

Dr. Itay Ehre - Curriculum Vitae

Personal Details:

Academic Degree: Philosophy Doctor

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Current Position:

PhD approved on 7.2015

Areas of Specialization:

Spinoza's *Ethics*; Nāgārjuna's *Mūlamadhyamaka-kārikā*; Intercultural philosophy; Philosophical readings of Indian Indian Mythology; Comparative philosophy; The Yoga tradition; Transformative philosophy.

Areas of Competence

Comparative reading of European & Indian traditions; Spinoza's thought; Indian philosophy; Buddhist thought; The Yoga tradition; Indian Mythology; Early Modern philosophy; Mysticism.

Academic Education:

2007-2015 PhD candidate, Philosophy Department, Ben Gurion University of the Negev. PhD Dissertation title: "*A Comparative Discussion in Philosophical Transformation: On the Possibility that a Rational Argument Could Lead to Transformation in Spinoza's Ethics in Light of a Comparative Reading of Nagarjuna's Mūlamadhyamaka-kārikā*". Supervisor: Dr. Yakir Levin.

2002-2007 MA (Summa Cum Laude) in Philosophy, Tel Aviv University. MA thesis: "*To Think the Infinity, to Think God - An examination of the concept of infinity in Spinoza's 'Ethics'*". Supervisors: Prof. Shlomo Biderman and Dr. Chen Lampert.

1998-2001 BA (Magna Cum Laude) in "Philosophy" and "Poetics and Comparative Literature", Faculty of Humanities, Tel Aviv University.

Publications:

Non academic

2016 "Spinoza's rational humanism" in *humanist* (Hebrew) - [Link](#)

2013 *Gods and Goddesses in the Indian mythology*, Prague Publishing House. (Hebrew).

2012 "The yearning Yogi: erotic desire in the mythic song of the Shiva Purana," with Sharon Borenstein, in *Ktovet Poetry Journal*. pp. 32-48 (Hebrew)

Academic

- 2015 "The destruction and reappearance of the world in Nāgārjuna's analysis of the Self". In: *Freude der Komparativen Philosophie* (Pleasure of the Comparative Philosophy) Hamburg.
- 2015 "The ability to transcend the body according to the Buddhist view of Nāgārjuna and the rational thought of Spinoza". In: "*Dvarim-an academic journal*". (Hebrew)

Work in Process

- Erotic desire in light of the Śiva Purāṇa and Hassidic and Kabbalistic Texts, co-writing with Prof. Ron Margolin
- The Many Voices of Spinoza.

Conferences:

International Conferences:

- 2016 Pleasure and Spiritual Pleasure: Between Hasidism and "The Burning of Kāma" in Between East and West: a symposium in honor of Professor Shlomo Biderman with his retirement.
- 2013 "The destruction and reappearance of the world in Nāgārjuna's analysis of the Self", The 23rd World Congress of Philosophy, Athens, Greece.
- 2011 "Nāgārjuna analysis of the Self: Annihilation without Nihilism" The 6th Annual Meeting of the Comparative & Continental Philosophy Circle, Cork, Ireland.
- 2009 "The unique mysticism of Spinoza and Nāgārjuna", The Society for Indian Philosophy and Religion – East and West: Comparative perspectives, Ben Gurion University.
- 2007 "The Necessary and impossible self", The Society for Indian Philosophy and Religion – Consciousness, Self-Consciousness and Cultural Identity, Kolkata, India.

National Conferences

- 2016 "Dr. Itay Ehre, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Eroticism and Asceticism in the Śiva Purāṇa" The 13th Biennial Conference of Asian Studies in Israel, Tel-Hai College.
- 2016 "Talking to the other - Comparative and intercultural philosophy as an ethical point of view", New Israeli Philosophical Association Conference, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2015 "The spiritual transformation of Spinoza adapted for a new age", The 7th Israeli Conference for the Study of Contemporary Religion and Spirituality, the Program in Religious Studies at Tel Aviv University.
- 2015 "Philosophical transformation in Spinoza and Nāgārjuna", the third Jewish-Asian conference, University of Haifa.
- 2011 "The Haṭha-yoga-Pradīpikā – an exposure of physical philosophy", The 10th Annual Israeli Asian Studies Conference, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

