

# Dr. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt

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## Areas of Specialisation

**AOS:** Philosophy of Language & Linguistics, Social & Political Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Gender and Race.

**AOC:** Meta-ethics, Philosophy of Mind

## Academic Employment

2019 -	Marie Curie Fellow: "How Language is Used to Oppress" (HaLO), EU project 841443, ZAS-Berlin
2017 - 2018	Independent Research Fellowship, University of Birmingham
2014 - 2016	Beatriu de Pinos Research Fellow, LOGOS, Universitat Barcelona
2010 - 2014	Research Fellow, University of Birmingham
2005 - 2006	Visiting Fellow, Jean-Nicod Institute
2003 - 2005	Research Assistant, University of Geneva
2000 - 2001	Teaching Fellow, University of Bucharest

## Education

2009	Ph.D	Philosophy & Linguistics ( <i>summa cum laude</i> ), University of Geneva
2002	MA	General Linguistics, University of Geneva
2001	MA	Theoretical & Applied Linguistics, University of Bucharest
2000	BA	Foreign Languages & Literatures, University of Bucharest

## Publications

### CONTRACTED & EDITED WORKS

1. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. Slurs. (Forthcoming). Invited contribution to *Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy*.
2. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt (Guest Editor), *Special Issue on Understanding Figurative Talk, Philosophical Studies*, 2017.

## RESEARCH ARTICLES

3. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. (Forth). Reclamation: taking back control of words. Special Issue on Non-Derogatory Uses of Slurs. **Grazer Philosophische Studien** (eds. Bianca Cepollaro and Dan Zeman).
4. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2018. Embedding Irony, and the Semantics/Pragmatics Distinction. **Inquiry**. Available online DOI 10.1080/0020174X.2018.1446048
5. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt & Jeremy L Wyatt. 2018. Slurs, Roles and Power. **Philosophical Studies**. 175(11): 2879-2906. Available online (Sep 2017) DOI 10.1007/s11098-017-0986-2.
6. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2017. Introduction to *Special Issue on Understanding Figurative Talk*. **Philosophical Studies** 174(1): 1-12.
7. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2017. Compound Figures: Priority and Speech-Act Structure. **Philosophical Studies** 174(1):141-161.
8. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2016. Not all slurs are Equal. **Phenomenology and Mind** 11:150-156.
9. Stephen J. Barker & Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2015. Irony and the dogma about the force/sense distinction. **Analysis**, 75 (1):9-16.
10. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2014. Pretence and Echo: towards an Integrated account of Verbal Irony. **International Review of Pragmatics** 6:127-168.
11. Mihaela Popa. 2010. Ironic metaphor interpretation. **Toronto Working Papers in Linguistics**, Vol. 33: 1-17.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

12. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2019. Mind the Gap: Expressing Affect in Hyperbole and Hyperbolic Figures. In Gargett A. & J Barnden (Ed.) **Figurative Thought and Language**. John Benjamins.
13. Mihaela Popa-Wyatt. 2019. Hyperbolic Figures. In A. Athanasiadou & H. Colston (Ed.) **On the Diversity of Irony**. Cognitive Linguistics Research series, de Gruyter Mouton.
14. Mihaela Popa. 2010. Ironic metaphor: a case for metaphor's contribution to truth-conditions. In E. Walaszewska, M Kisieleska-Krysiuk & A. Piskorska (Ed.) **In the Mind and Across Minds: A Relevance-theoretic Perspective on Communication and Translation**, 224-245, Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
15. Mihaela Popa. 2009. Is semantics really psychologically real? In Larrazabal J. & Zubeldia L. (Ed.) **Meaning, Content and Argument**. Proceedings of the ILCLI International Workshop on Semantics, Pragmatics, and Rhetoric, 497-514. University of the Basque Country Press.
16. Mihaela Popa. 2007. La déconstruction de la description. In D. Lagorgette and M. Lignereux (Ed.) **Littérature et linguistique: diachronie/synchronie. Autour des travaux de Michèle Perret**, vol. LINX, pp. 136-158, ISBN: 2-915797-07-2.

