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# **PFOS21\210335**

## **Outlaw Emotions: Political Potential and Psychological Costs**

Emotions have traditionally been opposed to reason. Despite this view having been challenged over the past decades, emotions are still only seen as moderately rational. I argue that beyond sometimes being rational, emotions are often actually more rational than beliefs. This is paramount under conditions of oppression when emotions clash with an individual's wider oppressive belief system. Such emotions have been called 'outlaw emotions' (OE) as they call prevailing norms into question (Jaggar 1989). For example, a 1950's housewife that believes herself to be content but nonetheless experiences bouts of anger arguably experiences an OE. OEs have been thought to play crucial political roles in fights for social justice, yet we lack an account of the nature of these emotions and how they lead to radical insight and action. My project is the first to provide such an account. It will also tackle the under-explored psychological costs of OEs.

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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# Section 1 - Research Proposal

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## Subject Area

Philosophy

## Subject Area Detail - Philosophy

### Please select the detail(s) of your Subject Area:

- Applied Philosophy
- Epistemology
- Philosophy of Mind

## Title of Research Proposal

### Please state the title of your proposed research:

Outlaw Emotions: Political Potential and Psychological Costs

## Abstract

### Please provide a short abstract summarising your proposed research in terms suitable for an informed general audience, not one specialised in your field:

Emotions have traditionally been opposed to reason. Despite this view having been challenged over the past decades, emotions are still only seen as moderately rational. I argue that beyond sometimes being rational, emotions are often actually more rational than beliefs. This is paramount under conditions of oppression when emotions clash with an individual's wider oppressive belief system. Such emotions have been called 'outlaw emotions' (OE) as they call prevailing norms into question (Jaggar 1989). For example, a 1950's housewife that believes herself to be content but nonetheless experiences bouts of anger arguably experiences an OE. OEs have been thought to play crucial political roles in fights for social justice, yet we lack an account of the nature of these emotions and how they lead to radical insight and action. My project is the first to provide such an account. It will also tackle the under-explored psychological costs of OEs.

## Proposed Host Institution

Birkbeck, University of London  
Department of Philosophy  
School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy

## Reason(s) for choice of host institution

### Please explain the reason(s) for your choice of UK host institution (the university/research institute, department):

Birkbeck Philosophy houses England's largest research cluster in the philosophy of emotion. The cluster is led by Dr. Grzankowski, my proposed mentor. At Birkbeck I plan also to engage with Prof. Lillehammer, expert in moral and political philosophy with expertise on the ethics of autonomy in mental illness as well as Fellow Dr. Rashed, expert in philosophy of psychiatry with particular interest in the mental health of marginalized groups. Dr. Rashed is member of Birkbeck's fantastic Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Mental Health, through which I will be able to engage with empirical psychologists regarding stage 3 of my project. Birkbeck also has strong ties to the Institute of Philosophy, the UK's largest interdisciplinary research hub, housing philosophers, psychologists and neuroscientists, including those working at the soon to be launched Centre for the Politics of Feelings. This makes Birkbeck the ideal host for my interdisciplinary project and career development.

## Choice of mentor

Alex Grzankowski, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at Birkbeck, University of London is a global expert on the philosophy of emotions, my main field of research. He holds specific expertise in questions within the metaphysics and epistemology of emotions, as well as having active research interest in the role of emotions in psychiatry. This makes Dr. Grzankowski an unparalleled mentor for my proposed project on outlaw emotions. Crucially, outlaw emotions are an under explored type of the more widely discussed 'recalcitrant emotions' (emotions that clash with, and are resistant to, an agent's beliefs), on which Dr. Grzankowski is a leading expert.

## Previous Research

The proposed project constitutes the next stage in a research program I have been developing over the last 5 years on the foundations of the political value of emotions. My doctoral work argued for a novel account of anger that helps explain how the emotion can play radical practical and epistemic roles. Here is a brief summary:

### The Rationality of Anger

(UCL, Pass with no corrections. Supervisor: Professor Lucy O'Brien)

The liberatory potential bestowed upon anger by feminist philosophers has not received sustained attention in philosophy of mind or epistemology. My doctoral thesis develops an empirically informed account of anger, and its rationality, that lays the foundations for the emotion to play the roles feminists afford it. Four main findings emerge: (i) the dominant conception of anger should be revised, (ii) anger is an effective and often constructive way of confronting social injustice, (iii) anger, as an emotion, enjoys a sui generis relation to its reasons, and (iv) this in turn allows anger to play distinctive and crucial epistemic roles.

