

Patrick H. Pan

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Wolfson College, University of Cambridge

Philosopher, classical pianist, former software engineer

Areas of Interest

Ethics (especially practical rationality, technology, environment, animals), aesthetics (especially music, photography), philosophy of science, pragmatism.

Education

Wolfson College, University of Cambridge	2020–2023
B.A., Philosophy Tripos. 1 st -class honors in Part IA. 1 st -class honors with distinction and top marks in Part IB (Craig Taylor prize).	
Harvard College	2014–2018
A.B., Computer Science. Admitted at age 15.	
New England Conservatory of Music	2014–2019
M.M., Piano Performance (Harvard–N.E.C. Dual Degree Program).	

Papers and Publications

<i>“Deepfakes” and the End of the Photographic Age</i>	2021
Published in <i>Aporia</i> (St Andrews), vol. XXI. Top paper prize.	
<i>A Waltonian Account of Originality</i>	2022
Extended Essay at Cambridge. Supervisor: Jon Phelan.	
<i>Music and the Emotions: A Linguistic Analogy</i>	2022
Extended Essay at Cambridge. Supervisor: Alex Fisher.	
<i>Reasons Internalism and Artificial Intelligence</i>	2023
Dissertation at Cambridge. Supervisor: Richard Holton. <i>(in progress)</i>	
<i>Reactive and Objective Selves: Strawson and Personal Identity</i>	2023
Extended Essay at Cambridge. <i>(in progress)</i>	

Conferences and Summer Programs

Representation in Art and Science (Vienna)	July 2022
Interspecies Comparisons of Welfare Conference (LSE)	April 2022
Pittsburgh Summer Program (Center for Philosophy of Science, Pitt)	July 2021
<i>The Biopolis: Biology, Urbanism, and Social Innovation</i> (Harvard / Paris V)	Summer 2015

Teaching and Lectures

<i>Plato's Theory of Music and the Soul: The Value of Music Education</i> English/Mandarin bilingual lecture at Tsinghua University conference for principals and music educators from rural schools around China.	2019
<i>Heidegger's Aesthetics and Philosophy of Music</i> Hour-long presentation at New England Conservatory of Music.	2019
Teaching Fellow, Harvard CS50 (Introduction to Computer Science) Led weekly section of 12 students, from college first-years to PhD candidates. Instructed hundreds of students at weekly office hours. Teaching evaluation: 4.6 / 5.	2015
Digital Literacy Program Volunteer program teaching fundamentals of computer programming to underprivileged 5th-grade students in Dorchester, MA.	2014

Philosophy Coursework

Cambridge (Philosophy Tripos, Part IB) Knowledge, Language, and World History of Analytic Philosophy Epistemology and Metaphysics of Science Aesthetics (extended essays)	2021–2022
Cambridge (Philosophy Tripos, Part IA) Metaphysics Ethics Meaning Set Texts (Plato, Descartes, Mill) Formal Methods	2020–2021

Harvard		
	Self and World: An Introduction to Early Modern Philosophy (Phil 8)	Spring 2018
	Existentialism in Literature and Film (Phil 34)	Fall 2018
	Kant's <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> (Phil 129)	Fall 2018
New England Conservatory of Music		
	Selected Readings in Philosophy of Music (MHST 620B)	Spring 2019
Harvard (audited)		
	Phenomenology of Lived Experience (Phil 136)	Spring 2019
	Heidegger's <i>Being and Time</i> (Phil 138)	Spring 2019
	Philosophy of Mind (Phil 156)	Spring 2019
MIT (audited)		
	Ancient Philosophy (24.200)	Spring 2019

Work Experience

Snapchat		2017–2018
	Software Engineer Intern (2017: Foot Traffic Insights; 2018: Snap Map).	
Microsoft		2016
	Software Engineer Intern (Microsoft Garage in Cambridge, MA).	
Gifs.com		2015
	Founding Team Member and Software Engineer. Raised over \$1M of venture capital funding. Startup awarded Thiel Fellowship. Featured in <i>Business Insider</i> .	

Other

I enjoy photography, playing chess, distance running, orienteering, cycling, cooking, and coffee. I remain active as a concert pianist, with frequent solo and concerto performances. I am a choral scholar and the accompanist scholar for the Wolfson College choir. In 2014, I was named one of 141 U.S. Presidential Scholars. I am natively fluent in English and Mandarin Chinese, fluent in Spanish (even according to Cuban police—ask me about it!), and have limited working proficiency in Russian.