Assoc Professor. Chris Watkin
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Biography

As an undergraduate I read Modern and Medieval Languages (French and German) at Jesus College, Cambridge from 1998-2002, with a wonderful year in Paris as part of my study. In 2002-03 I completed an MPhil in European Literature and Culture, with essays on Derrida and Calvin (a fascinating pair of thinkers to explore together), and a dissertation on Paul Ricœur's work on justice. I then received AHRC funding to complete a PhD from 2003-2006, which became the book *Phenomenology or Deconstruction?*
After that I spent a year without a regular job, supervising and teaching at various colleges in Cambridge and applying for Junior Research Fellowships. I am very grateful to Magdalene College for the opportunity to work as the Lumley Junior Research Fellow from 2007-09, giving me the chance to work on the project that became *Difficult Atheism.* Gradually working my way further up Castle Hill, I then took up a temporary University Lectureship in French at Cambridge and fellowship at Murray Edwards College (formerly New Hall) from 2009-11, before moving with my wife Alison to Melbourne in 2011 to begin a senior lectureship in French Studies at Monash University. In addition to teaching and research duties I have served terms of office as Deputy Head of School (Research), school Honours Coordinator and Head of French.
I became a Christian when I was fifteen years old and since then I have been fascinated by the ways in which philosophy and contemporary culture can be brought into conversation with Christian theology.

Qualifications

Modern European Thought, PhD, Phenomenology or Deconstruction? The Question of Ontology in Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Paul Ricoeur and Jean-Lcu Nancy, University of Cambridge
Award Date: 31 Jul 2007

European thought, Junior Research Fellow, Difficult Atheism, Magdalene College

Employment

ARC Future Fellow
European Languages
MONASH UNIVERSITY
26 Sept 2011 → present

Monash Data Futures Institute
MONASH UNIVERSITY
1 Sept 2020 → present

Books

Michel Serres: Figures of Thought
Watkin, C., 2020, Edingburgh UK: Edinburgh University Press. 488 p.

Michel Foucault
Watkin, C. M., 2018, Phillipsburg NJ USA: P&R Publishing. 179 p. (Great Thinkers)

Jacques Derrida
Watkin, C., 2017, Phillipsburg NJ USA: P&R. 148 p. (Great Thinkers: Critical Studies of Minds That Shape Us)

Thinking Through Creation: Genesis 1 and 2 as Tools of Cultural Critique
Watkin, C. M., 2017, Phillipsburg NJ USA: P&R.

French Philosophy Today: New Figures of the Human in Badiou, Meillassoux, Malabou, Serres and Latour
Watkin, C., 2016, 1st ed. Edinburgh UK: Edinburgh University Press. 258 p.

Difficult Atheism: Post-theological thinking in Alain Badiou, Jean-Luc Nancy and Quentin Meillassoux
Watkin, C., 2011, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. 277 p.

From Plato to Postmodernism: The Story of the West Through Philosophy, Literature and Art
Watkin, C., 2011, UK: Bristol Classical Press. 256 p.

Phenomenology or Deconstruction? The Question of Ontology in Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Paul Ricoeur and Jean-Luc Nancy
Watkin, C., 2009, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. 263 p.

Editorial Responsibilities

Articles and Book Chapters

Sites of modernity: Rousseau and the state of nature
Watkin, C., Apr 2023, In: Australian Journal of French Studies. 60, 2, p. 185-197 13 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Michel Serres and the parasitic unmaking of modernity
Watkin, C., 2023, (Accepted/In press) In: Modern and Contemporary France. 15 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Una narrativa fenomenologica del contratto sociale
Watkin, C., Nov 2021, In: Logoi.ph. VII, 18, p. 171-176 6 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Nancy is a thinker of radical emancipation
Watkin, C., 2021, In: Angelaki - Journal of the Theoretical Humanities. 26, 3-4, p. 225-238 14 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Figures de la pensée
Watkin, C., 2020, *Michel Serres : Hommage À 50 Voix.* Bancquart, S. (ed.). Paris France: Editions le Pommier, p. 104-106 3 p.
Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Other

