

CV

15/03/2024



Name: Maurizio Esposito

Place of Birth: Italy

Date of Birth: August 27, 1980

Address: Departamento de História e Filosofia das Ciências, Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e Tecnologia, Universidade de Lisboa, Faculdade de Ciências, Edif. C4, Piso 3, Campo Grande, 1749-016 Lisboa, Portugal

Positions

- 2020 - Senior Research Fellow, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Lisbon (Portugal)
- 2019- Assistant Professor, Center for Natural and Human Sciences (CCNH), Federal University
2022 of ABC (Brazil)
- 2013 - Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
2019 University of Santiago (Chile)
- 2012- National Autonomous University of Mexico
2013 Postdoctoral Fellowship
Institute for Philosophical Research

Education

- 2008 –
2012: University of Leeds (Centre of HPS)
Ph.D. in History and Philosophy of Science
- 2006 –
2007: University of Montréal
Visiting MA Student, Department of Philosophy
- 2006 –
2008: University of Bologna
MA (Laurea Specialistica) in History of Science (Magna cum Laude)
- 2003 –
2004: Catholic University of Leuven
BA Exchange Student Program, Institut Supérieur de Philosophie
- 2001 –
2005: University of Bologna
BA in Philosophy

Administrative positions

- 2016 - Head of Department of Philosophy
2018: University of Santiago (Chile)

2015 – Director of the MA in Philosophy of Science
2016: University of Santiago (Chile)

Visiting Positions

02/2017-

03/2017: Visiting Research Fellow, Federal University of ABC, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

02/2016-

03/2016: Visiting Research Fellow, CFCUL, University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal.

02/2015-

03/2015: Visiting Research Fellow, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Institute for Philosophical Research, Mexico City.

02/2014-

03/2014: Visiting Research Fellow, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Institute for Philosophical Research, Mexico City.

Research and Teaching Interests

History of Science, Epistemology, History of Biology in 19th and 20th century, Philosophy of Biology. History and Philosophy of the Human Sciences.

Publications

Books

Esposito M., *Praxis and History: Vico and the Maker's Knowledge Tradition*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2024

Esposito M., 2013 – *Romantic Biology 1890 - 1945*, London: Pickering and Chatto; reprinted in 2016 in Routledge, Francis & Taylor, (Finalist for the Marc-Auguste Pictet Prize 2014, Société de Physique et d'Histoire Naturelle de Genève).

Edited books

Unity and Disunity in Evolutionary Biology: Deconstructing Darwinism, co-edited with R. Delisle and D. Ceccarelli, Cham: Springer Forthcoming, 2024

Refereed Articles

2024 - Three Marxist Lessons for the 21st-century History and Philosophy of Science. *Science & Society*, Accepted. Forthcoming (April)

2024 - Machines as Organisms: From Proxy objects to epistemic tools (and backward), *Ludus Vitalis*, Forthcoming.

2023 - The machine-organism relation revisited, *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, Vol. 45, n. 34, (Co-authored with Lorenzo Baravalle)

2020 – Beyond Haeckel's Law: Walter Garstang and the Evolutionary Biology that might have been, *Journal of the History of Biology*, 53, pp. 249-268

2020 - Falconer, Darwin y el Derecho Anglosajón: Como Repensar la "Estructura" de la Teoría Evolutiva, *PERI*, Vol. 12, N. 1

2019 – En el Principio Era la Mano: Ernst Kapp y la Relación entre Máquina y Organismo, *Revista de Humanidades de Valparaíso*. N. 14, pp. 117-138

2018 – Sobre el Uso y Significado de la Historia en Filosofía de la Ciencia, *Revista Colombiana de Filosofía de la Ciencia*, Vol. 18, N. 37, pp. 91-117

2017 – Expectation and Futurity: The Remarkable Success of Genetic Determinism, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Part C*, Vol. 62, pp. 1-9

2016 – From Human Science to Biology: The Second Synthesis of Ronald Fisher, *History of the Human Sciences*, 29, N.3, pp. 44-62

2015 – More than its Parts: W. E. Ritter, the Scripps Marine Association and the Organismal Conception of Life, *Historical Studies in Natural Science*, Vol. 45, N. 2, pp. 273-302.

2014 - Multilevel Causation and the Extended Synthesis, *Biological Theory*, Vol. 9, pp. 209-220 (coauthored with M. Martinez).

2014 – Problematic Idiosyncrasies: Rediscovering the Historical Context of D'Arcy W. Thompson's Science of Form, *Science in Context*, Vol. 27, N. 1, pp. 79-107.

