

Dr. Ray Scott Percival

University Education

Oct. 88 to Oct. 91 ♦ **PhD in Philosophy.** Field: Philosophy of Argument. Faculty: Economics. The London School of Economics and Political Science. Awarded 19th February 1992.

Thesis:

Openness to Argument: A Philosophical Examination of Marxism and Freudianism.
Supervisor: Professor Kenneth Minogue.

Examiners:

Roger Trigg:

Senior Research Fellow and Academic Director of the Centre for the Study of Religion in Public Life, Kellogg College, Oxford.

David-Hillel Ruben:

Director, N.Y.U. in London. Professor of Philosophy, Birkbeck College, University of London.

1979 to 1982

♦ **Master of Arts in Philosophy.** The University of Warwick.

Dissertation: Proof Theoretical Definitions of the Logical Connectives.

Supervisor: David W. Miller. Sir Karl Popper's Research Assistant. Author of Critical Rationalism: A Restatement and Defence.

1975 to 1978

♦ **B.Sc. (Hons) Psychology.** University of Bolton.

Dissertation:

"Perceptual Defence: A Test of the Freudian Theory of Repression"

AOS: Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology.

AOC: Logic, Philosophy of Language, Political Philosophy.

Honours and Awards

2012 --- *The Myth of the Closed Mind*, Showcased on
The Peoples Book Prize. Founding Patron: Dame Beryl Bainbridge DBE.
Patron: Frederick Forsyth CBE

2009--- Award for Educational video Podcasting and development of the
iPod project. U.A.E.U.
Tablet Computer.

1999---Winner of the Encyclopaedia Britannica “Internet Guide Award” for
Sir The Karl Popper Web. “Awarded for quality of presentation, accuracy
and content.”

Jan 97 to Jan 98--- The Open Society Institute. (New York.) –Sponsorship
of The Karl Popper Web internet site and Annual Conference at L.S.E.
(Granted to “uniquely gifted individual.”)
(In-kind matching funding from Dublin City University.)
Total value = £40,000.00

Oct. 95 to Oct. 96--- The Open Society Institute. (New York.) –
Sponsorship of The Karl Popper Web internet site and Annual Conference
at L.S.E. (Granted to “uniquely gifted individual.”)
(In-kind matching funding from Dublin City University.)
Total value = £40,000.00

Most Recent Position

Aug. 04 to June 12. Assistant Professor of Philosophy.
United Arab Emirates University. U.A.E.
Critical Thinking. Logic. Philosophy of Language. Philosophy of Mind.

Academic Responsibilities:

2010 to 27th Feb. 12. ♦ Local Organising Committee for Conference on TIME at U.A.E.U.

- (1) Wrote Philosophy of Mind. (2008)
- (2) Wrote Thematic Application, Minor: Mind (2009)
- (3) Collection and production of common resources for
the HSR Community (2009).
- (4) Political and Social Philosophy (co-writer)
- (5) Major curriculum development. (2008)
- (6) 2 Peer-review committees. (2008)
- (7) Search Committees. (2007, 2008, 2011)
- (8) Co-chair of the Website Development Committee (2006).
- (9) Member of the Research Grant Committee (2005).

(10) Course Development and Teaching:

- a. Philosophy of Language (wrote 2004, taught 2008 --2011)
- b. Philosophy of Science
- c. Logic (wrote 2008, taught to 2011)
- d. Mind: Minor (wrote 2008)
- e. Critical Thinking (Taught since 2004)

Previous Academic Positions

1st Oct. 95 to 30th June 96 Tutor in Department of Philosophy, **Lancaster University**.
Teaching Master of Arts students **Science and its Critics** and **Science and the Domination of Nature**. Delivered by lectures and seminars.

Other Positions

Jan. 03 to Present Designer of Verbal Reasoning Tests. Medical College Science Reasoning. A.C.T. Inc., U.S.A.

Sept. 01 to Jan 03 Assistant Researcher on the economics of colonialism for Professor David Barker, Dep. of Economics, University of Chicago.

1990 to Present Writer: on Science and Philosophy. New Scientist, Nature, Times H.Ed.

