

Academic CV

Name: Forsman, Jan Juhani

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Education: PhD

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Nationality: Finland

Areas of Research and Teaching Interests

Areas of Specialization

History of Philosophy, René Descartes, Philosophical Skepticism, Early Modern Philosophy, Ancient Skeptical Philosophy, Aristotelian-Scholastic Philosophy

Areas of Competence

History of Philosophy, Philosophical Skepticism, Historical Women Philosophers, Early Modern Philosophy, Ancient Philosophy, Medieval & Scholastic Philosophy, Renaissance Philosophy, Metaphysics, Epistemology,

Teaching Interests

History of Philosophy, Historical Women Philosophers, Philosophical Skepticism, Metaphysics, Epistemology

Current Employment

11.1.2023-12.5.2023 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Iowa.

1.8.2022-31.7.2024 Visiting Scholar (postdoc), Department of Philosophy, University of Iowa.

Career phase

Postdoctoral Research

Previous Work Experience

Work Inside of Academia

4.1.2022–31.5.2022 Part-time teacher, supervising 6 Bachelor Thesis works, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland.

1.8.2021–31.12.2021 Part-time teacher, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland.

4.1.2021-31.5.2021 Part-time teacher, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland.

15.6.2020-14.9.2020 PhD researcher/Doctoral student (fixed term), Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland.

1.8.2017-31.7.2019 PhD researcher/Doctoral student (fixed term), Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland.

13.4.2017 Expert evaluation, four articles on early modern philosophy, *Logos* – encyclopedia.

URL=<http://filosofia.fi/ensyklopedia>

21.1.2014, Part-time teacher, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland

1.5.-31.6.2011 Assistant intern, Faculty of *Philosophy*, University of Tampere, Finland.

Work Outside of Academia

2020-2022 Substitute teacher (part-time), City of Tampere, Finland.

27.2.2013-9.8.2014, Telephone interviewer, TNS Gallup Oy, Tampere, Finland
April-May 2012, Modeling for an art class (naked model), Tampere University of Technology, Tampere, Finland
16.9.2011-31.8.2012, Telephone interviewer, TNS Gallup Oy, Tampere, Finland

Education and Degrees Awarded

27.3.2021 PhD, Philosophy, Tampere University, Finland.
Doctoral Thesis in history of philosophy: *Of Dreams, Demons, and Whirlpools: Doubt, Skepticism, and Suspension of Judgment in Descartes's Meditations*.
13.6.2012 Master of Arts, Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland.
Grade: *Eximia cum laude approbatur*.
26.1.2011 Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland.
2005-2012 University of Tampere, Finland. Major: Philosophy; Minor: Communications & Media, Latin Language & Classic Heritage (ancient history & philosophy and Latin and Ancient Greek).

Other Relevant Education

2016- University Pedagogy, Tampere University.

Research Visits

18.2.2019-30.4.2019 Visiting Graduate Researcher, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), USA.
Project Grant (5500€) for the research visit above. Granted by the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

Student Exchange

2007-2008 Loughborough University, England. Major: Communications & Media. Erasmus Programme.

Language Skills

Finnish (native); English (fluent, C2); Swedish (basic user, B1); Spanish (basics, A2); German (basics, A1); Latin and Ancient Greek (reading)

Publications

Peer reviewed Scientific Articles

- Forsman, Jan:** (forthcoming, c. 2022) "Madness and Dream in Descartes's *First Meditation*" in **Baldassari, Fabrizio (ed.):** *Descartes and Medicine: A System of Obscurities and Light, and its Reception*, Brepols.
- Forsman, Jan:** (2019) "Can an Atheist know that He Exists? *Cogito*, Mathematics, and God in Descartes's *Meditations*," *International Journal for Study of Skepticism*, Vol. 9, No. 2, Brill, 91-115.
- Forsman, Jan:** (2017) "Descartes on Will and Suspension of Judgment: Affectivity of the Reasons for Doubt" in **Boros, Gábor; Szalai, Judit & Tóth, Olivér István (eds.):** *The Concept of Affectivity in Early Modern Philosophy*, Eötvös University Press, 38–58.
- Forsman, Jan:** (2016) "Mahdollisuus, välttämättömyys ja luodut ikuiset totuudet Descartesin filosofiassa (Possibility, Necessity and Created Eternal Truths in Descartes's Philosophy)" in **Niiniluoto, Ilkka; Tahko, Tuomas & Toppinen, Teemu (eds.):** *Mahdollisuus*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 120–129.
- Forsman, Jan:** (2015) "Tahto ja arvostelmasta pidättäytyminen Descartesin filosofiassa (Will and the Suspension of Judgment in Descartes's Philosophy)," *Ajatus 72: Suomen Filosofian Yhdistyksen vuosikirja 2015*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 15–51.