## Public Engagement

**Ditchley Foundation:** a reflective discussion on "Renewing democratic societies to face the future: what insights can we draw from the last two-and-a-half years of Ditchley conferences?" Chair: The Rt Hon the Lord Hill of Oareford CBE, 12-13 April 2019.

## INVITED TALKS & SEMINARS

1. Slurs as Norm-Shifting. The Social Institution of Norms: a workshop with Robert Brandom. University of Vienna. 8-10 April 2019.
2. Slurs as Social Doing. Workshop on Social Meaning, ZAS Berlin, 18-19 March 2019.
3. Norms-shifting and mobilising to hatred. University of Nottingham, 21 November 2018.
4. Construction of Roles in Hate Speech: Workshop with Ron Mallon. University of Copenhagen, 16 November, 2018.
5. Bad norms and game theory. XXVIIth SIUCC–Workshop on Philosophy and Cognitive Science. Workshop on Elisabeth Camp, Basque Country, 26-28 September 2018.
6. Commentary on Rae Langton: "How to get a Norm from a Speech Act", Summer School on Langton's lectures "Speech acts and the Politics of Accommodation", Essen, July 18-20, 2018.
7. The rise of harmful norms: slurs and misogyny. University of Parma. 6-8 June, 2018.
8. How (Hate) Speech Alters Norms. 1st Social Epistemology Network Event, Oslo, (Commentator: Rachel Sterken), 22-24 May, 2018.
9. How Words can Cause Harm. Workshop on Foundations of Normativity. Edinburgh, (Commentator: Bryan Pickel), 12-13 June 2017.
10. Slurs: Silencing and Appropriation. University of Vienna. 12 May 2017.
11. Power Games and Words. BARSEA Epistemology Workshop. University of Cambridge. 25-26 February 2017.
12. Expressive Meaning and Expressivity. PLM Workshop on Subjectivity in Thought and Language, LOGOS Barcelona, (Commentator: Laura Silva), 22-23 September 2016.
13. Slurs: Power and Roles Control. Workshop on Foundations of Normativity. Edinburgh, (Commentator: Connie Rosati). 13-15 June 2016.
14. Slurs: Offence Variation. Workshop on Emotions, Normativity, and Social Life. San Raffaele, Spring School of Philosophy, 6-8 June 2016.
15. Commentary on Jennifer Saul "Good and Bad Implicit Bias Stories". 11th Nomos on Sally Haslanger, Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, 7 June 2016.
16. Slurs, Roles and Power. Philosophy & Linguistics seminar, Northwestern University, 8 April 2016.
17. Social Power and Discourse Roles in Slurs. Seminar. LOGOS, 16 March 2016.

18. Stickiness of slurs: Expressivity and Expressivism. LOGOS-Barcelona, 3 June 2015.
19. Slurs, Power, and Silencing. Workshop on Semantic Content and Conversational Dynamics, LOGOS Barcelona, 30 June 2015.
20. Irony Embedding. Workshop on Figurative Language, 18-19 August 2014, University of Birmingham.
21. Embedded irony, and the Semantics/Pragmatics Distinction. Research seminar on the Semantics-Pragmatics Interface. University of Brighton, 17 October 2012.
22. The Semantics/Pragmatics of Metaphor and Irony: the Embedding Criterion. Invited talk within the Hang Seng Centre for Cognitive Studies, Department of Philosophy, University of Sheffield, 29 November 2011.
23. Irony targeting other Figures. Royal Institute of Philosophy Workshop on Irony and related figurative uses. Department of Philosophy, University of Birmingham, 15 June 2011.
24. Mind-reading in Ironic Metaphor. Research seminar in the Department of Psychology, University of Birmingham, 19 November 2010.
25. Absurd Effects: Subverting Pragmatic Routines. Research seminar on Literature and Linguistics, University of Strachclyde, Glasgow, 13 October 2008.
26. Metaphor's Priority Thesis—Psychological Arguments for Metaphor's Directness in Figurative Compounds. Research seminar on Language and Communication, Department of Psychology, University of Glasgow, 10 December 2007.

