

# MICHAEL WILLIAMS

## Curriculum Vitae

**Academic Address:** Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History  
of Asia,  
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## 1 Employment History

**November 2021–Present: Research Associate at the Austrian Academy of Sciences**  
Employed within the framework of the project “Truth, Knowledge and Metaphysics in Three Traditions of Vedanta” (FWF Project no. 34618) headed by Dr. Marcus Schmücker.

**April 2021–November: Guest Researcher at the Austrian Academy of Sciences**

**January 2018–March 2021: Research Associate at the Austrian Academy of Sciences**  
Employed within the framework of the project “Religion and Reason in Vedānta Traditions of Medieval India” (FWF Project no. 30622-G23) headed by Dr. Marcus Schmücker.

**April 2016–September 2016: Gonda Fellow at the University of Leiden**

**October 2015–February 2015: Guest Researcher at the University of Vienna**

**October 2012–September 2015: Research Associate at the University of Vienna**  
Employed within the framework of the project “Metaphysics and Epistemology of the Nyāya Tradition III” (FWF Project no. 24388) headed by Prof. Karin Preisendanz.

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## 2 Teaching Experience

**October 2009–July 2010:** *I was fully responsible for designing and teaching the following courses at the University of Manchester:*

- Indian Philosophy (MA Level)
- Advanced Sanskrit (MA Level)
- Intermediate Sanskrit (Undergraduate Level)

**October 2010–June, 2011:** *I was fully responsible for designing and teaching the following courses at the University of Manchester:*

- Questions in Indian Philosophy (Undergraduate Level)

**October, 2009–June 2010:**

- Visiting lecturer in the module “Hindu Religion and Theology” and the sub-module “Death and Dying in Dharmic Religions” at Chester University
  - Co-lecturer on the undergraduate course “Women and Men in Indian Religion” at the University of Manchester
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### 3 Education

- **June, 2012: PhD “Non-Realism on Trial: a Mādhva Critique of Advaita Metaphysics.”**  
School of Arts, Histories and Cultures, University of Manchester.  
Supervised by Dr. Jacqueline Suthren Hirst.
  - **July, 2008: Awarded Master’s of Philosophy in Classical Indian Religion with Distinction.**  
Wolfson College, University of Oxford.  
Supervised by Prof. Alexis Sanderson, Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics, All Souls College.  
**Thesis:** “The Kṛṣṇa Upaniṣad: Critical edition, annotated translation and analysis of the text”. Supervised by Prof. Christopher Minkowski, Boden Professor of Sanskrit, Balliol College. *Awarded a distinction for thesis.*
  - **July, 2006: BA in Philosophy. Awarded First-class Honours.**  
Department of Arts and Humanities, University of Cardiff.
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### 4 Grants and Awards

- **2009:** Awarded a research grant by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK) to travel to India for the purpose of working on Sanskrit texts with Prof. D. Prahladachar of the Pūrṇaprajña Vidyāpīṭha, Bangalore
  - **September, 2008- June, 2010:** Awarded a scholarship by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK) fully funding a two year period of PhD research at the University of Manchester
  - **2007:** Awarded a research grant by the Boden Fund, University of Oxford, to travel to India and procure and document Sanskrit manuscripts for dissertation research
  - **October, 2006- July, 2008:** Awarded a scholarship by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK) fully funding a two year MPhil at The University of Oxford
  - **July, 2004:** Awarded scholarship for “Best Results in Year Two” at Cardiff University
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#### 4.1 Further conference work

- 2009: Co-founder and organiser of International Indology Graduate Research Symposium, held at Oxford University from 23rd-24th September, 2009
  - 2009, 2010: Administrative assistant in the organisation of the Sanskrit Traditions in the Modern World Conference
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#### 4.2 Peer-Reviewing Work and Advisory Board Membership

- I am a Member of the Advisory Board for the *Journal of South Asian Intellectual History*
- I have worked as an Anonymous peer-reviewer for the journals *Journal of Indian Philosophy*, *Critical Study of Religion*, and *Religions of South Asia*

#### 4.3 Recent Conference and Workshop Participation

Williams, Michael (February, 2024). “Knowledge and Consciousness in the Dvaita Tradition of Vedānta”. *Inaugural Seminar of the Certificate course on the Bhagavadgītā*, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal.

Williams, Michael (February, 2024) “Consciousness and Knowledge in Dvaita Vedānta: The Theory of the Witness (*Sākṣin*)”. *Week-Long Course Work on Classical Indian Philosophy*, Bhaktivedānta Research Centre, University of Mumbai.

Williams, Michael (December, 2023). “Knowledge and Truth in Satyanātha Tīrtha’s *Abhinavatāṇḍava*”. *Late Vedānta Texts in Sanskrit*; workshop held at the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna.

Williams, (September, 2023). “New Frontiers in the ‘Lost Age of Reason’: What was Truth for Early-Modern Indian Philosophers?”. *Twelfth Polish Congress of Philosophy*, University of Łódź.

Williams, Michael (July, 2023). “Hagiography as Polemic: the Madhvavijaya’s Critique of Non-Dualism”. *Saints and Sacred Spaces in Peninsular Medieval India*; workshop held at the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna.

Leader of “Readings in Śrīpatyācārya’s *Dvaitadyumaṇi*” held by the Late Vedānta Working Group at the University of Cambridge (26.11.2022–30.01.2023).

### 5 Language Skills

- Sanskrit language, including the classical and Vedic languages
- Advanced Pali language
- Intermediate German (spoken and as an academic language)
- Elementary Kannaḍa language

- Literary Hindi (reading only)
  - French as an academic language (reading only)
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