Non-Peer reviewed Scientific Articles

- 2021 “Epäily, skeptisismi ja arvostelmasta pidättäytyminen Descartesin *Mietiskelyissä* (Doubt, skepticism, and suspension of judgment in Descartes’s *Meditations*),” *Lectio praecursoria* 19.2.2021, *Ajatus* 78: *Suomen Filosofisen Yhdistyksen vuosikirja 2021*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 301–306.
- 2018 “Descartes and Suspension of Judgment: Considerations of Cartesian Skepticism and *Epoché*,” *Proceedings of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy 70*, Greek Philosophical Society, 15–20.

Scientific Book Reviews

- 2022 “Historiallisten naisfilosofien esiinmarssi (Emergence of Historical Women Philosophers),” combined review of Martina Reuter (ed.): “Miesvaltaa murtamassa,” (Gaudeamus Helsinki 2021) Rebecca Buxton & Lisa Whiting (eds.): “Filosofian kuningattaret (The Philosopher Queens),” (niin & näin, Tampere 2021) and Torsti Lehtinen: “Sofian Sisaret (Sisters of Sophia),” (Into, Helsinki 2020), *niin & näin*, no. 114, 3/2022, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 148–150.
- 2021 “Miesvallan murtaajat (Breakers of Patriarchy),” review of Martina Reuter (ed.): “Miesvaltaa murtamassa: Varhaisten feministien filosofisia kirjoituksia (Bringing Down the Patriarchy: Philosophical Writings of Early Feminists),” (Gaudeamus, Helsinki 2021), *Tieteessä tapahtuu*, 5/2021, Tieteellisten seurain valtuuskunta, 79–81.
- 2017 “Epäilijöitä ja tiedon etsijöitä (Doubters and Knowledge Seekers),” review of Malin Grahn-Wilder (ed.): “Skeptisismi: Epäilyn ja etsimisen filosofia,” (Gaudeamus, Helsinki 2016), *Ajatus* 74: *Suomen Filosofian Yhdistyksen vuosikirja 2017*, Philosophical Society of Finland, 327–341.
- 2017 “Tietoa etsimässä (In the Search for Knowledge)” review of Malin Grahn-Wilder (ed.): “Skeptisismi: Epäilyn ja etsimisen filosofia (Skepticism: The Philosophy of Doubting and Searching),” (Gaudeamus, Helsinki 2016) *niin & näin*, no. 93, 2/2017, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 150–151.
- 2015 “Utopian jäljillä (On the Trail of Utopia),” review of Keijo Lakkala: “Utopia tänään: Yhteiskunnallisen mielikuvituksen metodologiaa (Utopia Today: Methodology of Social Imagination),” (Kampus Kustannus, Jyväskylä 2014) *Tieteessä tapahtuu*, vol. 33, no. 6, Tieteellisten seurain valtuuskunta, 77–80.

Popular Writings Related to the Research

- 2016 “Cavendishistä, Moresta, kirjeistä ja filosofiasta (On Cavendish, More, Letters, and Philosophy),” *niin & näin*, nro. 91, 4/2016, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 16–18.
- 2016 “Keskellä äärettömyyden mustaa merta: H.P. Lovecraftin filosofiaa,” *Kuiskaus Pimeässä* 1/2016.
- 2016 “Potkiko Descartes koiria? – Muutama sana Kartesiolaisesta eläinkäsityksestä (Did Descartes kick dogs? Some words on Cartesian conception of animals),” *Paatos*, 31.3.2016.
URL=<http://www.paatos.fi/2016/03/31/potkiko-descartes-koiria-muutama-sana-kartesiolaisesta-elainkäsityksesta/>
- 2015 “Potkiko Descartes koiria? – Muutama sana Kartesiolaisesta eläinkäsityksestä (Did Descartes kick dogs? Some words on Cartesian conception of animals),” guest blog-post, *Animal Justice Party of Finland*. URL=<http://eop.fi/fi/potkiko-descartes-koiria/>
- 2015 “Brontosaurusen yö (Night of the Brontosaurus),” *niin & näin*, no. 85, 2/2015 (online extra).
URL=<http://www.netn.fi/artikkeli/brontosaurusen-yo>
- 2014 “Keskellä äärettömyyden mustaa merta: H.P. Lovecraftin filosofiaa (In the Midst of the Black Seas of Infinity: The Philosophy of H.P. Lovecraft),” *Paatos* 2/2014.
URL=<http://jarjestot.uta.fi/aatos/paatos/2014-02/lovecraft.html>

Conference Reports

2016 “Lähelle on pitkä matka – Muistoja Barcelonan ja Tampereen Yliopistojen kohtaamisesta (It’s a long way to get near – Memories from the meeting of the Universities of Barcelona and Tampere)”, conference report, *Paatos*, 17.3.2016.

