Ian MacLean-Evans

York University

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Early Modern Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Logic, Social and Political Philosophy, Ethics, Feminist Philosophy

EDUCATION

PhD, Philosophy, York University (Toronto) 2022-2027 (expected)
Dissertation: *Spinoza's 'Ethics' Upside-Down*
Supervisor: Matthew Leisinger (York)
Committee Members: Zeyad El Nabolsy (York), Hasana Sharp (McGill)

Visiting Assistant in Research, Philosophy, Yale University 2025
Supervisor: Michael Della Rocca

MA, Philosophy, Carleton University 2020-2022
Thesis: *Spinoza and Self-Destruction: Oppression and Suicide*
Supervisors: Christine Koggel and Melissa Frankel

BA (Hons.), Philosophy, University of Ottawa 2016-2020
Magna Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2026 "Keeping Them With You: Spinoza, Love, and Eternal Minds"
Journal of Modern Philosophy 8. 31 pages.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.25894/jmp.2926

2023 "External Conditions, Internal Rationality: Spinoza on the Rationality of Suicide."
Journal of Spinoza Studies 2 (1): 40-63.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.21827/jss.2.1.38201

Academic Book Reviews

2022 Review of *Spinoza and the Philosophy of Love*, by Michael Strawser
International Journal of Philosophical Studies 30 (4): 452-456.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/09672559.2022.2148229

Public-Facing Pieces

2021 "Philosopher Spotlight: Spinoza, a Joyful Heretic"
Blogging the Question: A Blog by the Carleton University Philosophy Society.

EXTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

British Society for the History of Philosophy Graduate Essay Prize
For "Neither Male nor Female: Anti-Essentialism in Poulain de la Barre". (£1000) 2026

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Canada Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral. ($120,000) 2024-2027

Sansom Foundation Scholarship for Studies in the History of Ideas. ($10,000) 2023

Ontario Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral. ($15,000). 2023

Senate Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement – Graduate Level
Awarded for MA thesis, one of only 5 Master's winners across the university. 2022

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master's. ($17,500) 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As Instructor

York University

PHIL 2420 Human Nature — Winter 2027

Carleton University

PHIL 2001 Introduction to Symbolic Logic — Winter 2025

PHIL 2001 Introduction to Symbolic Logic — Summer 2024

Public Pedagogy

I've converted my logic course into a free, interactive intro course for the public (available here).

As Teaching Assistant

York University

PHIL 2200 Critical Reasoning (H. Davis) — Summer 2026

PHIL 2420 Human Nature (D. Jopling) — Winter 2026

PHIL 2200 Critical Reasoning (L. Carozza) — Summer 2025

PHIL 2420 Human Nature (D. Jopling) — Fall 2024

PHIL 1100 The Meaning of Life (J. Vernon) — Fall 2023

MODR 1730 Reasoning About Social Issues (C. Cohen) — Summer 2023

MODR 1760 Reasoning about Morality and Values (C. Cohen) — Fall 2022-Winter 2023

Carleton University

PHIL 2005 Ancient Philosophy: the Search for Wisdom (A. Larivée) — Fall 2021- Winter 2022

PHIL 2005 Ancient Philosophy: the Search for Wisdom (A. Larivée) — Fall 2020- Winter 2021

PHIL 1200 The Meaning of Life (K. Ferguson) — Summer 2020

Guest Lectures:

Carleton University

Guest lecture on François Poulain de la Barre.

PHIL 3002: 17th Century Philosophy (M. Frankel). — Fall 2026

York University

Guest lecture on Spinoza's practical/ethical philosophy.

PHIL 2020: Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz (M. Leisinger). — Fall 2024

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed

2026 "Contiguity and the Non-Human in Spinozist Social Individuals."
North American Spinoza Society (NASS) *Junior Scholar Workshop.*

2025 "They'll Always be With You: Spinoza, Love, and Eternal Minds."
Meeting of the North American Spinoza Society (NASS).

2023 "They'll Always Be With You: Spinoza, Love, and Eternal Minds."
Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association (CPA).

2022 "Oppression as Suicide Inducing, or Spinoza Against Oppression"
Building Back Better: Opportunities and Risks Graduate Conference (Carleton University)

2022 "Bayle's Missing Critique: Disjunctive Syllogism and Cartesian Corporeal Substance."
Annual Meeting of the Western Canadian Philosophical Association (WCPA).

2022 "Spinoza and Self-Destruction: Oppression and Suicide."
Southern Journal of Philosophy Early Modern Social Justice Workshop.

2021 "Epistemic Injustice and the Suicidality of the Oppressed: Philosophy and Suicide Research."
38th International Social Philosophy Conference, North American Society for Social Philosophy

2021 "Fanon and Oppressed Suicidality: Philosophical Horizons in Suicide Research."
Ethics and Applied Philosophy Graduate Conference, UNC Charlotte.

