



University
of Regina

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND CLASSICS

ACADEMIC UNIT REVIEW SELF STUDY REPORT

2016 – 2025

1. BACKGROUND

The Department of Philosophy and Classics is a small but complex unit. We offer entirely separate programs in philosophy and classics, and each “side” of the Department also participates independently in interdisciplinary programs with other units within the university. Furthermore, the members of Department are located administratively in three distinct units: the University of Regina directly, and the Federated Colleges of Luther and Campion (with Classicists all employed by Campion). Decisions on course offerings are made collaboratively, while evaluations take place separately, within the home institution.

Through its history, which can be found in the 2015-2016 Unit Review, the Department has gone through four identifiable phases: 1961-1975 (establishment and growth); 1975-late 1980s (stability); late 1980s-mid 2000s (renewal); with the last one beginning in the mid 2000s. At that point, Dr. Ryan Doran’s term position was converted to a tenure-track position, and the composition of the department was as follows:

U of R Department	Campion College	Luther College
Dr. Soifer	Dr. Piercey	Dr. Petry
Dr. Elliott	Dr. Mudde	
Dr. Doran	Dr. Ward (1/2)	
	Dr. Meban (Classics)	

Given the current challenges faced by the University of Regina, it may be too early to define a fifth phase. However, many changes have occurred over the last ten years. In 2016, Dr. Gillian Ramsey was hired as a Classicist by Campion, and Dr. Jérôme Melançon was hired at La Cité, eventually becoming an adjunct member of the department. In 2018, Dr. Paul Simard Smith was hired on a term position at Luther College, and then on a term position at the U of R Department in 2019. His position was converted to the tenure track in 2020. In 2024, Dr. Melançon was transferred to the Philosophy U of R Department, with the caveat that upon his leaving the University or retiring, his position would revert back to La Cité. In 2025, the U of R Department hired Dr. Owen Clifton. This hire was part of a “2 for 1” replacement following Dr. Elliott’s retirement in and Dr. Soifer’s expected retirement. The current composition of the department is thus as follows:

U of R Department	Campion College	Luther College
Dr. Soifer (to 2026)	Dr. Piercey	Dr. Petry
Dr. Doran	Dr. Mudde	
Dr. Simard Smith	Dr. Meban (Classics)	
Dr. Melançon	Dr. Ramsey (Classics)	
Dr. Clifton		

Thus a second period of transition seems to be coming to an end with Dr. Soifer’s upcoming retirement in 2026. In addition to the full-time tenured and tenure-track members, the Department also relies on a small number of dedicated regular sessional instructors, in addition to less frequent sessionals: Eric Hanna; Dr. Joel Hubick; Dr. Dwayne Meisner (Classics); Randee Melançon; and Dr. Paul Omoyefa.

2. STAFFING AND RESOURCES

2.1. Staffing - faculty, instructors, lab instructors, technicians, and support staff

Name	Position and Rank	Notes
Clifton, Owen	Assistant Professor, U of R	Philosophy
Doran, Ryan	Assistant Professor, U of R	Philosophy
Melançon, Jérôme	Professor, U of R	Philosophy
Simard Smith, Paul	Associate Professor, U of R	Philosophy
Soifer, Eldon	Professor, U of R	Philosophy
Elliott, David	Professor Emeritus, U of R	Philosophy
Meban, David	Associate Professor, Campion	Classics
Mudde, Anna	Associate Professor, Campion	Philosophy
Piercey, Robert	Professor, Campion	Philosophy
Ramsey, Gillian	Associate Professor, Campion	Classics
Petry, Roger	Professor, Luther	Philosophy
Hanna, Eric	Sessional instructor	Philosophy
Hubick, Joel	Sessional instructor	Philosophy
Meisner, Dwayne	Sessional instructor	Classics
Melançon, Randee	Sessional instructor	Philosophy
Omoyefa, Paul	Sessional instructor, Campion & Luther	Philosophy
Ayòdeji Ademóla-Aleem	Administrative assistant	Supports Philosophy & Classics, History, Journalism, and others as needed.

In addition, for 2021 and 2022, Kyley Ewing was on a Term position as Assistant Professor.

For reference, other sessionals over the past five years include:

- Kyle Barbour (Philosophy, distance)
- Dustin Olson (Philosophy, no longer available)
- Jason Zorbas
- Stephen Bagwell
- Jason Hoult
- William Buschert (Philosophy, Saskatoon, social work section of PHIL 100)
- Erin Greer (Philosophy, Saskatoon, social work section of PHIL 100)

2.2. Resources

2.2.1. Teaching Space

The Department has no dedicated teaching space.

2.2.2. Research Space

Room	Function	Principal Investigators	Funding agency
CT 126	Research assistants / archives	Dr. Melançon	SSHRC

2.2.3. Specialized teaching equipment and instrumentation

None.

2.2.4. Research equipment and instrumentation

None.

2.2.5. Research institutes, clusters, or specialized labs

Dr. Petry co-coordinates the Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Saskatchewan. Acknowledged by the UN University (UNU) in January of 2007 (see: <http://www.rce-network.org/portal/>), its partners include 8 post-secondary education organizations in Saskatchewan and additional community partners. RCE Saskatchewan conducts research in ESD, hosts conferences and speakers, and manages an annual ESD awards program (see: <http://www.rceskreognitionevent.com/>).

Dr. Melançon is currently in the process of creating a University-level, multidisciplinary research collective focused on training Indigenous community researchers and on leading research around the history of the Indian Residential School system, missing children and unmarked graves, and current removals of Indigenous children from their families. So far, this work has been supported by SSHRC Partnership – Engage and SSHRC Partnership Development grants.

Dr. Simard Smith regularly collaborates with Dr. Kurtis Boyer, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School Chair of Métis Governance and Policy at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Simard Smith will be affiliated with the forthcoming Métis Nation Institute for Research and Governance (MN-IRG) which will be directed by Dr. Boyer and is co-governed by the Metis Nation - Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan. Among other activities, the planned Institute will develop research projects that affirm Métis Identity, culture, values and language and use a distinction-based approach to explore issues of critical importance to Métis Nation building.

As of April 2026, Dr. Clifton will be a research fellow with Climate Change Graz, a research cluster at the University of Graz, whose members include philosophers, lawyers, economists, and natural and social scientists. He formerly collaborated with the University of Oxford's Global Priorities Institute, first as an early-career fellow in 2022, and second as a visiting scholar in 2023.

3. SCHOLARLY OUTPUT

3.1.1. Summary

The Department proper is currently in a period of transition, between retirements and new hires. The newest hire, Dr. Clifton, has a forthcoming paper in the top-tier journal *Philosophical Quarterly* and has been granted teaching releases to complete and submit his other work. The previous hire, Dr. Simard Smith, published 3 journal articles and 2 book chapters, making important contribution to philosophical logic, Métis studies, and political epistemology. These publications, in addition to work in progress and in revise and resubmit stages, indicate strong potential in the short term and for consistent output for the coming years.

As for the rest of the department: over the last ten years, Dr. Doran has published 4 journal articles and Dr. Soifer published 2 articles. Of note is the fourth edition of the textbook Dr. Soifer co-edited, *Ethical Issues: Perspectives for Canadians*, which continues to be widely adopted in Canadian philosophy departments. Dr. Hubick published *The Phenomenology of Questioning: Husserl, Heidegger and Patočka* (2023). Dr. Melançon has published broadly on the philosopher Maurice Merleau-Ponty, including the book *La politique dans l'adversité* (2018); Merleau-Ponty's *Entretiens avec Georges Charbonnier* (2016); two edited collections, *L'intervalle du pouvoir* (2022) and *Transforming Politics with Merleau-Ponty* (2021); two edited journal issues; and 7 journal articles or book chapters (plus 2 in the editing process) – in addition to other publications in phenomenology. He is recognized internationally as an expert on the topic. He has also been active on the topic of Francophone communities in minority settings, with 3 co-edited journal issues and 13 articles or chapters, all in the central journals of this field; his work is often cited in relation to marginalization within these communities and their place in settler colonialism. And he has been publishing on colonialism, co-editing two online resources and publishing 5 additional articles or chapters. In terms of creative work, he has published two books of poetry in French and three chapbooks in English, which have led to invitations within Canada and abroad.