1995 to Present Developer of the Prize-winning Website, The Karl Popper Web (Britannica Internet Guide Award) and the organization of the Karl Popper Forums. Sponsors: Sun Microsystems, George Soros & Dublin City University. Currently in association with Barry McMullin, Director of The Rince Institute.

Grants and Fellowships

Jan. 97 to Jan. 98 The Open Society Institute. (New York.) –Sponsorship of The Karl Popper Web internet site and Annual Conference at L.S.E. (Granted to “uniquely gifted individual.”)
(In-kind matching funding from Dublin City University.)
Total value = £40,000.00

Oct. 95 to Oct. 96 The Open Society Institute. (New York.) –Sponsorship of The Karl Popper Web internet site and Annual Conference at L.S.E. (Granted to “uniquely gifted individual.”)
(In-kind matching funding from Dublin City University.)
Total value = £40,000.00

1995 Central European University. Expenses for philosophy workshop in Budapest.

28th March 95	Institute for Humane Studies. Hayek Fund for Scholars. Travel expenses for Lecture at The New School for Social Research.
1988 to 1991	Economic and Social Science Research Council. Referees: David Miller (Warwick) and Professor Elie Kedourie (L.S.E.)
May 91 to Oct. 91	The London School of Economics.
1989	Institute for Humane Studies. Grant toward organising the Annual Conference on the Philosophy of Sir Karl Popper,
1988 to 1989	Institute for Humane Studies. Charles R. Lambe Fellowship. \$2000. Referees: Professor Julian Simon (University of Maryland) and Professor James Sadowski (Fordham University)
Aug 21-27, 1988	Institute for Humane Studies. Hayek Fund for Young Scholars. Travel and Expenses for attending the World Congress on Philosophy in Brighton, England.

Publications

Books

1. *The Myth of the Closed Mind: Understanding Why and How People are Rational.*
Publisher: Open Court, Chicago. (110,000 words, 304 pages.)
http://www.opencourtbooks.com/books_n/myth_of_the_closed.htm
3rd January 2012.

Showcased on peoplesbookprize.com
Patron: Frederick Forsyth CBE
Founding Patron: Dame Beryl Bainbridge DBE

Editorial Reviews:

“At last, a twenty-first century philosopher willing to stand up and argue for the power of sheer human rationality. Because Ray Percival is so convinced, correctly, of the impact of a rational argument on the human intellect, he is unafraid to offer a no holds barred, comprehensive brief on the strength of rationality. Preferring Kant to cant, surveying history and reason from Socrates to today’s age of terrorism, Percival has written a tract that Milton, Jefferson, Mill, or Karl Popper would be proud of. The next time I get into an argument with a well-meaning person who wishes to censor a propagandistic, corporate, or individually hateful point of view, I will recommend a reading of Percival’s *The Myth of the Closed Mind*.”

—Paul Levinson, Professor of Communication and Media Studies, Fordham University and author of *New New Media*

“Some of what Percival claims is outrageous but some of it is not. Even though he may not convince most of his readers, many of his arguments are both ingenious and entertaining—and often point to unresolved issues in the theory of rationality.”

—James Fetzer, Distinguished McKnight University Professor Emeritus
University of Minnesota Duluth

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals (See below for peer-reviewed chapters.)

1. *Campbell's Blind Variation in the Evolution of an Ideology and Popper's World 3*
Philosophica. (1997) (2) Vol. 60. pp. 113 – 154.
2. *Dawkins and Mind Viruses: Memes, Rationality and Evolution*
Journal of Social and Evolutionary Systems. (1994) Vol. 17. No. 3. pp. 243 – 286.
3. *Is Jung's Theory of Archetypes Compatible with Neo-Darwinism and Sociobiology.*
Journal of Social and Evolutionary Systems. (1993) Vol. 16. No. 4. pp. 459 – 487.
4. *The Metaphysics of Scarcity: Popper's World 3 and the Theory of Finite Resources*
The Critical Rationalist. (1996) Number 2. Vol. 1. (32 pages, pdf format)
5. *Science Evolving.* (1995) 13th July, Issue: 371. pp. 666 – 667.
Review of Evolutionary Naturalism, by Michael Ruse.
Nature.
6. *Natural Selections.* (1994) 20th Oct. Issue: 371. pp. 131 – 132
Review of Realism Rescued. By Jerrold L. Aronson, Rom Harre and Eileen C. Way.
Nature.

