

AZITA CHELLAPPOO

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Education

- 2016-2020 PhD - Philosophy of Science
History & Philosophy of Science Department, University of Cambridge
Title: Conceptual Challenges in Cultural Selection
Supervisor: Tim Lewens
Examiners: Marta Halina (internal), John Dupré (external)
- 2014-2015 MSc - Philosophy of Science (Distinction)
Department of Philosophy, Logic & Scientific Method, London School of Economics
- 2012-2013 MRes - Biodiversity, Evolution and Conservation
University College London
- 2009-2012 BA (Hons) - Biological Sciences (First Class)
University of Oxford

Appointments

- Oct 2021-present Lecturer in Philosophy
Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
The Open University
- June 2020-Sept 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher
'The Return of the Organism in the Biosciences: Theoretical, Historical and Social Dimensions' DFG Research Group, Institut für Philosophie I
Ruhr Universität Bochum
- Jan 2020-May 2020 LSE Fellow
Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method
London School of Economics

Teaching Experience

- 2021 - present A222 & A333 Module Team Member, The Open University
- 2021 - present DA223 Module Production Team Member, The Open University
- 2021 Feminist Epistemology & Philosophy of Science Seminar Course (Masters level),
Ruhr Universität Bochum
- 2020 Lecturer, Philosophy of Gender and Race Course (Undergraduate & Masters level), London School of Economics

- 2019 Undergraduate Seminar Leader, Genes, Brains and Society Course, London School of Economics
- 2018-19 Undergraduate Seminar Leader, Social and Ethical Context of Health and Illness Medicine Course, University of Cambridge
- 2016-19 Undergraduate Supervisor, History & Philosophy of Science Department, University of Cambridge

Articles & Book Chapters

- Chellappoo, A. (2022). When can cultural selection explain adaptation?. *Biology & Philosophy*, 37(1), 1-23.
- Chellappoo, A. (2021). Contrasting Narratives of Race and Fatness in Covid-19. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, 43(4), 1-24.
- Chellappoo, A. (2021). Cultural Evolution: A Case Study in Global Epistemologies of Science. In Ludwig, D., Koskinen, I., Mncube, Z., Poliseli, L., & Reyes-Galindo, L. (Eds.). *Global Epistemologies and Philosophies of Science*. Routledge.
- Chellappoo, A. (2020). Rethinking prestige bias. *Synthese*, 1-22.
- Olson, P.D., Zarowiecki, M., James, K., Baillie, A., Bartl, G., Burchell, P., Chellappoo, A., Jarero, F., Tan, L.Y., Holroyd, N. and Berriman, M., (2018) Genome-wide transcriptome profiling and spatial expression analyses identify signals and switches of development in tapeworms. *EvoDevo*, 9(1), 21.

Book Reviews

- Chellappoo, A. (2020). [Review of] *Beyond the Meme: Development and Structure in Cultural Evolution* by Love, A. C. and Wimsatt, W. (Eds). *The BJPS Review of Books*. <http://www.thebsps.org/reviewofbooks/chellappoo-on-love-and-wimsatt/>

Scholarships and Awards

- 2018 Wolfson Travel Grant - to present at the ISHPSSB conference in Oslo
- 2018 Shortlisted - CUSU Student-Led Teaching Awards, Inclusive Practice
- 2018 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Graduate Student bursary
- 2016 AHRC DTP Studentship - awarded three years full support
- 2015 Imre Lakatos Prize for best performance in exams or dissertation, MSc Philosophy of Science, London School of Economics
- 2012 Academic Scholarship - University College London
- 2010 Roger Hall Prize for Academic Achievement - Balliol College, University of Oxford

Refereed Conference Presentations

- Nov 2021 Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting — UPSS (Underrepresented Philosophy of Science Scholars) Session

- “The New ‘Biosocial’ Race: Local and Global Challenges for Race in Postgenomics”
- Oct 2021 Society for Social Studies of Science Meeting — 4S 2021
“Stress as an Ecological Disturbance: Interrogating the Connections between the Microbiome, Stress and Obesity”
- Sept 2021 European Philosophy of Science Association — EPSA 2021
“Can a Microbiome be ‘Obesogenic’?”
- July 2021 International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Meeting — ISHPSSB 2021
“Where the social meets the biological: Navigating boundaries in the embodiment of race” with Jan Baedke
- July 2021 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference — BPS 2021
“Can a Microbiome be ‘Obesogenic’?”
- July 2020 94th Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, SWIP Session
“Reflections on Disagreement, Ideology, and Testimony”
- July 2020 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference — BPS 2020
(Abstract accepted; conference cancelled due to Covid-19)
“Assessing Non-Epistemic Values in Cultural Evolution”
- Sept 2019 European Philosophy of Science Association — EPSA 2019
“What Can Cultural Selection Explain?”
- July 2019 International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Meeting — ISHPSSB 2019
“What Can Cultural Selection Explain?”
- June 2019 Human Success: Evolutionary Origins and Ethical Implications Conference, KU Leuven
“Assessing Cultural Selection in Sustainability Science”
- Mar 2019 Decolonisation: Shaping and Re-shaping of reality, Minorities and Philosophy Conference, King’s College London
“‘Poetry is not a luxury’: Poetry as an Epistemic Resource”
- Sept 2018 European Advanced Seminar in the Philosophy of the Life Sciences, Konrad Lorenz Institute
“Adaptation without Reproduction: Lessons from Cultural Evolution”
- July 2018 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference — BPS 2018
“Adaptation without Reproduction: Lessons from Cultural Evolution”
- June 2018 Postgraduate Medical Humanities Conference, University of Exeter
“Is racism a public health concern?”