2013 – Evolution, Development, and Heredity: The Unmodern Synthesis of E. S. Russell, *Theory in Biosciences*, 132 (3), pp. 165-180.

2012– Weismann versus Morgan Revisited: Clashing interpretations on Animal Regeneration, *Journal of the History of Biology*, 46: 511-541.

2011 – Utopianism in the British Evolutionary Synthesis, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*, Vol. 42, Issue 1, pp. 40-49.

Chapters

2024 - The problem of "Organismal Agency" in the history of the Life Sciences, in: A Fábregas, G Radick, G Preto, J Baedke (eds) *The Riddle of Organismal Agency: New Historical and Philosophical Reflections*, Eds, London: Routledge, Forthcoming

2024 - "Reformist" and "Radical" Historiographies behind and beyond the unity and disunity of evolutionary thought, in: Delisle RG, Esposito M, Ceccarelli D (eds) *Unity and disunity in evolutionary biology: deconstructing Darwinism*. Springer, Cham, Forthcoming

2024 - Deconstructing and Reconstructing the History of Evolutionary Thought: An Agenda for a "Post-Darwinian" Historiography, In: Delisle RG, Esposito M, Ceccarelli D (eds) *Unity and disunity in evolutionary biology: deconstructing Darwinism*. Springer, Cham, Forthcoming

2022 – “The Historian’s Craft in the ‘Periphery’: An Overview on the Historiography of Life Sciences in Latin America” in the *Handbook of the historiography of Latin American studies on the life sciences and medicine*, Ed. Ana Barahona, Springer. Pp. 39-62

2021 – Lo material, lo ideal y la historia: algunas reflexiones en torno al “materialismo” Darwiniano, *Cuadernos de lógica, Epistemología y Lenguaje* – London: College Publications, pp. 145-167

2021 – “Cathedrals, Corals and Mycelia: Three Analogies for the History of Evolutionary Biology”, in *Natural Selection: Revisiting its Explanatory Role in Evolutionary Biology*, Ed. Richard Delisle, Springer, pp. 11-35

2021 – “Manos que piensan y mentes que hacen: algunas reflexiones en torno a la epistemología de Giambattista Vico” in *Epistemología: Escritos Compilados*, ed. Francisco Diaz Céspedes, Santiago, PEIP

2019 – “Kantian Ticks, Uexküllian Melodies and the Transformation of Transcendental Philosophy” in *Jakob von Uexküll and Philosophy*, Eds Michelini F., Köchy K. Routledge, Francis & Taylor, London.

2019 – “Performative Epistemology and the Philosophy of Experimental Biology: A Synoptic Overview” in *Life and Evolution*, Eds. L. Baravalle, L. Zaterka, Springer (Co-authored with Gabriel Vallejos), pp. 46-67

2018 – “The History of the ‘Red Men’: William Bollaert and the Indigenous People of the Americas”, in *The Search for Human Origins: Deep Time, Evolution and Race in Nineteenth Century British Sciences*, Ed. Efram Sera Shriar, University of Pittsburgh Press, pp. 91-112.

2018 – “AWF Edwards on Fisher’s *Genetical Theory of Natural Selection*”, in *Phylogenetic Inference, Selection Theory, and History of Genetics: Selected Papers of AWF Edwards with Commentaries*, Ed. Rasmus Winther, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

2017 – “The Organismal Synthesis: Holistic Science and Developmental Evolution in the 20th Century English-speaking World”, in *The Darwinian Tradition in Context: Research Programs in Twentieth-Century Evolutionary Biology*, Ed. Richard Delisle, Springer, pp. 219-241.

2017 – “El Futuro de los Genes: el Papel de las Expectativas en la Producción del Conocimiento Tecno-científico”, in *Vínculos, Divergencias y Relaciones: Ensayos sobre Ciencia, Tecnología y Sociedad*, ed. Pedro G. Reyes, RIL Editores, Chile.

Book Reviews

2024 - *How Does Germline Regenerate?* Chicago: Chicago University Press, *British Journal for the History of Science*, Forthcoming

2024 - Molly McClain, Ellen Browning Scripps: new money and American philanthropy, Lincoln, NE, University of Nebraska Press, 2017, 330, *The Historian*, Vol. 84, Issue 3.