URL=<http://www.paatos.fi/2016/03/17/lahelle-on-pitka-matka-muistoja-barcelonan-ja-tampereen-yliopistojen-kohtaamisesta/>

2013 “Metafyysisiä mietelmiä (Metaphysical Meditations)”, conference report, *niin & näin*, no. 78, 3/2013, Eurooppalaisen filosofian seura ry, 125.

Theses

2021 *Of Dreams, Demons, and Whirlpools: Doubt, Skepticism and Suspension of Judgment in Descartes’s Meditations*, Tampere University. (Public defense: 19.2.2021).

URL=<https://trepo.tuni.fi/handle/10024/124689>

2012 *Descartesin epäilyn metodi (Descartes’s Method of Doubt)*, Masters’s Thesis, University of Tampere. URL=<https://tampub.uta.fi/handle/10024/83510>

2011 *Transsendentaalisuuden porteilla: Descartesin epäilyn metodi tarkasteltuna Husserlin transsendentaalifilosofiaa ja luonnollisen asenteen kritiikkiä vasten (On the Gates of Transcendentalism: Descartes’s Method of Doubt compared with Husserl’s transcendental philosophy and critique of natural attitude)*, Bachelor’s Thesis, University of Tampere.

Papers Under Review

Forsman, Jan & Hakkarainen, Jani: “Émilie Du Châtelet on Freedom: The Wolffian Context”

Works in Progress

Article: “Taking Skepticism Seriously: Descartes’s *Meditations* as a Cognitive Exercise and the Cartesian *Epochē*”

Article: “Descartes on Freedom of the Will: Spontaneity and Indifference”

Article: “Teresa’s Demons: Teresa of Ávila’s Influence on the Cartesian Skeptical Scenario of Deceiving Demon”

Article: “Margaret Cavendish and Skepticism”

Conferences, Lectures, and Presentations

Organizer

26.-27.5.2016 Organizing the 9th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland (with University Lecturer, docent Jani Hakkarainen and assistant intern Miikka Palokangas,).

20.-22.6.2011 Hume’s Metaphysics and Humean Metaphysics -conference, University of Tampere, Finland (as an intern at the Faculty of Philosophy with University Lecturer, docent Jani Hakkarainen).

Lectures

20.5.2021 *Taking Skepticism Seriously: Descartes’s Meditations as a Cognitive Exercise and the Cartesian Epochē* (45 min), Skepticism Lecture Series: Session V, online-event.

24.5.2016 *Life of Skepticism: Ancient Skeptics and Descartes* -lecture (45min), delivered at the Finnish Institute at Athens, Greece.

Travel Grant (400€) for giving the lecture *Life of Skepticism: Ancient Skeptics and Descartes* at the Finnish Institute at Athens, 24.5.2016, Athens, Greece. Granted by the School of Social Sciences and Humanities.

18.-21.2.2014 *Teaching of philosophy at the University of Tampere* -lecture (45min) at Jornades Sobre L’ensenyament de la Filosofia a Europa -conference, University of Barcelona, Spain.