Invited Talks

- Jan 2022 New perspectives on racialization, colonialism, and epistemic injustice in science and society Seminar Series, Utrecht University
“Disciplining Bodies: Unpacking the Legacies of racism & colonialism in tackling the ‘global obesity epidemic’”

- Dec 2021 Situated Cognition RTG, Ruhr Universität Bochum
“Is Social Learning Prestige-biased? Unpacking Cultural Evolution and Cognition”
- Nov 2021 International Postdoc Forum, Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science
“Unpacking Politics & Values in Cultural Evolution”
- Jan 2021 Thinking about the Cultural Evolution of Thinking workshop, HHU Düsseldorf
“Re-evaluating the Role of Prestige Bias in Cultural Evolutionary Theory”
- Oct 2018 Egenis Centre for the Study of the Life Sciences Seminar Series, University of Exeter
“Inductive Risk in Framework Shifts: The Case of Cultural Evolution”

Departmental Talks

- June 2021 Colloquium for History and Philosophy of Science, Ruhr Universität Bochum “Dysbiotic and Dysfunctional: The (re)construction of obesity in the postgenomic age”
- Feb 2019 Wolfson College Seminar Series, University of Cambridge “Towards a socially conscious evolutionary science of culture”

Organised and Co-organised Workshops and Conferences

- Mar 2021 Postgenomic Determinisms: Environmental Narratives after the Century of the Gene
Online workshop, organised with Jan Baedke
- Mar 2019 ‘Philosophy for Liberation’, Cambridge Minorities and Philosophy Annual Conference
Organised with Rory Kent
- June 2018 ‘Power and Identity’, Cambridge Minorities and Philosophy Annual Conference
Organised with Laura Brassington

Organised and Co-organised Sessions and Seminars

- July 2022 British Society for Philosophy of Science — BSPS 2022 [Accepted; upcoming]
Symposium - “On the use of racial categories in medicine across geographic and national contexts” - Organised with Zinhle Mncube
- July 2021 International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology
Meeting — ISHPSSB 2021
Double session - “Borderline confusion: Unsettled boundaries in the life sciences, parts I & II” - Organised with Jan Baedke, Alejandro Fabregas-Tejeda, and Guido Prieto
- Jan-Mar 2021 ‘What is Epistemic Decolonisation?’ Online Seminar Series
Organised with Zinhle Mncube, Katherine Furman and Dominic Berry
6 speakers, over 800 registrations
- 2017-2020 Cambridge Minorities and Philosophy Seminar Series
Organised with Rory Kent and Laura Brassington
Speakers included Alyosxa Tudor, Lorna Finlayson and Paulina Sliwa

Service and Additional Activities

- Jan 2022- Postgraduate Coordinator, Department of Philosophy, The Open University
- Nov 2021- Organiser of Values and Reasons Seminar Series, Department of Philosophy, The Open University
- Oct 2021- Junior Co-Chair of European Philosophy of Science Association (EPSA) Women's Caucus
- 2020- Referee: *Synthese*, *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*
- 2018-2020 Intersection of Gender, Race and Disability with Philosophy of Science Reading Group Organiser, History & Philosophy of Science Department, University of Cambridge
- 2018-2020 Minorities and Philosophy UK Organiser
- 2017-2020 Minorities and Philosophy Cambridge Organiser
- 2017-2020 Decolonise Working Group Organiser, History & Philosophy of Science Department, University of Cambridge
- 2016-2020 Wolfson College Feminist Society Organiser
- 2016 - 2017 Cambridge University Students' Union Women's Campaign - Graduate Representative
- 2016 - 2017 Wolfson College Students Association - Equality and Diversity Officer and Consent Workshop Facilitator
- 2016 - 2017 London School of Economics Philosophy Department Diversity Committee Organiser
- 2014 - 2015 London School of Economics Students' Union Feminist Society - BME Officer

Professional Memberships

British Society for the Philosophy of Science
European Philosophy of Science Association
Philosophy of Science Association
Society for Social Studies of Science