2021 - Sherrie L. Lyons, From Cells to Organisms: Re-envisioning Cell Theory, *Social History of Medicine*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/shm/hkab002>

2019 – Amanda Jo Goldstein, *Sweet Science: Romantic Materialism and the New Logics of Life*, *ISIS: A Journal of the History of Science*, 111 (2), 377-378

2018 – Zammito J. H., “From ‘Life’ to ‘Biology’: the long gestation of a scientific field”, *The Gestation of German Biology*, University of Chicago Press, in *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*, Vol. 70, pp. 29-32

2018 – Peterson, E. L. *The Life Organic: The Theoretical Biology Club and the Roots of Epigenetics*, in *ISIS: A Journal of the History of Science*, Vol 109, N.1, p. 216

2017 – Marcel Weber y la Filosofía de la Biología Experimental: la Cultura Material de las Ciencia entre Pasado e Futuro, *Scientiae Studia*, Vol. 15, n 2

2010 – G. R. Delisle *Les philosophies du néo-darwinisme.*, Preface by Jean Gayon. Paris: Presses Universitaires France, 2009, in *British Journal for the History of Science*, Vol. 43, Issue 2, pp. 315-317.

Other publications

2018 - “Interdisciplina, Cultura y Ciencia”, co-authored with Wilfredo Quezada y Diana Aurenque, *Culturas Científicas*, Vol. 1, N. 1

2011 - “Joint meeting of the History of Science Society and the Philosophy of Science Association, Montreal 4-7 November 2010”, invited article, *Viewpoint, Newsletter of the British Society for the History of Science*, No. 94, pp. 10 – 11.

Teaching Experience

University of Leeds, UK

- 1 Course taught 2011. 12 hours
- History and Philosophy of Biology

National Autonomous University of Mexico. Institute of Philosophical Investigations.

- 1 Course taught 2012. 36 hours
- History and Philosophy of Biology

University of Santiago, Chile

Courses taught 2013-2018 – 4 Courses per year. 40 hours each course. (For BA, MA and PhD students)

- Historia y Método en Ciencia
- Filosofía de las Ciencias I
- Filosofía de las Ciencias II
- Seminario de Racionalidad e Historicismo en Ciencia
- Seminario de Grado Historia y Método en Ciencia
- Seminario Profundización en una Ciencia Instrumental (Biología)
- Ciencia, Técnica y Sociedad
- Seminario de Grado

Federal University of ABC, Sao Paulo, Brazil - Center for Natural and Human Sciences (CCNH)

Courses taught 2019-2021 – 5 Courses per year. 36 hours each course. (For BA and MA students)

- Bases Epistemológicas da Ciência Moderna
- Teoria do Conhecimento I

- Teoria do Conhecimento II
- Filosofia da Ciencia I
- Filosofia da Ciencia Pos-Kuhniana

University of Lisbon, Interuniversity Centre for the History of Science and Technology

Courses taught 2021-2024 - 2 Courses per year. 20 hours each course. (For BA, MA and PhD students)

- History and Philosophy of Life Sciences
- Philosophy of Life Sciences (For MA and PhD students)

Invited Presentations (Selected)

- “Three Marxist Lessons for the 21st century HPS: A Critical Revision”, European Society for the History of Science, 1-03-2023, Online.
- “The uses and abuses of the history of biology: a cautionary tale”, Gulbenkian Institute of Science September 2021
- “Desde el Órgano a la Máquina: Ernst Kapp y la Hipòtesis de la Proyección Orgànica”, Department of Biology, University of Chile, August 2019
- “Evolução e Cultura na Teoria Genética da Seleção Natural de Ronald Fisher”, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianopolis, Brazil, May, 2019
- “Fundamentos Epistemológicos de la Producción de Conocimiento en Biología Experimental”. INTA, University of Chile, Santiago
- “El Principio del *Verum Ipsum Factum* en Filosofía de la Ciencia”, University of Tarapacà, Arica, Chile, October 2017.
- “La Fábrica de lo Vivo: Artefactos y Manipulación en las Ciencias de la Vida”, IFICC Santiago, Chile, August 2017.
- “Tinkering with Life: Machines and Causation in Biology”, University of Chile, Chile, June 2017.
- “Thinking Hands and Dexterous Minds: Giambattista Vico and the Multiple Origins of Historical Epistemology”, Faculty of Science, UNAM, Mexico, October 2016.
- “¿Se puede hablar de biología romántica en el siglo 20?”, UNAM, México, March, 2016.
- “Reductionism and Action: Composing and Decomposing Life Phenomena”, IFICC Santiago, Chile, January 2016.
- “Synthia and other Biological Objects: A Historical Reflection on the Relation between Making and Knowing”, Catholic University of Chile, August 2015.
- “Romantic Biology in the 20th century”, University of Santiago, USACH, November 2013.
- “The Rhetoric of Genes: The Promises of a Pragmatic Science – 1920-2000” *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM), Symposium on Mendel, 190th Anniversary of Birth of G. J. Mendel*, Mexico, October 2012.
- “A non-Mendelian Revolution? E. S. Russell and his Alternative Agenda (1920-1940)”, *Facultad de Ciencias, Departamento de Biología*, UNAM, Mexico, October 2012.
- “Neo-Darwinism, Evo-Devo and the Un-Modern Synthesis of E. S. Russell”, *Departamento de Humanidades, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM)*, Mexico, July 2012.
- “Internationalization and Standardization of Science: the case of the Scripps Marine Association”, *Facultad de Ciencias – Centro de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia (UNAM)*, Mexico, May 2012.
- Comentario de “Funciones y Homología Funcional en la Ciencias Cognitivas” Prof. Claudia Lorena Garcia Aguilar, *Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas*, (UNAM), Mexico, May 2012.
- “Defining Organismal Biology: *Die Pflanze bildet Zellen, nicht die Zelle bildet Pflanzen!*“, *MBL-ASU History of Biology seminar*, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Massachusetts, USA, May 2011.
- “Phonographs, Telephones, Embryos: E. Rignano and his Mnemonic Theory of Heredity and Development”, *Lunchtime Seminars CHSTM*, University of Manchester, UK, December 2010.

