

CURRICULUM VITAE: Professor Angela Hobbs FRSA

Note: for many more details, especially on my Public Understanding of Philosophy work and academic publications, please see my website: www.angiehobbs.com

Current Appointment: Professor of the Public Understanding of Philosophy, University of Sheffield 2012-

Qualifications: Cambridge University 1980-3 First Class Honours B.A. in Classics (specializing in ancient philosophy) 1983; M.A. 1986; PhD in Ancient Philosophy 1991 (various Classics Faculty awards 1983-91).

Previous Appointments: Warwick University 1992-2012 as Lecturer, Associate Professor and Senior Fellow in the Public Understanding of Philosophy.

W.H.D Rouse Research Fellow in Classics, Christ's College, Cambridge 1989-1992.

Affiliated Lecturer in Classics, Cambridge University 1991-2.

1983-5: travelling and teaching English in Naples

Positions (current): Honorary Patron of the Philosophy Foundation; Patron of the Philosophy in Education Project (PEP); Executive Committee Member of the British Philosophical Association; Executive Committee Member and Trustee of the Forum for Philosophy (formerly the Forum for European Philosophy); board member of the Royal Institute of Philosophy; editorial board member of the *Journal of Philosophy in Schools*; Advisory Council of the Speakers' Corner Trust; Associate Fellow of the Crick Centre for the Public Understanding of Politics; adviser to the Hobbes Society of Malmesbury; Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Positions (former): World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Values, Ethics and Innovation 2018-19; judge for the Man Booker International Prize 2019 (now the Booker International Prize); Chair of the Arts and Ideas Trust 2011-2016 (responsible for the *HowTheLightGetsIn* Philosophy Festival at Hay-on-Wye);

Public Understanding of Philosophy: I have the first (and I believe still the only) Chair in the Public Understanding of Philosophy in the world, and before Sheffield I was the first, and only, Senior Fellow in the Public Understanding of Philosophy in the world. I have created the role from scratch with two main aims: to promulgate the work of philosophers past and present and, increasingly, to apply philosophical analysis and argument to some of the most urgent issues of our time, such as democracy and demagoguery; nationhood and nationalism; refugees and indefinite detention; the ethical challenges and opportunities of new technology; philosophy in schools; the ethics of money and banking. I employ a very wide mix of media: television; radio; videos; podcasts, public talks; political advisory work; print articles and interviews; popular books; audio books; media articles and interviews; video games; theatre programmes.

Much of this work requires specific leadership roles, particularly in the field of philosophy in schools (and in education generally). I am an Impact Case Study lead for Philosophy in Education at Sheffield, and this has involved bringing together all the main relevant charities, organizations (usually in commercial competition with each other) and academics in the country to help plan a major event which I organized at the Royal Society of Arts in London last November. The event outlined and explored the proven and potential benefits of

increased philosophy provision in schools to an audience of politicians, civil servants, journalists and head teachers. Full videos of the event can be viewed here:
<https://engagedphilosophy.org/full-videos/>

The teaser videos are here: <https://engagedphilosophy.org/teaser-videos/>

And the accompanying booklet: <https://engagedphilosophy.org/event-booklet/>

Public Speaking: includes 3 panels at the World Economic Forum in Davos 2016 (which led to many online and print interviews around the world and a private meeting with the Queen of a European country, discussing whether philosophy in education can help reduce the risk of political extremism; I was also one of 100 women at Davos 2016 invited to the Women Leaders of the World Dinner); Annual Joseph A Reich, Sr, Distinguished Lecture on *War, Morality and the Military* at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs 2012; ‘The Moral Resourcing of the Nation’ Westminster Abbey 2013; ‘Nationhood and Nationalism’ in Scottish Parliament 2017; introduced session on Philosophy in Schools in the Houses of Parliament, Westminster 2013; *Athens Democracy Forum* (organized by the *New York Times* in conjunction with the United Nations) 2018 and 2019 (panel discussions and also both times playing the part of Socrates in the Socrates-Confucius Debate); Horasis Liverpool 2016; Aspen Initiative U.K. 2019, exploring Leadership Today; over 50 festival appearances, including several appearances at the Hay Literary Festival and also the *HowTheLightGetsIn* Philosophy Festival, Hay-on-Wye; Cheltenham Literary Festival; *Times* Festival of Education; Bristol Festival of Ideas; Radio 3 *Free Thinking* Festival, Gateshead; *Off the Shelf*, Sheffield.

Advisory: advised the All Party Parliamentary Humanist Group and the Home Office in a meeting at Portcullis House on protecting non-religious people’s right to asylum in the U.K (2018); advised Grosvenor London on social housing.

Television: over 20 programmes, including 8 programmes on ancient Greek philosophy for Cosmote History (Greece); on-screen contributor to *The Future of Education* (Swiss TV, filming a debate at the World Economic Forum in Davos January 2016); *Atlantis: the Evidence* (BBC2); *Finding Atlantis* (National Geographic); on-screen contributor and script adviser to *Genius of the Ancient World: Socrates* (BBC4); on-screen contributor and programme development for *Genius of the Modern World: Marx* (BBC4); on-screen contributor to *Ancient Mysteries: Atlantis* (Blink Productions for Smithsonian and Channel 5). Other programmes for BBC2 (e.g. *Newsnight*); Channel 4 and BBC News.