As anger is the most paradigmatic response to injustices and harms, it will often occur as an outlaw emotion under conditions of oppression as a first radical insight. My expertise on anger is therefore extremely relevant to an investigation of outlaw emotions. My project will provide an answer to the question set in my forthcoming piece in *Ergo*, a top generalist journal in philosophy. In this paper I have taken the first steps towards bringing outlaw emotions into analytic focus. This piece was however mostly critical in that it critiqued existing accounts in the epistemology of emotions with regards to their ability to vindicate the epistemic roles feminist thinkers have advocated of outlaw emotions. The current project will take the next crucial steps by delivering an innovative, empirically informed, positive proposal for how outlaw emotions play such roles. In addition to this, the current project goes clearly beyond this initial paper by theorizing the psychological costs of outlaw emotions for marginalized groups, especially women, and proposing that OEs constitute a risk factor in the development of Borderline Personality Disorder.

During my BSc in Neuroscience (UCL, First Class Honours), I conducted my final year research project on out-patients with schizophrenia. This work led to a publication in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, a top journal for neuroscience research. I also won the Division of Biosciences award for best dissertation, in my penultimate year, with my piece on bipolar disorder and its treatment. As a recipient of UCL's Graduate Scholarship in Cross-Disciplinary Training I returned to study the neurobiology and psychology of a range of psychiatric disorders, now at graduate level. My interdisciplinary expertise on emotions, previous work on anger, as well as my demonstrated competence in the neuroscience of psychiatric conditions, make me ideally well placed to pursue this project, as does my expertise in feminist philosophy. The project is grounded in the same methodology that has guided my past research: not to abstract away from social reality, as is custom in analytic philosophy of mind and emotion, and to be informed by the most relevant work in the brain and behavioural sciences.

## Proposed Programme

**Please give a detailed description of the research programme, including methodology:**

**Applicants should be aware of the importance that assessors place on the viability, specificity and originality of the research programme and of its achievability within the timescale, which should be specified in the Plan of Action.**

OVERVIEW: On a night out with a group of friends, part of Maria's body is suddenly squeezed by an unknown man. The concept of sexual harassment is yet to be developed in Maria's society and her friends are excited by the attention she has received, which they believe to be flattering. Maria shares these beliefs, and some of the excitement, but also feels uncomfortable and angry. Maria's anger may be a first step towards understanding that she has suffered a gender-based harm. Further, by sharing and discussing her experience with other women, Maria's emotion can motivate vital conceptual engineering as well as political action, as was observed in consciousness raising efforts that led to the creation of the concept of sexual harassment and subsequent policy reform (Mackinnon 1979). Maria's anger is an outlaw emotion (hereafter OE). This term was coined by feminist philosopher Alison Jaggar (1989) to refer to affective phenomena that are particularly promising in liberatory struggles. These are emotions 'distinguished by their incompatibility with the dominant perceptions and values' (166). They may 'enable us to perceive the world differently from its portrayal in conventional descriptions' (161). OEs are more often experienced by members of oppressed groups that have the most to lose from the status quo. A 1950s housewife, for example, arguably experiences OEs when, despite believing she is content, and often feeling happiness and pride regarding her household duties, nonetheless feels bouts of anger and sadness. OEs can often feel disorientating and alien to the emoting agent, as they are hard to make sense of from within society's prevailing norms. They are nonetheless thought to be a crucial first step in becoming aware of injustice (Jaggar 1989; Silva 2021). The epistemic and political value of OEs is widely acknowledged in both the feminist literature and in contemporary analytic philosophy of emotion (Fricker 1991; Tappolet 2014). Despite this however, sustained accounts of the nature of these emotions, and how they play radical roles, are almost entirely lacking. In the feminist literature, focus is on the applied value of these emotions, rather than foundational issues within philosophy of emotion (Applebaum 2017; Burrow 2000). In

