

Curriculum Vitae Dr. Sonja RIEGLER

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ORCID

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EDUCATION

- 2020-2024 **PhD Philosophy** (Summa Cum Laude)
University of Vienna (AUT)
Title of Thesis: "A Functionalist Approach to Ignorance"
Supervised by Prof. Dr. Martin Kusch (Vienna) and Prof. Dr. Linda Martín Alcoff (CUNY)
External referees: Prof. Dr. Nadja El Kassar (Uni Luzern) and Prof. Dr. Rik Peels (VU Amsterdam)
- 2023 **Research Stay** (3 Months, CUNY & NYU)
- 2016-2019 **Master of Arts (MA) Philosophy** (Summa Cum Laude)
University of Vienna (AUT)
- 2017-2018 **Erasmus Exchange Philosophy**
Université Paris 1, Sorbonne-Panthéon
- 2011-2016 **Bachelor of Arts (BA) Philosophy**
University of Vienna (AUT)
- 2011-2016 **Bachelor of Arts (BA) Comparative Literature**
University of Vienna (AUT)
- 2015 **Erasmus Exchange Philosophy**
Université Paris 8, Vincennes-Saint Denis
- 2011 **Matura** AHS Gymnasium HIB Liebenau Graz (with distinction)

ACADEMIC PROFILE

Areas of specialisation

Political and Feminist Epistemology (esp. Epistemologies of Ignorance, Epistemic Oppression, Epistemic Paternalism), Empirically Informed Philosophy (esp. Qualitative Methods), Feminist Philosophy of Science (esp. Feminist Standpoint Theory, Expertise, Agnotology, Science and Democracy)

Areas of competence

Social Theory, Social and Political Philosophy (esp. Critical Race Studies, Theories on Discrimination, Theories on Power, Foucault), Philosophy of Public Policy, Feminist Philosophy of Language

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENTS AND TEACHING

Employments and Fellowships

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Normative Orders Institute, Goethe University Frankfurt
October 2025 – August 2026, with Prof. Rainer Forst and Prof. Darrel Moellendorf

PhD Completion Fellowship from Literar Mechana
March 2024 – December 2024

PhD Position (4-year fully funded position, Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna, Dissertation supervised by Martin Kusch and Linda Martín Alcoff)
March 2020 – March 2024

Teaching

2026 summer term	Course: MA-level course, "Ignorance, Power and Oppression – Novel Perspectives in Feminist and Political Epistemology," Goethe University Frankfurt
2025 winter term	Course: BA and MA level course, "Feminist Perspectives on Climate Change," University of Vienna
2024 summer school	Course: BA level course, "Ignorance, Power and Politics: Perspectives from Feminist and Political Epistemology", VU Amsterdam
2023 summer term	Course: BA level courses, "Introduction to Academic Writing," University of Vienna
2021 summer term	Course: MA level course, "Political Epistemology" (TA for Prof. Martin Kusch), University of Vienna
2016 winter term	Course: "Introduction to Theoretical Philosophy" (TA for Prof. Martin Kusch), University of Vienna
2015-2017	Courses: Introduction to Theoretical Philosophy, Philosophy and Romanticism, Philosophy and Aesthetics (TA for Prof. Richard Heinrich), University of Vienna