Radio: over 200 programmes, including 22 appearances on *In Our Time* with Melvyn Bragg (BBC Radio 4); writer and presenter of *No More Heroes* on *Archive on 4* (BBC Radio 4); writer and presenter of 6 programmes for *A History of Ideas* (R4); 9 appearances on *The Ideas That Make Us* (R4); many appearances (as both presenter and guest) on *The Forum* (BBC World Service); regular appearances on *The Verb* (BBC Radio 3); *Nightwaves* (R3); many appearances on the *Today* programme (R4); *Woman’s Hour* (R4); guest on *Desert Island Discs*; guest on *Private Passions*; guest on *Test Match Special*. I have also made programmes for the U.S. and Australia.

Videos and podcasts: many, including 23 videos on ancient Greek philosophy for Sheffield iTunes U; video on the philosophical interpretation of the wall decorations at Bolsover Castle for Google Arts and Culture and English Heritage; script and voiceover for *Foucault and*

Fake News for BBC Ideas. Podcast on Hope for the Prix Pictet Photography and Sustainability Prize; discussion of democracy, demagoguery and autocracy for Stance Podcast.

Popular Publications: Many; the most recent is *Plato's Republic: a Ladybird Expert Book* (2019). Forthcoming this year is my co-authored (with two others) *Getting Started with Ethics and Tech*, a guide for CEOs of SMEs in new technology, which comes out of my membership of the 2018-9 World Economic Forum Global Future Council for Values, Ethics and Innovation.

Print Media: I have written articles for, or been interviewed by, many publications around the world, including: New York Times; Arab News; Frie Skoler (Danish); Irish Examiner; Kathimerini (Greek); eda2at (Egyptian website covering art and culture); The Economist; New Statesman, The Times; Telegraph; Guardian; Observer; THE; the Conversation; Express; Mail.

Research

Areas of Research Specialization: Ancient Greek philosophy; ethics, especially virtue ethics and the ethics of flourishing; philosophy for children and young people; courage, heroism and fame; war and peace; love and desire; friendship; relations between philosophy and literature; relations between ethics and aesthetics.

Academic Publications: I have published widely, particularly in the field of ancient philosophy (mainly Greek; some Roman) and its *nachleben*, and in ethics and political theory more generally. Publications include *Plato and the Hero* (Cambridge University Press 2000; paperback 2006); 'The Erotic Magus': Ficino's *De Amore* as a Guide to Plato's *Symposium* in *Platonism and its Legacy* (edd. J. Finamore and T. Nejeschleba, Prometheus Trust Publishers 2019); 'Who Lied? Classical Heroism and World War 1' in a special edition of *The Classical Receptions Journal* (ed. E.E. Pender; Oxford University Press 2018); 'Socrates, Eros and Magic' in *Rereading Ancient Philosophy: Old Chestnuts and Sacred Cows* (edd. V. Harte and R. Woolf, Cambridge University Press 2017); 'Philosophy and the Good Life' in a special edition of *The Journal for Philosophy in Schools* (ed. M. Hand 2017); 'Filling the Space Between: What We Can Learn From Plato' in *Religion and Atheism: Beyond the Divide* (edd. A. Carroll and R. Norman, Routledge 2017); 'Under Which Lyre' in *Common Knowledge* 2014; 'Female Imagery in Plato' in *Plato's Symposium: Essays in Interpretation and Reception* edd. J. Leshner, D. Nails and F. Sheffield (Harvard University Press 2006); 'Plato on War' in *Maieusis* ed. D. Scott (Oxford University Press 2007); entries in the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*; *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*; *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics*; *Continuum Companion to Plato*.

Forthcoming Academic Publications: 'Women, Heroism and WWI' in *Mobilizing Cultural Identities in the First World War: History, Representations and Memory* (edd. F. Pedriali and C. Savattieri, Palgrave 2019); 'More and the Republics of Plato' in preparation for *The Oxford Handbook of Thomas More's Utopia* (edd. C. Shrank and P. Withington, Oxford University Press 2021); new translation of and commentary on Plato's *Symposium* for Oxford University Press (in preparation).

Referee: I have acted as referee and reader for Cambridge University Press, Princeton University Press; Edinburgh University Press, Polity Press, Acumen Press, *Classical Quarterly*, *Classical Philology*, *European Journal of Philosophy*.

Teaching:

Areas of Teaching Competence: ancient philosophy from the Presocratics to the Neoplatonists; history of ethics from the sophists to Foucault (including Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Utilitarianism; Nietzsche; Rawls, Foucault, Gilligan and feminist ethics); applied ethics.

Undergraduate and Graduate Teaching: I have devised, taught and marked 16 modules for undergraduates and graduates in ancient philosophy, ethics, applied ethics and political theory at the Universities of Cambridge, Warwick and Sheffield. I have successfully supervised PhDs at Warwick, Sheffield and Leeds (the last as part of the White Rose Network).

External Examining: Philosophy external examiner for Oxford University *Literae Humaniores* degree 2011-2014; PhD external examiner for King's College, London; University College London; Leeds University; Sheffield University; Heythrop College, London. External member of Professorial Conferment Committee, University of Stafford 2015-2018.

Administration: Sheffield University Civic University Steering Group; all the usual Departmental posts and accompanying committees at Warwick University e.g. Director of Undergraduate Studies; Admissions. My Public Understanding of Philosophy posts at Sheffield and Warwick involve and have involved a very great deal of administration, and committee work (and in some cases chairing): please see the Public Understanding sections above. They have also involved bringing together many very diverse individuals and organisations.

Languages: reasonable Italian (used to be fluent but rusty); some French and German.

Interests: music; theatre; reading; travelling; gardening; walking; swimming and many sports, especially cricket.

Professor Angela Hobbs FRSA January 2020