## **CONFERENCE TALKS AND PAPERS**

27. Slurs enforcing bad norms. Joint Session of the Mind and Aristotelian Societies. University of Oxford. 6-8 July 2018.
28. How slurs alters norms. Workshop on "Who's got the power?", University of Iceland, 6-7 October 2017.
29. Role assignment: explaining the variable offence of slurs. Pacific Division APA, San Francisco, (Commentator: Adam Sennet), 30 March-3 April 2016.
30. Why are slurs so pernicious and hard to resist? Workshop on Names, Demonstratives, and Slurs, Garnagno Italy, 15-17 September, 2014.
31. Irony embeds as speech-act. 4th Utterance Interpretation and Cognitive Models (UICM4), University of Brussels, 2-3 September 2013.
32. Metaphor and Hyperbole. Workshop on Metaphor Festival, University of Stockholm, 29-31 August 2013.

33. Embedding of ironic attitude in propositional attitudes. 21st European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP), University of Granada, 9-12 July 2013.
34. Embedded irony and the semantics/pragmatics distinction. Workshop on Understanding of Figurative talk, Institute of Philosophy London, 20-21 June 2013.
35. The puzzle about embedded irony. 1st International Pragmatics Conference of the Americas and the 5th International Conference on Intercultural Pragmatics, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, 19-21 October 2012.
36. Hyperbole in Irony (with John Barnden). 4th UK-Cognitive Linguistics Conference (UK-CLC4), Kings' College, London, 10-12 July 2012.
37. The semantics/pragmatics of metaphor and irony: the embedding criterion. International Workshop on Semantics, Pragmatics and Rhetoric (SPR-11), Donostia, 9-11 November 2011.
38. Metonymy and its affective connotations (with John Barnden). Workshop on Metaphor Festival, University of Stockholm, 8-10 September 2011.
39. Ironic metaphor and the semantics/pragmatics distinction. 4th International Conference on Intercultural Pragmatics and Communication, University of Madrid, 15-17 November 2010.
40. Metaphor and truth-conditional criteria. The Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, University College, Dublin, 9-11 July 2010.
41. Logical constraints underlying figurative compounds. Conference Context and Levels of Illocutionary Content, University of Lisbon, December 2009.
42. Pure semantics facing the psychological reality charge. 13th Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Oxford, (Commentator: Ofra Magidor, Balliol College, University of Oxford), 21-22 November 2009.
43. Psychological claims from minimalist semantics. 6th Logic and Engineering of Natural Language Semantics (LENLS VI), University of Tokyo, 19-20 Nov 2009.
44. Is semantics really psychological real? International Workshop on Semantics, Pragmatics, and Rhetoric (SPR-09), Institute for Logic, Cognition, Language and Information (ILCLI) of the University of the Basque Country, Donostia, 6-8 May 2009.
45. Irony as a hybrid of pretence and echo. 4th conference on Interpreting for Relevance: Discourse and Translation, University of Warsaw, 17-18 June 2008.
46. The semantics/pragmatics of ironic metaphor. 2nd Utterance Interpretation and Cognitive Models (UICM2), University of Brussels, 19-21 July 2008.
47. Poetic metaphorical paradox. Bi-annual International Conference on Language, Communication and Cognition, University of Brighton, 4-7 August 2008.

48. Ironic metaphor: a case for metaphor's contribution to truth-conditions. ECAP6: Sixth European Congress of Analytic Philosophy, Institute of Philosophy of the Jagiellonian University, University of Krakow, 21-26 August 2008.
49. Constraints on interpreting ironic metaphors. 3rd International Symposium of Cognition, Logic and Communication: A figure of Speech, co-organized by the Departments of Philosophy, Kansas State University and Center for Cognitive Sciences and Semantics, University of Latvia, Riga, 16-18 December 2007.
50. The psychological reality charge for pure semantics. 15th European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Geneva, 9-12 July 2007.
51. Ad hoc concepts in understanding contradictions. 9th International Pragmatics Conference, Riva del Garda, 10-15 July 2005.
52. What do contradictions communicate? 1st Joint Conference of the SPP (North-American Society for Philosophy and Psychology) and the ESPP (European Society for Philosophy and Psychology), University of Barcelona, 3-6 July 2004.
53. The risks and rewards of absurd comprehension: how to make sense out of non-sense? 12th European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Turin, 9-12 July 2003.