the analytic philosophy of emotion literature, on the other hand, theorizing typically abstracts away from oppressive conditions such that OEs have been almost entirely neglected. This has led to a significant gap in the literature whereby the claim that OEs often play important liberatory roles is widely endorsed, yet sustained accounts of these emotions that support such a claim are lacking. My project is innovative in being the first to tackle this worrying gap. In addition to providing the first foundational work on OEs, such that they are apt to play the radical political roles that have been advocated of them, I will also investigate the negative roles these emotions often play in the psychological lives of oppressed agents, a topic which has yet to be tackled. It is claimed that these emotions can be unpleasant and disorientating, and in severe cases cause agents to question their sanity (Jaggar 1989). Although these negative psychological costs have been mentioned, the role OEs play in the development and diagnosis of psychiatric conditions has not been explored. This is a grave oversight seeing as a number of diagnoses are given disproportionately to women, and especially non-white women. I will focus on Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD). 75% of BPD diagnoses are female. I will argue that the psychological cost of OEs is far greater than has been assumed, such that they constitute a risk factor in the development of this psychiatric condition. Further, I will propose that the concept of outlaw emotions yielded by my project has the potential to aid the treatment of these conditions, through incorporation of this concept into therapeutic practices.

**RESEARCH PLAN AND METHODS:** Delivering an account of the political value of OEs requires foundational work that is currently lacking. If OEs are to grant insight we must ask three foundational questions: What characterizes OEs as a specific class of emotions? What and how do OEs represent the world around us? and how might these emotions play knowledge-generating roles? Stages 1 and 2 of this project will be devoted to these foundational questions, they will result in the first sustained account of OEs and provide the groundwork for OEs to play the radical roles that have been advocated of them. Importantly, stages 1 and 2 will also yield results for how to think about emotions in general. The radical potential of OEs comes at a significant psychological cost that remains unexplored. Stage 3 of the project will apply the account of OEs developed in the first two to psychiatry, and investigate the role OEs play in the development of BPD. My methodology will involve conceptual analysis, synthesis and scrutiny of existing theoretical and empirical work, hypothesis construction through systematic argumentation and evaluation of hypotheses through consideration of objections as well as assessment in light of the following methodological constraints: empirical plausibility, and real-world plausibility. The former will involve thorough engagement with work across the affective science, while the latter will involve sensitivity to structural oppression by taking an intersectional feminist approach (Ahmed 2013; Crenshaw 1991; Hochschild 2012).

#### STAGE 1: Metaphysics

a) What are OEs? A precise characterization of the class of OEs is in need of development. I will argue that they are 'recalcitrant' emotions that, although prevalent under conditions of oppression, also occur beyond such settings, and are distinctive for clashing not just with one or a few beliefs (as in typical cases of recalcitrance (Brady 2009; Döring 2015)) but with a large set of the agent's wider belief system. This will highlight OEs as a relevant and neglected class beyond the cases of oppression that will be my focus, such that the shifts in perspective that they prompt are not necessarily positive ones.

b) What & how do OEs represent? Most emotion theorists take emotions to represent the world as being a certain way (Deonna & Teroni, 2012; Tappolet, 2016). No investigation into the representational content of OEs currently exists. Pertinent concepts may be lacking or hard to apply such that OEs seem to represent non-conceptually. For example, Maria need not possess the concept of sexual harassment, nor be able to apply the concept of 'bad/wrong', to the man's actions, so as to experience anger. The claim that emotions involve non-conceptual evaluative representations is widespread yet undertheorized (Döring 2009; Tappolet 2020). This is particularly problematic for OEs cases where agents tend to lack relevant concepts. I will argue that OEs represent, in part, by how they subjectively feel. To test this proposal, I will construct an 'affective quality space' based on subjective emotional experiences. Such multidimensional 'spaces' have been constructed in philosophy and cognitive science for senses such as sight and smell to explain the non-conceptual content of these experiences, but none has been constructed for affective experience (Gärdenfors 1997; Gauker 2017). Work in the affective sciences, on appraisal dimensions and the neuroscience of interoception, will inform my 'affective quality space' (Craig 2002; Scherer et al. 2006) to provide an innovative framework for how emotions represent non-conceptually by how they feel.