Colleagues at the federated colleges have contributed much to their respective fields as well. Dr. Ramsey has published the book *A Social and Cultural History of the Hellenistic World* (2025), in addition to 9 articles or chapters, including two in handbooks and companions, showing that her expertise is recognized in her field. Dr. Mudde has published 8 articles or chapters, in addition to writing the article on Simone de Beauvoir in *The Bloomsbury Online Encyclopedia of French Philosophy*, giving much reach to her research. She has also been hosting the philosophical podcast *thinking bodies*, and co-edited a symposium in the journal *Feminist Philosophy Quarterly*. She co-created the website [soft collaboration](#). Dr. Piercey published the book *Reading as a Philosophical Practice* (2020), which was reissued in paperback format (2022), along with 6 journal articles, 2 chapters, 3 encyclopedia articles, and 2 edited works with introductions. Dr. Petry has published 3 journal articles and 4 chapters.

In addition to these publications, one sessional instructor, Dr. Hubick, is currently editor of *Philosophy in Review*. He replaced Dr. Piercey who had held the position in previous years.

3.1.2. Statistical summary of published and accepted scholarly work over the last ten years

	Number	Notes
Refereed journal articles	56	
Refereed conference proceedings	4	
Technical reports	1	
Book chapters	35	
Books	3	
Edited books	3	
Edited journal issues or sections	8	
Open Electronic Resources	2	
Refereed Conference papers	51	
Invited talks and Panels	50	
Public talks and workshops	56	
Professional creative activities:	6	
Poetry books and chapbooks	2 + 3	(Melançon)
Website/ Web Zine	1	(Mudde)

3.1.3. Grants and Contracts

Principal Investigator(s)	Funding Agency	Total Amount (% Assigned To Unit)	Dates
Clifton, Owen	UofR Conference Fund	\$4,000 (100%)	Jan 2026-Dec 2027
Mudde, Anna	UofR President	\$5995 (100%)	June 2024-June 2026
Melançon, Jérôme	SSHRC PDG	\$200,000 (85%)	2024-2026
Melançon, Jérôme	Various SSHRC, SQRC	\$174,659 (0%)	7 grants at La Cité
Melançon, Jérôme	Cowessess First Nation	\$134,000 (100%)	Feb 2025-Jan 2026
Melançon, Jérôme	Agency One	\$60,000 (100%)	Sept 2025-Mar 2026
Melançon, Jérôme	Muskowekwan First Nation	\$25,000 (100%)	Aug 2024-Apr 2025
Petry, Roger	SSHRC Partnership	\$2,482,314	Apr 2022-Mar 2027
Petry, Roger	SSHRC Partnership	\$19,250	June 2021-Apr 2022
Petry, Roger	United Nations University	30,704 (travel)	Total for 2019 and 2022-2025
Petry, Roger	Luther President's Fund	\$5253 (100%)	2018
Petry, Roger	UofR Admin Conf Fund	\$2500 (100%)	2018
Petry, Roger	U of R	\$9,900 (100%)	2018-2020

4. COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVES

Until 2024, the Department hosted a monthly Philosophy Café. This community-based discussion group allows us to share our interest in philosophy with members of the community who are not formally affiliated with the University of Regina. Sessions are usually conducted by either a faculty member, one of our sessional instructors, or graduate students on topics that are designed to be of interest to non-specialists. Until 2020, it took place in the community; since 2020, it has taken place online or on campus with a hybrid option, focusing on student engagement and with the collaboration of the Philosophy Student Society. The initiative was on pause during the overlapping sabbaticals of several members, with a goal to go back to the original contact with the community off campus.

In 2019, the Department began a partnership with Regina Public Library to show films and host a discussion led by a faculty member. These events were well attended, but the series was halted in 2020 due to public safety measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Several of our members have contributed their expertise in ethics and biomedical ethics to various committees in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and now the Saskatchewan Health Authority. Dr. Simard Smith has been the Member knowledgeable in Ethics for the Saskatchewan Health Association Research Ethics Board since 2022. Dr. Soifer was the ethicist member of the Ethics Committee from 2002-2023 (while Dr. Elliott was alternate member), and served as a member of its Education Subcommittee (2002-2023) and the Subcommittee on revising Terms of Reference (2003-2004). He was the ethicist member of the Research Ethics Committee from 1999-2002, and Alternate Member from 2006-2023, while Dr. Elliott was the main member. Dr. Soifer also served on the Contested End of Life Care Working Group (2009-2010) and the Donation After Cardiac Death Working Group (2013-4).

Focusing on informing wider non-academic publics, Dr. Melançon was a monthly columnist for the online country-wide news source focused on Francophone communities *Francopresse* for the duration of their program, from 2021 to 2025. He has also been a monthly contributor of reviews of poetry to the online journal *periodicities* since 2020.

Dr. Mudde served as President of the Canadian Society Working for Inclusion in Philosophy (CSWIP) in 2016-17, and co-founded and continues to chair their Accessibility Committee which hosts a [website](#) with resources for accessible conferences.

Dr. Petry is Co-coordinator of the Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Saskatchewan (RCE Saskatchewan), which is acknowledged by the United Nations University as a Key activity. They hold an annual Recognition Event for Education for Sustainable Development each year. He is also the UN University's Regional Advisor for RCEs in the Americas (just reappointed for the 3rd time for a 2 year term); there are 30 RCEs in North, Central, and South America out of a total 200 RCEs acknowledged by the UN University globally. And he co-leads a global cluster of universities on Responsible Consumption and Production (Sustainable Development Goal 12) under the International Association of Universities (IAU) Global Higher Education and Research Cluster on Sustainable Development (see <https://www.iau-hesd.net/IAU-Global-HESD-Cluster>).

5. PROGRAMS OFFERED

5.1. Programs

Undergraduate Programs. The following table presents the department's programs, along with required credits in PHIL and CLAS, as well as credits from categories where at least one PHIL and CLAS is an option (including Arts Core):

Program	PHIL	CLAS	Options
BA in Philosophy	36	-	6
BA Honours in Philosophy	51	-	6
Minor in Philosophy	18	-	-
BA in Classical and Medieval Studies	-	9	15
Minor in Classical Studies	-	15	3
BA in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	18	-	6
Minor in Philosophical Anthropology	18	-	-
Minor in Critical Thinking and Professional Ethics	18	-	-
Minor in Philosophy of Science	15	-	3
Certificate in Sustainability	-	-	12

Philosophy courses are designated as "History," "Problems," or "Values" of Philosophy courses, in order to give students breadth in the discipline. Courses are taught according to three rotations: yearly (needed for our programs and well subscribed); bi-yearly (to offer some variety); and irregular (tied to faculty interests but filling the designations). Aside from very few specific courses, students must pick from the three designations, which gives them more choices and us more flexibility.

Most students enter the program after having been enrolled at the university and discovering its courses before declaring a major, switching, or adding a major or minor. Program admission standards follow those of the Faculty of Arts. Program advising is also done at the faculty level. More specific advising is offered by various faculty members as students ask for guidance, and more formally by Dr. Simard Smith at the graduate level and Dr. Melançon at the undergraduate level.

