

Dr. Elisabeth Theresia Widmer

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Homepage	www.elisabethwidmer.com
Languages	German, English
Date of Birth	November 20, 1992
Place of Birth	Bregenz, Austria
Nationality	Austria

Academic Positions

- 09/2025-08/2028
Erwin Schrödinger FWF-Postdoctoral Fellow, Government Department, London School of Economics
- **Current:** 08/2024-08/2025
NRW-Postdoctoral Fellow (Mobility Fellowship), Government Department, London School of Economics & Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, Universität Oslo
- 08/2022-07/2024
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, Universität Oslo
- 01/2018-07/2022
University Assistant (Pre-doc), Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna
- 11/2015-11/2017
Student Assistant (Tutor), Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna

Research Interests

- Kantian Philosophy (especially post- and neo-Kantian movements)
- Political Philosophy, Legal Philosophy, Ethics, and Social Philosophy (especially analytical neo-Marxism, neo-Republicanism, and Critical Theory)
- Hermeneutics (especially 19th and 20th centuries) und Contextualist Historiography (Quentin Skinner)

Education

- 2022
Ph.D. in Philosophy (with distinction), Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna. Supervisors: Martin Kusch und Lydia Patton; Reviewers: Sebastian Luft and Ursula Renz
- 2017
Magister (equivalent to Master) in Philosophy, Psychology, and German Studies, University of Vienna. (Thesis: Excellent, Supervisor: Konrad Paul Liessmann)
- 2015
Bachelor's Degree in German Philology, Department of German Studies, University of Vienna

Secured Grants

- FWF [Erwin Schrödinger grant](#) (€ 180.540,-): Three-year Mobility Fellowship-Stipendium (2025-2028, LSE, Virginia Tech, University of Vienna)
- NRW Mobility Fellowship (NOK 918.584,- / € 77.151,-): One-year Fellowship-Stipendium at the London School of Economics (2024-2025)
- ÖAW Post-Doc-Track (€ 28.000,-)
- ÖFG Dissertation prize (€ 1.400,-)

Publications

Monographs

1. 2024. *Linkskantianismus in der Marburger Schule, Ansätze und Entwicklungen, 1865-1918*. Würzburg: Königshausen und Neumann. ISBN: 978-3-8260-8505-5

Hyperlinks: [Preprint](#) / [Published](#) / [Review \(IFB\) by Till Kinzel](#)

2. 2023. *Left-Kantianism in the Marburg School*. Berlin: De Gruyter. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783111331843>

Hyperlinks: [Published \(open access\)](#) / [Review \(Journal of Transcendental Philosophy\) by Sabato Dezilli \(open access\)](#)

Journal Articles (peer-reviewed)

1. 2024. „Hermann Cohen's Neo-Kantian Socialism,” *Kantian Review* (forthcoming). [Preprint](#)
2. 2024. “Objectivity and Truth in Ernst Cassirer's Ethics,” *Continental Philosophy Review* (forthcoming). [Preprint](#)
3. 2023. “‘Left-Kantianism’ and the Scientific Dispute between Hermann Cohen and Rudolf Stammler,” *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*. (forthcoming) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/agph-2021-0181>

4. 2022. mit Hannula, Henrikka, “A Contextualist Approach to Teaching Antisemitism in Philosophy Class,” *Journal of Didactics of Philosophy*, 6, 2022, 1–20.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.46586/JDPh.2022.9733>
5. 2022. “Psychophysiological Transcendentalism in Friedrich Albert Lange’s Social and Political Philosophy,” *Journal of Transcendental Philosophy*, DOI:
<https://doi.org/10.1515/jtph-2021-0030>
6. 2021. “Elements of Völkerpsychologie in Hermann Cohen’s Mature Ethical Idealism.” *Idealistic Studies*, 53(3): 255–278. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5840/idstudies20211027134>