- “La Reproduction Asexuelle, la Régénération Animale et les Théories de l’Hérédité non-Weismannienne : le Cas de C. M. Child et W. E. Ritter”(in French), *Société d'Histoire et d'Epistémologie des Sciences de la Vie, XVIe Congrès*, Strasbourg, France, March 2010.
- “Utopianism in the British Evolutionary Synthesis”, *International Symposium on Darwinism, celebrating 150 years since the publication of Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species (1859)*, University of Lethbridge, Canada, November 2009.
- “Unmodern and Modern Syntheses: The Dilemma between Planaria and Drosophila” *HPS workshop, New Perspectives on the Modern Synthesis*, University of Leeds, UK, February 2009.

Refereed Presentations (Selected)

- “Organismal Agency” in the history and philosophy of the Life Sciences in LICPOS, University of Lisbon, 15 -07-2023
- „The maker’s knowledge tradition and the philosophy of scientific practice: restoring a lost (and useful) connection“.Biennial Congress of the Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice (SPSP) held at the University of Ghent 2–4 July 2022
- “Biología del siglo XX: Indagación Filosófica y Experimentación Científica“ Congress of the Asociación Iberoamericana de Filosofía de la Biología (AIFBI) Online 25 -3-2022
- Annual Congress of the Sociedad de Lógica, Metodología y Filosofía de la Ciencia en España (SLMFCE) held at the University of Salamanca 16-19 November, 2021
- “Is the Category of Modern Evolutionary Synthesis obsolete?” ABFhiB, Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, July, 2019.
- “Synthesis or Syntheses?: Unity and Disunity in 20th Century Biology”, ESHS and BSHS, London, UK, September 2018.
- Roundtable: “What is it we are talking about when we talk about the history of science?”, ESHS and BSHS, London, UK, September 2018.
- “Manipulation and Causation in Biology: Genetics, Evolution and Experimental Intervention“, ISHPSSB and ABFHIB, Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 2017.
- “From Artificial Parthenogenesis to *Mycoplasma laboratorium*: the relation between Making and Knowing in the 20th century Bioscience”, AIFIBI (Ibero-American Society for the Philosophy of Biology), Valle de Bravo, Mexico, September 2015.
- “From the Verum-Factum to Synthetic Biology: The Relation between Making and Knowing in the 20th century Bioscience”, *Jornadas Rolando Chuaqui*, Philosophy and Science, USACH. Chile, August 2015.
- “The History of ‘Red People’: William Bollaert and the Geography of Native Americans”, BSHS, Swansea, UK, July 2015.
- “The Rhetoric of Genes: A Historical and Conceptual Analysis”, *Jornadas Rolando Chuaqui*, Philosophy and Science, Chile, October 2014.
- “The Rhetoric of Genes: Utopian Promises of a Pragmatic Science – 1930-2000”, BSHS, St Andrews, UK, July 2014.
- “Multilevel Causation and the Extended Synthesis”, *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology*, France, Montpellier, July 2013.
- “¿Qué es una función biológica? Una perspectiva histórica”, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, UNAM, Mexico, September 2012.
- “When Old Traditions Shape New Institutions: The Marine Biological Association of San Diego as Case-Study in the History of Ideas”, *HPS Seminars*, University of Leeds, UK, March 2011.
- “From Organic Morphogenesis to Liberal Socialism: Eugenio Rignano and the ‘Centro-Epigenetic’ Hypothesis of Heredity and Development”, *HSS Annual Conference*, Montreal, Canada, November 2010.
- “Historicizing or analyzing organisms (or both)? The Weismann-Morgan Controversy Over Animal Regeneration Re-Examined”, *BSHS Annual Conference*, Aberdeen, UK, July 2010.