Interdisciplinary work is generally made possible by the high number of electives, which allows students to add minors and certificates to their major. The PPE (Philosophy, Politics, and Economics) program is a collaboration with the other two named departments. It allows students to gain greater familiarity with philosophy while focusing on a course of learning they see as more practical. This orientation fits well with the fields of expertise of department members.

At the moment, research courses tend to be limited to the Honours paper course (PHIL 420).

Special Case MA in Philosophy. Includes Thesis research (15 credits) and Variable credit (15). Applicants must hold a 4 year BA or Honours BA in Philosophy or equivalent. Students are normally required to complete a minimum of five graduate courses (800 level) in Philosophy. The student must also complete an acceptable thesis (PHIL 901). This program usually involves a mix of reading courses and mixed 400/800 level courses.

5.2. Service teaching in support of other programs

The department offers the course PHIL 276 (Professional ethics), which is an option in several programs in the Faculty of Kinesiology as well as in programs in Justice Studies. Further, the Bachelor of Kinesiology Core includes choice between one of PHIL 270 (Ethics), PHIL 272 (Contemporary Moral Issues), PHIL 273 (Biomedical Ethics), PHIL 276, or KIN 205.

The course PHIL 150 (Critical Thinking) is a popular option in the Arts Core and serves most Arts programs. One section is offered yearly as part of the Indigenous OMA Student Success Program.

Philosophy courses are also options in the following programs:

- Law and Society minor and certificate
- BA, BA Honours, Minor in Religious Studies
- Catholic Studies minor
- Certificate in Queer, Trans, and Gender Studies
- Bachelor of Health Studies, Diploma in Health Studies, Certificate in Health and Medical Humanities
- Certificate in German Language and Culture
- Bachelor of Human Justice
- Certificate in Nonprofit Sector Leadership and Innovation
- International Studies; Certificate in Canadian Studies
- Bachelor in Resource and Environmental Studies
- Certificate in Ideation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship
- Minor in Outdoor Education; Secondary Education / Bkin joint program
- Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science; Bachelor of Medical Radiation Technology
- BSc in Indigenous Environmental Science, Certificate in Indigenous Environmental Management
- Minor in Indigenous Knowledge and Science

5.3. Enrollment trends

Appendix I includes numbers of registered Majors and Minors from 2015-2025, as well as semester to semester individual course enrolments from 2022-23 to 2025-26. These number include registrations in sections offered by the Federated Colleges.

To get a full picture of the Department, it is necessary to hold side by side registrations in our programs and enrolments in our courses.

The numbers indicate that all registration and enrolment trends are generally stable. There was a slight decline in the 2010s, following which the only real outliers were the two years at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sabbaticals have also meant that we have been able to offer fewer sections of introductory courses and 200-level courses, and thus have lower overall registrations, reflecting that we tend to offer courses at capacity at the 100-level. Taking these variables into account, enrolment numbers have been stable, and we currently see no indications that these enrolment trends would change in either direction. It is worth noting however that the Faculty has allowed the Department to offer more sections of PHIL 100 through the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) recognizing that current sections are running at capacity, which will lead to a slight increase in overall registrations.

Given that the University incentivizes growth and that stability tends to be seen as a potential issue, these findings will lead us to look at strategies for recruitment. We do not expect to achieve a substantially higher number of registered Majors given the nature of our discipline, though reaching more students will heighten the potential for them to discover it. However, given our focus on service teaching, we hope to increase the number of students registering for a Minor in our programs.

Another finding is the very low registration in our current certificates, which do not seem to be attractive or known to students. Developing more targeted certificates may allow for higher enrollment in 300 level courses as well as a potential for more offerings at the 300 level.

We can also add that the creation of the PPE program does not seem to have led to a drain on the Philosophy program, with Philosophy numbers remaining stable. We are not able at this point to evaluate the effect of the PPE program on individual course enrolments, though we expect that it would contribute modestly to a small rise in enrolments at the 300 and 400 levels.

5.4. Successes

Given the nature of our disciplines, our graduates go on to work in a variety of fields. In the fields of jurisprudence and politics, Michelle Brasse is a Provincial Court Judge; Dustin Olson is Special Advisor to the Deputy Minister (Alberta); John Marshall is Coordinator, Strategic Initiatives and Projects at Elections Saskatchewan; and Amanda Bryant is a Senior Analyst with the Pembina Institute. Other fields include: law (Jay Koller and Gareth Harding-Russel), library user services (Cailin Elliott), Indigenous governance (Nick Pompana), municipal public service (Brenden Palmer), and public education (Kelsey Halback). Several combine a practice with their work: Edith Skeard is an artist and works in art curation, policy writing, and marketing; Kathryn McCudden works as a landscape architect; Barbara Lloyd is a professional dog trainer; Kobie Spriggs works as a potter and is a small business owner in Moose Jaw; and Christ Lindenbach has joined the priesthood. The PPE program leads more directly toward careers in the public service and crown corporations.

As with other humanities graduates, graduates from the Philosophy and Classics programs bring a capacity to adapt to change and reorient themselves; strong reading, writing, and other communication skills; competence in using concepts, synthesizing texts and ideas, and comparing ideas; capacity in moderating debates, in discussing with others with differing views, and in establishing common ground and consensus; close familiarity with ethical reasoning and with tying principles to their implications and outcomes; and the training to make a compelling case by giving clear arguments and reasons. Though employment ads do not list “philosophy” as a requirement, it is such skills that are important on the job market.

Many of our honours students also move on to graduate programs in philosophy all over the country. One of them, Dr. Paul Simard Smith, is now a permanent faculty member. Other recent example include:

- Allysia Van Betuw: M.A. in philosophy, University of Toronto (ongoing).
- Tristan Ayrar M.A. in philosophy at Carleton University (ongoing).
- Maximilian Biezenski: PhD in Philosophy at Queen’s University, after completing MAs in Philosophy and Classics, also at Queen’s.
- Shae Sackman: graduate student in Psychology at Simon Fraser University.
- Sophia Bote has graduated with an MA from the University of Western Ontario.

Graduates from our MA program have also had successes. For instance, John Lehmann obtained a PhD in Philosophy (2021) from Western; Alex Obrigewitsch obtained a PhD in philosophy (2025) from the University of Sussex; and Kirby Maguire is a PhD student in psychology at the U of R.

With faculty changeover, the Department wants to ensure it can maintain contact with graduates as had been the case in the past. It is the Department’s will to create new relationships with past graduates and keep in touch with them. Establishing such relationships will give us more information about our graduates and the possibilities our program opens, and will help us better market it to potential students.

6. UNIT BUDGET

Summary of the Department's expenses, 2016-17 to 2025-2026

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Faculty salaries	366,909	359,889	398,399	493,668	565,430	466,517	320,032	399,548	659,190	599,591
Sessional stipends (Arts)	32,232	46,075	46,928	16,110	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stipends (incl. head)	12,066	4,139	4,166	4,435	4,467	3,337	3,337	3,337	4,928	5,019
Student academic support	9,427	11,712	8,889	14,380	14,148	5,571	0	2,731	3,657	2,688
Knowledge keepers	<i>(occasional funding for one-time honoraria came out of APEAs)</i>									2,735
Misc expenditures	2,393	1,770	4,170	2,489	191	383	910	457	817	398
From Operating	925	3,251	2,271	9,257	6,039	6,403	4,915	7,831	11,697	7,085

**Numbers are rounded and only main items are included. Expenses beyond operating were made possible by CCE transfers.*

In comparison to other units at the University of Regina, the Department of Philosophy and Classics is relatively inexpensive to finance. Its full-time faculty members teach 4.5 courses per year rather than 4, which translates into further value for the University's spending. Members also consistently teach introductory or large classes (approximately 50 students, given the nature of teaching and student work in philosophy, and approximately 75 students for PHIL 150).

