

**Dr. Alastair Wilson** B.A., B.Phil, D.Phil (Oxon)

Birmingham Fellow

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## About

I'm a Birmingham Fellow in Philosophy, focusing on research in metaphysics and philosophy of physics. I also have research interests in epistemology and philosophy of science. My personal webpage is [here \(http://alastairwilson.org/\)](http://alastairwilson.org/).

## Qualifications

B.A. in Physics & Philosophy (Oxford, 2005)

B.Phil in Philosophy (Oxford, 2007)

D.Phil in Philosophy (Oxford, 2011)

## Biography

After completing undergraduate and graduate studies at various Oxford colleges, I spent a year and a half in Australia as a post-doc at Monash University, before joining Birmingham in 2012. My doctoral thesis was on the metaphysics of Everettian (many-worlds) quantum mechanics. I have also worked on laws of nature, chance, properties, causation, counterfactuals, and the epistemology of disagreement and of self-locating beliefs. My current research project is on fundamentality in physics and metaphysics. I am also editing a collection of papers on chance and time which will appear with OUP in September 2014, and working on a book loosely based on my D.Phil. thesis. I am Philpapers editor for the category 'Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics'.

## Teaching

I have taught metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of language, philosophy of science, Kant, and philosophy of mind. I'm currently developing courses in metaphysics and early modern philosophy.

## Postgraduate supervision

I'm happy to supervise or co-supervise graduates in most areas of metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of science and philosophy of physics.

## Research

- Fundamentality
- Everettian Quantum Mechanics
- Modality
- Chance
- Causation
- Dispositions
- Counterfactuals
- Disagreement
- Self-locating belief
- Space & time

**[A video of a presentation entitled 'Quantum Mechanics and the Metaphysics of Many Worlds' \(http://youtu.be/Ae8PMKocgNI\)](http://youtu.be/Ae8PMKocgNI)**. This was recorded at the 2012 PhysPhil conference at the University of St Andrews.

**[A podcast of talk entitled 'Quidditism and Modal Methodology' \(http://www.power-structuralism.ox.ac.uk/podcasts/audio/mt2011/alastair\\_wilson\\_quidditism\\_and\\_modal\\_methodology\)](http://www.power-structuralism.ox.ac.uk/podcasts/audio/mt2011/alastair_wilson_quidditism_and_modal_methodology)** given at the Power Structuralism Research Seminar in Oxford on January 16th 2013.

## Publications

- *Chance and Temporal Asymmetry*. An edited volume of articles, in production with Oxford University Press, expected September 2014.
- **[Chance and Context \(http://alastairwilson.org/files/ccweb.pdf\)](http://alastairwilson.org/files/ccweb.pdf)**. With Toby Handfield. Forthcoming in *Chance and Temporal Asymmetry*.
- **[Bradley on Chance, Admissibility, and the Mind of God \(http://alastairwilson.org/files/rbweb.pdf\)](http://alastairwilson.org/files/rbweb.pdf)**. Discussion of Darren Bradley's **[reply \(https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbmVxYXJyZW5icmFkbGV5cGhpG9zb3BoeXxneDo0YzY1NjBmM2VmYjIhMTA4\)](https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbmVxYXJyZW5icmFkbGV5cGhpG9zb3BoeXxneDo0YzY1NjBmM2VmYjIhMTA4)** to my

"Everettian Confirmation and Sleeping Beauty".

- **Everettian Confirmation and Sleeping Beauty** (<http://alastairwilson.org/files/ecsweb.pdf>). Forthcoming in *British Journal for Philosophy of Science*.
- **"Quitting Certainties: A Bayesian Framework Modeling Degrees of Belief"** (<http://bjps.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/axt056?ikey=kqywNo63qoqSIVt&keytype=ref>) (Review), forthcoming in *British Journal for Philosophy of Science* (<http://bjps.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/axt056?ikey=kqywNo63qoqSIVt&keytype=ref>).
- **"Metaphysics and Science"** (<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/46198-metaphysics-and-science/>) (Review), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (<http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/46198-metaphysics-and-science/>).
- **Objective Probability in Everettian Quantum Mechanics** (<http://alastairwilson.org/files/opieqmweb.pdf>). *British Journal for Philosophy of Science* 64(4):709-737, 2013.
- **Schaffer on Laws of Nature** (<http://alastairwilson.org/files/slnweb.pdf>). *Philosophical Studies* 164(3):653-657, 2013.
- **The Emergent Multiverse: Quantum Theory according to the Everett Interpretation** (<http://alastairwilson.org/files/wrweb.pdf>) (Review) *Metascience* 22(3):583-586, 2013.
- **Everettian Quantum Mechanics Without Branching Time** (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/g7614wx823h645w3/>) *Synthese* 188(1):67-84, 2012.
- **The Human Story Behind Everettian Quantum Mechanics.** (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/v45428500473505q/>) (Review) *Metascience* 21(1):143-146, 2012.
- **Modality: Metaphysics, Logic and Epistemology** (<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00048402.2011.592541>) (Review) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 89 (4): 755 - 756, 2011.
- **Macroscopic Ontology in Everettian Quantum Mechanics** (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9213.2010.675.x/abstract>). *Philosophical Quarterly* 61 (243): 363-382, 2011.
- **Disagreement, Equal Weight and Commutativity** (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/586830751765pgx4/fulltext.pdf>). *Philosophical Studies* 149 (3), 2010.
- **Disposition-Manifestations and Reference-Frames** (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1746-8361.2009.01206.x/abstract>). *Dialectica* 63 (4): 591-601, 2009.

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