Book Chapters

1. „Cassirer’s Kantian Ethical Hermeneutics: A Contextualist Approach to the History of Political Ideas,” In Filieri, L., Pollok, K. ed. *Kant and Cassirer: Legacy – Interpretation – Frontiers*, edited by, Cassirer Forschungen (forthcoming).
2. 2024. “Neo-Kantian Genealogy: The Critique of Culture in the Marburg School,” In Ng, K., Golob, S. ed. *The Cambridge Handbook of Continental Philosophy*, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming). [Preprint](#)
3. 2022. “Friedrich Albert Langes Materialistisch-Poetische Kant-Interpretation und Die Konsequenzen in der Ethik.” In Heidenreich, H. Stengel, F. ed. *Kant um 1900*, De Gruyter. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110758801-005>

Review

1. 2022. “Luigi Filieri, Anne Pollok, (eds). 2021. *The Method of Culture. Ernst Cassirer’s Philosophy of Symbolic Forms*, Pisa: Edizioni ETS, pp.295, ISBN 8846761006, 9788846761002.” *Journal of Transcendental Philosophy*. DOI:
<https://doi.org/10.1515/jtph-2022-0039>

Work-in-progress: Co-editorships

1. Co-editor (with Reidar Maliks) of the volume *Kant’s Early Followers in Political Philosophy*, forthcoming from *Routledge*.
2. Co-editor (with Howard Williams) of the special issue „Left-Kantianism,“ forthcoming in *Kantian Review*.
3. Co-editor of the „Author-meets-Critic“ special issue (with Lea Ypi und Howard Williams) on and with Rainer Forst’s *The Noumenal Republic*, forthcoming in *Kantian Review*.
4. Co-editor (with Bettina Bussmann) of the special issue „Canonical Pluralism,“ forthcoming in *Educational Theory and Philosophy*.

Work-in-progress: Individual Works

1. A journal article on Johann Benjamin Erhard’s view of economic injustice and his notion of perfect and imperfect duties
2. A book chapter on Johann Benjamin Erhard’s understanding of human rights, which provides new avenues to understand him as a proto-critical theorist
3. A journal article on Max Adler’s understanding of the idea of the communist state
4. A journal article on how to handle “triggering” content responsibly in philosophy class

Academic Presentations

2024

- December: “The Jewish Origins of Hermann Cohen’s Ethical Socialism,” University of Potsdam, Germany
- November: “Rainer Forst’s Account of Democracy and the Problem of Representation,” London School of Economics, United Kingdom
- October: “Max Adler’s Concept of the State,” Rice University, USA
- September: “Kant on Economic Dependency and Citizenship,” Kant Congress, University of Bonn, Germany
- July: “Max Adler’s Concept of the State,” Cardiff University, Wales
- June: “Max Adler’s Concept of the State,” University of Berlin, Germany
- May: “Johann Benjamin Erhard on Economic Injustice,” Institute for Social Research, Frankfurt am Main
- May: “Max Adler’s Concept of the State,” University of Basel
- March: “Hermann Cohen’s Ethical Socialism,” University of Chicago, United Nations
- January: Book presentation *Left-Kantianism in the Marburg School*, University of Fribourg, Switzerland

2023

- “Kant on Economic Dependency and Citizenship,” ESCP winter school, Essex, United Kingdom
- “Johann Benjamin Erhard’s Duty to Revolution,” Philosophy Colloquium, Utrecht University, Netherlands
- “Kant, Civil Citizens, and Economic Dependency: A Regressive Transcendental Argument,” Kant Leuven Conference, Leuven, Belgium
- “Rectificatory Justice in Johann Benjamin Erhard,” Berlin Summer Colloquium, Free University of Berlin, Germany
- “Kant, Civil Citizens, and Economic Dependency: A Regressive Transcendental Argument,” Tenth Multilateral Kant Colloquium, Parma, Italy
- “The Birth of Liberalism in Revolutionary Left-Kantianism,” Second Kantian Foundations of Democracy Conference, Oslo, Norway
- “Neo-Kantian Genealogy: The Critique of Culture in the Marburg School,” A Hundred Years of The Philosophy of Symbolic Forms, Paris, France