Representing French and francophone studies with michel serres
Watkin, C., 1 Jul 2019, In: Australian Journal of French Studies. 56, 2, p. 125-140 16 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Postmodernism
Watkin, C., 19 Apr 2019, *A Companion to Atheism and Philosophy.* Oppy, G. (ed.). Oxford UK: Wiley-Blackwell, p. 138-151 14 p. (Blackwell Companions to Philosophy).
Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Not more of the same: Michel Serres's challenge to the ethics of alterity
Watkin, C., 2019, In: Philosophy Today. 63, 2, p. 513-533 21 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Why Michel Serres?
Watkin, C., 2019, In: SubStance. 48, 9, p. 30-40 11 p.
Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

If my brain is damaged, do I become a different person? Catherine Malabou and neuro-identity

Watkin, C. M., 31 Jul 2017, *Reconstructing Identity: A Transdisciplinary Approach.* McDonald, S., Monk, N., Lindgren, M. & Pasfield-Neofitou, S. (eds.). Cham Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, p. 21-40 20 p.

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Michel Serres: From restricted to general ecology

Watkin, C., 2017, *French Ecocriticism: From the Early Modern Period to the Twenty-First Century.* Finch-Race, D. A. & Posthumus, S. (eds.). Frankfurt Germany: Peter Lang Publishing, Vol. 1. p. 153-172 20 p. (Studies in Literature, Culture, And the Environment).

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Dancing equality: Image, imitation and participation

Watkin, C., 2016, *Nancy and Visual Culture.* Giunta, C. & Janus, A. (eds.). 1 ed. Edinburgh UK: Edinburgh University Press, p. 39 - 54 16 p. (Critical Connections).

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Badiou and Nancy: political animals

Watkin, C. M., 2015, *Nancy and the Political.* Dejanovic, S. (ed.). 1 ed. Edinburgh UK: Edinburgh University Press, p. 43 - 65 23 p.

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Entries on "God:, "Incarnation", "Christianity" and "Atheism"

Watkin, C. M., 2015, *A Nancy Dictionary.* Gratton, P. & Morin, M-E. (eds.). Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Other › peer-review

Michel Serres' great story: from biosemiotics to econarratology

Watkin, C. M., 2015, In: SubStance. 44, 3, p. 171 - 187 17 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Rewriting the death of the author: Rancierian reflections

Watkin, C. M., 2015, In: Philosophy and Literature. 39, 1, p. 32 - 46 15 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Proving the principle of logic: Quentin Meillassoux, Jean-Luc Nancy, and the anhypothetical

Watkin, C. M., 2014, *Other Logics: Alternatives to Formal Logic in the History of Thought and Contemporary Philosophy.* Skodo, A. (ed.). Leiden Netherlands: Brill, p. 17 - 31 15 p.

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Ricoeur and the autonomy of philosophy: a reappraisal

Watkin, C. M., 2014, In: Philosophy Today. 58, 3, p. 411 - 425 15 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

De Omni Re Scibili: Kevin Hart Philosopher, Theologian, Poet

Watkin, C. M., 2013, In: Parrhesia: a journal of critical philosophy. 18, p. 36-40 5 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Relativisme/[Relativism]

Watkin, C. M., 2013, *La foi chretienne et les defis du monde contemporain/[The Christian Faith and Challenges of the Contemporary World].* Paya, C. & Farelly, N. (eds.). Charols France: Excelsis, p. 557 - 565 9 p.

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Thinking equality today: Badiou, Ranciere, Nancy

Watkin, C. M., 2013, In: French Studies. 67, 4, p. 522 - 534 13 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Being Just? Ontology and incommensurability in Nancy's notion of justice

Watkin, C., 2012, *Jean-Luc Nancy:Justice, Legality, World.* Hutchens, B. (ed.). London: Continuum International Publishing Group, p. 19 - 34 16 p.

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

Paul Ricoeur and the possibility of just love

Watkin, C., 2008, *Transforming Philosophy and Religion.* Wirzba, N. & Benson, B. E. (eds.). United States: Indiana University Press, p. 73 - 83 11 p.

Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Chapter (Book) › Research › peer-review

A different alterity: Jean-Luc Nancy's 'Singular Plural'

Watkin, C., 1 Jul 2007, In: Paragraph. 30, 2, p. 50-64 15 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Neither/nor: Jean-Luc Nancy's deconstrcutions of Christianity

Watkin, C., 2007, In: Research in Phenomenology. 37, 1, p. 115 - 143 29 p.

Research output: Contribution to journal › Article › Research › peer-review

Engagement