The U of R Department offers the minimum number of courses necessary for students to complete their programs. What allows the programs to thrive is the presence of five department members at the Federated Colleges, whose salaries do not appear in the Department's budget, but for whose courses the University nonetheless receives tuition, making the overall running of the department even more affordable for the University.

Historically, many of the sessional stipends have been linked to CCE courses, specifically those taught in the evening or with the online asynchronous modality. This tendency has allowed the Department to adjust to a new reality where sessional stipends are no longer possible at the Faculty level. Courses offered through CCE has thus allowed the Department to offer a robust number of sections of first-year courses, while revenue sharing has made it possible for the department to have funds for other initiatives. Between 2022-23 to 2025-26, 27 sections of PHIL 100 (1027 students) and 6 sections of PHIL 150 (193 students) have been offered through CCE.

For two courses specifically (PHIL 290AT and PHIL 190AA), the year 2025-26 includes close collaborations with three knowledge keepers, in addition to other guest speakers in classes. The department also supports its majors (and where possible, minors or students taking multiple PHIL courses) as teaching assistants in larger courses.

7. SWOT ANALYSIS (STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, THREATS)

Strengths. The Department's primary strength is its collective and disciplinary commitments to students as human beings, its members' respect for them and desire to treat them as persons, leading to a student experience with a high number of quality interactions with faculty and a balance of challenging and enjoyable work and learning.

We have developed comprehensive major and honours programs, with significant requirements for students across the discipline, all the while offering many courses for students in other programs. We offer a large breadth of courses, including "continental" as well as "analytic" philosophy, which cover learning in the history of philosophy, philosophical values, and the problems of philosophy. Our students are thus in a strong position to enter M.A. programs in philosophy with a good background in their themes of choice. Our small size does limit the number of courses we can offer, but our programs allow students to take many electives, opening the possibility of adding minors or certificates with an eye to other interests or the job market. We also allow students to enter the program easily, by having few prerequisites for most courses. First year courses are detached from the rest of the curriculum, which allows each instructor to approach them with enthusiasm based on their interests and expertise, give them a specific taste of the discipline, and motivate students to take further courses. This openness works well with the wider breadth of courses we offer, which already means that more needs to be introduced in each course and less can be presupposed. In addition, we have been increasing the accessibility of some of our courses for students of all abilities and for neurodiverse students, as well as rural students.

Our distinctive disciplinary structure brings together Philosophy and Classics. The multidisciplinary collaboration is bolstered by a capacity for Philosophy faculty to teach several courses in Ancient philosophy and to take a social and political approach to the history of ideas. The good relationship between faculty members at the University Department and at the Federated colleges allows us to plan for a variety of courses that fit members' interests and competences. This relationship emerges out of a will to work together well and continued efforts to do so. We have a longstanding commitment to maintaining a collegial, functioning department. This strength allows us to be open to new ideas and leads to innovation in our courses. The Department also values its sessionals, who in turn are involved in its work. All department members are also applied thinkers who tie their research and expertise to concrete issues of relevance outside the discipline. This characteristic allows us to appeal to students from other programs, especially through our ethics courses at the moment. It is also tied to a strong sense of public mindedness, leading us to intervene in public debates and publish for different kinds of non-specialists. The Department is well respected in the University, in great part because its members are present and vocal on different committees.

A very specific strength within our Department is its concrete relationships with many Indigenous communities belonging to different peoples. The Department as a whole is supportive of collaborative work with Indigenous communities and has approached Indigenization and reconciliation initiatives with rigor and continued reflection. It has been able to support its members as they come up with new teaching models (which have financial implications), and has developed initiatives for all members to learn about Indigenous philosophy.

Weaknesses. Despite the capacity to work well across the various structures and disciplines, the fact remains that as of 2026-27 there will be four tenured or tenure-track members at the University Department, and five at the Federated colleges. Being scattered, thus having different lines of accountability as well as sources of funding, makes planning and coordination difficult. As we are also seeing with recent retirements that coincide with well-deserved sabbatical leaves, our size means that we are exposed to any change in the composition of the Department. The lack of graduate student funding, together with the balance we have achieved by combining 300 and 400 level courses, makes it difficult to participate in graduate programs, even though only a few years ago, we were able to be one of the central contributors to the Social and Political Thought MA.

Our collaboration with other departments through the PPE program could also be taking students away from the major; creating other interdisciplinary programs could make this situation worse. This is especially a problem as students often do not understand what professional avenues philosophy can open. Finally, we do not often articulate what philosophy does and contributes to ourselves, to our colleagues, and to the administration. We could do better at connecting with people and address the overall lack of understanding about philosophy as well as their lack of explicit interest in it.

Opportunities. Given the nature of philosophy as a discipline that relies on work in a variety of fields and offers tools for thinking, we can connect to many departments and programs. This easy interdisciplinarity creates a capacity to create and carry interdisciplinary programs. We have untapped resources in capacity in this regard, and have begun exploring new collaborations beyond the PPE program. The structure of the Department and of its program also allows us the flexibility to pioneer strategies and offer courses for other departments and faculties. The University's focus on micro-credentials and certificates might also open opportunities for us, since in spite of the breadth of our programs, we can identify lines of specialization. The transformation of the Justice Studies department toward Criminology may also direct students toward other fields, allowing us to propose philosophy as a strong "pre-law" major, as is standard in other universities. What is more, the change in the direction of recruitment efforts, both domestically and internationally, seems to be bringing more students with the capacity and an interest in taking humanities courses. Our courses might thus fit into other programs, or into certificates, including Master's level courses.

With the change in department members and the return to in-person activities and the new avenues opened by online or hybrid events, we find ourselves capable to resume outreach activities and take on new ones. This includes having a stronger presence in the public intellectual sphere, through resuming the Philosophy Café and Philosophy and Film series in the community; hosting university-wide public presentations to showcase philosophical research and other contributions; hosting discussions and debates around current issues; and working with other department to highlight the proximity between philosophy and theoretical work. It also includes responding to the public interest in Classics, and especially in the Roman empire, by contributing information and fighting against misrepresentations of the epoch. Another form of outreach will be to reach out to alumni, including from the PPE program, to make the outcomes of our programs more tangible to current and prospective students.

Threats. As we have seen with the slow decline and recent disappearance of the International Languages program, Humanities programs are especially vulnerable to the unforeseen consequences of small-scale decisions to immediate problems. One such situation is the gradual disappearance of Department-specific supports and spaces, which limits opportunities for community and discussion, which are central to the good functioning of the Department. With four faculty members, it remains difficult to stay up to date and intervene when others make decisions that affect us, even at the faculty level. This is especially the case as faculty members have been asked to do more and more administrative work, which lessens our resources for collaborative and collegial work, not to mention research and teaching.

Another aspect of potentially large medium-term impact of immediate small-scale decisions is the move toward micro-credentials and certificates. Such offerings focus on professionalization and the stacking of skills and competences, which take students away from open electives (where we thrive) and push them toward prepared packages. They thus run against the slow learning and the exploration that are integral to philosophy and the humanities in general. Our participation in such credentialing must thus be incredibly careful. Focusing on the courses that will fit in certificates or in other departments creates a risk of having fewer courses for our major, that more breadth would lead to less depth, and that focusing on teaching skills to a broader public would lead us away from allowing students to develop them over a series of courses from first to fourth year.

Yet another threat comes from the overall shift in sessional funding. Dependence on sessional instructors is directly tied to decisions not to replace faculty members as they retire, and to the University's capacity to quickly cut into its spending while pretending not to be cutting positions, given the contractual nature of sessional contracts. Any cuts there means lessened capacity within the Department. With no funding for sessional instructors within the Faculty of Arts, we have had to depend entirely on CCE funding, which changes the profile of the students who take our courses. Greater accessibility to first year courses through evening and online courses does not mean that more students will move into our daytime courses, since they may not be available then. It also lessens sessionals' quality of life by creating more evening work.

