

# Dr Simon D'Alfonso | Academic CV

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**Citizenship:** Australian

**Languages:** English (Native), Italian (Professional working proficiency)

**Current Position:** Research fellow in the School of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne

## Research Areas

- ePsychology, Cyberpsychology, Digital Psychology
- Expert Systems and Knowledge Representation
- Formal Epistemology and Decision Theory
- Philosophy of Information and Computing

## Education

- 2009 – 2012: University of Melbourne, PhD
  - Thesis Title: [Towards a Framework for Semantic Information](#)
- 2000 – 2004, 2006: University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Arts & Sciences. Majors in Philosophy (honours) and Computer Science.

## Publications

### Refereed Journal Articles (Main Authorship)

- ePsychology/Cyberpsychology
  - D'Alfonso, S., Santesteban-Echarri, O., Rice, S., Wadley, G., Lederman, R., Miles, C., ... Alvarez-Jimenez, M. (2017). *Artificial Intelligence-Assisted Online Social Therapy for Youth Mental Health*. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 8, 796. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2017.00796>
- Philosophy and Knowledge Representation
  - D'Alfonso, Simon (forthcoming, online first). *Truthlikeness and the Lottery Paradox via the Preface Paradox*. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* :1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00048402.2017.1372491>
  - D'Alfonso, S. *Belief merging with the aim of truthlikeness*. *Synthese* (2016) 193 (7). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-015-0825-y>
  - D'Alfonso, S. *The Logic of Knowledge and the Flow of Information*. *Minds and Machines* (2014) 24 (3):307-325. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-013-9310-x>
  - D'Alfonso, S. *Explicating a Standard Externalist Argument against the KK Principle*. *Logos and Episteme* (2013) (4):399-406. <https://doi.org/10.5840/logos-episteme2013442>

- D'Alfonso, S [Supplementing Belief Revision for the Aim of Truthlikeness](#). *The Reasoner*, (2011) 5(9):143-145.
- D'Alfonso S. On Quantifying Semantic Information. *Information*. (2011) 2(1):61-101. <https://doi.org/10.3390/info2010061>

### Refereed Journal Articles (Contributing Authorship)

- ePsychology/Cyberpsychology
  - Olga Santesteban-Echarri, et al., *A next-generation social media-based relapse prevention intervention for youth depression: Qualitative data on user experience outcomes for social networking, safety, and clinical benefit*, In *Internet Interventions*, Volume 9, 2017, Pages 65-73, ISSN 2214-7829, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.invent.2017.06.002>
  - Rice, S., et al., (2016) *Moderated online social therapy for depression relapse prevention in young people: pilot study of a 'next generation' online intervention*. *Early Intervention in Psychiatry*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/eip.12354>

### Reviews

- D'Alfonso, S. *Weathering the Infostorm*. *Metascience* (2015) 24: 441. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11016-015-9997-9>
- D'Alfonso, S. [Quitting Certainties](#). *Philosophy in Review*, 34(1-2):34-36, 2014
- D'Alfonso, S. [Information: A Very Short Introduction](#). *Essays in Philosophy*, 11(2):238-243, 2010.

### Book Chapters

- ["Knowledge"](#) and ["Truth"](#). In Phyllis Illari, editor, *The philosophy of information: A simple introduction*. The Society for the Philosophy of Information, 2013.

### Presentations

- *Mental Health - Stories from the Trenches (Peak15 Health Tech, October 18th 2017)*
- *Integrity Constraints and Truth for Belief Change (RMIT, Upcoming, November 27<sup>th</sup> 2015)*
- *Revising our Beliefs Towards the Truth (University of Wollongong Decision Systems Lab Research Seminar, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2014)*
- *A Framework for Semantic Information (University of Melbourne Philosophy Postgraduate Seminar Series, July 24<sup>th</sup> 2012)*
- *The Logic of Knowledge and the Flow of Information (Fourth Workshop on the Philosophy of Information, May 2012, University of Hertfordshire)*
- *The Logic of Knowledge and the Flow of Information (University of Melbourne Logic Seminar Series, November 4<sup>th</sup> 2011)*
- *Conceptions of Information within Philosophy (The Difference that Makes a Difference, Open University Milton Keynes, 2011)*

- *Agent-Relative Informativeness: Combining Truthlikeness Semantic Information Measures with Belief Revision* (University of Melbourne Logic Seminar Series, April 8<sup>th</sup> 2011)
- *A Logic for Agent-Oriented Relevance* (University of Melbourne Logic Seminar Series, September 17<sup>th</sup> 2010)
- *Knowledge and Information* (University of Melbourne Philosophy Postgraduate Seminar Series, August 31<sup>st</sup> 2010)
- *An Analysis of Informational Relevance* (Australasian Association of Logic Conference, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2010)
- *The Logic of Being Misinformed* (University of Melbourne Logic Seminar Series, April 16<sup>th</sup> 2010)
- *Knowledge and its Value: Some Reasons Why Knowledge Is More Valuable Than True Belief* (University of Melbourne Philosophy Postgraduate Seminar Series, March 9<sup>th</sup> 2010)

### **Academic Employment History**

- 2016 - Present: Research fellow in the School of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne.
- 2013 – 2016: Research Assistant in the Department of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne. Lead programmer and data analyst of the [MOST](#) online social therapy project.
- 2015: Tutor for [Database Systems & Information Modelling](#) at the University of Melbourne.
- 2012: Tutor for [Objects, Events and Knowledge](#) at the University of Melbourne. This appointment also involved some lecturing duties.
- 2010, 2011, 2013: Tutor for [Philosophy: The Big Questions](#) at the University of Melbourne.
- For a summary of my general professional IT employment history, see <http://simondalfonso.id.au/resume.pdf>

### **Professional Services**

- Referee for [Synthese](#)
- Referee for [Erkenntnis](#)
- Referee for [Philosophy & Technology](#)
- Referee for [Logique et Analyse](#)
- Referee for [Journal of Logic and Computation](#)
- Editor of the [Philosophy of Information section at philpapers.org](#)

### **Awards and Honours**

- 2014: Research Support Award from the University of Melbourne School of History and Philosophical Studies.

- 2009 – 2012: Australian Postgraduate Award (APA). Funding in support of PhD candidature.
- 2006: [Laurie Prize for Honours in Philosophy](#). This prize is awarded to the candidate who has been placed second in the first-class honours list in the final year of the pure honours course in Philosophy for the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne.

## Referees

- Dr Greg Wadley
  - Connection: Colleague
  - Position: Lecturer in the School of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne
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- Associate Professor Reeva Lederman
  - Connection: Colleague
  - Position: Associate Professor in the School of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne
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- Associate Professor Mario Alvarez
  - Connection: Colleague, Project Leader
  - Position: (1) Associate Professor in the Centre for Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne (2) Director of eOrygen
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- Professor Greg Restall
  - Connection: Doctoral advisor
  - Position: Professor in the philosophy department at the University of Melbourne
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- Dr Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson

- Connection: Thesis examiner
- Research fellow in the Centre for the Foundations of Science at the University of Sydney
- E: [sebastian.sequoiah.grayson@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sebastian.sequoiah.grayson@sydney.edu.au)
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- Professor Luciano Floridi
  - Connection: Academic associate
  - Position: Professor of Philosophy at Oxford Internet Institute.
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