Chapters in Books

1. *The Necessity of Exosomatic Knowledge for Civilization and a Revision to our Epistemology.* In the Anthology: *The Nothing in the Contemporary Thought.* To be published by Bès Éditions. Editor: Norbert-Bertrand Barbe. (Original publication date: Fall, 2010. Revised by publishers to February 2012.)
2. *Does the New Classicism Need Evolutionary Theory? Beyond the Avant Garde, Open Court.* 21 pages. (Pub: Jan 2009.) (NOTE: I was told by the publishers that this was to be published in 2009, but I am currently researching this.)
3. *A Survey of British Epistemology,* (2006) Continuum Encyclopaedia of British Philosophy. Editors: Anthony Grayling, Andrew Pyle, and Naomi Goulder. Publisher: Thoemmes. Key entry: 5000 words.
4. *Scientific Induction,* (2006) Continuum Encyclopaedia of British Philosophy. Editors: Anthony Grayling, Andrew Pyle, and Naomi Goulder. Publisher: Thoemmes. 2000 words.
5. *Philosophy of Education,* (2006) Continuum Encyclopaedia of British Philosophy. Editors: Anthony Grayling, Andrew Pyle, and Naomi Goulder. Publisher: Thoemmes.
6. Entry on Sir Karl Popper in *Thoemmes Dictionary of Twentieth-Century British Philosophers.* Editor: Stuart Brown. Publisher: Thoemmes Publishers. (7 July 2005.)
7. *Persons and Popper's World 3: Do Humans Dream of Abstract Sheep?*

In *Szasz Under Fire: The Psychiatric Abolitionist Faces his Critics*. pp. 119 – 130. Editor: Jeffrey Schaler, professor at American University, Washington, Department of Justice and Law. (2004.) (Book favourably reviewed by *The Journal of the American Medical Association* and the *British Medical Journal*.)

8. *Malthus and his Ghost*
(Philosophy and economics of Malthusianism),
In collection of essays: *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Social Issues*.
Editors: Kurt Finsterbusch and George Mkenna. Dushkin Publishing Inc. 1990.
Contributors include Noam Chomsky and John Kenneth Galbraith. (Used for in-class debates.)

Other Peer-reviewed Publications

1. Publication of **The Karl Popper Web** by **The WiderNet Project**, inclusion in the **eGranary Digital Library**. (March 2010.)

The WiderNet Project, Cliff Missen, M.A., Director.
201 Communications Center The University of Iowa, School of Library and Information
Science, Iowa City, Iowa 52242 USA. (Phone: +1-319-335-2200. Fax: +1-319-335-5374)

Editorial Publications

Editorial Board Member of The Journal for Evolutionary Biology Research.
(From August 2009 to the present.)

Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the electronic journal **The Critical Rationalist** (Peer-reviewed.
ISSN: 1393-3809.)

Hosted by Dublin City University.
[From 1995 to 1998.]

Founder, Publisher and Moderator of the **Critical Café** (an online philosophy discussion forum.)
[From 1996 to the present.]

Work in Progress:

1. Entries commissioned by Wiley-Blackwell for Encyclopaedia of Clinical Psychology:
 - a. *Confirmation versus Falsification*
 - b. *Eliminativism and Behaviourism*
 - c. *Descartes' Model of Mind*.

2. Webinar (regular, long-term) with the Interactivity Foundation. Discussing the following issues:
 - a. The Rationality Principle in the social sciences.
 - b. Popper's 'Unity of Method' doctrine.
 - c. George Soros' ideas about reflexivity.
 - d. Ray Percival's *The Myth of the Closed Mind* and how a closed mind can be opened.
 - e. How Popper's ideas about open society might line up against Islamic religious and political fundamentalism. (Saad Malook has offered to distribute electronic copies of Sayyid Mawdudi's (Pakistani) and Sayyid Qutb's (Egypt) books)
 - f. Whether the idea of Open Society can be applied internally to the organizational and managerial ethic of corporations and public agencies (or whether, on the contrary, the idea of Open Society implies Closed Corporate Societies & Cultures)
 - g. The role of business and management education in society. Is it a friend or enemy of Open Society?

