

# Tushar Menon

## Curriculum Vitae

Merton College, Oxford

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### Areas of Specialisation

**Philosophy of Physics, Philosophy of Science.**

### Areas of Competence

**Logic, Metaphysics, Epistemology.**

### Employment and Fellowships

- 2018 **Departmental Lecturer in Philosophy of Science**, Merton College, University of Oxford.
- 2018 **Stipendiary Lecturer**, Oriel College, University of Oxford.
- 2017-2018 **Beyond Spacetime Predoctoral Fellow**, University of Illinois, Chicago.

### Education

- 2014– **DPHil (PhD) Philosophy**, Balliol College, University of Oxford, Supervisors: David Wallace, Simon Saunders, Adam Caulton (expected 2018).
- 2013–2014 **MSt. Philosophy of Physics**, St. Hilda's College, University of Oxford.
- 2011–2012 **MA Life Writing**, King's College London, Dissertation title: The Life and Science of James Clerk Maxwell.
- 2008–2009 **MSc. Theoretical Physics**, King's College London, Dissertation title: An Introduction to Conformal Field Theory.
- 2005–2008 **BSc. Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics**, St. Joseph's College, Bangalore.

### Awards

- 2016 **Space and Time after Quantum Gravity Essay Prize.**
- 2014–2017 **British Society for the Philosophy of Science (BSPS) Doctoral Scholarship.**
- 2011–2012 **King's Alumni Bursary**, King's College London.
- 2008–2009 **Inlaks Scholarship.**

## Papers

### Peer-reviewed publications

forthcoming **Algebraic fields and the dynamical approach to physical geometry**, *Philosophy of Science*.

forthcoming **Taking up superspace—the spacetime structure of supersymmetric field theory**, *Philosophy Beyond Spacetime*, eds: Nick Huggett, Baptiste Le Bihan, and Christian Wüthrich, Oxford University Press.

(Winner of the 2016 Space and Time after Quantum Gravity essay prize)

2018 **Clocks and Chronogeometry: Rotating spacetimes and the relativistic null hypothesis**, (with Niels Linnemann and James Read), *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.

2018 **On the viability of the No Alternatives Argument**, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*.

### Under review

**The limitations of inertial frame spacetime functionalism**, (with James Read).

**An argument against ‘when no argument for is an argument against’: A response to Eva and Hartmann.**

### Philosophy in the public sphere

2017 **Strings and Stringency—A review of Richard Dawid’s *String Theory and the Scientific Method***.

Cambridge Humanities Review

## Teaching Experience

### Lectures

2018 **Philosophy of Science**, *Departmental Lecturer*, University of Oxford.

### Graduate Supervisions

2018 **Philosophy of Physics**, *MSt. supervisions*, University of Oxford.

### Undergraduate Tutorials

2018 **Knowledge and Reality**, *Tutor*, Merton College, Oxford.

2018 **General Philosophy**, *Tutor*, Merton College, Oxford.

2017 **Philosophical Logic**, *Teaching Assistant*, Wadham College, Oxford.

2016 **Elements of Deductive Logic**, *Tutor*, Faculty of Philosophy, Oxford.

2015-2016, 2018 **Introduction to Logic**, *Tutor*, Balliol College, Hertford College, Oriel College, Oxford.

2015, 2018 **Philosophy of Science**, *Tutor*, Balliol College, Hertford College, St. Hugh’s College, Merton College, Oxford.

2015 **Intermediate Philosophy of Physics—Special Relativity**, *Tutor*, University College, Oxford.

## Presentations and Invited talks

### Invited talks

- 2018 **Desperate spacetimes call for desperate measures**, *Philosophy of Physics one-day conference at DAMTP (University of Cambridge)*.
- 2018 **Rotating spacetimes and the relativistic null hypothesis**, *Philosophy of Physics one-day conference at DAMTP (University of Cambridge)*, *Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar (University of Oxford)*.
- 2018 **Putting the cart before the horse: addressing the problem of pre-geometry in the dynamical approach to special relativity**, *University of Notre Dame*.
- 2018 **Supersymmetry and the philosophy of space and time**, *PoSE seminar (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)*.
- 2017 **Of miracles: Reflections on the dynamical and geometrical approaches to general relativity**, *PoSE seminar (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)*.
- 2017 **Debate with Richard Dawid: On the possibility of non-empirical confirmation of String Theory**, *University of Stockholm*.
- 2017 **Affine Balance: Algebraic functionalism as a guide to spacetime structure**, *Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar (University of Oxford)*, *CamPoS Seminar (University of Cambridge)*.
- 2016 **Desperate spacetimes call for desperate measures**, *University of Geneva*.
- 2016 **Rebuilding Neurath's boat Planck by Planck**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.

### Contributed Talks and other presentations

- 2018 **Algebraic fields and the dynamical approach to physical geometry**, *PSA 2018 (Seattle) [Via video]*.
- 2018 **Rotating spacetimes and the relativistic null hypothesis**, *BSPS annual conference (Oxford)*, *Foundations 2018 (Utrecht)*.
- 2018 **On the function of spacetime**, *CUSO Workshop on spacetime functionalism (University of Geneva)*.
- 2018 **Spacetime: What is it good for?**, *Philosophy club (University of Illinois at Chicago)*.
- 2017 **Symposium: Promoting the field view of General Relativity—New insights from spin-2, emergent gravity, and the dynamical approach**, *European Philosophy of Science Association Conference (University of Exeter)*.
- 2017 **Rebuilding Neurath's boat Planck by Planck: Algebraic functionalism and the easy problem of quantum spacetime**, *Beyond Spacetime Conference, Geneva*.
- 2016 **Does a rolling stone gather nomos? A debate about laws of nature (with Niels Martens)**, *Philosophy of Physics Graduate Seminar (Oxford)*.
- 2016 **Taking up superspace**, *BSPS annual conference (Cardiff)*, *Foundations 2016 (LSE)*, *PSA 2016 (Atlanta)*.

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## Academic service

- 2017 **Referee**, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Synthese*, *Foundations of Physics*.
- 2015-2016, **Co-convenor**, *Philosophy of Physics Graduate Seminar (Oxford)*.  
2018
- 2014-2015 **Co-convenor**, *Philosophy of Quantum Gravity reading group (Oxford)*.

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## Relevant work experience

- 2011 **Documentary Writer and Presenter**, *Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), Bangalore*, Conceived, wrote, developed and presented a five episode series of documentaries for the VITM on electromagnetism, including designing and building all experiments.

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## Referees

- Prof. David Wallace**, *University of Southern California*, dmwallac@usc.edu.
- Prof. Simon Saunders**, *University of Oxford*, simon.saunders@philosophy.ox.ac.uk.
- Prof. Nick Huggett**, *University of Illinois at Chicago*, huggett@uic.edu.
- Prof. David John Baker**, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*, djbaker@umich.edu.
- Prof. Adam Caulton**, *University of Oxford*, adam.caulton@philosophy.ox.ac.uk.
- Dr. Dennis Lehmkuhl**, *California Institute of Technology*, lemkuhl@caltech.edu.
- Dr. Alexander Paseau**, *University of Oxford*, alexander.paseau@wadham.ox.ac.uk.  
(Teaching reference)