

# Manasa Gopakumar

Department of Philosophy  
Temple University  
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## Areas of Specialization

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Philosophy of Science | Philosophy of Psychiatry | Epistemology

## Areas of Competence

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Applied Ethics | Social and Political Philosophy

## Education

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<b>PhD in Philosophy</b> Temple University, Philadelphia, US Dissertation: <i>Rethinking Ignorance in Science</i> Committee: Miriam Solomon (chair), Lee-Ann Chae, Eugene Chislenko	2026 (expected)
<b>Graduate Certificate in Gender, Sexuality, &amp; Women's Studies</b> Temple University, Philadelphia, US	2021
<b>MA in Philosophy</b> Manipal University, Manipal, India	2017
<b>BA in Liberal Arts</b> Symbiosis International University, Pune, India Major: Political Science & Public Policy   Minor: Film Studies	2015

## Publications

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[Gatekeeping Potentially Harmful Research: The Case of Autism Genetics.](#) *Synthese* 207 (242). 2026.

## Awards & Grants

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Summer Research Grant, Temple University Graduate School	2026
Travel Grant, Temple University Graduate School (x3)	2024, 2026
Ira Lawrence Family Travel Grant, Temple Philosophy Department (x7)	2018-2026
<i>Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Service</i> , Temple Philosophy Department	2025
NSF Travel Grant, Philosophy of Science Association	2024
<i>Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring</i> , Temple Philosophy Department	2021
<i>Nordev Prize</i> (runner-up) for best preliminary exam paper, Temple Philosophy Department	2021
Summer Fellowship, International Centre for Philosophy North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany	2019
Graduate Student Travel Award, Temple University College of Liberal Arts	2019
<i>Outstanding Final Year Seminar Paper</i> , Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts	2015

## Presentations

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### REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

- “Relational Humility in Participatory Research in Psychiatry” 2026  
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Atlanta, GA
- “Epistemic Precautionary Principle” 2024  
Philosophy of Science Association, New Orleans
- “Loving Ignorance, Expert Trustworthiness, and Patient Integration in Psychiatric Research” 2024  
Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice, Columbia, SC
- “The Epistemic Precautionary Principle for Research in Controversial Domains” (*poster*) 2024  
Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice, Columbia, SC
- “Scientific Ignorance and Expert Trustworthiness” 2024  
Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, New York
- “The Epistemic and Moral Virtue of Ignorance in Controversial Domains of Research” 2024  
Workshop on *Ignorance in the Sciences*, Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Lyon, France

### INVITED TALKS

- “Scientific Uncertainties, Public Trust, and the Risks of Consensus Messaging” 2026  
*Thought Club Speakers Series*, The Free Library of Philadelphia

### COMMENTS

- Michael Forster, “Spinoza and Herder on Hermeneutics and Politics” 2020  
Conference on *Spinoza’s Politics and Hermeneutics in 18th & 19th Century German Thought*,  
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- Cathleen Muller, “Racebending in Fiction: Does the Character Survive?” 2019  
American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division, Philadelphia, PA

## Teaching Experience

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### AS PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

#### Environmental Ethics

8 sections (online): Summer 2025, Spring 2025, Summer 2024, Summer 2023,  
Spring 2023, Fall 2022 (x2), Summer 2022

#### Introduction to Feminist Philosophy

4 sections (in-person & online): Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020

#### Philosophy of African American Experiences

3 sections (in-person): Fall 2023, Spring 2022, Fall 2021

#### Critical Thinking

4 sections (online): Spring 2026, Fall 2024, Spring 2021, Fall 2020

#### Philosophy of the Human

5 sections (in-person & online): Summer 2020, Spring 2020 (x2), Fall 2019 (x2)

#### The Meaning of the Arts

1 section (online): Summer 2020

### AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

Philosophy of the Human (for Lindsay Craig)

Spring 2019, Fall 2018

Introduction to Philosophy (for Philip Atkins)

Spring 2019, Fall 2018

## OTHER PEDAGOGY EXPERIENCE

Program Assistant, Temple University Student Success Center 2024-2026

## TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

Online Teaching Certificate, Temple College of Liberal Arts 2020

Teaching in Higher Education (1-credit graduate seminar), Temple College of Liberal Arts 2019

## Service

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### TO PROFESSION

Referee for *Synthese* 2026

Session chair, APA Eastern Division Meeting (x2) 2020, 2026

Volunteer, APA Eastern Division Meeting (x2) 2019, 2020

### TO UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENT

President, Temple University Graduate Students' Association (TUGSA) 2021-2022

TUGSA Contract Negotiations Team 2021-2023

Co-facilitator, Temple Philosophy Graduate Student Teaching Workshop (x2) 2022, 2022

Coordinator, Temple Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Chapter 2018-2021

Co-facilitator, Temple MAP Workshop: *Diversifying the Syllabus* (x2) 2019, 2020

Co-organizer, Temple MAP Graduate Conference: *Challenging Injustice* 2019

Coordinator, Temple Philosophy Graduate Work-in-Progress Series 2019-2020

## References

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### **Miriam Solomon, PhD**

Emeritus Professor of Philosophy

Temple University

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### **Lee-Ann Chae, JD, PhD**

Associate Professor of Philosophy

Temple University

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### **Eugene Chislenko, PhD**

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### **Paul Crowe, PhD, LLB**

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### **Moira Kirby, PhD**

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