Other Publications in Scholarly and Scientific Journals

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|--|---|
| [2003]
6 th Sept.
Issue: 2411. | “Tug of Love.”
Review of <i>Kuhn versus Popper: The Struggle for the Soul of Science</i> , by Steven Fuller.
New Scientist. |
| [2003]
5 th July
Issue: 2402 | Review of <i>Emerson's Life in Science</i> , by Laura Dassow Walls.
New Scientist. |
| [2001]
6 th April, | “Blindness in Pursuit of Science.”
Review of <i>A Companion to The Philosophy of Science</i> , edited by W. H. Newton Smith, Blackwell
Times Higher Education Supplement |
| [2001]
31st March.
Issue: 2284
Page 48. | “A Brief, but Passionate Encounter.”
Review of <i>Wittgenstein's Poker</i> , by David Edmunds and John Eidinow.
New Scientist |
| [2000]
6 th Oct. | “Challenger to Eistein's Theory of Time.”
Review of <i>The New Bergson</i> , editor: John Mullarkey and <i>Duration and Simultaneity</i> , by Henri Bergson.
Times Higher Education Supplement |

- [2000]
Issue 20
Review of *Doubt and Certainty*, by Tony Rothman and George Sudarshan.
Science Spectra
- [1999]
?
Review of *Unweaving The Rainbow*, by Richard Dawkins.
Science Spectra
- [1999]
?
Review of *A House Built on Sand*, edited by Noretta Koertge, Oxford.
Science Spectra
- [1999]
8th October.
“Archives of the Abstract.”
Review of: British Journal for the History of Philosophy, Editor: G. A. J. Rogers.
The Times Higher Education Supplement.
- [1999]
28th May.
“Appeal to the Court of Experience.”
Popper: Politics, Philosophy and Scientific Method, by Geoffrey Stokes.
The Times Higher Education Supplement.
- [1998]
9th October.
“Thoughts about Russell’s Thoughts.”
Review of *Bertrand Russell and the Origins of Analytical Philosophy*, by Ray Monk and Anthony Palmer.
The Times Higher Education Supplement.
- [1998]
6th June.
Issue: 2137
“Breaking the Grip of Materialism.”
Review of *Unsnarling the World-Knot*, by David Ray Griffin
New Scientist.
- [1998]
28th Feb
Issue: 2123
“Nitpicking Newton.”
Review of *Pierre Simon Laplace: A Life in Exact Science*, by Charles Coulston Gillispie.
New Scientist
- [1998]
21 Feb.
Issue: 2122
“Mozart and the Nightingale.”
Review of *An Intelligent Person's Guide to Philosophy*, by Roger Scruton.
New Scientist.
- [1998]
24th Jan.
I. Review of *Questioning the Millennium*, by Stephen J Gould,
Harmony Books
II. Review of *Theory of Language*, by Hattiangadi,
New Scientist.
- [1997]
18th Dec
Issue: 2089
“A Sense of Wonder.”
Review of *Confessions of a Philosopher*, by Bryan Magee. Weidenfeld & Nicolson.
New Scientist.
- [1997]
6th Dec.
“A Man of Ideas.”
Review of *The Sense of Reality: Studies in Ideas and Their*

