

Simon Scheller

Otto-Friedrich Universität Bamberg
Feldkirchenstraße 21
D-96052 Bamberg

Email: simon.scheller@uni-bamberg.de
Website: www.simonscheller.com

Areas of Research

Political Philosophy, Collective Decision Making, Individual and Collective Rationality, Social Epistemology, Agent-based Modeling, Philosophy of the Social Sciences, Philosophy of Modeling, Bargaining Theory

Academic Career

Akademischer Rat , University of Bamberg	10/2019 – current
Postdoctoral Fellow , Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy (MCMP)	10/2017 – 09/2019
Dr. rer. pol. , University of Bamberg. Supervisor: Johannes Marx Title: <i>Democratic Decision Making – A Theoretical Analysis</i> (summa cum laude; Bamberg University best dissertation award)	12/2017
Ph.D Student , Bamberg Graduate School of Social Science	10/2014 – 09/2017
Visiting Ph.D Student University of Waterloo, Canada	04/2016 – 05/2016
M.A. Political Science University of Bamberg	10/2012 – 09/2014
M.Sc. European Economic Studies University of Bamberg	10/2011 – 03/2014
B.A. Philosophy & Economics , University of Bayreuth	10/2008 – 09/2011
Exchange Student , University of Leeds, UK	09/2010 – 04/2011
Abitur , Georg-Wilhelm-Steller Gymnasium, Bad Windsheim	07/2008

Publications

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

The Strategic Use of Fear Appeals in Political Communication, <i>Political Communication</i>	2019
Rationality in Context. On Inequality and the Epistemic Problems of Maximizing Expected Utility. <i>Synthese</i> (co-authored with J. Marx and D. Klein).	2018
When Do Groups Get It Right? – On the Epistemic Performance of Voting and Deliberation. <i>Historical Social Research</i> 43(1): 89-109.	2018
Mitigating the Problem of Manipulation in the ‘Adjusted Winner’ Procedure. In: Linhart E., Debus M., Kittel B. (eds): <i>Jahrbuch für Handlungs- und Entscheidungstheorie</i> .	2017

Monographies

- Democratic Decision Making – A Theoretical Analysis.*
(Dissertation Thesis), Bamberg: Bamberg University Press. 2018
- Simulating Bargaining Processes with Agent-based Modelling.*
Marburg: Tectum-Verlag. 2016

Invited Contributions

- Rational Choice and Asymmetric Learning in Iterated Social Interactions – Some Lessons from Agent Based Modeling. In: Marker, Schmitt, Sirsch (eds): *Demokratie und Entscheidung. Beiträge zur Analytischen Politischen Theorie.* Springer, pp. 277–296 (co-authored with Dominik Klein and Johannes Marx). 2018

Newspaper Articles

- Ich Maximiere. Ökonomisches Denken heißt mehr als nur Geld sparen. In *DIE ZEIT*, 38/2009. 2009

Under Review

- Trust in Heterogenous Populations: How Rational Individual Behaviour can lead to irrational out-group discrimination (Minor revisions for an edited volume on social trust with *Routledge*)

Work in Progress

- Political Epistemology: Why we should (not) worry about Democracy's Epistemic Crisis
- Symmetric Bargaining among Utility-maximisers leads to Inequality. An Argument against non-interventionism. (joint work with J. Marx and D. Klein).
- Democracy and the Problem of Strategic Manipulation

Presentations**2019**

- Conference 'Biases in Science', Munich
Are Democratically Organised Research Teams More Resilient against Biases and Special Interests?
- Conference 'Agent-based Models in Philosophy: Prospects and Limitations', Bochum
Some are just Lucky – Questioning Merit-based Justifications of Inequality Through ABM
- Conference 'Agent-based Models in Philosophy: Prospects and Limitations', Bochum
Why Visible Group Characteristics Matter for Trust and how this may Lead to Out-group Discrimination

2018

- Candidate Lecture for W1-Professorship in Philosophy of Economics, University of Bayreuth
*Trust in Heterogenous Populations: How Rational Behaviour can lead to Irrational Out-group Discrimination.**

Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaften (DVPW) Conference, Frankfurt
*Poverty and the Justifiability of Redistributive Institutions. A normative Interpretation of an agent-based Model of rational exchange.**

Symposium: *From Cases to General Principles – Theory Development through Agent-based Modeling* – funded by the Volkswagen-Foundation* (participation)

Vienna Forum for Analytical Philosophy (WFAP) graduate conference on Rationality and Democracy, Vienna
*Epistemic Democracy and Strategic Manipulation in Deliberation.**

MCMP Work in progress-talk, LMU Munich
Trust in Heterogeneous Populations – An Agent Based Computer Simulation.

ANR-DFG Research Project ‘ColAForm’ - Workshop, University of Bamberg
*The Strategic use of Fear Appeals in Political Communication.**

MCMP Work in Progress-talk, LMU Munich
Political Epistemology – How Can Democratic Communities Safeguard against Strategic Manipulation?