2022

- “Ethical Objectivity and Relative Truths in Ernst Cassirer,” Kant and Cassirer, Johannes-Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany
- “‘Left-Kantianism’ and the ‘Scientific Dispute’ between Hermann Cohen and Rudolf Stammler,” Hermeneutics and Philosophy of Science, University of Vienna, Austria
- “‘Left-Kantianism’ and the ‘Scientific Dispute’ between Hermann Cohen and Rudolf Stammler,” Economic Pluralism: Past and Present, McMaster University, Canada
- “Teaching Anti-Semitism. A Contextualist Account,” Philosophy and Racism Conference, University Münster, Germany
- “Proto-Socialist Tendencies in Johann Benjamin Erhard,” Kantian Foundations of Democracy, University of Oslo, Norway
- “‘Left-Kantianism’ and the ‘Scientific Dispute’ between Hermann Cohen and Rudolf Stammler,” Ethics in the German-Speaking Realm 1871 to 1918, University of Vienna, Austria
- “Hermann Cohen’s Critique of Capitalism,” The Future of Work, University of Rotterdam, Netherlands
- “Proto-Socialist Tendencies in Johann Benjamin Erhard” (online), Leuven Kant Conference, University Leuven, Belgium
- “Kantian Functionalism and Moral Progress in Hermann Cohen’s Neo-Kantian Socialism,” Hermann Cohen’s Religion of Reason, Boston University, United Nations
- “Teaching Anti-Semitism. A Contextualist Account,” Controversial Didactics, University of Vienna, Austria

2021

- “Normativity and Objectivity in Cassirer’s Symbolic Form of Religion” (online), Objectivity and Truth in Cassirer’s Philosophy of Culture and Philosophy of Science, Catholic University Leuven, Belgium
- “The Origin of ‘Left-Kantianism’: Hermann Cohen’s Socialist Interpretation of Kant’s Moral Law,” Conference for Practical Philosophy, University of Salzburg, Austria
- “Elements of Völkerpsychologie in Hermann Cohen’s Mature Ethical Thought” (online), Era of Neo-Kantianism, University of Chile, Chile

2019

- “Is Friedrich Albert Lange’s Kantianism Related to His Socialism?” Kant Readings Conference, Immanuel Kant Baltic University, Russia

2018

- “The Impact of F. A. Lange’s History of Materialism on Socialist Interpretations of Kant’s Categorical Imperative,” Ethics and Political, Social, and Legal Conference, University of Michigan, United Nations
- “Günther Anders and Bernard Stiegler,” Technology - Power - Violence. Günther Anders and the Political, University of Freiburg, Germany

Research Stays

- 02-04/2023
Visiting Scholar, University of Groningen
- 05-06/2022
Visiting Scholar, Boston University
- 10-11/2022
Visiting Scholar, Philipps-University Marburg

Organization of Workshops and Conferences

- *Author meets Critic-workshop: Rainer Forst’s The Noumenal Republic* (November 2024 with Lea Ypi and Howard Williams), London School of Economics, United Kingdom
- *Left-Kantianism* (July 2024 with Howard Williams), Cardiff University, United Kingdom
- *Practical Philosophy Seminars*, University of Oslo
- *The Second Kantian Foundations of Democracy Conference* (August/September 2023 with Michael Kryluk), University Oslo
- *Ethics in the German-Speaking Realm, 1871 to 1918* (June 2022 with Martin Kusch, Christian Damböck, and Henriikka Hannula), University of Vienna
- *German Philosophy, 1860-1919* colloquium (Winter term 2021/22 with Henriikka Hannula), University of Vienna
- *UPSalon*, Lecture- and workshop series on themes of social underrepresentation (2018-2022, co-founded with Judith Martens and Jessica D. Bicking), University of Vienna

