

## Dr. Liam Tiernac Ó Beagáin

Ph.D., Philosophy, Linguistics and Cognitive Science  
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### Summary

My research interests focus on language, mind and creativity, and has examined the genealogy of studies on linguistic creativity from Kant to contemporary analyses in cognitive science over the last number of years. My book *Kant's Place* is in press with De Gruyter, while related outputs are appearing in journals like *Kant-Studien*. A second book *Kant and the Foundations of Contemporary Linguistics* is under contract with Routledge and articles from this project are appearing in journals like *Forum for Modern Language Studies*. Developing my research further, my new project *Creative Imagination in Action: Studying Meaning, Concepts and the Epigenetic Mind in Irish-Medium Primary Schools* offers a new theory of how mental states that generate content beyond the limits of determinate rule-governed conceptualisation is meaningful, and in an environment never studied before within these contexts.

### Education

September 2017 – September 2022 | Ph.D., University College Dublin

Thesis: *Including Kant: Chomsky's Linguistics and Genealogy of Linguistic Creativity*.

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

Result: No corrections.

September 2014 – May 2015 | Master of Arts, Philosophy, Maynooth University

Thesis: *Panpsychism in the thought of Galen Strawson*. Supervisor: Dr Simon Nolan.

September 2012 – May 2014 | Higher Diploma in Arts, Philosophy, Maynooth University.

Minor Thesis: *A Study of Panpsychism in the History of Western Philosophy*.

Supervisor: Dr Simon Nolan

### Selected Publications

#### 1. Books

*Kant and the Foundations of Contemporary Linguistics: An Historical Reconstruction of Language Studies from the Late 18<sup>th</sup> to Early 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries* (Oxford: Routledge, 2028 [under contract]).

*Kant's Place: Creativity, Imagination and Logic in Generative Linguistics* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2026 [in press]).

#### 2. Peer-Reviewed Articles

'Accounts of Creativity by Immanuel Kant and Noam Chomsky: An Examination of Analogies in Thought', *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (Wiley: 2026 [under review]).

'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]).

‘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 the history of philosophy.
2. October 2014 – Present | Teaching Assistant, UCD & Maynooth University  
Tutors in cognitive science, AI, philosophy of language, mind, logic, ethics, and existentialism.
3. January 2024 – June 2024 | Research Assistant, University College Dublin  
Worked under Prof. Maria Baghramian on the EU funded project PERITIA.
4. September 2018 – January 2020 | Chair, *PhD Work-in-Progress*, UCD & TCD  
Chaired fortnightly presentations by PhD students held at the Philosophy Departments in University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin.
5. 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 C1 | English C2 | German B2 |

### Computer Skills

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