#### STAGE 2: Epistemic Role

How do OEs yield radical epistemic insight? Stage 1 will deliver the first account of intentional OEs apt to play epistemic roles. Until my recent piece (forthcoming in *Ergo*), the literature assumed that the epistemic role of OEs is readily accounted for by existing accounts of the epistemology of emotions (Deonna and Teroni 2012; Tappolet 2014). I argued that this is not the case, such that we are left without an adequate account. Both the feminist and the philosophy of emotion literatures focus on how emotions provide justification or evidence for beliefs. In this project I will argue that we need to look beyond justification in OE cases, not least because oppressive beliefs are rampant in such cases which count as strong evidence against the OE. I argue that emotions bear a distinctive relation to their reasons, such that emotions

often allow us to respond to information we may have otherwise missed. Empirical work on the attentional dynamics of emotions will support the existence of a distinctively emotional way of information processing (Carretié 2014; Norris 2017). This allows OEs in particular to put agents in states of (often rational) ambivalence that are disorientating (Harbin 2016; Razinsky 2016). This ambivalence leaves the agent in a better epistemic position, where they are open to the force of different types of reasons or considerations, even when justification for beliefs based on OEs is blocked. Stage 2 will deliver OEs as non-conceptual representational states that can play distinctive epistemic roles by opening the agent up, through affective ambivalence, to the force of new reasons that may have otherwise been missed. This will account for how OEs play the crucial roles feminist philosophers have advocated of them. OEs can provide insight regarding oppression, as well as access to reasons for action, and act as the seeds for progressive conceptual engineering. The affective ambivalence, or disorientation, caused by OEs can have dire psychological costs however, that remain uninvestigated.

### STAGE 3: Applications

Why is BPD more prevalent in women? I will argue that OEs constitute a risk factor for developing BPD. Appreciating this allows me to provide a better answer to the above question than currently exists. BPD is characterized by emotional intensity and volatility, in particular intense anger, and a fragmented sense of the self. Feminist writers have argued that BPD is akin to modern day 'hysteria', in that it involves pathologizing gender non-conforming behaviour, as well as gender-based suffering and trauma (Potter 2009; Shaw & Proctor 2005). This likely contributes to gendered diagnostic bias in BPD, but does not help explain the condition's specific symptoms nor its underlying mechanisms, which may well warrant the label of 'dysfunctional'. I will argue that OEs provide a distinct but complementary 'bottom-up' account for the condition's higher prevalence in women, one that is consistent with the dysfunctional physiological markers of the condition yet critical of their origin. Neurobiological studies suggest that BPD is characterized by hyperactivity in emotion centers of the brain that are typically involved in resolving emotional conflict and overseeing emotion regulation (Perez-Rodriguez et al. 2018). Stage 1 and 2 showed OEs to bring evaluative conflict to light. By picking up on information that conflicts with one's belief system, OEs generate affective ambivalence that can be disorientating and debilitating. Under conditions of oppression, evaluative conflict will be hard to resolve and persistent experience of OEs can lead to hyperactivity in emotional conflict resolution brain areas, as observed in BPD. This will contribute to the emotional intensity and volatility characteristic of BPD, as subjects with compromised emotion regulation centers will have diminished control over their emotions. My account of OEs will also explain the prevalence of anger and the sense of a fragmented self in BPD. As the paradigmatic response to harms and injustice, anger will be a paradigmatic OE under conditions of oppression, and therefore a symptom predicted on my account of BPD. The difficult, often unresolvable, conflict involved in OE cases contributes to a fragmented sense of self: the self that stands in line with prevailing norms and the self that challenges them. Stage 3 of my project will establish OEs as a significant risk factor in the development of BPD. In doing so, I provide a novel, and superior, explanation for this condition's disproportionate prevalence in women. This is an explanation that takes seriously the impact of oppression on marginalized groups without denying the classification of BPD as a genuine disorder. My work will have the potential to inform future research on other psychiatric conditions that disproportionately affect marginalized groups. Additionally, it may help inform therapeutic approaches. By incorporating OEs into the shared therapeutic vocabulary, the therapist may take excessive yet rational OEs more seriously, while making sense of one's symptoms in terms of OEs may lead to reduced levels of felt guilt amongst patients, as well as heightened levels of empowerment.

