

Dr. Liam Tiernac Ó Beagáin

Ph.D., Philosophy and Cognitive Science

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Summary

Broadly speaking, I'm interested in language and mind. My research has examined the genealogy of linguistic creativity from Kant to studies in cognitive science over the last number of years. Articles of mine are appearing in journals like *Kantian Review*, *Kant-Studien* and *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, while two books are under contract with Routledge and De Gruyter. These projects have given me a very strong footing on which to move forward with my new project called *Creative Imagination: Action, Meaning and the Epigenetic Mind* which examines contemporary debates on conceptual indeterminacy and wherein I argue for my own theory of COM+ states.

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 (BA) (submissions to BA, OUP, CUP, MIT etc. scheduled for Summer 2026).

2. Peer-Reviewed Articles

In press/Accepted:

'Imagination, Logic and Language in Accounts of Creativity by Immanuel Kant and Noam Chomsky: An Examination of Analogies in Thought', *Kantian Review* (Cambridge University Press: 2026 [accepted pending revisions]).

'Wilhelm von Humboldt's Adoption of Kant's *Affinity*', *Kant-Studien*, 117, 2 (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.

Awards & Funding

- Finalist, *Dr Máire de Paor Award*, University College Dublin, 2023
- Winner, *Best Thesis*, School of Philosophy, University College Dublin, 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

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.

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.

Languages

Irish C2 | English C2 | German B2 | French B1 | Latin B1

Computer Skills

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