- “When Style Matters: The Controversy between A. Weismann and T. H. Morgan on Regenerative Phenomena”, *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology*, Brisbane, Australia, July 2009.

Grants and Scholarships

September 2020 – 2026: CEEC-Individual Grant, Foundation for Science and Technology – Portugal (University of Lisbon)

March 2023 – 2025: Research member of the FCT Project PeX.2022.05256.PTDC, EVORISE – Exploring the Evolutionary Origin of Sentience, University of Lisbon

April 2020 – April 2021: FAPESP: The São Paulo Research Foundation, Individual project (Declined)

April 2017 – April 2020, National Research Grant awarded by FONDECYT (The National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development of Chile).

November 2014 – November 2017, National Research Grant awarded by FONDECYT (The National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development of Chile).

January 2014 – January 2017, Grant awarded by DICYT (*Dirección de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica* USACH) (Declined).

March 2012 – February 2014, Postdoctoral fellowship, History and Philosophy of Science, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico City.

May 2011, Arizona State University Grant, MBL-ASU History of Biology seminar, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Massachusetts, USA.

December 2010, Travel Grant, Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of Manchester (UK).

November 2010, British Society for the History of Science Research Grant, archival research at the University of California, Berkeley (USA).

November 2010, University of California, San Diego. Research Grant, archival research at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego (USA).

October 2010, Travel Grant, History of Science Society, Annual Conference, Montreal (Canada).

July 2010, Butler-Eyles Travel Grant, BSHS Annual Conference, Aberdeen (UK).

March 2010, Travel Grant, Société d'Histoire et d'Epistémologie des Sciences de la Vie, XVIe Congrès, Strasbourg (France).

July 2009, Travel Grant, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Brisbane Meeting (Australia).

June 2009, Grant, Ischia Summer School. History of the Life Sciences, *From Generation to Reproduction: Knowledge and Techniques from the Renaissance to the Present Day*, Ischia (Italy).

November 2008, Postgraduate Travel-Grant Conference: *Physics meets Biology: Perspectives from Philosophy, History, and Science*, Edinburgh, University of Edinburgh and Royal society of Edinburgh (UK).

September 2008 – 2011, PhD Departmental Scholarship, Centre for History and Philosophy of Science, Department of Philosophy, University of Leeds (UK).

January 2006 – July 2006, ‘Overseas’ Scholarship, University of Montreal and University of Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum (Canada-Italy).

September 2003 – 2004, EU Scholarship - ‘Erasmus’ Project, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium).

Other experiences

2023: Organization of the intentional workshop: "Mechanism and its Enemies: New perspectives on the relation between machines and organisms" - University of Lisbon (CIUHCT - CFCUL).

2018: Organization of the International Symposium: “Philosophy and Biology: Mechanisms, Manipulation and Experiment”, University of Santiago, Chile

2016: Organization of the International Seminar: “Knowledge and Intellectual Property in 19th and 20th Century”, University of Santiago, Chile

2015: Organization of the international Symposium: “The Uses of Heredity in the 20th and 21st century”, University of Santiago, Chile.

2013-2015: University Teaching Diploma (2 years): Planning courses, evaluating, teaching technologies, and teaching strategies, University of Santiago, Chile

Referee Work

History of Science, Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London, Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C: Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences – Global Philosophy – Biological Theory - History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences – Perspectives on Science - Pittsburgh University Press - Metatheoria; Limite: Revista Interdisciplinaria de Filosofía y Psicología. Revista de Humanidades (Chile). Interciencia: Revista Científica. Revista Colombiana de Filosofía de la Ciencia

For Institutions

Konrad Lorenz Institute (Research Projects).

The National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development of Chile (Research Projects).

National Habilitations

Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale, Settore Concorsuale 11/C2. Fascia II. 30/07/2018

Acreditación Profesorado Universitario: Agencia Nacional de Evaluación de la Calidad y Acreditación (ANECA). España: 22/12/2022