Other threats exist in the wider social context. One is the underfunding of universities, to which governments seem to respond by intervening in internal decisions by funding specific faculty positions in professional programs. Another is the competition between departments and the claim that they all teach "critical thinking" and can all teach "ethics" courses, whereas philosophy is one of the few disciplines that can demonstrate these capacities. Attitudes hostile toward truth, facts, and the need to give reasons and present arguments for decision also undermine the effect and perceived relevance of philosophy.

Finally, we see that the public discourse in favour of so-called generative Artificial Intelligence and its enthusiastic embrace by the university works directly against the perceived need for philosophy as a discipline. The weight of responsibility can be placed (with bad faith) on chat bots, and the focus is placed on results rather than process. Its embrace by a subset of students also creates threats: working on essays is essential to what we do in philosophy, and students' reliance on generative AI takes away the effectiveness of our teaching practices, even as the University forces us to treat students as potential offenders, which changes the tone of classroom learning and discussion.

Appendix I – Enrolment trends

Year to Year Registered Majors and Minors

The overwhelming majority are domestic students – only one or two per year are international students. Very few are Indigenous.

The students who are not primarily registered in philosophy are from all parts of the university, mostly in Arts, but with several minors from the Faculty of Science.

Undergraduate students registered in the Fall semester

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Majors	36	34	36	36	34	38	26	25	34	38	30
Minors	24	18	19	18	26	21	32	30	28	27	39
% Full-time	73	65	67	70	73	80	90	85	82	69	87
PPE						32	48	62	60	44	36

Research-stream students registered in the Fall semester

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Honours	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	5	5	1
Grad	1				1	1	1	1			
SOPT	8	13	12	8	5	2	1	1			1

At Fall convocation: Majors and Minors in PHIL and CLAS for the department

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total P&C	32	23	13	17	17	22	17	23	19	22	24
Major	10	9	6	8	7	9	6	8	7	7	10
Minor	22	14	5	9	10	12	11	13	12	13	13
Other			2			1		2		2	1
PPE						9	2	11	7	7	5

**Semester to Semester Individual Course Enrolments
(2022-23 to 2025-26, including Federated Colleges)**

	202220	202230	202310	202320	202330	202410	202420	202430	202510	202520	202530	222610	Total
100		218	136		206	124		219	181		201	177	1462
100 (CCE)	117	32	60	96		133	100	101	57	97	124	112	1029
150	60	283	182	31	318	299	44	366	278	25	254	232	2372
150 (CCE)			29	47			49	31		37			193
200 level	26	158	226	29	155	221	31	215	163	35	167	228	1654
300 level		17	18		24	30		16	27		21	19	172
400 level		4	11		12	12	2	11	11		2	5	70
Total	203	712	662	203	715	819	226	959	717	194	769	773	6952

Note: Data from the Office of Institutional Research was only available/provided for 2022-23 to 2025-26.

Notes:

- Registrations in CLAS courses are not included as they all originate from Campion College.
- PHIL 190AA numbers are included in 200-level registrations.
- Each 400-level courses is cross-listed with 300-level courses.

The registrations for 2022-23 to 2025-26 are stable, in spite of various complicating factors. 2022 marks the complete return to in-person teaching after the isolation phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, and thus includes important adjustments. Two sabbaticals took place in 2025 and one is taking place in 2025-26, in addition to one retirement in 2024 and one new hire with reduced teaching load in 2025-26. This explains the drop in number of individual enrolments in 202530. The overall tendencies need to be checked against the actually available faculty complement.

Appendix II – U of R Philosophy Faculty CVs**Eldon Soifer**

Professor

Eldon.soifer@uregina.ca, (306) 585 4301

Education and Professional Development

D. Phil. In Philosophy, University of Oxford, 1988

MA in Philosophy, University of Toronto, 1984

BA in Philosophy (Honours), University of Toronto, 1982

Employment History

Professor, University of Regina (1989-present)

Teaching History

Philosophy 100, Introduction to Philosophy (2018)

Philosophy 150, Critical Thinking (2019, 2023)

Philosophy 270, Ethics (2019, 2026)

Philosophy 273, BioMedical Ethics (2019, 2022, 2025)

Philosophy 276, Professional Ethics (2017, 2020, 2024)

Philosophy 281, Philosophy of Sexuality and Love (2018)

Philosophy 290AN, Ethical Eating (2020)

Philosophy 370AD, Issues in Consequentialist Ethics (2019, 2021, 2026)

Philosophy 370AI, Death and Well-Being (2023)

Philosophy 371, Advanced Social and Political Philosophy (2017, 2025)

Philosophy 470AD, Issues in Consequentialist Ethics (2019, 2021, 2026)

Philosophy 470AI, Death and Well-Being (2023)

PHIL 471AO, Issues in Social and Political Philosophy (2017)

PHIL 890, Topics in Social and Political Philosophy (2017)

PPE 400, Capstone Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (2019)

Student Supervision

List undergraduate students, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and other relevant trainees carrying out research or other original scholarly activity under your direct supervision within the past ten years. Use the table below to list names, position, and dates of supervision. Additional comments can be made below the table.

Name	Position	Dates of supervision
Sophia Bote	Honours Supervisor	2023-2024
Jayden Whittal	Honours Supervisor	2023-2024
Richard Yeomans	Honours Supervisor	2018-2019
Michael McFarlane	M.A. Supervisor	2016-2018

University Service

Department Head, Department of Philosophy and Classics, (2023-2024 and 2016-2017)

Department Head, Department of Political and International Studies (2021-2023)

Search Committee, Department of Philosophy and Classics, (2019 and 2025)

Performance Review Committee. Faculty of Arts (2019-2020)

Budget Advisory Committee, Faculty of Arts, (2015-2017)

Sub-Committee for Developing Procedures for the Potential Termination of Programs within the Faculty of Arts, Member, (2017)

Dean's Executive Council, Faculty of Arts, (2021-2024)

University's Representative to the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (2015-2017)

Visions and Priorities Ad Hoc Sub-Committee #1, Faculty of Arts, 2016

Ethics Committee, Saskatchewan Health Authority (Regina Region), Ethicist, (2002-2024).

Research Ethics Committee, Saskatchewan Health Authority (Regina Region), Alternative Member/Ethicist, (2006-2024)

Scholarly Research

“AI Technologies, Privacy, and Security” (with D. Elliott), *Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence* Vol. 5 (2022)

“Divine Omniscience, Privacy, and the State” (with D. Elliott), *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 82 (3), 2017

Ethical Issues: Perspectives for Canadians 4th Edition (ed., with D. Al-Maini, A. Levey, and A. Taylor), (Peterborough, Ontario, Broadview Press, 2020

Review of James Stacey Taylor, “The Metaphysics and Ethics of Death”, *Philosophy in Review* 37 (2), 2017.

“Does Big Data Eliminate Privacy?” (with D. Elliott), presented at the Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Sept. 2024.

“Privacy, Autonomy, and Connectionism” (with D. Elliott), presented at the Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Lethbridge, Alberta, Oct. 2019.

“Privacy and Deception” (with D. Elliott), presented at the Canadian Society for Social Philosophy and the Philosophy of Law Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, June 2015.

“Limits of /Truth Telling” (with D. Elliott), Teaching Module for the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan, 2024.

“The Foundation of Ethics” (with D. Elliott), Teaching Module for the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan, 2023.

[Seven Commentaries on Conference Papers during this time period]

Ryan Doran

Assistant Professor

ryan.doran@uregina.ca, (306) 585-4142,

Education and Professional Development

Northwestern University, PhD, Philosophy, December, 2012

Queen's University, MA, Philosophy, December 2002.