- 2011 "To stop playing backgammon with a snake: transformation in Spinoza's Ethics", New Israeli Philosophical Association Conference, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2010 "Rationalism, Totality and Annihilation: Thinking with the *Mūlamadhyamakakārikā* about Philosophy", the 9th Annual Israeli Asian Studies Conference, University of Haifa.
- 2009 "Knowing Myself, Knowing God: discussion regarding the third kind of knowledge in Spinoza's *Ethics*", New Israeli Philosophical Association Conference, Open University of Israel.
- 2009 "Why is the *Mūlamadhyamaka-kārikā* not a mystical text? And why is it a mystical work nevertheless?" The Eight Annual Israeli Asian Studies Conference, Tel Aviv University.
- 2008 "Thinking Infinity – the concept of infinity in Spinoza's *Ethics*" New Israeli Philosophical Association Conference, Tel Aviv University.
- 2008 "Śaṅkara and the Buddhists: The "I" which is not the Self" The 7th Annual Israeli Asian Studies Conference, The Hebrew University.

Teaching Experience:

Invited lectures:

- 2014-2016 Invited speaker on Nāgārjuna, in the course *The Bodhisattva Path: Philosophy and Practice in Mahayana Buddhism*/ Dr. Keren Arbel, East Asian studies, Faculty of Humanities, Tel-Aviv. (Hebrew)
- 2014-2016 Invited speaker on Buddhism, in the course *Introduction to World's Religions*/Dr. Nehama Verbin and Dr. Barbara Meyer, the religious studies program, the Faculty of Humanities at Tel-aviv University. (Hebrew)
- 2012 Invited speaker on Spinoza Rational Humanism, in David Yellin Academic College of Education. (Hebrew)
- 2011 Invited speaker on Indian Mythology, in the course *India: Society and Culture*/Dr. Pnina Motzafi-Haller" Sociology-Anthropology Department, the Faculty of humanities and Social Sciences at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. (Hebrew)
- 2011 A talk on Yoga, in the radio program *Diotima* at 106fm of the College of Management Academic Studies.
- 2010 Invited speaker on Nāgārjuna, in the course *Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy*/ Keren Arbel, Philosophy Department, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. (Hebrew)
- 2010 Invited speaker on Spinoza, in the course *In Control: are we really controlling our behavior*/Prof. Thalma Lobel", Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences at Tel Aviv University. (Hebrew)

Courses:

- 2010 "*The Philosophy of Yoga: reading, expanding and discussing Yoga Sūtra of Patanjali and Haṭhayoga Pradīpikā of Svātmārāma*" as part of Yoga Teachers course at the Department of Continued Studies, Faculty of Education, University of Haifa.

- 2009 "Indian Philosophy" as part of Yoga Teachers course at 'Campus Siim', Tel Aviv University.
- 2004-2007 Tutor in the Department of Philosophy at Tel Aviv University in the courses: "Indian Philosophy" and "Guided reading I: reading Descartes' Meditations on First Philosophy".

Academic Counseling and Professional Counseling:

- 2012- 2015 Editing and rewriting the book, *Adler: Understand yourself, your family and your children - series of lecture of Achi Yotam on the theory of Alfred Adler*. Orion -Books Publishing House. (Hebrew)
- 2014 Research assistant for Prop. Michal Tamir, with: "Law and Yoga" *Journal of Law and Social Deviance*, Forthcoming - [Link](#)
- 2011 Technical and philosophical consultation for Rahel Chene, with: *Yoga for Children and Beyond*. A.R print Tel-Aviv (Hebrew)
- 2010 Research assistant for Prop. Michal Tamir, with: "Law in Light of the Philosophy of Yoga: Initial Insights into an Interdisciplinary Encounter" in: *Aley Mishpat* - the Journal of the Academic Center of Law and Business. (Hebrew) - [Link](#)
- 2009 Research assistant for Prop. Michal Tami, with: "Racial Profiling: who is the Executioner and Does He Have a Face?" in: *Texas Hispanic Journal of Law & Policy*. (English) - [Link](#)

Grants and Awards

- 2007-2012 Full PhD scholarship from Kreitman School for Advanced Graduate Studies at Ben Gurion University.
- 2003 Academic Award from the Philosophy Department, Tel Aviv University.
- 2002 Scholarship from the Kirstein Stefania Fund for academic achievements at the Philosophy Department, Tel Aviv University