

Dr. Colum Finnegan

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Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Mind · Social Epistemology · Philosophy of Technology

Areas of Competence

Political Philosophy · Philosophy of AI · Applied Ethics

Education

PhD in Philosophy (Pass, No Corrections) Jan 2018 – Jun 2024

University College Cork, Ireland

Dissertation: Coordinating Minds: Mindshaping, Communication and Technology

Supervisor: Don Ross · Examiners: Tadeusz Zawidzki, Joel Walmsley

MA in Philosophy (Distinction) Sept 2016 – Oct 2017

University College Cork, Ireland

Dissertation: Moral Judgements as Costly, Honest Signals

BA (Hons) in Film and TV Production Sept 2008 – May 2012

Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dublin

Specialisation: Film Editing

Publications

- “Epistemic Diversity and Artificial Superintelligence: An Argument for Humans in the Loop.” In *Philosophy of AI: Volume 1*, Springer (forthcoming, 2026).
- “Shaping Mind with Narrative: Environmental Moral Affect in a Buddhist-Pragmatist Paradigm” In *Environmental Ethics in Western and Buddhist Philosophy*, Bloomsbury (forthcoming).
- “Flipping the Classroom to Generate Learning Content: Students as Authors of a Textbook on Planetary Risk.” (Co-Author), Camtree, 2026.
- “Naturalizing Normativity: Neopragmatist Reflections on Mental Disorder.” With A. Ilieva. *Synthese* 205(2), 2025. [link](#).
- “Mindshaping Online: Strategic Signaling and Coordination Noise.” In *The Routledge Handbook of Mindshaping*, 2025.
- “Reframing Our World: Examining the Crisis of Crises.” *Aigne Journal* 8, 2020, pp. 6–26.

Academic Employment

Postdoctoral Research Assistant

Aug 2025 – Present

Cambridge Centre for the Study of Existential Risk. Cambridge, UK

Assisting Prof. S. M. Amadae with research and policy work on nuclear weapons and existential risks. Co-leading a large handbook project to develop the field of Global Catastrophic Risk. Carrying out a research project investigating the risks of using LLMs in science and moral inquiry.

Research Assistant Jun 2020 – Jun 2022

University College Cork, Cork, Ireland

Manuscript preparation for *The Gambling Animal*, including source verification, bibliography formatting, and editing.

Research Assistant Jan 2020 – Jan 2021

New York University, New York City, USA

Assisted Prof. Gabriela Ilieva with manuscript preparation on Indian philosophy, including fact-checking, proofreading, and editing.

Research Assistant Jun 2017 – Nov 2019

University College Cork, Cork, Ireland

Assisted Prof. Don Ross with game theory research and academic tasks.

Conferences & Presentations

- “Degenerative AI: Creative Processes and the Human Edge” (Invited Talk) Istituto Marangoni London, April 2026.
- “Reverse Classroom Pedagogy: Partnering with Postgraduates Through Publication and Syllabus Development” Cambridge Teaching Forum, April 2026.
- “Engineering Online Communication Using Mindshaping Theory.” Forum for Philosophy, Engineering and Technology, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Sept 2024.
- “Neoliberals in Name Only: The Ironic Use of Neoliberal Rhetoric in Digital Capitalism.” Political Theory Graduate Conference, University of Leeds, May 2024.
- “Mindshaping and ICT: The World Made New.” Society for Philosophy and Technology Conference, May 2021.
- Conference Assistant, *Dynamic Encounters: Buddhism and the West*, AHRC Conference, Cambridge University, 2021.

References

Prof. Don Ross

Head of Philosophy Department, University College Cork
don.ross931@gmail.com

Dr. Tadeusz Zawidzki

Chair & Associate Professor of Philosophy, George Washington University
zawidzki@gwu.edu

Dr. Sonja M. Amadae

Director, Center for the Study of Existential Risk, University of Cambridge
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