York University, BA (honours): Philosophy & English, May 2001.

Employment History

2020 to present: Assistant Professor, with tenure, Department of Philosophy and Classics, University of Regina.
(4-month parental leave 2020, 10-month compassionate care leave 2022)

2014: Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy and Classics, University of Regina.

Teaching History

From AY 2015-16, but not including AY2025-26

Introduction to Philosophy, Phil 100: W25, F23, W22, F20, W20, F19, W19, F18, F17, W17, F15

Critical Thinking, Phil 150: F24, F21, W21, F17

Pre-Socratics and Plato, Phil 210: W18

Early Modern Philosophy, Phil 213: F24, W23, W19, F15

Knowledge and Reality, Phil 235: F17

Symbolic Logic, Phil 251 or Phil 352: W25 (as directed reading), W24, W22, W20, F16

Ethics, Phil 270: W24, W22, W21, W20

Biomedical Ethics, Phil 273: F23, F16

Epistemology, Phil 336/436: F21, F18, F15

Philosophy of Mind, Phil 344/444: W24, F20, W18

Philosophy of Language, Phil 345/445: W25, W23, F19, W17

University Service

Philosophy Department search committee, 2025

Faculty of Arts Academic and Program Development Committee, Winter 2025-present

Faculty of Arts Student Appeals Committee, Fall 2018-Winter 2021 (chair 2020-1), Fall 2023-present (chair 2025-6)

Executive of Council, Faculty of Arts Representative, Fall 2020-Winter 2023

Faculty of Arts Core Curriculum Review Committee May 2018-May 2020

Philosophy Department search committee, 2019

Dean's observer for Dept. of Economics 3-year term position search committee, 2018

Ad hoc committee for Faculty of Arts Award for Accessible Scholarship Prize for Writing, 2016

Scholarly Research

Doran, Ryan, Gregory Ward, (2019) "Demonstratives Licensed by Cultural Co-presence" in *Crossing Linguistic Boundaries*, Edited by Paloma Núñez-Pertejo, María José López-Couso, Belén Méndez-Naya, Javier Pérez-Guerra, Bloomsbury Publishing.

Doran, Ryan, Gregory Ward, (2019) "A Taxonomy of Uses of Demonstratives" in *The Oxford Handbook of Reference*, Edited by Jeanette Gundel and Barbara Abbott, Oxford University Press.

Doran, Ryan, Gregory Ward. (2017) "Distal Demonstratives Licensed by Culturally-Familiar Scenarios," *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 2, 2:1-12.

Doran, Ryan, Gregory Ward. (2016) "Demonstratives with Distributed Interpretations" *Chicago Linguistic Society* 51.

Paul Simard Smith

Associate Professor

paul.simard.smith@uregina.ca, (306) 585 4667,

Education and Professional Development

PhD, Philosophy, University of Waterloo, 2007- 2013

Dissertation: *Logic in Context: An essay on contextual foundations for logical pluralism*

MA, Philosophy, University of Windsor, 2005-2007

Thesis: *On Deductivism: A critical survey of deductivism in informal logic*

BA (Hons.), Philosophy, University of Regina, 2000-2005

Employment History

University of Regina, Associate Professor

July 2025-Present

University of Regina, Assistant Professor (TT)

July 2020-July 2025

University of Regina, Assistant Professor (LTA)

July 2019-July 2020

Luther College, Instructor (LTA)

Fall 2018-Spring 2019

University of Windsor, Assistant Professor (LTA)

Winter 2017-Spring 2018

University of Regina, Sessional Lecturer

Fall 2016

Teaching History

University of Regina	PPE 400 Philosophy, Politics and Economics Capstone Seminar
University of Regina	PHIL 275-001 Environmental Ethics
University of Regina	PHIL335CH/435CH Law, Knowledge and Colonialism
University of Regina	PHIL 290AA Practical Argumentation
University of Regina	PHIL 310AA/410AA Philosophy of Propaganda and Ideology
University of Regina	PHIL 370AA.370AA Knowledge, Truth and Power
Luther College	PHIL 272-001 Contemporary Moral Issues
Luther College	PHIL 274-001 Philosophy of Law
University of Windsor	PHIL 254-001 Theory of Knowledge
University of Windsor	PHIL 292-001 Indigenous Thinkers on Law and Knowledge
University of Windsor	PHIL 226-001 Symbolic Logic
University of Windsor	PHIL 160-001 Reasoning Skills
University of Windsor	PHIL 226-001 Law, Punishment and Morality
University of Windsor	PHIL 261-001 Argumentation Theory
University of Regina and Campion College	PHIL 150-003 Critical Thinking

Student Supervision

Name	Position	Dates of supervision
------	----------	----------------------

Sarah Nakonechny	BA Honours student	January - May 2023
University and External Community Service		

- *Chair of the Special Case M.A. Program in Philosophy*: I intake inquiries about the special case M.A. program and solicit feedback on applicants from Faculty members who may be interested in supervising the potential student. I also update the Philosophy Department on the Special Case M.A program and attend meetings of the Arts Graduate Co-ordinators.
- Board member with Saskatchewan Health Association Research Ethics Board (May 2022-Present), member knowledgeable in Ethics.
- *Dean's Observer for History Search*: Observe deliberations on a hiring process in the History Department to find an Assistant Professor in Indigenous History or Canadian History and provide a report to Dean (Fall 2024).
- External Examiner for a MSc thesis in Computer Science by Mohammad Hossein Karimian, "Causal, Strategic and Combined Responsibility Anticipation and Attribution in Situation Calculus Concurrent Game Structures."
- *Internal Peer Reviewer of Grant Applications* (SSHRC Insight Grant 2017), University of Windsor.
- *Member, University of Regina's Reconciliation Action Committee (July 2020-Present)*: I attend regular meetings and contribute to this committee.
- *URFA Grievance Committee (July 2019-May 2022)*. I have also sat on a hiring committee for an MSO and currently sit on a sub-committee exploring the role of restorative justice at URFA and the Grievance process
- *Academic Indigenization Forum University of Regina*: arranged for local guest speakers to contribute, moderated panel, helped develop group activities for participants, contributed to logistical planning of event.
- *University of Windsor Aboriginal Education Council (May 2017-June 2018)*: Member, co-organizer of Brown Bag series (a lunch hour discussion on different strategies and ideas that faculty from across the University of Windsor are employing to decolonize their teaching practice.

Community Service:

- *Metis Child and Family Services Report*: I produced a brief internal report for Metis Nation – Saskatchewan Child and Family Services Ministry on a meeting between the Government of Canada and the Metis National Council on metis Family Services across the Metis Nation Homeland.
- *Metis Cultural Pavilion*. I was an Ambassador at the 2019 Metis cultural pavilion at the Mosaic Cultural Festival (May 30th to June 2nd 2019), I was asked to return to this role for the 2020 Mosaic. However, that was canceled due to COVID-19.

Scholarly Research**Peer Reviewed journal articles**

- “The Métis Nation, Epistemic Injustice and Self-Indigenization,” (2024) in *Pawaatamihk: Journal of Métis Thinkers*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 264-275 (2nd author; with Kurtis Boyer, 1st author).
- “Varieties of Deep Epistemic Disagreement,” (2021), *Topoi: An International Review of Philosophy*, vol. 40, pp. 971-982 (1st author; with Michael P. Lynch, 2nd author).
- “Assessment Context-Sensitive Logical Consequence,” (2020) *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy*, vol. 63 pp. 282-301.

