

# M. GIULIA NAPOLITANO

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Erasmus School of Philosophy  
Erasmus University Rotterdam  
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## EMPLOYMENT

<b>Assistant Professor (tenured 2024)</b> Erasmus School of Philosophy, Erasmus University Rotterdam	<b>2023-present</b>
<b>Teaching Assistant Professor</b> Core faculty PPE program, UNC Chapel Hill	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>Postdoctoral Fellow</b> Applied Epistemology Project, UNC Chapel Hill	<b>2022-2023</b>

## EDUCATION

<b>Ph.D. Philosophy, University of California Irvine</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Research Masters (MA), philosophy</b> Utrecht University ( <i>cum laude</i> )	<b>2018</b>
<b>Laurea Magistrale (MA), philosophy</b> Università degli Studi di Padova ( <i>cum laude</i> )	<b>2016</b>
<b>Laurea Triennale (BA), philosophy</b> Università degli Studi di Padova ( <i>cum laude</i> )	<b>2014</b>

## PUBLICATIONS

- **Napolitano, M.G.** Echo Chambers. Encyclopedia entry to appear in Kurt Sylvan, Matthias Steup, Ernest Sosa & Jonathan Dancy (eds.) *The Blackwell Companion to Epistemology*, Third Edition, forthcoming.
- **Napolitano, M.G.** (2025). Conspiracy Theories, Resistance to Evidence, and Propaganda: How Conspiracy Theories Advance Political Causes. *Social Epistemology* 1:1-19.
- Worsnip, A., Lane, D., Pratt, S., **Napolitano, M.G.**, Gray, K. & Greene, J. (2025) Authority or Autonomy? Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives on Deference to Experts. *Philosophical Psychology*.
- **Napolitano, M.G.** & Reuter, K. (2023) What is a Conspiracy Theory? *Erkenntnis* 1-28.
- **Napolitano M.G.** & Boudry, M. (2023) Why We Should Stop Talking about Generalism and Particularism: Moving the Debate on Conspiracy Theories Forward. *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* 12 (9): 22–26.
- **Napolitano, M.G.** & Reuter, K. (2023) Is Conspiracy Theory a Case of Conceptual Domination? *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* 12 (11): 74–82, 2023.
- **Napolitano, M.G.** (2023) Prejudice, Generics, and Resistance to Evidence, *Inquiry*.

- **Napolitano, M.G.** (2021). Conspiracy Theories and Evidential Self-insulation. In Sven Bernecker, Amy Flowerree and Thomas Grundmann (eds.) *The Epistemology of Fake News*. Oxford University Press.

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS (INVITED\*)

### **Conspiracy Theories**

Keynote presentation Annual Graduate Conference, Vienna Forum for Analytic Philosophy, Vienna July 2025\*

### **“The Causal Content of Stereotypes”** (with Olivier Lemeire)

Applied Epistemology Workshop, Zurich, February 2024\*

Theoretical Philosophy Colloquium, Utrecht University, March 2024\*

CONCEPT work in progress talks, University of Cologne, June 2024\*

Research seminar Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, September 2024\*

### **“Why are Conspiracy Theories So Effective For Advancing Political Causes?”**

Eastern APA, January 2023\*

Conspiracy Theories Symposium, University of Miami, March 2023\*

CSUF Philosophy Symposium, Cal State Fullerton, April 2023\*

Invited Lecture, Extreme Belief Project, VU Amsterdam, June 2023\*

EIPE Research Seminar, Erasmus University Rotterdam 2023\*

UNC Chapel Hill PPE Workshop, August 2022\*

### **“Prejudice, Generics, and Resistance to Evidence”**

SIFA Annual Conference September 2021

### **“Group Belief and Conspiracy Theories”**

Bochum Conspiracy Theory Seminar, June 2021\*

Bologna Workshop on Online Misinformation, June 2021\*

UCD Conspiracy Theory Online Conference July 2021

Values Institute colloquium, Humanities Center, University of San Diego, April 2022\*