Presentations

- 20.4.2023 TBA, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, United States.
- 5.-8.4.2023 *Teresa's Demons: Teresa of Ávila's Influence on the Cartesian Skeptical Scenario of Demonic Deception* -presentation, APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Fransisco, United States.
- 28.-30.9.2022 *Du Châtelet's "On Freedom" as a Response to Wolffian Spontaneity* -presentation, together with Senior Lecturer Jani Hakkarainen (Tampere University), delivered at Émilie Du Châtelet in Relation to Leibniz and Wolff – Similarities and Differences -conference, Paderborn University, Germany.
- 14.-16.9.2022 *Teresa's Demons: Teresa of Ávila's Influence on the Cartesian Skeptical Scenario of Demonic Deception* -presentation, delivered at the European Society for Early Modern Philosophy Conference 2022, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 18.-20.11.2020 *Madness & Dream in Descartes's First Meditation* -presentation, delivered at VivaMente 2020: Medicine in the Philosophy of Descartes – Lights and Shadows online-conference.
- 12.-16.8.2019 *The Thinking Thing and the Willing Subject: Descartes's Cogito and the Self as a Moral Agent* -presentation, delivered at the 3rd Arctic Circle Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Kilpisjärvi, Finland.
- 17.-20.4.2019 Taking part in 2019 American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, Canada.
- 16.4.2019 *Descartes's Second Meditation* -presentation, delivered at the History of Philosophy Seminar, University of California, Los Angeles, USA.
- 22.-24.10.2018 *Dreams and Demons: Radical Skepticism in Descartes's First Meditation* -presentation, delivered at the 2018 Congress for Doctoral Students, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 8.-9.5.2018 *Dream and Reality: Descartes's Dreaming Doubt and the External World* -presentation, delivered at the 11th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Helsinki, Finland.
- 20.-21.4.2018 *Descartes on Will and Suspension of Judgment* -presentation, delivered at the Early Modern – St. Louis -conference, St. Louis, USA.
- 23.-25.10.2017 *"Whatever I have up till now accepted as most true...": Descartes on the Occasional Sensory Errors and Skepticism of the Senses* -presentation, delivered at the 2017 Congress for Doctoral Students, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 8.-9.6.2017 *Descartes and the Fear of Skepticism in the Early Modern Period* -presentation, delivered at the What Were the Early Moderns Afraid of? -conference, University of Antwerp, Belgium.
- 2.-3.6.2017 *Life and Skepticism for Descartes: Meaning of the Moral Code in the Discourse* -presentation, delivered at the 10th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Tartu, Estonia.
- 23.5.2017 *Can an Atheist know that he exists? Cogito, Mathematics, and God in Descartes's Meditations* – presentation, delivered at the History of Philosophy Seminar, University of Turku, Finland.
- 17.-18.3.2017 *Can an Atheist know that he exists? Cogito and God in Descartes's Meditations* -presentation, delivered at the Dynamis Workshop in Metaphysics, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 11.-13.11.2016 *Can an Atheist know that he exists? Cogito and God in Descartes's Meditations* – presentation, delivered at the 20th Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Oxford, England.
- 24.-26.10.2016 *Madness & Dream in Descartes's First Meditation* -presentation, delivered at the 2016 Congress for Doctoral Students in Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 14.-15.10.2016, *Madness & Dream in Descartes's First Meditation* -presentation, delivered at the First Budapest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest, Hungary.
- 26.-27.5.2016, *Madness & Dream as reasons for doubt in Descartes* -presentation, delivered at the 9th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 7.-8.1.2016 *Mahdollisuus, välttämättömyys ja luodut ikuiset totuudet Descartesin filosofiassa (Possibility, necessity and created eternal truths in Descartes's philosophy)* -presentation, delivered at the One Word Colloquium ("Possibility"), University of Helsinki, Finland.
- 12.-14.10.2015 *Cogito and God in Descartes's philosophy* -paper, delivered at the 2015 Congress for Doctoral

Students in Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland.

- 9.10.2015 *The Skeptic, the Scholastic & the Layman* -presentation, delivered at University of Turku, Finland.
- 8.9.2015 *Potkiko Descartes koiria? Muutama sana Kartesiolaisesta eläinkäsityksestä (Did Descartes Kick Dogs? Some words on Cartesian Conception of Animals)* -presentation, delivered at Ravintelivalistus, Jyväskylä, Finland.
- 3.-4.6.2015 *Descartes's Suspension of Judgement and the Wax in the Meditations* -presentation, delivered at the 8th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy -conference, University of Södertörn, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 26.5.2015 *The Meditator's Identity and Memory in Descartes's Meditations on First Philosophy* -paper, delivered as part of Narrative, Memory, Identity -course, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 30.3.2015 *Descartes's method driven doubt as the research for knowledge and certainty* -presentation, delivered at the YKY-Joint Doctoral Seminar, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 13.2.2015 *The Meditator's Persona in Descartes's Meditations* -paper, delivered at the History of Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Helsinki, Finland
- 12.-14.8.2014, *Descartes against the Aristotelians* -paper, delivered at the History of Philosophy as the History of Anti-Aristotelianism -conference, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile.
- 18.-21.2.2014 *Cartesian epoché: How serious is the doubt and what it actually affects* -presentation, delivered at the Jornades Sobre L'ensenyament de la Filosofia a Europa -conference, University of Barcelona, Spain.
- 7.-9.10.2013 *Descartes and the suspension of judgment* -paper, delivered at the 2013 Congress for Doctoral Students in Philosophy, University of Tampere, Finland.
- 3.8.-10.8.2013 *Descartes and the suspension of judgment* -paper, delivered at the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy, University of Athens, Greece.
- 13.-14.6.2013 *Descartes and the suspension of judgment* -paper, delivered at the 6th Nordic Workshop in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Turku, Finland.
- 23.4.2013 *Descartes and the suspension of judgment* -paper, delivered at the History of Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Helsinki, Finland.