2017

Dissertation Defense, University of Bamberg
Democratic Decision Making – A Theoretical Analysis.

Berlin School of Mind and Brain Conference: Communication, Reasoning and Social Epistemology
Political Epistemology: Manipulating Opinions by Manipulating Facts. (Poster presentation)

Agent-based Modelling across Social Science, Economics and Philosophy Conference, University of Bamberg
When do Groups get it right? – On the Epistemic Performance of Voting and Deliberation.

2016

International Political Science Association (IPSA) Conference, Poznan
Poor Rationality – How Inequality Emerges a Self-sustaining Equilibrium in Bargaining.

Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET) Workshop ‘Complexity and Economics’, Toronto
Agent-based Modeling and Democratic Theory: Improving Normative Arguments through Simulation.

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago
Simulating Democratic Procedures: An Agent-based Model of Voting and Deliberation.

European Public Choice Society (EPCS) Conference, Freiburg
Mitigating the Problem of Manipulation in the Adjusted Winner Procedure.

German Society for Philosophy of Science (GWP) Conference, Düsseldorf
Agent-based Modeling and Democratic Theory: Improving Arguments through Simulation.

2015

GESIS Computational Social Science Winter Symposium, Cologne
The Emergence of Inequality – Three Agent-based Bargaining Models. (Poster presentation)

Bamberg Graduate School of Social Science (BAGSS) Conference, Bamberg
The Evolution of Inequality – How Institutional Stability leads to Unfair Outcomes in Bargaining.

Vienna Summer School 'The Computational Turn. Simulation in Science', Vienna
Two views on democracy – A model of preference- and belief aggregation.

* indicates invited talks

Teaching

Critical Rationalism in Science and Politics: The Philosophy of Karl Popper, LMU Munich 2019
 Selected Toics in Epistemology (Bachelor level), LMU Munich 2018 – 2019
 Philosophy of the Social Sciences (Master level), University of Bamberg
 Guest Lecturer for Formal Modeling, Democracy and Truth, Positive Political Theory 2017 – 2018
 'The Market and the Forum – Theories of Democratic Decision Making' (Bachelor level), University of Bamberg 2016
 Game Theory, teaching assistant (Bachelor level), University of Bamberg 2015
 Microeconomics 2, teaching assistant (Bachelor level), University of Bamberg (four times) 2013 – 2015
 Advanced Microeconomics, teaching assistant (Master level), University of Bamberg 2012
 Academic writing and presenting, teaching assistant (Bachelor level), University of Bayreuth 2010

Invitations to Candidate Lectures

Junior Professorship for Philosophy of Economics (W1), University of Bayreuth 2018

Grants and Honors

Dissertation award of the Otto-Friedrich-University of Bamberg for best doctoral dissertation of the year (€750)

2-year postdoctoral fellowship, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy; funded by the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation (€58.000)

Bowling Green State University conference travel grant (\$500, declined)

3-year PhD Scholarship by the German excellence initiative; funded by the German Science Foundation (€50.400)

Extended conference travel grant, Bamberg Graduate School of Social Sciences (€1.800)

Further Work Experience

Marketing Assistant for the *ZEIT Akademie*, ZEIT Verlag Hamburg 07/2012 – 10/2012

Internship at *ZEIT Akademie*, ZEIT Verlag Hamburg 03/2012 – 06/2012

Internship at the SPD faction in the German Bundestag 04/2011 – 07/2011

Postgraduate Education / Summer Schools

Certificate for Teaching in Higher Education of the Bavarian Universities (Basic Level)	2017
Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Sciences Courses: Democracy and Justice, Political Psychology	2017
Summer School 'The Computational Turn. Simulation in Science', Vienna	2015
ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques Courses: Agent-based Modeling in the Social Sciences, Introduction to Python	2015

Service to the Community

Journal Reviewer

Synthese, Historical Social Research; Ergo; Oeconomica

Editor:

Lead guest editor for special issue on *Computational Modeling in Philosophy* with *Synthese*, together with Stephan Hartmann and Christoph Merdes

Conference Organisation

Computational Modeling in Philosophy, 2-day conference, 40 participants, MCMP Munich (head organiser)	06/2018
<i>Bayreuther Dialoge</i> , 2-day Symposium, 120 participants, University of Bayreuth (regular organiser)	11/2009

Programme Committee

Biases in Science, 3-day Conference, MCMP	04/2019
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Administrative

Ph.D. Student selection committee, MCMP	04/2018
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Professional Skills

Languages

German (mothertongue), English (business fluent), French (basic), Spanish (basic but evolving – check out my [Duolingo profile here](#))

Programming

Netlogo (very good), R (good), L^AT_EX(intermediate), python, java (rudimentary)