### **“Conspiracy Theories, Resistance to Evidence, and Propaganda”**

Innsbruck E-Lecture Series, December 2020\*

Waterloo Graduate Student Conference, March 2021

Pavia Graduate Conference in Political Philosophy, September 2021

### **“What is a Conspiracy Theory?”** (Joint talk with Kevin Reuter)

EXTRA Colloquium Bochum, May 2020\*

Virtual European X-phi Conference, June 2020

ECAP 10, Utrecht University, August 2020

UCD Conspiracy Theory Online Conference, July 2021

### **“Archaeological Conspiracy Theories and Propaganda”**

Archaeology in a post-truth world, University of California, Irvine, February 2020\*

### **“Conspiracy Theories in Archeology”**

Conspiracy theories workshop at AIA/SCS Joint Annual Meeting, San Diego, January 2019\*

### **“Are Conspiracy Theories Ever the Best Explanation?”**

Fake Knowledge Conference, University of Cologne, June 2018

GAP10 Conference, University of Cologne, September 2018

### **“Conspiracy Theories and Evidential Support”**

OZSW Graduate Conference, University of Amsterdam UvA, January 2018

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

### **Senior consultant - Grant for project on “Deference to Experts as an Aspect of Humble Inquiry”**

Awarded by the Humility in Inquiry Project at Arizona State University with funds from the John Templeton Foundation (total value: \$177,361; Lead PI Alex Worsnip, co-PIs Kurt Gray (Psychology, UNC), Jeffrey Greene (School of Education, UNC))

### **Kavka Endowed Prize**

UCI Department of Philosophy prize for outstanding graduate student, 2022

### **SIFA (Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy) Young Scholar Prize**

Award for best submitted paper in epistemology to the annual conference - “Prejudice, Generics and Resistance to Evidence”, September 2021

## **TEACHING & SUPERVISION**

### **BKO qualification - June 2024**

The Epistemology of Sexism and Racism	EUR, 2025
Ethical Aspects of Economics	EUR, 2024
Introduction to Philosophy (for students of economics w. S. Wintein)	EUR, 2024
Environmental Ethics	UNC Chapel Hill, 2023
Knowledge and Society	UNC Chapel Hill, 2023
Bioethics	UNC Chapel Hill, 2022
The Epistemology of Conspiracy Theories	University of Cologne, 2019
The Epistemology of Sexism and Racism (w. P. Silva)	University of Cologne, 2019

### **Course development:**

Theoretical Analytic Philosophy (BPSD, w. L. Garcia-Portela, S. Wintein, T. de Mey)	EUR, 2026
Social structural explanations (ReMA)	EUR, 2026
The contemporary knowledge crisis (BPSD)	EUR, 2026

### **PhD Supervision**

Lena Voorbergen (EUR, expected 2029)

Evelina Lissoni (IUSS Pavia, expected 2028)

## **OUTREACH**

‘Talk That Science’ Radio Show - 2024. UvA student run scientific radio show, available here: <https://www.echobox.radio/shows/talk-that-science?episode=24>

**Conspiracy Theory Explainer** - 2024. Short educational video on applied epistemology, coordinated by the Applied Epistemology Project, with illustration and animations by Ripley Stroud, UNC Chapel Hill [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtWARwW-pSo&ab\\_channel=PPEatUNC](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtWARwW-pSo&ab_channel=PPEatUNC)

## SELECTED SERVICE

**AEP blog editor** - 2022-2023. Curate the Applied Epistemology Project blog, a blog featuring pieces that take an epistemological perspective on recent news events for lay audiences.

**AEP workshop organization** - Fall 2022. Collaborated with Alex Worsnip to all stages of the organization of the Applied Epistemology Project first annual workshop on the epistemology of the media and journalism.

<b>ESPhil Faculty Diversity Officer</b>	<b>2025-present</b>
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<b>ESPhil Diversity and Inclusion Committee member</b>	<b>2024-present</b>
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<b>ESPhil Gender Minorities Network</b>	<b>2023-present</b>
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**Collective epistemology workshop organization** - EUR 2026 with Lena Voorbergen

## REFeree

*Social Epistemology; Canadian Journal of Philosophy; Episteme; Synthese; Erkenntnis; Analysis; Philosophical Quarterly*

## LANGUAGES

Italian - native

English - fluent

Dutch - B1