### Plan of Action

**Please indicate here a clear timetable for your research programme:**

**Try to be as realistic as possible, but keep in mind that research programmes will develop over time and this plan of action is not something that is expected to account for every minute and is not unchangeable. But your chances of award will be affected by the assessors' perception of how viable and realistic this plan is.**

#### Plan of Action

##### Year 1

Year one will be dedicated to stage 1 of the proposed research program.

##### September - December

- Conduct literature review on recalcitrant emotions
- Write up characterization of outlaw emotions as sub-type of recalcitrant emotions and send to Dr. Grzankowski.
- Incorporate feedback from Dr. Grzankowski on outlaw emotions as a sub-type of recalcitrant emotions

##### January - April

- Conduct literature review on 'quality spaces' developed in cognitive science and philosophy of mind.
- Write draft paper exploring the possibility of an affective quality space (paper 1)

- Present paper at Birkbeck Philosophy work in progress

May - August

- Redraft paper 1, incorporating feedback
- Present paper 1 at Institute of Philosophy to get feedback from cognitive scientists, psychologists and neuroscientists
- Present paper 1 at leading conferences in empirically informed philosophy (Society for Philosophy and Psychology, International Society for Research on Emotion)

Year 2

Year two will be dedicated to stage 2 of the proposed research program.

September – December

- Incorporate feedback on paper 1 and submit to academic journal (target journal: Mind)
- Conduct literature review on the philosophy and psychology of ambivalence and disorientation
- Begin to write up detailed monograph plan.
- Invite Keynote speakers for conference on Oppression and Emotion and apply for funding for the conference

January – April

- Draft paper on the epistemic value of ambivalence and disorientation (paper 2)
- Present paper at Birkbeck Philosophy departmental seminar
- Redraft paper, incorporating feedback from Birkbeck philosophers including Dr. Grzankowski and Dr. Lillehammer
- Advertise call for abstracts for conference on Oppression and Emotion

May – August

- Present paper 2 at leading venues on feminist epistemology and epistemology of emotions (UK Society for Women in Philosophy Conference, University of Glasgow's COGITO workshop)
- Incorporate Feedback and submit paper 2 to academic journal (target journal: Philosophical Studies)
- Host Oppression and Emotion conference

Year 3

Year three will be dedicated to stage 3 of the proposed research program.

September – December

- Conduct literature review on Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD): cover the mainstream psychological accounts of the disorder, as well as feminist critiques of these accounts.
- Draft paper on the role of outlaw emotions in the development of BPD (paper 3)
- Finalise detailed monograph plan and approach potential publishers.

January – April

- Present paper 3 at Birkbeck Philosophy as well as Birkbeck's Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Mental Health
- Incorporate feedback, redraft paper 3
- Present paper 3 at leading conferences on the philosophy of psychiatry (ex: The Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins)
- Redraft and submit paper 3 to academic journal (target journal: Philosophy and Phenomenological Research)

May – August

- Draft paper on potential contribution of outlaw emotions to therapeutic practices (paper 4). Material relating to this paper will have arisen through research and feedback on paper 3
- Incorporate feedback and present paper 4 at Birkbeck as well as leading conference (ex: The International Network for Philosophy and Psychiatry)
- Redraft paper 4 and submit to academic journal (target journal: Journal of Applied Philosophy)
- Redraft manuscript based on feedback and re-submit to publishers.

## **Planned Research Outputs**

**Please indicate here what the expected output(s) from your research programme might be.**

**As appropriate, please indicate as follows: monograph, journal article(s), book chapter(s), digital resources, other**

**(please specify).**

**Please outline your plans for publication under Plans for publication/dissemination below:**

#### Journal Articles

Paper 1. 'The Felt Structure of Emotional Content' will argue that OEs put pressure on philosophers to provide better accounts of non-conceptual emotional content and proposes an empirically informed account to meet this challenge. Target journal: *Mind*.