- Issue: 2111. **History**, by Isaiah Berlin
New Scientist.
- [1997]
25th Oct.
Issue: 2105
p.48. “Where does Awareness Dawn?”
Review of *The Mystery of Consciousness*, by John Searle.
New Scientist.
- [1997]
25th Jan.
Issue: 2066 “Dial P for Philosophy.”
Review of *Utopia, Dolphins and Computers*, by Mary Midgley,
New Scientist.
- [1995]
18th Nov.
Issue: 2004. “Carry on Learning: Learning Cyberspace”
Essay Review of *Learning Cyberspace*. By Paul Levinson.
New Scientist.
- [1995]
19th May. “Worlds 3 Popper 0.”
Review of *Mind-Body Problem*. Collection of essays.
Eds. Richard Warner and Tadeusz Szubka.
Times Higher Education Supplement.
- [1994]
10th Dec Review of *The Myth of the Framework and Knowledge and
the Body-Mind Problem*. Karl Popper. Routledge.
New Scientist.
- [1994]
20th Aug.
Issue: 1939 “Cold Turkey - kicking the habit of justification.”
Review of *Critical Rationalism: A Restatement and Defence*,
by David Miller. Open Court.
New Scientist.
- [1994]
5th March.
Issue: 1915. “Is Technology a Blessing or a Curse?”
Review of Heidegger and *The Ground of Being*, by Michel Haar.
New Scientist.

Educational Videos

Videos to supplement lectures in Philosophy. The videos were produced for the iPod Project at U.A.E.U. and for more general use in my teaching. Produced, directed and edited by myself. I conducted an anonymous online survey of students using the videos to judge their usefulness.

(Published for DVD, iPod, iPhone, iPad, other smart phones and web-based platforms – Blackboard and YouTube.)

YouTube Channel: **NaiveRealist** (89 subscribers, more than 25,974 views by 12th March, 2012.)

1. Introduction to Philosophy. (7th March 2009)
2. The Concept of a Valid Argument. (24th September 2009)
3. Using Argument as a Tool of Criticism. (27th March 2009)
4. The Logical Connectives – Supplementary Comments and Two Common Fallacies. (2nd May 2009)
5. Kant, Chomsky and the Problem of Knowledge. (11th September 2009)
6. The Collapse of the Analytic/Synthetic Distinction. (22nd October 2009)

7. Trial and Error Learning and Critical Thinking. (26th December 2008)
8. Richard Dawkins' Theory of Memes. (25th April 2010)
9. The Importance of Philosophy for Civilization. (29th April 2010)
(A video of my students using explicit rules of valid argument in a debate on the connection between philosophy and civilization.)
10. Debate on Global Warming. (12th July 2010.)
(A recording of my students using explicit rules of valid argument in a discussion of global warming.)
11. The Myth of the Closed Mind: Understanding Why and How People are Rational. 19th August 2011.

Membership of Professional Associations

- 2012 -----Present. Interactivity Foundation, USA. A regular Webinar on philosophical issues.
- 2010---27th Feb 212 ♦ Local Organising Committee for Conference on TIME at U.A.E.U.
- 2009---Present ♦ Editorial Board of The Journal of Evolutionary Biology Research.
- 1992---Present ♦ The Alumni Organisation of The Institute of Humane Studies, **George Mason University**.
- 2007---2009 ♦ Interdisciplinary Research Project in Cognitive Science. Title: Situation Models, Imagination & Spirituality in Humans and Machines.
- 1995---1998 ♦ Founder and Editor-in-Chief. [The Critical Rationalist](#), (peer-reviewed electronic journal).
- 1995---Present ♦ Founder and moderator, [Critical Café](#), (E-mail based forum).
- 1995---Present ♦ Founder of The **Sir Karl Popper Web**. (Cooperating University: Dublin City University.)
- 1995---Present ♦ President of Sir **KARL POPPER FORUMS**, a network of face-to-face conferences and internet forums. Sponsor: Open Society Institute, New York.
- 1994---2003 ♦ Editorial Board of **The Journal of Social and Evolutionary Systems**. (New York.) (Formerly, the Journal of Social and Biological Structures).
- 1988---1998 ♦ Chairman and Organiser of the Annual Conference on the Philosophy of Sir Karl Popper. Based at London School of Economics. Sponsors: George Soros, Securicor, and Routledge.
- 1993---1995 ♦ Associate Editor of **The Popper Forum** (Journal). Guelph, Ontario. Editor-in-Chief: Professor Fred Eidlin.

Conference Contributions and Invited Talks.

