

Stephen Ross

Updated October 27, 2025

Email: ross23@mcmaster.ca

Research interests

History and philosophy of science, pragmatism, logic

Education

McMaster University

Hamilton, Ontario

PhD in Philosophy

Defended September 2025

Committee: Alex Klein (supervisor), Holly Andersen (external), Sandra Lapointe, Megan Stotts

Thesis: "Pluralism, Truth and Synthesis"

University of British Columbia

Vancouver, British Columbia

MMus in Piano Performance

Awarded June 2020

Committee: Corey Hamm (supervisor), Terence Dawson

Thesis repertoire:

- Poulenc, Trois Pièces FP48 (1953 ed.)
- Schubert, Sonata D894
- Bach, Prelude and Fugue BWV 867
- Hindemith, Sonata no. 3

University of Calgary

Calgary, Alberta

MA in Philosophy

Defended May 2019

Committee: C. K. Waters (supervisor), Mark Migotti, Ann Levey

Thesis: "The Scientific Practice Turn as Philosophical Progress"

St. Thomas University

Fredericton, New Brunswick

BA in Music and Philosophy

Awarded June 2016

Electives in History, Mathematics, Psychology.

Awards

Ontario Grad. Scholarship (Government of Ontario)	2024-2025
Graduate Teaching Excellence Award (McMaster University)	2023-2024
McMaster Grad. Award (McMaster University)	2022-2025
Ontario Grad. Scholarship (Government of Ontario)	2021-2022
Faculty of Arts Grad. Award (University of British Columbia)	2018-2020
Queen Elizabeth II Grad. Scholarship (Government of Alberta)	2017-2018
Canadian Grad. Scholarship–Master's (SSHRC)	2016-2017

Presentations

"Scientific Pluralism and Complete Representations"

McMaster Philosophy Speakers Series, Hamilton

November 2024

"Peirce on a Role for History: A Comparison with Kuhn on the Logic of Science"

Commentaries

Jennifer Whyte, "Mathematical SETIbacks: Open Texture in Mathematics as a New Problem for Messaging Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence"

Canadian Philosophical Association, Toronto

May 2023

Hassan Massoud, "Epistemic Rigor: Going beyond Formal Rigor"

Western Canadian Philosophical Association, Edmonton

October 2016

Research
assistantships**The/La Collaborative**

Mentor: Prof. Sandra Lapointe (McMaster)

August 2021–March 2023

Scoping reviews, qualitative survey distribution and analysis, conference facilitation, translation, among other duties. The research topic was knowledge mobilisation in Canadian universities. For examples of work I contributed to, see "Community Innovation and Impact in University-based Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts," both the [Report and Discussion Paper](#) and the [Phase One Report](#), as well as the "[Canadian Forum for Social Innovation: Consensus Report](#)".

Harriet Irving Library

Mentor: Barry Cull (New Brunswick)

October 2015–January 2016

Literature database management for research on digital and paper reading habits at the university level. Also assisted with library acquisitions processing.

Teaching experience

Instructor, McMaster

Winter 2025

PHILOS 2CT3: Critical Thinking

Analytical reading, argument reconstruction, classifying types of inference.

Teaching Assistant, McMaster

Each Winter 2021–2024 and Fall 2024

PHILOS 2B03: Introductory Logic, Prof. Shubert

Propositional and first order logic. Tutorials and grading.

Teaching Assistant, McMaster

Fall 2023

PHILOS 1B03: Philosophy, Law and Society, Prof. Leferman

Introductory survey of ancient, Early Modern, and contemporary political philosophy. Tutorials and grading.

Teaching Assistant, McMaster

Fall 2022

IBH 2AE3: Critical Thinking, Prof. Leferman

Introduction to patterns of deductive and inductive reasoning. Grading and student meetings.

Teaching Assistant, McMaster Fall 2021
PHILOS 2U03: Philosophy of Health and Medicine, Prof. Mercuri
Theories of health and disease, use of evidence and statistics in medicine, a critical overview of Evidence-Based Medicine. Tutorials and grading.

Teaching Assistant, UBC Fall and Winter 2018-2020
MUSC 141/241: Class Piano, Instr. Chai
Piano technique and sight reading fluency for nonpiano majors. In-class instruction and examination.

Teaching Assistant, UCalgary Fall 2017
PHIL 279: Logic I, Prof. Macintosh
Propositional and first order logic. Three tutorials, some lecturing, and grading.

Tutor, St. Thomas Winter 2014–Fall 2015
FNAR 2053/63 Tonal Music: Harmony and Counterpoint I/II, Prof. Kutnowski
Tonal harmonic analysis, four voice harmonisation, species counterpoint. Tutorials.

Service

McMaster Philosophy Society September 2022–December 2023
Gave extracurricular lectures to undergraduates in mathematical logic every two weeks or so.

Assistant Editor, *Stance* October 2015–January 2016
Stance is an undergraduate journal based out of Ball State University. Gave input on standards policy and refereed entries.

Senate Curriculum Committee, St. Thomas September 2014–July 2015
Participated in evaluations of proposals and amendments to courses, programmes, and degree requirements.

Atlantic Regional Philosophical Association October 2015
Student volunteer to organise and facilitate the conference.

Skills

Languages
French (advanced)

Research Software
L^AT_EX, Covidence, NVivo

Music Engraving Software
Sibelius, Lilypond