

Stephen Francis Mann

Curriculum Vitae
Updated October 18, 2018



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DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Communication and cooperation in evolutionary biology

Examining the use of concepts and mathematical tools from engineering in evolutionary biology, I argue that formal methods at the heart of communication theory afford insight into biological signalling behaviour. This work benefits genetics, cognitive science, animal signalling theory and microbiology. It also sheds light on the relationship between information and meaning, crucial to philosophy of language and cognitive science.

AOS: (Philosophy of:) biology, science, information and computation.

AOC: (Philosophy of:) language, cognitive science, mathematics; Bioethics; Logic; Computational modelling.

EDUCATION

2016 – PRESENT **Doctor of Philosophy**
IN PROGRESS
Philosophy
Australian National University

2013-2015 **Doctor of Philosophy**
CANDIDACY WITHDRAWN TO ATTEND ANU
Philosophy
King's College London

2006 – 2010 **Master in Science**
FIRST CLASS HONOURS
Mathematics and Philosophy
University of Bristol, UK

PUBLICATIONS

Mann, S. F. (2018). Consequences of a functional account of information. *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 1-19.
10.1007/s13164-018-0413-4

Mann S. F. (2018). Attribution of information in animal interaction. *Biological Theory*, 13 (3), 164-179. 10.1007/s13752-018-0299-5

Mann S. F. and Jessica Pfeifer (2018). Review of *Studying Animal Languages Without Translation: An Insight from Ants* by Zhanna Reznikova. *Quarterly Review of Biology*, 93 (1), 38.
10.1086/696753

IN PROGRESS

Mann, S. F. and Ross Pain (under review). Teleosemantics and the hard problem of content.

REFERENCES

References available on request.

TEACHING

JULY - NOV 2017

Australian National University
Academic Staff

- **Biology, Society and Ethics** (*third-year course*): guest lecture (ethics of human enhancement and autonomous weapons); two seminar groups (24 students total); summative essay marking
- **Philosophy of Biology** (*second-year course*): three guest lectures on biological communication, formal modelling, and major evolutionary transitions; two seminar groups (30 students total); summative essay marking
- Mediating discussion of challenging and sometimes confronting topics including reproductive ethics, disability rights, racial realism, moral psychology, eugenics and human experimentation.

SEPT 2014 - JAN 2015

King's College London
Graduate teaching assistant

Philosophy of Science (*second-year course*); **Intermediate Logic** (*second-year course*); **Elementary Logic** (*first-year course*).

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

2018 **Prediction and Uncertainty with Ross Pain**
DEC *Australasian Society for Philosophy and Psychology*
Macquarie University
Sydney, Australia

2018 **Applied cultural evolution: Studying language change with evolutionary methods**
SEPT *Evolving Minds*
Charles Darwin University
Darwin, Australia

2018 **Communication and selection**
JUNE *Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution*
Max Planck Institute for the Science
of Human History
Jena, Germany

2018 **Unitrackerers in artificial and natural cognition**
FEB *Naturally Evolving Minds*
University of Wollongong

SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

Ad hoc reviewing
Biology and Philosophy

Conference organisation

2016 *Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference*
SEPT Co-organiser