## Teaching Experience & Reading Groups Led

- 2017-18      *LC Political Philosophy: Can Power be Legitimate?*  
 Taught with Prof Iain Law  
 (11 Seminars, 1st year 97 students), University of Birmingham.
- 2015-16      *Module Lecturer on Topics in Semantics and Pragmatics*  
 Taught jointly with Prof Manolo Carpintero (MA and PhD programme in CCiL–  
 Cognitive Science and Language), University of Barcelona.
- 2014-16      Convenor of reading groups: *Issues in Meta-ethics: Value and Normativity, Pejorative Talk and Thought* (2015/Term II), and *Harm Speech, Power, and Silencing* (2016/Term II), LOGOS, University of Barcelona.
- 2003-04      *Supervised MA dissertations on Discourse Analysis*, University of Geneva
- 2000-01      Teaching Assistant on *Course in Semantics and Pragmatics*  
 (3rd yr students, 20 students, 1 semester, 20 seminar sessions), University of Bucharest.
- 2000-01      Teaching Assistant on *Course in Stylistics*  
 (3rd yr students, 10 students, 1 semester, 20 seminar sessions), University of Bucharest.

## Other Activities

- 2014-17 Participant on Max Kölbl's project on on *Semantic Content and Conversational Dynamics*, LOGOS-Barcelona.
- 2015 Member of Program Committee of 8th AISB Symposium on Computing and Philosophy on *The Significance of Metaphor and Other Figurative Modes of Expression and Thought*, University of Kent (20-22 April 2015).
- 2017 Member of Program Committee of Sixth International Conference of the Scandinavian Association for Language and Cognition (SALC 6), Lund University (20-22 April 2017)

## Workshops Organised

### 2013 **Go Figure—Understanding Figures of Speech**

*Chairs:* Mihaela Popa, John Barnden

*Venue:* Institute of Philosophy, London, 20-21 June 2013

*Funding:* Mind Association (£1000), British Society of Aesthetics (£1500), Aristotelian Society (£500), Leverhulme Trust (£3000), Analysis Trust (£480), and Institute of Philosophy (£900).

*Invited speakers:* Stephen Barker (Nottingham), John Barnden (Birmingham), Anne Bezuidenhout (South Carolina), Emma Borg (Reading), Mitchell Green (Virginia), Larry Horn (Yale), Ofra Magidor (Oxford), Stephen Neale (CUNY), Mihaela Popa (Birmingham), Stephen Schiffer (NYU), Catherine Wearing (Wellesley), Robyn Carston (UCL), Guy Longworth (Warwick), and Deirdre Wilson (UCL).

### 2011 **Irony and Related Figurative Uses**

*Chairs:* Mihaela Popa, John Barnden

*Venue:* Dept of Philosophy, University of Birmingham, 15 June 2011

*Funding:* Royal Institute of Philosophy (£600)

*Invited speakers:* John Barnden (Birmingham), Greg Currie (Nottingham), Francesca Ervas (Jean-Nicod, Paris), Felicity Deamer (UCL, London), Francesco Gentile (Nottingham), Mihaela Popa (Birmingham).

### 2004 **Pragmatic Interfaces**

*Organisers:* Louis de Saussure, P. Schulz, Mihaela Popa

*Venue:* University of Geneva, 24-25 Feb 2004

*Invited Speakers:* Nicholas Allott (UCL), Nicholas Asher (Austin), Antoine Auchlin (Geneva), Alain Berrendonner (Fribourg), Diane Blakemore (Salford), Robyn Carston (UCL), Paul Chilton (Norwich), Paul Danler (Innsbruck), Marc Dominicy (Brussels), Laurent Filliettaz (Geneva), Hans Kamp (Stuttgart), Jacques Moeschler (Geneva), Andrea Rocci (Lugano), Louis De Saussure (Geneva), Peter Schulz (Lugano), Frans Van Eemeren (Amsterdam), Daniel Vanderveken (Québec), Deirdre Wilson (UCL).