ORGANISATIONAL WORK

09/26	Conference on Critical Epistemology	University College Freiburg (together with Melanie Altanian and Frieder Vogelmann)
04/26	Workshop: Where Social Theory and Empirical Philosophy Meet	Normative Orders, Goethe University Frankfurt (with Sophie Veigl)
01/26	Workshop on Feminist Epistemology	University of Vienna (together with Sergej Seitz and Gerald Posselt)
09/25	Round Table Epistemic Injustice in Medicine	EPSA/ University of Groningen (with Sophie Veigl, Mirjam Faissner and Flora Löffelmann)
08/24	Round Table on "Critical Political Epistemology"	Philosophy World Congress, Rome
04/24	Hosting a Panel on "Critical Political Epistemology"	Midlands Conference for Critical Thought, University of Nottingham
11/23	Organization of Talk and PhD Workshop with Linda Alcoff (Title: "Imperial Museums")	University of Vienna
05/23	Inaugural Workshop of the Critical Political Epistemology Network	Co-Founding of Research Network, Organization of Workshop in Vienna
03/20 – 03/24	Organization of Talks in the APSE lecture series	Chairing of talks with Linda Alcoff, Quill Kukla, Gayle Pohlhaus Jr., Kristen Intemann, Janet Kourany, Ian James Kidd, Nadja El Kassar, Robin McKenna, etc., Vienna
09/21	Organizational Committee VDP Summer school on Resistance	Application Process, Organisation, Chairing Organisation and Chairing, Vienna
08/21	Organization of Talk: "Care Work, Household Activities and Academia"	Invited Speakers: Emma Dowling and Katherina Mader, Vienna
11/20	Organization of Talk: "The Day You'll Be Found Out" - Imposter Syndrome in the Academic Workplace	Organisation Invited Speaker: Joel Bothello, Vienna
08/20	Organization of Workshop "Towards Inclusion in the Institutional Context"	Organisation and Chairing Invited Speakers: Delia Belleri (UniVie) & Michael Greer (CUNY)
07/19	Institute Vienna Circle (IVC) Summer School on Philosophy of Psychiatry	Organisational assistance during the summer school

SERVICE-WORK AND MEMBERSHIPS

2023-2024	Founding Member of ANTIRA	ANTIRA is a working group on anti-racist initiatives at the department of philosophy, Uni Vienna
2022 - 2024	Steering Committee Vienna Doctoral School of Philosophy	Doctoral Representative (Spokesperson and point of contact for doctoral students, organization of PHD-related events ("Pragmatic Academic Series"))
2023 -	Founding Member of CPE	Research Network "Critical Political Epistemology"
2020 - 2024	Member and Chair of UPsalon	UPsalon organizes events that aim to create a space in Vienna where underrepresented philosophers can connect on a regular basis
2015 - 2017	Vice President of the IG ALPBACH VIENNA	Monthly organization of talks with the aim to showcase interdisciplinary (scientific) exchange; Acquired Skills: Event Management and Digital Communication

Additional Memberships: SWIP Germany, European Philosophy of Science Association, DFG, GAP, Ludwig Wittgenstein Society, GAIN (Gender and Agency in Research), Political Epistemology Network

Reviewing Work: Book Manuscript for Bloomsbury (2025), GAP Conference Epistemology Section (2025), Paper for Social Epistemology (2025), ERC Starting Grant

TALKS

Peer-Reviewed Talks:

30/09/2025	"Group Ignorance in Science – An Interactionist Account", EPSA conference, Groningen
25/02/2025	"Epistemologies of Ignorance for the Future", OEGP Congress Graz
25/09/2024	"Novel Perspectives to the Study of Ignorance", DGPhil Congress Münster
08/08/2024	"A Functionalist Approach to Ignorance", Philosophy World Congress, Rome
10/11/2023	"Ignorance, Oppression and Epistemic-System Approaches", Complexity-Theory Workshop hosted by Sally Haslanger, MIT
06/09/2023	"The Value of Ignorance", SOPHIA Congress, Salzburg
20/8/2023	"A Functionalist Approach to Ignorance as an Instance of Ignorance-Friendly Epistemology", European Congress for Analytic Philosophy 11, Vienna
10/7/2023	"Interference By Whom? Advocating for Experience-Based Forms of Expertise in Debates on Epistemic Paternalism", European Face of Political Epistemology Conference, Cres, Croatia
27/06/2023	"In Their Best Interest – Expert Involvement, Ignorance and Division of Epistemic Labor", Austrian Parliament, Tag der Parlamentsforschung
23/03/2023	"Ignorance, Expert-Involvement and Epistemic Paternalism", PERITIA Conference "Trust in Expertise and Governance", University College Dublin
06/12/2022	"A Functionalist Approach to Ignorance and its Relevance for Political Epistemology", 3 rd Annual PEN Conference, VU Amsterdam
29/09/2022	"The Role of Ignorance in Debates on Epistemic Paternalism", DfG Conference "Engaging Ethics and Epistemology in Science", University of Hannover
24/06/2022	"Call me by my Pronouns – "Genderqueer" as a Hermeneutical Resource", CWIP Conference, University of Antwerp
05/07/2021	"Call me by my Pronouns – "Genderqueer" as a Hermeneutical Resource", 10 th WFAP Graduate Conference