Paper 2. 'The Epistemic Fruits of Ambivalence' will argue that OEs play radical epistemic roles by responding to reasons that beliefs often miss, and affectively destabilizing agents' worldviews. Target journal: *Philosophical Studies*.

Paper 3. 'Outlaw Emotions in the Philosophy of Psychiatry' will argue that OEs aid our understanding of BPD by making sense of biological markers as well as the socially dependent facets of this conditions. Target journal: *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.

Paper 4. 'Outlaw Emotions: A Key Concept for Improving Treatment Outcomes?' will argue for the therapeutic benefit of politically engaged therapy with OEs as central to the therapist's toolkit. Target journal: *Journal of Applied Philosophy*.

#### Monograph

The final goal of the research is a monograph-length book entitled 'Outlaw Emotions: Political Potential and Psychological Costs'. This will incorporate and develop material from the articles and address unanticipated issues and objections.

#### Outreach

I plan to continue my demonstrated commitment to outreach and public engagement through general audience publications. My aim is to write popular versions of my main research articles as well as to contribute to public debate on current affairs that might benefit from an expert on the emotions. I am also interested in the possibility of running workshops through the university with the general public.

#### Conference

I will organize an interdisciplinary conference on how oppression affects the emotional lives of marginalized groups and the liberatory potential of these emotions. The aim is to disseminate knowledge within and between disciplines and additionally to pave way for collaboration and new directions in research for philosophers and psychologists working on these topics.

### **Plans for Publication and Dissemination**

#### Articles

I aim to publish articles 1-3 in top generalist philosophy journals, such as those listed above. Other journal options for these three articles include *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Noûs* and *Ergo*. I aim to publish article 4 in a top specialist journal such as the one listed above, or alternatively *Hypatia*.

#### Monograph

I will aim for the main body of work to be published as a monograph with Oxford University Press. As well as being one of the leading academic publishers for philosophy monographs, a number of key contemporary texts on the emotions have been published by them. These include: Brady's 'Emotional Insight', Deigh's 'On Emotions' and Scheve and Salmela's 'Collective Emotions'. Beyond philosophy, OUP has published important works on emotion that touch on their political nature and value, including: Plamper's 'The History of Emotions' and Markwica's 'Emotional Choices'. Importantly, OUP is about to publish a monograph by Myisha Cherry entitled 'The Case for Rage: Why Anger is essential to Anti-racist Struggle' (a monograph that I have been asked by the journal *Mind* to review). Like some of the monographs just mentioned, my book will be aimed at a more general audience that just academic philosophers, it will also be interdisciplinary, making it of interest to a wide range of researchers, as well as the general public. Unlike any of the existing monographs, mine will provide the philosophical foundations for the political potential of a direly neglected class of emotions, while remaining compatible with contemporary affective science and real world cases of structural injustice.

#### Conferences

I will aim to present my ongoing research at the leading specialist and generalist philosophy conferences and workshops, both nationally and internationally. These might include (beyond those already mentioned): the Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and *Mind* Association, the American Philosophical Association, the European Society for the Philosophical Study of Emotions and the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology.

#### Outreach

I plan to produce pieces aimed at a non-specialist audience. This may include contributing to an existing philosophy blog such as the Brains Blog, Imperfect Cognition or Daily Nous, as well as writing for existing popular publications, such as Philosophy Now or the New Statemen's philosophy column Agora. I hope also to write popular versions of my articles for a general audience, publishing in outlets such as Aeon and Nautilus. Building on my experience writing op-eds in daily newspapers, I hope to contribute to public discourse on current affairs that would benefit from the perspective of a philosopher of emotion. Such articles will be aimed at venues such as the Guardian. Finally, I would also be interested in the possibility of running workshops through the university with the general public. In addition to facilitating outreach, this will provide an opportunity to learn about views on emotions and oppression coming from a non-academic background.

