

BETTINA BUSSMANN

Associate Professor of Philosophy | Philosophy Education · Philosophy of Education
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RESEARCH PROFILE

Associate Professor of Philosophy with a research profile at the intersection of philosophy education, philosophy of education, and philosophy of science. Her work focuses on epistemic competences, science-oriented and empirically informed philosophizing, interdisciplinary educational processes, philosophy with children, and questions of canon and gender.

Current roles: Key Researcher, FWF Cluster of Excellence Knowledge in Crisis (since 2023) · Head of the Education Group (since 2024) · Editor-in-Chief-designate of the ZDPE (from 2027)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Since 02/2019	Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy (Humanities), University of Salzburg
10/2014–02/2019	Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Salzburg
04/2010–09/2013	Research Associate, University of Hamburg
2007–2014	Teacher of Philosophy, Psychology and English, Brecht-Schule Hamburg
1993–2003	Career break to raise two children

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS AND EDUCATION

11/2018	Habilitation in Philosophy, University of Salzburg: Wissenschaftsorientiert Philosophieren. Das Philosophiedidaktische Dreieck und seine Bedeutung für den Unterricht [Science-Oriented Philosophizing: The Philosophy-Education Triangle and Its Relevance to Teaching]
11/2013	Doctorate, Karlsruhe University of Education: Was heißt: sich an der Wissenschaft orientieren? Untersuchungen zu einer lebensweltlich-wissenschaftsbasierten Philosophiedidaktik [What Does It Mean to Be Guided by Science? Studies in Lifeworld- and Science-Based Philosophy Education] (summa cum laude)
2014	Teaching qualification in Psychology
04/1989–02/1992	Magister Artium in Philosophy, Economics and Logic/Philosophy of Science, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
09/1987–03/1989	Scholarship from the Atlantic Oil Foundation; studies at the University of Pennsylvania, USA
10/1986–07/1987	Studies in Philosophy and Economics, University of Hamburg

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP AND CURRENT PROJECTS

- Since 2023 Key Researcher in the FWF Cluster of Excellence Knowledge in Crisis; since 2024 Head of the Education Group.
- Together with Stefan Pitzer: FWF-funded Open Access book project Methods in Philosophy and Ethics Teaching (PUB 1341) and peer-reviewed empirical monograph on theory-practice transfer (2026).
- Canonical Pluralism: New Approaches to Teaching the History of Philosophy (2025–2026): conceptual design of an international workshop and a special issue of Educational Philosophy and Theory on pluralizing the philosophical canon (with Elisabeth Widmer).
- Epistemic and Argumentative Competences in Times of Multiple Knowledge Crises (University of Salzburg, September 2026): conceptual design and organization of an international FWF-funded conference at the intersection of philosophy, educational research, and science education (with David Lanius).

EDITORIAL ROLES AND ACADEMIC PUBLISHING

- Editor-in-Chief-designate of the Zeitschrift für Didaktik der Philosophie und Ethik (ZDPE; from 2027) as it transitions to Diamond Open Access; responsible for the conceptual, structural, and editorial development of the Diamond Open Access website.
- Co-editor of the book series Philosophische Bildung in Schule und Hochschule (J.B. Metzler/Springer; with Markus Tiedemann).
- Co-editor of the book series Philosophie und Bildung (LIT Verlag; with Vanessa Albus).

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION POLICY

- Conceptual design of the new Austrian national curriculum for Psychology and Philosophy (2024–2026; entering into force in 2027), as well as participation in the development of Austria's first national curriculum for Ethics (entered into force in 2021).
- In 2025, leading contribution to the curriculum review for Theory of Knowledge (TOK) in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.
- Contribution to the university curricula for Ethics and Psychology/Philosophy in Cluster Mitte; sole responsibility for the philosophy-education component of the 2015 Psychology and Philosophy curriculum.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 | Pitzer, Stefan & Bettina Bussmann: Methodische Konzepte für den Philosophie- und Ethikunterricht. Eine empirische Analyse zum Theorie-Praxis-Transfer. J.B. Metzler, Open Access, peer-reviewed (forthcoming).
- 2025 | Elicor, Peter Paul & Bettina Bussmann: 'Testimonial Injustice in the Treatment of Children's Testimonies: Inconsiderate and Unjust Cases.' Zeitschrift für Ethik und Moralphilosophie 8(2), 431-447.
- 2024 | Bussmann, Bettina: 'Warum wissenschaftsorientiertes Philosophieren nicht nur in der Schule notwendig ist.' In: Wissenschaftsleugnung. De Gruyter, 209-234.
- 2024 | Bussmann, Bettina (ed.): Philosophieren mit Kindern und Jugendlichen. Grundlagen - Methoden - Praxis. J.B. Metzler.
- 2023 | Bussmann, Bettina & Philipp Mayr (eds.): Theoretisches Philosophieren und Lebensweltorientierung. Ein Wegweiser für Hochschule und Schule. J.B. Metzler.
- 2018 | Bussmann, Bettina & Mario Kötter: 'Between Scientism and Relativism. Epistemic Competence as an Important Aim in Science and Philosophy Education.' RISTAL 1, 82-101.

Complete list of publications: bettinabusmann.info | PLUS Research

ACADEMIC ROLES AND AWARDS

- 2019–2023 Deputy Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Salzburg.
- Since 2024 Board Member of the Austrian Ludwig Wittgenstein Society (term of office 2024–2028).
- 2019/20 First Prize in the University of Salzburg Excellence in Teaching Award for Philosophy with Children; nominated for the Austrian Ars Docendi Award in 2020.