

Stephen Francis Mann

Curriculum Vitae
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DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Communication and cooperation in evolutionary biology

An extended argument in favour of the use of concepts and methods from communication theory in studies of biological signalling. As a contribution to the philosophy of biology and the philosophy of science more broadly, this work benefits animal signalling theory, cognitive science and microbiology.

AOS (Philosophy of:) biology, information, language.

AOC Computational modelling, Ethics of artificial intelligence, philosophy of cognitive science.

EDUCATION

- 2016 – PRESENT **Doctor of Philosophy**
UNDER EXAMINATION (EXPECTED DEC 2020)
Philosophy
Australian National University (ANU)
- 2013-2015 **Doctor of Philosophy**
CANDIDACY WITHDRAWN TO ATTEND ANU
Philosophy
King's College London (KCL)
- 2006 – 2010 **Master in Science**
FIRST CLASS HONOURS
Mathematics and Philosophy
University of Bristol, UK

TEACHING

- MARCH 2020
Philosophy of Cognitive Science (3rd year)
Guest Lecturer (ANU)
- JULY 2019 - JAN 2020
The Moral and Political Philosophy
of Artificial Intelligence (3rd year)
Co-convenor (ANU)
- JULY - NOV 2017
Biology, Society and Ethics (3rd year)
Tutor/Guest Lecturer (ANU)
- JULY - NOV 2017
Philosophy of Biology (2nd year)
Tutor/Guest Lecturer (ANU)
- SEPT 2014 - JAN 2015
Philosophy of Science (2nd year)
Elementary/Intermediate Logic (1st/2nd year)
Tutor (KCL)

PUBLICATIONS

Roberts, S., ... **Mann, S. F.**, ... (2020). CHIELD: The Causal Hypotheses in Evolutionary Linguistics Database. *Journal of Language Evolution*, 1-20. [10.1093/jole/lzaa001](https://doi.org/10.1093/jole/lzaa001)

Mann, S. F. (2020). Consequences of a functional account of information. *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 11(3), 669-687. [10.1007/s13164-018-0413-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13164-018-0413-4)

Mann S. F. (2018). Attribution of information in animal interaction. *Biological Theory*, 13 (3), 164-179. [10.1007/s13752-018-0299-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13752-018-0299-5)

Mann S. F. and Jessica Pfeifer (2018). Review of *Studying Animal Languages Without Translation: An Insight from Ants* by Zhanna Reznikova. *Quarterly Review of Biology*, 93 (1), 38. [10.1086/696753](https://doi.org/10.1086/696753)

IN PROGRESS

Mann, S. F., Pain, R., and Kirchoff, M. (invited, in progress). Free Energy: A User's Guide. Introduction to the Topical Collection 'The Free Energy Principle: From Biology to Cognition'. *Biology & Philosophy*.

Mann, S. F. and Ross Pain (under review). Teleosemantics and the hard problem of content.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 **The mechanics of representation: teleosemantics meets the free energy principle (with Ross Pain)**
NOV PEER REVIEWED
Mental Representations in a Mechanical World
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Bochum, Germany
- 2018 **Studying language change with evolutionary methods**
SEPT PEER REVIEWED
Evolving Minds
Charles Darwin University
Darwin, Australia
- 2018 **Communication and selection**
JUNE INVITED
Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution
Max Planck Institute for the Science
of Human History
Jena, Germany
- 2018 **Unitrackerers in artificial and natural cognition**
FEB PEER REVIEWED
Naturally Evolving Minds
University of Wollongong
Wollongong, Australia

SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

Ad hoc reviewing

Philosophy of Science

Biology & Philosophy

AVANT

Guest editing

2020 *Biology & Philosophy*

Topical Collection

The Free Energy Principle: From Biology to Cognition
(with Ross Pain and Michael Kirchhoff)

Public outreach

2019 *HMI Interviews*

Conducted a series of filmed interviews with members of the Humanising Machine Intelligence project.

2019 *Radio appearance*

MAR Guest on *Talk the Talk* linguistics radio show (Perth, Australia) and podcast (global), speaking on animal communication and human language.

Reading groups

2017 *ANU Philosophy Evolutionary Theory Reading Group*

Organised the group focusing on classic and contemporary texts from philosophy of biology.

Conference organisation

2016 *ANU Philosophy Graduate Conference*

NOV Lead Organiser

Duties included liaising with accommodation and conference facilities management, communicating with attendees, and chairing presentations.

2016 *Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference*

SEPT Co-organiser

Duties included communicating with attendees, chairing sessions, and coordinating small social events.

AFFILIATIONS

JULY 2019 - PRESENT

Humanising Machine Intelligence

Affiliate (ANU)

The Humanising Machine Intelligence (HMI) project pursues novel ethical and legal solutions to problems emerging with the prevalence of artificial intelligence and other digital technologies.

- Write and produce video interviews supporting the project
- Interview members of HMI as well as visitors to ANU who work on issues related to the ethics of machine intelligence
- Reach out across disciplinary lines to seek expert opinions on crucial ethical, legal and technical questions.

REFERENCES

Professor Kim Sterelny

RELATION PhD Supervisor
POSITION Professor
EMPLOYER Department of Philosophy
Australian National University
EMAIL kim.sterelny@anu.edu.au

Dr Rachael Brown

RELATION Course convenor, Philosophy of Biology
POSITION Lecturer (Assistant Professor)
EMPLOYER Department of Philosophy
Australian National University
EMAIL rachael.brown@anu.edu.au

Dr Matthew Spike

RELATION PhD Supervisor
POSITION Teaching Fellow
EMPLOYER School of Philosophy, Psychology
and Language Sciences
University of Edinburgh
EMAIL mspike@ed.ac.uk