03/07/2020	“You Should Have Known!”, Workshop “Schuldhaftes Nichtwissen” Universität Wien
11/10/2019	“Ignorance as a Repressive Political Tool: Wissen im Widerspruch – Wissen als Widerspruch”, Momentum Kongress, Hallstatt (AUT)
<u>Invited Talks and Other Presentations:</u>	
18/11/2025	“How Bureaucracy Knows – Toward a Critical Epistemology of Rules, Expertise and Power”, Forschungskolloquium Rainer Forst und Darrel Moellendorf, Normative Orders, Goethe Uni Frankfurt
13/11/2025	“Group Ignorance in Science” – Jahrestagung SWIP Germany, Ulm
6/11/2025	“Function over Analysis: Rethinking Ignorance as Practice”, Workshop, “Affective and Epistemic Injustice,” TU Dresden
27/06/2025	“Meaning Dominance: When Polysemy Creates Hermeneutical Oppression”, Workshop with Miranda Fricker, Trajectories of Epistemic Injustice in Philosophy of Medicine, University of Bielefeld
06/12/2024	“Standpoint Projects and Critique”, IPW Workshop with Frieder Vogelmann, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna
06/09/24	“Ignorance and Resistance”, Ars Electronica, Linz
05/04/24	“Group Ignorance”, Midlands Conference for Critical Thought, Nottingham Trent University
17/02/24	„Epistemologien der Ignoranz – Ein Funktionalistischer Ansatz“, Polylog Forum 2024, University of Vienna
06/02/24	“Gender Bias in Science”, VHS Urania
09/11/23	“Ignorance as a Strategy of Resistance”, PhD Workshop with Linda Alcoff, University of Vienna
20/04/2023	“A Space Yet to Be Filled (By Whom?) – Ignorance as an Institutional and Interpersonal Practice”, Symposium: Addressing Amnesia, Performing Trauma, Vienna, University of Applied Arts
26/5/2023	“Labor, Material Conditions and Knowledge”, together with Solmu Anttila, Natalie Ashton and Karl Landström, Critical Political Epistemology Inaugural Workshop, Vienna
13/05/2022	“A Functionalist Approach to Ignorance”, SWIP Switzerland, University of Bern
10/3/2021	“The Political and Epistemic Function of Ignorance”, VDP DocWiP talk, University of Vienna

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed:

Riegler, Sonja: “A Functionalist Approach to Ignorance”, submitted to *Episteme* (RR)

Riegler, Sonja & Tepelija, Arnisa (forthcoming in 2026): “Community-Specific Expertise in Institutional Reform – the Case of Albania” (MS), Special Issue on Epistemological Perspectives in Comparative Constitutional Law, *Global Constitutionalism*

Riegler, Sonja (forthcoming in 2027): “Bureaucratic Expertise and Power” (MS), Special Issue on Political Epistemology in *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*

Riegler, Sonja (forthcoming in 2026): “Interference By Whom? Advocating for Experience-Based Forms of Expertise in Debates on Epistemic Paternalism”, in: Samarzija, H, McKenna, R (Eds.), *The European Face of Political Epistemology*, Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan

Riegler, Sonja & Veigl, Sophie (2025): “Meaning Dominance: When Polysemy Creates Hermeneutical Oppression”, *Social Epistemology*, DOI: 10.1080/02691728.2025.2595704

Sophie Juliane Veigl & Sonja Riegler (2025): “SSK and Feminist Epistemology as Adverse Allies - Meaning Finitism as a Resource for Debates on Hermeneutical Oppression”. In *Feminist Philosophy – Language, Knowledge, And Politics. Beiträge der Österreichischen Ludwig Wittgenstein Gesellschaft / Contributions of the Austrian Ludwig Wittgenstein Society. Band / Vol. XXXI*. Hrsg. von / ed. by Isabel G. Gamero, Amadeusz Just & Jasmin Trächtler in cooperation with Joseph Wang-Kathrein. Kirchberg/W.: ALWS, ISBN: 978-3-9505512-3-5

Riegler, Sonja (2022): "Wissen im Widerspruch, Wissen als Widerspruch – Umriss einer ambivalenten Beziehung", in: Adrienne N, Gabriel M, Gmainer-Pranzl F (Hrsg.): *Das Politische der Wissenschaft*, Band 18, Berlin: Peter Lang Verlag, 331-347, DOI: 10.3726/b19856

Other Publications:

Riegler, Sonja (2023): "A Space Yet to Be Filled (By Whom?) – Ignorance as an Institutional and Interpersonal Practice", in: Heinrich K, Robles F (Eds.), *Addressing Amnesia, Performing Trauma*, Vienna: Edition Angewandte, 100-108, ISBN: 9783902796882

Riegler, Sonja (2018): „Epistemische Diskriminierung. Über die Ökonomie der Kreditibilität in der Übertragung von Wissen“, in Berger, C, Wackenreuther, E (Hrsg.): *Politix*, Nr. 43, S. 39-45

Book Reviews:

Riegler, Sonja (2025): "Can We Rationally Deal with Ignorance? A Review of El Kassar's *How Should We Rationally Deal with Ignorance?*" *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* 14 (6): 72–78. <https://wp.me/p1Bfg0-9XP>.

Riegler, Sonja (2025): „Verkörperte Verbundenheit“. Rezension von Jule Govrins *Universalismus von Unten* (Suhrkamp 2024). In: Tagebuch 25/3

JOURNALISM AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

- PRINT: Freelance journalism and science communication (Articles: [Period Magazin](#), [Falter](#), [Standard](#))
- RADIO: Radio host of a philosophical radio show at Radio Orange 94.0: [Philosophische Brocken](#)
- VIDEO: [Socially Engaged Philosophy](#) (editing)

SCIENCE-TO-PUBLIC TALKS:

- "Was wissen Philosoph*innen über Nichtwissen?", Preisverleihung der Österreichischen Philosophie Olympiade (February 2025)
- "Ignorance as Resistance", Ars Electronica, Linz, September 2024
- "Gender Bias in Science", VHS Urania (February & May 2024)
- "In Their Best Interest – Expert Involvement, Ignorance and Division of Epistemic Labor", Austrian Parliament, Tag der Parlamentsforschung (June 2023)
- Poster Presentation of Dissertation Project, Lange Nacht der Forschung (University of Vienna, July 2022)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- German: First Language
- Englisch: C2
- French: C1

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Journalism and Science Communication	Radio Ö1 and Radio Orange, Freelance for: The Gap, Progress Online, etc. Das Magazin, period. Magazin, Falter
Cultural Diplomacy	Austrian Cultural Forum Paris (Part of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Project- and Event Management	Goethe-Institut Paris, Diagonale, Festival of Austrian Film, Vienna's Children University

REFERENCES

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Martin Kusch: martin.kusch@univie.ac.at
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Nadja El Kassar: nadja.elkassar@unilu.ch
Assoc.-Prof Dr. Fabio Wolkenstein: fabio.wolkenstein@univie.ac.at
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Linda Martín Alcoff: lmartina@hunter.cuny.edu