Peer Reviewed book chapters

- ‘On the Illegitimacy of the Canadian Constitutional Order,’ (2025) in *On Settler Colonialism in Canada: Lands and Peoples*, eds. MacDonald, David and Grafton, Emily, University of Regina Press.
- “The Epistemology of Deep Disagreement and Indigenous Oral Histories,” (2023) in *Ways of Being in the World: An Introduction to the Indigenous Philosophy of Turtle Island*, ed Andrea Sullivan-Clarke, Broadview Press, pp. 169-180.

Public Philosophy Contributions

- “UNDRIP’S Limits on Corrective Reforms to the Basic Structure,” in *Blog of the APA: Law and Philosophy Series*, published March 21st 2024, at <https://blog.apaonline.org/2024/03/21/undrips-limits-on-corrective-reforms-to-the-basic-structure/>

Peer Reviewed Conference Proceedings

- “Pluralism As A Bias Mitigation Strategy,” (2016) *Proceedings of the 2016 Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation*, Windsor Ontario.

Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations

- Two Concepts of the Inherent Right to Self-Government, Presented at the Conference of the Interdisciplinary Journal of Indigenous *Inaakonigewin* in September of 2023, conference hosted by the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- The Liberal Principle of Legitimacy in Settler Colonial Contexts, Presented at the Canadian Philosophical Association Conference at the 2023 Canadian Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences in May of 2023 at York University in Toronto, Ontario.
- Two Concepts of the Inherent Right to Self-Government, Presented at the CS-IVR Conference at the Canadian Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in May of 2023 at York University, Toronto, Ontario (with Michael Giudice and Xavier Scott).
- The Liberal Principle of Legitimacy in Settler Colonial Contexts, Presented in January of 2023 at the Philosophy, Politics and Economics section of the American Philosophical Association, in Montreal, Quebec.
- “Structural Injustice in the Canadian Legal Order,” Presented to the 2022 CS-IVR Conference, *Law, Community and Justice: Indigenous Perspectives*, May 26th 2022, held over Zoom.
- Traversing Deep Waters: Epistemically paternalistic interventions in the context of deep disagreement. Presented to the Philosophy, Political Science and Economics Society in New Orleans in March 2020.
- Modeling Normative Domains. Presented to the APA Central Division meeting in February of 2019
- Reasonable Disagreement, Pluralism and Argumentation’s Purpose. Presented at the European Conference on the Study of Argumentation, Lisbon June 20th-24th, Fribourg, Switzerland.

Jérôme Melançon

Professor

jerome.melancon@uregina.ca, (306) 585-5243

Education and Professional Development

- **PhD** in political and legal sciences, political philosophy specialization, Université Paris Diderot (Paris 7), Centre de Sociologie des Pratiques et Représentations Politiques. Obtained on October 30, 2008.
- **DEA (Diplôme d'études approfondies)** in sociology of power, Université Paris Diderot, obtained in June of 2005.
- **Master's** degree in philosophy, University of Ottawa, obtained in September of 2004.
- **Bachelor's** of Arts Honours degree in Philosophy, University of Ottawa, obtained in May of 2002.

Employment History

- January 1, 2025-December 31, 2029. **Head, Department of Philosophy and Classics**, Faculty of Arts, University of Regina.
- July 1 2024-Current. **Full Professor**, University of Regina.
- July 1, 2021-January 31 2024. **Program Chair**, French and Francophone Intercultural Studies, La Cité universitaire francophone, University of Regina.
- 2019-2024. **Associate professor (tenured)**, University of Regina, La Cité universitaire francophone, French and Francophone Intercultural Studies.
- 2017-2019. **Assistant professor**, University of Regina, La Cité universitaire francophone, French and Francophone Intercultural Studies.
- 2016 (October) – 2018 (June). **Director**, Centre de recherche sur les francophonies en milieu minoritaire (CRFM), University of Regina, La Cité universitaire francophone.
- 2016-2017. **Lecturer**, University of Regina, La Cité universitaire francophone.

Teaching History

PHIL 150 Critical Thinking

PHIL 290AT The Indian Residential School System: Philosophical Issues

PHIL 370AJ Advanced ethics / 470AK Ethics / 880BL Special Topics: The Lived Experience of Democracy

FRN 220 AF La chanson populaire en francophonie

FRN 250/350 AC Le français en vers

FRN 340 AE Histoire des idées en francophonie I : Le soi

FRN 340AF Colonialisme et réconciliation (online course)

FRN 340AG L'engagement communautaire

FRN 340AL Vivre sa propre vie : la philosophie de l'existence

FRN 460/860AF L'immigration francophone dans l'Ouest canadien : Gabrielle Roy

FRN 801 Bibliographie et méthodologie; FRN 803 Stage en communauté

FRN 802 Perspectives sur l'étude des communautés francophones
FRN 440AC/870AB L'hospitalité : une réponse aux migrations internationales
FRN 870AD La sociologie phénoménologique
FRN 870AE Études spécialisées du colonialisme au Canada
FRN 870AF Études spécialisées du colonialisme dans le monde francophone
INDG 100 Introduction aux études autochtones

Student Supervision

Name	Position	Dates of supervision
Kiendl, Anthony	MA Student, FFIS	2021-current
Parker, Alyssa	MA Student, FFIS	2023-current
Ocran, Natasha Esi	MA Student, FFIS	2023-current
Vencatareddy, Nicky	MA Student, FFIS	2023-current
Oyenyi, Bolutife	MA Student, FFIS	2024-current
Mireault, Véronique	MA Student, FFIS	2022-2025
Agbotri, Kodjo	MA Student, FFIS	2023-2025
Nwaefulu, Onyinye Sarah	MA Student, FFIS	2023-2025
Onu, Chigozie	MA Student, FFIS	2022-2025
Adetoye, Theophilus	MA Student, FFIS	2019-2021
Davoust, Manon	MA Student, SOPT	2019-2020
Laforge, Chantal	BA Honours, FFIS	2019

I also supervise one research associate, Jhaik Windy Hair.

University Service

- Head, Department of Philosophy and Classics, January 2025-current (+ Heads evaluation committee)
- Program Chair, French and Francophone Intercultural studies, 2021-2024
- Member, Executive of Council, 2018-2020, 2022-2024
- Member, Reconciliation Action Committee, 2018-today (co-chair 2018-2022)
- Special Advisor to the Vice-President (Research), Living Heritage Research Cluster, 2019-2021.
- Steering Committee, Identities – Living Heritage – Community Emerging Cluster, 2016-2019.
- Member, SAC, Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Engagement), 2020-2021.
- Member, SAC, Director of La Cité universitaire francophone, 2016-2017.

Scholarly Research

Books: *La politique dans l'adversité. Merleau-Ponty aux marges de la philosophie*, Métispresses, Genève, 2018, coll. « ChampContrechamp Essais », 284 p.; Transcription, edition and presentation of Maurice Merleau-Ponty, *Entretiens avec Georges Charbonnier et autres dialogues 1946-1959*, Éditions Verdier, Lagrasse/Paris, 2016.

Edited Books and Journal Issues: *Theatre Research in Canada* vol. 46, no. 1, 2025 (with J. Klassen); *Cahiers franco-canadiens de l'Ouest*, vol. 35, no. 1&2, 2023 (with S. Schroeter and A. Tremblay); *Revue internationale de philosophie*, 2022/4, no. 302, 126 p.; *L'intervalle du pouvoir. Postérité politique de Maurice Merleau-Ponty*, Paris, Kimé, April 2022; *Transforming Politics with Merleau-Ponty. Thinking beyond the State*, Lanham, MD, Rowman & Littlefield, June 2021; *Tumultes*, June 2021; *Cahiers franco-canadiens de l'Ouest*, vol. 31, no. 1, 2019 (with F. Boutouchent and H. Phipps).