- 28 Feb – 4 March 2012. Local Organising Committee.
THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE CONCEPT OF TIME IN SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY.
Emirates University.
- 27th Feb 2012. Emirates University. WorkShop:
The Legacy of a Genius: Alan Turing. Interdisciplinary Round Table.
- 16th – 18th Oct 2009. Edinburgh University. Seventh International Conference on the Book.
- 20th Feb 08. Emirates University.
Most Knowledg is not and could not be Mental. Cognitive Science Society of the Middle East.
- 6th Dec 2007 Emirates University.
Critical Thinking and Problem Solving. Opening paper at the FacultyWorkshop on Enhancing Critical Thinking in the Classroom.
- 9th Sept 2007 Institute of Philosophy, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.
Mental Modules are Conjectures about Conjectures: a Conjecture and Refutation Model of Lanscape Aesthetic Preference.
- 28 March 2003 Hegeler Carus Foundation. Hegeler Mansion, La Salle, Illinois.
Colloquium: **After Modernisn and Postmodernism: New Directions in the Arts.**
- 6th - 14th June 96 Central European University, Budapest,
Participant in Popper Workshop, Translation project.
- 1996 Bielefeld University, Germany.
Campbell's Blind Variation in the Evolution of an Ideology and Popper's World 3.
- 1995 London School of Economics.
Special Invitaion by Donald T. Campbell to Discussion group on
The Usefulness and Problems of Using Analogies From Biological Evolution In Understanding the Evolution of Scientific Theories.
- 28 March 95 The New School for Social Research, New York.
"Richard Dawkins' Theory of Memes and Mind Viruses: A Comparison of Meme and Gene Replication"
- Feb 1995 Liverpool John Moores University. **A Popperian View of Religion.**

Ray Scott Percival Ph.D. (Last edited: 21 March 2013.)

- Dec 1994 University of Manchester. **Popper's Theory of World 3.**
- July 1994 University of Manchester. **Wishful and Fearful Thinking.**
- 7th March 92 The University of York. **The Logic, Psychology and Sociology of Openness to Argument.**
- 5th Feb 91 Psychology Department, University of Bolton.
A Darwinian Criticism of Jung's Theory of Archetypes.
- 30th April 88 Annual Conference on the Philosophy of Sir Karl Popper.
Ideology and Criticism.
- 14th April 88 Political Studies Association, London. **Ideology and Openness to Argument.**
- 10th April 88 Institute of Economic Affairs, London. **Popper's Notion of The Immunising Stratagem in Science and Ideology.**
- 20th Sept 87 London School of Economics. **The Over-Population Problem.**
- 12th March 86 Institute of Economic Affairs, London. **Science and Ideology.**

References

- ❖ David Miller, Emeritus Reader (logic, probability) of the Philosophy Department,
The University of Warwick CV4 7AL
E-mail: d.w.miller@warwick.ac.uk

- ❖ Professor Paul Levinson, Communication & Media Studies Department,
Fordham University,
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Department of Communication and Media Studies
Faculty Memorial Hall 431
Rose Hill Campus Bronx, NY 10458
New York
Telephone: +1 718-817-4863
E-mail: paul.levinson@gmail.com

- ❖ Professor Dennis Leavens, Ph.D.
Provost
American University of Armenia
Administration
Room: MB Room 53
American University of Armenia
40 Baghramyan Ave.
Yerevan 0019, Republic of Armenia
E-mail: Dennis.Leavens@aua.am

Supplemental References:

- ❖ The late Professor Emeritus Donald T. Campbell.
Past President of the American Psychological Association.
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015. U.S.A. (General
Recommendation, available on request.)

Personal References:

Paul Wilson.
The Dubbing Theatre
Digital Design Studio
(Glasgow of Fine Art)
The Hub, Pacific Quay, Glasgow
G51 1EA
p.wilson@gsa.ac.uk

Philipp Maier.
Founder, CEO, Artistic & Musical Director
Resident Conductor
Project Manager
United Arab Emirates Philharmonic Orchestra
<http://www.uaephilharmonic.com>
<http://www.philippmaier.com/index.html>
philipp@uaephilharmonic.com