Conference

The aim of the interdisciplinary conference is to propel philosophical research on the underexplored topic of emotions in relation to oppression, as well as to foster collaboration between philosophers and psychologists.

### Digital Resource

**If the primary product of the research will be a digital resource have you obtained guidance on appropriate standards and methods?**

Yes

No

### Deposit of Datasets

**Please provide details of how and where any electronic or digital data (including datasets) developed during the project will be stored, along with details on the appropriate methods of access:**

**It is a condition of award that all data be freely accessible during, and beyond, the lifetime of the project.**

Datasets will be deposited, and freely accessible via ORCID.

### Project Start Date

01 September 2022

### Project End Date

31 July 2025

### Language Competence

*No Response*

### Endangered or Emerging Subject Area

**Applicants should be intending to pursue original, independent research in any field of study within the humanities or social sciences. There are no quotas for individual subject areas and no thematic priorities. The primary factor in assessing applications will remain the excellence of the proposal. The Academy will, however, where appropriate, take into account the aim of providing particular support for certain important fields, either emerging areas of scholarship or areas of research that are endangered or under threat.**

*No Response*

### Ethical Issues

**Are there any special ethical issues arising from your proposal that are not covered by the relevant professional Code of Practice? You must answer yes or no:**

No

**Have you obtained, or will you obtain ethical approval from your employing institution or other relevant authority? You must answer yes or no:**

No

**If the answers are yes to special ethical issues and no to having obtained prior approval, please describe here the non-standard ethical issues arising from your research and how you will address them:**

**If the answer is no to special ethical issues please enter N/A**

N/A

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## Section 2 - Eligibility

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### Primary Subject

**Please indicate the subject most relevant to your research:**

Philosophy

### Primary Subject Detail - Philosophy

**Please select the detail(s) of your primary subject:**

- Applied Philosophy
- Epistemology
- Philosophy of Mind

### Secondary Subject

**If your application is more interdisciplinary, you may choose to indicate a secondary subject to which your application might also be relevant:**

Psychology

### Secondary Subject Detail - Psychology

**Please select the detail(s) of your Secondary subject:**

- Clinical Psychology
- Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuropsychology

### Time Period

**Please select your time period(s) from the list below:**

- Contemporary

### Audiences

**Please select your audience(s) from the list below:**

- Policymakers at national level (e.g. working with Government departments, participating in public in
- Policymakers at local or institutional level (e.g. membership of Research Ethics Committee)
- Journalists, broadcasters and other media
- Charities in the UK
- General Public

### Regional Interests

**Please select your regional interest(s) from the list below:**

- Unspecified Region

## GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	University
<b>Name</b>	Birkbeck, University of London
<b>Address</b>	Malet Street London WC1E 7HX United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the)

## Section 3 - Lead Applicant Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Dr
<b>Name</b>	Laura
<b>Surname</b>	Silva
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	+447766547174
<b>Email (Work)</b>	laura.silva.13@ucl.ac.uk
<b>Address</b>	Rue De-Candolle 2 Geneve Geneve 1205 Switzerland

#### PhD Awarding University

**Please state the university from which your doctorate was awarded:**

University College London

**Nationality: You must select one but you may select up to three if applicable.**

**Please state your nationality:**

Portuguese

**Nationality: You must select one but you may select up to three if applicable.**

**Please state your nationality:**

*No Response*

**Nationality: You must select one but you may select up to three if applicable.**

**Please state your nationality:**

*No Response*

## Section 4 - Lead Applicant Career Summary

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#### Statement of Qualifications and Career

**Please give details of your academic qualifications and career.**

Qualification:	Date:
PhD Philosophy, University College London, Pass with no corrections (highest honors)	28 August 2019
MPhilStud Philosophy, University College London, Pass with no corrections (highest honors)	01 August 2015

