*, Primary Instructor, KU Leuven

Introductory course to problems in epistemology, logic, philosophy of science, philosophy of psychology and the relation between science and society. Part of this course was written by myself, another by prof. Pieter Adriaens. Approximately 650 students. Student evaluations available.

*Philosophy (Science, Bio-Engineers, Medicine, Physics)*, Primary Instructor, KU Leuven (campus Kortrijk)

Introductory course to problems in epistemology, logic, philosophy of science and the relation between science and society. Part of this course was written by myself, another by prof. Pieter Adriaens. Approximately 250 students.

2020-2021 *Advanced Survey of Problems in Philosophy of Science*, Primary Instructor, Ghent University

Master’s course in the History of Philosophy of Science. Focused reading of texts in Neo-Kantian philosophy of science (Cassirer, Friedman, van Fraassen). Students were partly evaluated on the presentation of their own application of Neo-Kantian concepts to case-studies. Student evaluations available.

2018-2020 *Epistemology I*, Primary Instructor, Ghent University

Introductory course in analytic epistemology for first year philosophy students. This course also serves as an introduction to strategies of argumentation in analytic philosophy (thought experiments, analysis of concepts, the use of counterexamples). Student evaluations available.

2014-2017 *Epistemology I*, Teaching Assistant, Ghent University

Assisted Prof. Dr. Maarten Van Dyck for the course; organized, graded, and provided feedback for an extended assignment on Humes’ *Enquiry*; lectured on definitions of knowledge. The structure for the assignment and the method of feedback (using rubrics) which I introduced, is still used today and has served as an exemplar for other courses.

## **Fellowships & Grants awarded on a competitive basis**

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Fall 2019	Visiting Fellow at the Center for Philosophy of Science – University of Pittsburgh
2018-2019	Post-Doctoral Fellowship of the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) Project: “The Origins of Early Anglophone Philosophy of Science: Debating Scientific Explanation”
2014-2018	PhD Fellowship of the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) Project: “Between object and meaning: re-evaluating the objectivity of the human sciences

## **Prizes**

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2024	Ernest Nagel Early-Career Scholar Essay Award for my paper “Beyond Hempel: Reframing the Debate about Scientific Explanation”, awarded by the Philosophy of Science Association.
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## **Conference Presentations / Invited talks**

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“In Search of a Constitutive A Priori in Historiography”, paper presented at EPSA25, Groningen, August 2025

“Historical Evidence and the Constitutive A Priori”, paper presented at the workshop “Explanation, Narrative, and Understanding in the Social Sciences”, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, June 2025

“What can HPS do for you? Answers from 1944, 1960 and Today”, paper presented at the Philosophy Department, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, May 2025

“Chang’s Pragmatic Realism doesn’t work in practice”, paper presented at the Dewey Center, Fudan University, Shanghai, May 2025

“Oral History of Philosophy of Science”, Paper presented at Philosophy of Science: Past, Present, Future, Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Minnesota/Minneapolis, October 2024

“Oral History of Philosophy of Science: Project Overview and Results”, Paper presented at HOPOS, Vienna University, July 2024

“The Failed Reception of the Voluntarism in Logical Empiricism”, Paper presented at the meeting of the Society for the Study of the History of Analytic Philosophy, University of Berlin (Humboldt), July 2023

“Discipline and Bounding: Identifying Philosophy in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century”, Paper presented at the workshop “Exiled Empiricist”, Tilburg university, August 2022

“The Emergence of Philosophy of Science as a Discipline: refractions in SPSP, IHPS, STS and HOPOS”, Paper presented at SPSP, Ghent University, July 2022

“The Emergence of Philosophy of Science as a Discipline: Grünbaum and Salmon at Work”, Paper presented at HOPOS, UC Irvine, June 2022

“The institutional stabilization of philosophy of science and its withdrawal from social concerns after the Second World War”, Paper presented at TiLPS History of Analytic Philosophy Conference, University of Tilburg, December 2020

“Aristotle, Nagel and the Philosophy of Science”, Paper presented at the workshop ‘Ernst Nagel and the Making of Philosophy of Science as a Profession’, Hungarian Academy of Science, October 2019

“The Emergence of the Covering Law Model and What We Might Learn from It”, Lunch Time Talk at the Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, September 2019

“Leo Apostel and Rudolf Carnap: The Development of Logical Empiricist Ethics”, Paper presented at the meeting of the Society for the Study of the History of Analytic Philosophy, University of Boston, June 2019

“Cassirer reading Ficino - Foucault Reading Cassirer: In Search of Discourse Restyling Itself”, Paper presented at the workshop ‘Marsilio Ficino’s Cosmology: Sources, Reception, Historiography’, Ca’Foscari University of Venice, May 2019

“Naturalist and Empiricist Theory of History: Diamond, Neurath and von Mises”, Paper presented at INTH (International Network for Theory of History), Stockholm, August 2018

“Conflicts in and over Carl Hempel”, Paper presented at HOPOS 18, Groningen, July 2018

“Rousian History of Philosophy of Science: the Hempel-Neurath debate”, Paper presented at SPSP 2018, Ghent, June 2018

“The Emergence of Historical Explanation as a Philosophical Problem”, Paper presented at ‘Scientific and Historical Explanation: Reexamining the Connection’ Conference, Leuven, June 2018

“The Emergence of Scientific Explanation in the Work of Carl Hempel”, Paper presented at TiLPS History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop, Tilburg, October 2017

“A Variety of Logics of the Cultural Sciences: Dilthey, Rickert, Carnap”, Paper presented at ‘Der junge Carnap in historischem Kontext: 1918–1935’, workshop, Konstanz, October 2017.

“Conflicts over History in Logical Empiricism”, Paper presented at Making of the Humanities VI, Oxford, September 2017.

“Methodological Developments in Hempel’s Analysis of Science”, Paper presented at ECAP 9, München, August 2017.

“Historicizing Historical Explanation: The Origins of Hempel's Covering Law Model”, Paper presented at INTH (International Network for Theory of History), Ouro Preto, August 2016.

“Historicizing Historical Explanation: The Origins of Hempel's Covering Law Model”, Paper presented at HOPOS 16, Minneapolis, June 2016.

“How Hempel changed the philosophical reflection on the historical sciences”, Paper presented at the workshop Fifty Shapes of Explanation, Ghent, November 2015.

“The Objectivity of the Humanities: Hempel, Carnap and the Case of Lucien Febvre”, Paper presented at the fifth Conference of the European Philosophy of Science Association, Düsseldorf, September 2015.

“The unification of the natural sciences and the humanities in Carnap’s Aufbau”, Paper presented at The Making of the Humanities IV, Rome, October 2014.

## Academic Service and Administration

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2025	Member of the Program Committee (Post-Kant) for the HOPOS 2026 meeting, Ohio State University
2018-2021	Secretary of the Philosophy Department, Ghent University
2017-2018	Temporary Secretary of the Philosophy Department, Ghent University
2012-2014	Elected Student Representative, Arts & Philosophy Faculty Board, Ghent University

## Languages

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	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Speaking</b>
<b>Dutch</b>	Native	Native	Native
<b>English</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
<b>French</b>	Excellent	Good	Good
<b>German</b>	Excellent	Fair	Fair
<b>Ancient Greek</b>	Good	/	/