Two co-edited OERs: [Canadian Settler Colonialism](#), 2024; [Being Together](#), 2024.

Selected journal articles and book chapters (out of 41 total over 10 years):

- “Jeanson’s Anti-Colonialism, Philosophy, and the Possibilities of Concrete Solidarity,” Proofs revised, *Sartre Studies International*, 2025.
- “Traduire l’archive au présent : Retour sur la tâche de traduction,” *@nalyse: revue des littératures franco-canadiennes et québécoise*, vol. 19, no. 2 (summer 2025). Proofs revised.
- “Juger des sociétés selon les relations. La valeur des régimes politiques selon Merleau-Ponty,” invited article for *Il Pensiero*, “Merleau-Ponty politico.” Article accepted by the editors.
- “Merleau-Ponty and Historical Transformation: The Dialectics of Situation and Action,” solicited chapter for Gavin Rae, Emma Ingala, and Cillian Ó Fathaigh, *Transformation in Contemporary French Philosophy*. Accepted by the editors and Edinburgh University Press after peer review.
- Emily Grafton and Jérôme Melançon, “In Search of Relationality in Scholarship: Opportunities for Decolonizing the Discipline of Political Science,” *Journal of Australian, Canadian, and Aotearoa New Zealand Studies (JACANZS)*, vol. 5 (2025), p. 7-50.
- “Colonisation, racialisation, recolonisation : Sur quelques dynamiques autour des communautés francophones des Prairies,” *Cahiers franco-canadiens de l’Ouest*, vol. 35, no. 1&2 (2023), p. 162-196.
- “La position contradictoire des communautés francophones en situation minoritaire dans l’ordre colonial canadien,” *Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies*, special issue: “La portée de la Commission de vérité et de réconciliation dans les contextes francophones canadiens,” vol. 20, no. 1 (2023), p. 126-146.
- Jérôme Melançon, Daniel Kikulwe and Michael Akinpelu, “De l’ajustement à la participation : Les nouveaux arrivants en contexte francophone minoritaire en Saskatchewan,” *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, vol. 54, no. 1, 2022, p. 81-104.
- “Théoriser un sentiment de minorisation. Les francophonies canadiennes entre philosophie politique et psychologie sociale,” with S. E. Moore, *Lien social et politique*, no. 86 (2021), p. 206-224.
- “Une relation trouble au colonialisme : Histoire des idées francophones au Canada et présences autochtones,” *Recherches sociographiques*, vol. 2, no. 6 (2021), p. 175-190.
- “Philosophy as a Mediating Institution and the Problem of Tradition in Canada,” *American Review of Canadian Studies*, 51, 3 (2021), p. 426-442.
- “Un régime à imaginer : Le renouvellement du socialisme et du libéralisme par Merleau-Ponty,” *Tumultes*, 56 (June 2021), p. 71-90.
- “La production et l’intentionnalité. De l’origine et de la genèse matérielles de la conscience selon Tran Duc Thao,” *Revue Philosophique de Louvain*, 117, 3, 2019, p. 547-565.
- “*L’autochtonisation comme pratique émancipatrice. Les communautés francophones devant l’urgence de la réconciliation,” *Cahiers franco-canadiens de l’Ouest*, vol. 31, no. 1, p. 43-68.
- “Idle No More. A Movement of Dissent,” *Aboriginal Policy Studies*, vol. 7, no. 1 (2018), p. 127-147.
- “L’ouest canadien comme terre de transformation : Du fédéralisme comme arrière-plan de quelques romans québécois,” *Interculturel francophonies*, no. 32 (2017), p. 283-312.
- “L’origine et la genèse de la conscience pure. Le contenu réel de *Phénoménologie et matérialisme dialectique* de Tran Duc Thao,” *Bulletin d’analyse phénoménologique*, vol. 12, no. 9 (2017), p. 1-30.

Poetry: 2 books with *Prise de Parole*; 3 chapbooks with above/ground press. Monthly contributor to [periodicities: a journal of poetry and poetics](#). **Other:** Columnist, [Francopresse](#), monthly, 2021-2025

Owen Clifton

Assistant Professor

Owen.Clifton@uregina.ca, 360-585-5302

Education and Professional Development

Research Fellow, University of Graz (2026)
Ph.D., Philosophy, Queen's University (2024)
Visiting Scholar, Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford (2023)
Early-Career Fellow, Global Priorities Institute, University of Oxford (2022)
Visiting Doctoral Researcher, Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley (2022)
M.A., Philosophy, Queen's University (2018)
B.A.H., Philosophy, Carleton University (2016)

Employment History

Instructor (contemporaneous with Ph.D. studies), Queen's University

Teaching History

At University of Regina:

- PHIL 276: Professional Ethics (2026)
- PHIL 100: Intro to Philosophy (2025)

At Queen's University:

- PHIL 301: Bioethics (2024)
- PHIL 151: Great Works of Philosophy (2024)
- PHIL 347: Contemporary Moral Philosophy (2023)
- PHIL 153: The State and the Citizen: Intro to Political Philosophy (2022)

University Service

Department & University Service

At the **University of Regina**, I am currently serving as U or R's Ethics Bowl Team Coach (2025-), and I will be delivering lectures to high-school students in Saskatchewan and Alberta as part of university recruitment in the new year (2026-). At **Queen's University**, I served as the Department of Philosophy's webmaster (2020-2025), as Teaching Assistant Mentor (2020), and as a member of the Committee of Graduate Studies (2020), the Cyclical Review Committee (2017), and the Departmental Advancement Committee (2017). I also delivered lectures to high-school students visiting Queen's as part of university recruitment (2024).

Professional Service

I am a co-organizer of the Western Canadian Philosophy Association's 2026 Annual Meeting. I have refereed books for *Oxford University Press* (2025) and papers for *Journal of Moral Philosophy* (2025 x 3; 2024), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* (2025), *Utilitas* (2025; 2024), *Developing World Bioethics* (2025), *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2024), *The Philosophical Quarterly* (2024), *The Journal of Applied Philosophy* (2024), *Erkenntnis* (2024), *Ratio* (2024), and *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* (2023; 2022 x 2). I have delivered commentaries at the Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (2024) and the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting (2023). I have also chaired sessions at various meetings of the Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society (2023; 2022 x 2), the American Philosophical Association (2023), and the Canadian Philosophical Association (2023; 2022).

Community Service

I have delivered community lectures to the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (2025; 2026), Kingston's Effective Altruism Chapter (2024), and the Ontario High School Ethics Bowl finalists (2023). I have served as a judge for the Ontario High School Ethics Bowl (2025; 2024; 2023). I will be delivering community talks in Regina in the new year as part of the Department's Philosophy Café (2026-).

Scholarly Research

Refereed Journal Articles

"Does the value of rational activity explain the badness of human extinction?"
The Philosophical Quarterly, forthcoming.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

"Does the value of rational activity explain the badness of human extinction?"
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, 2025

"Public and Private Longtermism"
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Eighth Annual Meeting, 2024
Global Priorities Symposium, 17th Conference of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies, 2024

"What Is Distributive Justice?"
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Seventh Annual Meeting, 2023

"Why Worry About Population Axiology?"
Yale University Early Career Ethics Workshop, 2023

"Contractualism and Two Types of Non-Identity"
Postgraduate Session, Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, 2024
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, 2023

Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Sixth Annual Meeting, 2022

British Society for Ethical Theory, 2022

Canadian Philosophical Association, Annual Congress, 2022

“Associative Duties and the Priority of Distributive Justice”

Society for Applied Philosophy Annual Conference, 2022

The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Fifth Annual Meeting, 2022

American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, 2022

Canadian Philosophical Association, Annual Congress, 2022

“Grounding Associative Duties”

American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, 2022

Canadian Philosophical Association, Annual Congress, 2020