Teaching and Supervision Experience

Pedagogical Training and Competence

- 12.12.2021 EDUPEY03 Academic Supervision and Guidance (5 op), Tampere University, Finland.
- 7.5.2021 EDUPEY02 Curriculum and educational development (5 ECTS), Tampere University, Finland.
- 27.1.2017 PEDAYOP1-1 Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (10 ECTS), University of Tampere, Finland.

Teaching

- 17.1.-12.5.2023 PHIL:1861:0003 Introduction to Philosophy, teacher in charge, University of Iowa, United States
- 4.1.-31.5.2022 FIL.FIA.160 Bachelor Thesis Seminar, teacher in charge (with adjunct professor Inkeri Koskinen, University Lecturer), supervising 6 Bachelor's Theses, Tampere University.
- 7.9.-9.12.2021 FIL.FIA.160 Bachelor Thesis Seminar, teacher in charge (with adjunct professor Markku Keinänen, University Lecturer), Tampere University.
- 22.1.-14.5.2021 FILA02b History of Philosophy: Freedom of the Will (4 ECTS), teacher in charge (with adjunct professor Jani Hakkarainen, Senior Lecturer), Tampere University.
- 23.1.-11.5.2018 FILA6 History of Skepticism -seminar (5 ECTS), teacher in charge (with adjunct professor Jani Hakkarainen, Lecturer and Post-Doctoral Fellow), University of Tampere, Finland.
- 21.1.2014 *Introduction to Descartes's view of mind and body* -lecture (90min), part of FILA1 History of Philosophy -course (5 ECTS), University of Tampere, Finland.

Supervision

4.1.-31.5.2022 FIL.FIA.160 Bachelor Thesis Seminar, supervising 6 Bachelor's Theses, Tampere University, Finland.

Research Funding and Grants

2023–2024 *Skeptical Women: Skeptical Influence of Women Philosophers 1500-1800* (49.000€) University of Iowa, United States. Granted by the Alfred Kordelin Foundation.

2022–2023 *Skeptical Women: Skeptical Influence of Women Philosophers 1500-1800* (46.000€) University of Iowa, United States. Granted by the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

2021 Printing Grant for the printing costs of the Doctoral Thesis (195,42€). Granted by the Tampere City Science Grant Committee.

15.9.-14.11.2020 Research Grant for finalizing Doctoral Thesis (6.500€). Granted by Ella and George Ehrnrooth Foundation.

2018 Project Grant (5500€) for a research visit to the United States. Granted by the Finnish Cultural Foundation

2016 Grant for English Grammar Check (300€) of a scientific article of 12.000 words. Granted by englanniksi.fi.

Refereeing

2022 *Acta Analytica*

2021 *Journal of the Philosophy of History*

2021 *Manuscripto: International Journal of Philosophy*

2019–2020 *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism*

2019 *Ergo*

2018 *Ajatus: Suomen Filosofisen Yhdistyksen Vuosikirja*

Societal and Other Merits

Organizational activities

2022- Member, New Voices on Women in the History of Philosophy

2022- Treasurer, City Block basketball League, Tampere, Finland.

2022- Member of the Board, Tampereen Akateeminen Mahti, Tampere University, Finland.

2022- Chairman, Mahti Basketball team, Tampere University, Finland.

2021- Member of the Board, City Block basketball League, Tampere.

2021- American Philosophical Association, International Associate.

2018- Person in charge of City Block basketball, Mahti basketball team, Tampere University, Finland.

2015-2017 Vice Member, PhD Student (Tampere), the Finnish Doctoral Training Network in Philosophy.

2012-2017 Editor, Paatos: Philosophical Online Publication. URL=<http://www.paatos.fi/tietoa-paatos-lehdesta/>

2010-2011 Person in charge of events, Aatos: Student Association, University of Tampere, Finland.

2009 Person in charge of equality, Aatos: Student Association, University of Tampere, Finland.

Finnish Military Service

9 months (2004–2005), Private

Computer skills

Microsoft Office, internet, webmail

Drivers Licence

Classification B (passenger vehicles)

Hobbies

Reading, writing, cinema, music and basketball.

Letters of Reference

David Cunning, Professor, University of Iowa, david-cunning@uiowa.edu

Scott Ragland, Professor, St. Louis University, scott.ragland@slu.edu

John Carriero, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), carriero@humnet.ucla.edu

Jani Hakkarainen, Senior Lecturer, Tampere University, jani.hakkarainen@tuni.fi