Courses

London School of Economics

Winter 2024-2025

- Nietzsche's *Genealogy of Morals* (undergraduate; with Lea Ypi)
Discussed Authors: Friedrich Nietzsche
- Kant and Marx (undergraduate; with Lea Ypi)
Discussed Authors: Kant, Marx, Austro-Marxists (Max Adler)

University of Vienna

Winter 2021-2022

- The Philosophy of Cultural Sciences, 1900 (undergraduate and postgraduate; with Henriikka Hannula)
Discussed Authors: Hermann Cohen, Ernst Cassirer, Wilhelm Dilthey, Martin Heidegger, and Ernst Troeltsch

Summer 2021

- Neo-Kantian Socialism: Origins and Developments in the 19th Century (undergraduate and postgraduate)
Discussed Authors: Immanuel Kant, Hermann Cohen, Friedrich Albert Lange, and Karl Marx

Summer 2020

- Ethical Socialism (undergraduate and postgraduate)
Discussed Authors: Rosa Luxemburg, Karl Kautsky, Karl Marx, Eduard Bernstein, Karl Vorländer, and Hermann Cohen

Winter 2019-2020

- The Social Virtue Ethics of Hermann Cohen (postgraduate)
Discussed Authors: Hermann Cohen

Summer 2019

- Introduction to Academic Work in Philosophy (undergraduate)
Practice of reading skills, argumentation, and critical thinking

Winter 2016-2017

- Foucault and Sexuality (undergraduate, with Konrad Paul Liessmann)
Discussed Authors: Michel Foucault

Administrative Activities

- Ongoing: Reviewing (Cambridge University Press, De Gruyter, and Deutsche Forschungsgesellschaft, DFG)
- 2023-2024
Co-organizer of the [Practical Philosophy Seminars](#), University of Oslo
- 2022-2022
Member of the “Women in Philosophy” Working Group, University of Oslo
- 2018-2020
Representative of the non-professorial staff, University of Vienna
- 2018-2022
Co-founder of [UPsalon](#), University of Vienna

Outreach

- 2021
„Der Marburger Linkskantianismus,“ *Zukunft* (SPÖ-affiliated magazine)
[Read online](#)
- 2019
„Die Geschlechter stehen nicht fest,“ *Die Presse* (Austrian daily newspaper)
[Read online](#)

Non-academic Professional Experience

- 2020
Graduate of the Foreign Policy Academy of the Association of Social Democratic Academics (*Bund Sozialdemokratischer Akademiker:innen*)
- 2018
Scholarship Director of the *Philosophicum Lechl*: Fundraising for scholarship expansion and organizing philosophy seminars for high school students
- 2018
Leader of Philosophy Summer Courses for high school students at *Initiative Begabung*, 4850 Dornbirn
- 2015-2017
Teaching at the Education Center for Peoples (tutoring, children) and German as a Foreign Language (adult education), Am Garnmarkt 12, 6840 Götzis
- 2012-2017
Practical school experience at high schools in Vienna

- 2015
Completion of the Psychotherapeutic Propaedeutic Course and family counselor at Women* Advise Women*, Seitenstettengasse 5/7, 1010 Vienna

References

1. Ph.D. Primary Supervisor
Martin Kusch, Universität Wien: martin.kusch@univie.ac.at
2. Ph.D. Secondary Supervisor
Lydia Patton, Virginia Tech: critique@vt.edu
3. Postdoc Supervisor/Principal Investigator
Reidar Maliks, Universität Oslo: r.k.maliks@ifikk.uio.no
4. Dissertation Reviewer
Sebastian Luft: lufts@mail.uni-paderborn.de
5. Managing Director of the Adult Education Center Götzis (for impressions of my teaching abilities at primary and secondary education levels)
Stefan Fischnaller: fischnaller@vhs-goetzis.at