### **Present Appointment**

**Please state your present appointment.**

Postdoctoral Researcher

### **Present Employing Institution**

**Please state the institution at which you are currently employed.**

University of Geneva

### **Present Department**

**Please indicate the Department or Faculty (or equivalent) in which you are based.**

Philosophy Department, Swiss Center for Affective Sciences

**Have you ever held a permanent academic post previously in your career?**

No

### **Personal Statement**

**Please enter your personal statement:**

*No Response*

### **PhD Awarded Date**

31 July 2019

### **PhD Submitted Date**

05 July 2019

### **PhD Expected Date**

*No Response*

### **Name of Doctoral Supervisor**

**Please state the name of your doctoral supervisor(s):**

Professor Lucy O'Brien

### **Name of Examiners**

**Please state the name of your internal and external examiners:**

**If not yet known, please state not known.**

Professor Michael Brady

Professor Susan James

### **Other Academic Experience**

Employment:

2020-2022 Postdoctoral Researcher. Thumos Group, University of Geneva.

Funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

Project: 'Emotional Demands: The Expressive Domain of Emotions'

2019-2020 Postdoctoral Researcher. Center for Philosophical Psychology,

University of Antwerp. ERC project 72625, Professor Bence Nanay

## Other Positions

2015-2019 Research Assistant, Institute of Philosophy, London  
AHRC Project 'Rethinking the Senses: Uniting the Philosophy and Neuroscience of Perception'

2018 (April-June) Visiting Researcher, Centre de Recherche en Éthique,  
University of Montreal, working with Professor Christine Tappolet

2017 (April-June) Visiting Researcher, Yale University,  
working with Professor Joshua Knobe

## Teaching Roles

### Upcoming

-Co-instructor (with Prof. Deonna) for MA course on Philosophy  
of Emotions, University of Geneva (taught in French)

### 2020

-Invited Lecturer 'On Anger' at University of Copenhagen,  
29/10/20

### 2018-2019

-Primary Supervisor for undergraduate thesis in Feminist  
Philosophy, UCL (spring term), thesis title: 'Constructing Sex'  
(I am the only graduate student to have been hired in such a  
capacity)  
-PHIL0008 Tutorials in Feminist Philosophy, UCL, instructor

### 2017-2018

-PHIL3101 Adv. Tutorials on The Emotions, UCL, instructor  
-TA for 6AANA024, Philosophy of Psychology, KCL

### 2016-2017

-TA for PHIL3082 Feminism and Philosophy, UCL

### 2015-2016

-TA for PHIL3082 Feminism and Philosophy, UCL  
-TA for PHIL1011 Descartes & Hume, UCL

## Publications

### **Please list your principal and/or relevant publications in reverse chronological order, to a maximum of six:**

Commissioned, Review of Myisha Cherry's 'The Case for Rage: Why Anger is Essential to Anti-Racist Struggle' Mind

Commissioned 'The Ineffable and the Radical' for collected volume in honour of Professor Ronald de Sousa (University of Toronto)  
eds. Christine Tappolet, Julien Deonna & Fabrice Teroni, University of Geneva

Forthcoming 'The Epistemic Role of Outlaw Emotions' Ergo

2021 'Is Anger a Hostile Emotion?' Review of Philosophy and Psychology

2021 'Anger and its Desires' European Journal of Philosophy

2021 'The Efficacy of Anger' in The Politics of Emotional Shockwaves. ed.  
Falcato, A. and Silva, S. London, Palgrave Macmillan

## Unpublished Research

**Please list any extant unpublished projects funded by the Academy or any other agency, and their expected publication date (or other explanation):**

Articles Under Review

'On Being Angry at Oneself' Analysis

'Are Emotions Epistemically Redundant?' Philosophers' Imprint

#### **Previous Support Dates**

**Please give details of any research application submitted to the British Academy within the last five years:**

**Please note that only one British Academy research grant may be held, or applied for, at any one time.**

*No Response*

**Where did you hear of this scheme?**

**Please indicate where you heard about this scheme:**

*No Response*

## **Section 5 - Equal Opportunities**

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#### **Gender**

Woman

#### **Gender**

*No Response*

#### **Age**

**Please indicate to which age group you belong.**

30-34

#### **Ethnic Origin**

*No Response*

**A person is disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a "substantial" and "long-term" (12 months or more) negative effect on their ability to do normal daily activities. Do you consider you are disabled under the Equality Act 2010?**

No

**If you wish to do so, please specify the nature of your disability:**

*No Response*