

# Dr. Liam Tiernac Ó Beagáin

Ph.D., Philosophy

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## Summary

Liam Ó Beagáin is a philosopher of language and mind whose research reconstructs the genealogy of linguistic creativity from Kant to generative linguistics and contemporary internalist semantics. He has articles forthcoming in *Kant–Studien*, *Kantian Review* and *Forum for Modern Language Studies* and is the author of books under contract with Routledge and De Gruyter on these themes. At the same time, he is developing a neo-Kantian argument for the foundational role creative imagination plays in action and meaning through his research project *Creative Imagination: Action, Meaning and the Epigenetic Mind*.

## Education

1. September 2017 – September 2022 | Ph.D., University College Dublin  
Thesis: *Including Kant: Chomsky's Linguistics and Genealogy of Linguistic Creativity*.

Submitted: September 2022. | Viva: April 2023. No corrections, *summa cum laude*. | Awarded: September 2023.

Supervisor: Prof. Maria Baghramian. External examiner: Prof. Paul Pietroski.

2. September 2014 – May 2015 | Master of Arts, Philosophy, Maynooth University  
Thesis: *Panpsychism in the thought of Galen Strawson*. Supervisor: Dr Simon Nolan.

## Selected Publications

### 1. Books

Under contract:

*Kant and the Foundations of Contemporary Linguistics: An Historical Reconstruction of Language Studies from the late 18th to early 21st centuries* (Oxford: Routledge, expected 2028).

*Kant's Place: Creativity, Imagination and Logic in Generative Linguistics* (Berlin: De Gruyter, expected 2027).

In preparation:

*Creative Imagination: Action, Meaning and the Epigenetic Mind*. Book proposal invited by Bloomsbury Academic (submission scheduled for Summer 2026).

### 2. Peer-Reviewed Articles

In press/Accepted:

'Creativity and Imagination in Immanuel Kant and Noam Chomsky', *Kantian Review* (Cambridge University Press: 2026 [accepted pending revisions]).

'Wilhelm von Humboldt's Adoption of Kant's *Affinity*', *Kant-Studien*, 117, 1 (De Gruyter: 2026 [in press]).

‘Character of Language and its Engine: The Fundamental Role of Form of Language in Wilhelm von Humboldt’s Kantian Account of Linguistic Creativity’, *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, 62, 1 (Oxford University Press: 2026 [in press]).

Published:

‘Goethe and Wilhelm von Humboldt’s Philosophy of Language’, *Studii de Istorie a Filosofiei Universale*, 32 (2024), 95–112. The Romanian Academy.

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#### *Awards & Funding*

- Finalist, *Dr Máire de Paor Award*, University College Dublin, 2023
- Winner, *Best Thesis*, School of Philosophy, University College Dublin, 2023
- Summa cum laude, no corrections. PhD viva voce, 2023
- €4,626 UCD Research Fund, 2021
- €2,500 *Philosophy as a Way of Life* Conference, UCD, 2018
- €24,200 Full-term PhD scholarship, UCD, 2017

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#### *Selected Presentations*

- ‘Goethe’s influence on Wilhelm von Humboldt’s philosophy of language’, at *Goethe and the philosophy of his time*, Nov 2024, Romanian Academy, Bucharest.
- ‘Kant’s Thoughts on Imagination and Human Autonomy: Rejecting Narrowing Ideas of Creativity’, at *Kant 300 years from now*, Oct 2024, University of Catania, Italy.
- Keynote: ‘Kant and Generative Linguistics: Analogies and Homologies in Thought’, at *300 years of Immanuel Kant*, Sep 2024, Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal, Peru.
- ‘Kant and Linguistics: From Thesis to Book Projects’, at *Caught between Thinking and Speaking*, Sep 2024, University College Dublin, Ireland.

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#### *Experience*

1. September 2023 – Present | Contributing Lecturer  
Occasionally lectures on his own research in cognitive science, philosophy of language, mind and history of philosophy.
2. October 2014 – Present | Teaching Assistant, UCD & Maynooth University  
Tutors in philosophy of language, mind, logic, ethics, and existentialism.
3. January 2024 – June 2024 | Research Assistant, University College Dublin  
Worked under Prof. Maria Baghramian on EU funded projects.
4. September 2018 – April 2019 | Conference Organiser, University College Dublin  
Organised *Philosophy as a Way of Life*. 2-day conference with 100+ attendees. Keynotes by Profs. Adina Preda and Gordon Finlayson.

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#### *Languages*

Irish C2 | English C2 | German B2 | French B1

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#### *Computer Skills*

MS OS & Office | Mac OS & iWork | Python | Gephi | QGIS | Web & Graphic Design | Data Analysis | Cloud Computing | Data Visualisation