Invited

2026 Commentary on Hasana Sharp's "Slavery to God in Spinoza's *Short Treatise*."
Ontario-Québec Workshop on Early Modern Philosophy.

2026 "Neither Male nor Female: Conceptualism and Anti-Essentialism in Poulain de la Barre."
The McMaster-Oulu Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy.

2026 Panel talk on evaluating the prejudiced social positions of historical philosophers.
Guest expert for a session of *PHIL 3003, 18th Century Philosophy,* Carleton University.

2026 "Neither Male nor Female: Anti-Essentialism in Poulain de la Barre."
Annual Meeting of the British Society for the History of Philosophy.

2025 "Contiguity and the Non-Human in Spinozist Social Individuals."
Society for Early Modern Philosophy at Yale.

2025 Panel talk on how history of philosophy can inform contemporary philosophy.
Panel: *Refining Philosophy through Revisiting the History of Philosophy,* Carleton University.

2024 "They'll Always be With You: Spinoza, Love, and Eternal Minds."
University of Toronto Graduate Spinoza Workshop.

2023 Workshop discussion on Spinoza's philosophy of suicide and its contemporary applications.
Carleton University Philosophy Society.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2026 Judge for the *Ontario High School Ethics Bowl* at the Ottawa regional competition.

2022 "What is it Like to be Attending Your First Big Conference? An Interview with M.A. Student Ian MacLean-Evans," Interview by Professor Kyla Bruff,
Carleton University Department of Philosophy.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

York University

Research Assistant, Supervised by Matthew Leisinger. Fall 2026
Research Assistant, Supervised by Matthew Leisinger. Summer 2026
Research Assistant, Supervised by Matthew Leisinger. Winter 2024
Projects across each of these positions:
Early Modern Philosophy Projects

Carleton University

Research Assistant, Supervised by Annie Larivée. Summer 2022
Research Assistant, Supervised by Annie Larivée. Winter 2022
Research Assistant, Supervised by Annie Larivée. Fall 2021
Research Assistant, Supervised by Annie Larivée. Summer 2021
Projects across each of these positions:
What Socrates Learned From Parmenides, Parts 1 and 2.
Ancient Philosophy as a Way of Life.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Contiguity and the Non-Human in Spinozist Social Individuals"
Under Journal Review

"Spinoza, Degrees of Adequacy of Ideas, and Mental Power"
Under Journal Review

"Neither Male nor Female: Conceptualism and Anti-Essentialism in Poulain de la Barre"
Under Journal Review

SERVICE & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Refereeing

Croatian Journal of Philosophy. 2023

Academic Service

Lead Conference Organizer of the *York University Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*.	2027
Tenure Committee Graduate Student Representative, York University.	2026-27
Organizer of York's *History of Philosophy Reading Group* for the Winter 26 semester.	2026
Conference Co-Organizer of the *York University Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*.	2026
Conference Co-Organizer of the *York University Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*.	2025
Conference Co-Organizer of the *York University Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*.	2024
Research Group Co-Organizer of the *York Philosophy Graduate Research Group*.	2024
Research Group Co-Organizer of the *York Philosophy Graduate Research Group*.	2023
Volunteer Hiring Consultant for tenure-track job, Carleton University.	2021

Administrative Employment in Academia

Contract eCourse Builder, Carleton University Dept. of Philosophy	2025
Graduate Program Administrator - Acting, Carleton University Dept. of Philosophy	2024
Graduate Program Administrator - Acting, Carleton University Dept. of Philosophy	2023
Lead Communications Coordinator, Carleton University Dept. of Philosophy	2021-23

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

York University

Research Seminar	K. Andrews & M. Leisinger
Philosophy of Action (Causal Theory of Action)	R. Myers
Philosophy of Logic (The Unity of the Proposition)	C. Campbell
Major Problems in Political Philosophy (Africana Philosophy)	Z. El Nabolsy
Major Problems in Political Philosophy (Civility)	A. MacLachlan
Directed Readings: Applied Philosophy by Early Modern Women	M. Leisinger
First-Year Seminar (Epistemology of Perception)	J. Beck & K. Lande

University of Toronto

Early Modern Naturalisms: Spinoza and Hume	M. Rosenthal & D. Ainslie

Carleton University

Scepticism and Knowledge in Early Modern Philosophy	M. Frankel
Research Seminar	C. Koggel
Hume's Ethics and Meta-Ethics	G. Davis
Seminar in Meta-Ethics	G. Davis
Colloquium	M. Mylopoulos
Proseminar: Naturalism and Non-Naturalism	D. Matheson

LANGUAGES

French (fluent), Latin (intermediate)