

Robert Finan

🏠 32 Mount Auburn, Bryanstown, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 D7WC

☎ +353 89 257 8392 ✉ robertmfinan7@gmail.com 🌐 robertfinan.com in LinkedIn

PROFILE

Having recently completed a First Class Honours degree in Mathematics and Philosophy at Trinity College Dublin, I am currently working as an independent researcher and tutor in mathematics, logic, and philosophy. My research concerns the philosophy of logic and language (existential import, reference, quantification), the philosophy of mathematics (infinity and transfinite numbers, set theory, foundations), metametaphysics (language-metaphysics gap, neo-Carnapian idealism), philosophy of mind (mind-brain identity, brain-death, solipsism), epistemology (imagination and possibility, mathematical knowledge), and the history of philosophy (Plato, C.S. Peirce, Wittgenstein). I hold a deferred offer to pursue an MLitt at the University of St Andrews.

EDUCATION

Trinity College Dublin 2022 – 2026

BA Mathematics & Philosophy (Single Honours Philosophy Pathway)

- **First Class Honours.** Awarded Entrance Exhibition Award.
- Coursework spanning formal logic, mathematical proof, set theory, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, aesthetics, moral psychology, history of philosophy (esp. ancient Greek), probability and statistics; elective modules in chemistry and literary theory.

Dublin City University (DCU) 2019 – 2020

Early University Entrance

- Completed modules: Electrical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Mathematical Sciences.

Centre for Talented Youth Ireland 2016 – 2019

Various Courses

- Completed courses: Theoretical Physics, Computer Sciences, Advertising & Marketing, Robotics, Cryptanalysis, Medicine & Microbiology.

Drogheda Grammar School 2016 – 2022

Leaving Certificate

- Leaving Certificate: 625 CAO points (Maximum).
- DATS Standardised Testing: 99th percentile.
- Subjects: Applied Mathematics, Art, Computer Science, English, History, Irish, Mathematics, Physics.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Logic: formal systems, the philosophy of logic, paraconsistency, graphical inference, comparative study of logical systems.
- Philosophy of Language: reference, quantification, ambiguity and existential import.
- Philosophy of Mathematics: foundations, set theory, the infinite and transfinite numbers.
- Metaphilosophy: philosophy and mathematical pedagogy, metametaphysics, philosophical methodology (and the scientific method), self-refutation arguments.
- History of Analytic Philosophy: early Wittgenstein, Frege, Quine and the emergence of logical atomism; C.S. Peirce and early American Pragmatism.
- Ancient Philosophy: comparison to contemporary methodology, especially in metaphysics (esp. Plato) and in logic (esp. Aristotle).

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Published

- “The Misguided Debate Over Existential Import” – *Trinity Student Philosophy Review IV*, 2026.
- “Dogma at the Limits of Thought” – *Daedalus I*, 2026.
- “Reassessing Cantorian Cardinality” – *Trinity Student Philosophy Review III*, 2025.

Under Review — Journals

- “Conceptual Idealism Is Not Metaphysical: Hofweber on Facts and Effability” (submitted for consideration in *Analysis*).
- “The Good is not a Form” (submitted for consideration in *Phronesis*).

Under Review — Competitions & Awards

- “Against ‘Framelessness’ in Environmental Aesthetics”(submitted to *Global Undergraduate Awards*).
- “Believing Without Desiring, Desiring Without Believing: Against the Motivation Argument for Desire As Belief” (submitted to *Global Undergraduate Awards*).
- “Unfeeling, Unmotivated, Uninclined: A Metaphysical Dilemma for the Natural Kind Reward Theory of Desire” (submitted to *Global Undergraduate Awards*).

In Preparation

- “Early Wittgenstein’s Alleged Solipsism”.
- “Imagination and Modal Knowledge: Defending Kripke from Hill”.
- “Choosing Peirce’s Infinite Multitudes Over Cantor’s Transfinite Cardinals”.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

- **Under Review:** “Galileo’s Paradox: Our Costly and Unnecessary Choice” – *The 36th Novembertagung*, Institute for the History of Science, Istanbul Medeniyet University, Turkey Nov 2026
- **Under Review:** “Conceptual Idealism and the Language Metaphysics Gap” – *Logic of Metaphysics*, Universität Potsdam, Germany. Sep 2026
- **Presenter:** “Plato’s Good is not a Form” – *SOPhiA*, University of Salzburg, Austria. Sep 2026
- **Invited Speaker:** “The Misguided Debate Over Existential Import: Ambiguity and Aristotle’s Categorical Forms” – *9th World Congress on the Square of Opposition*, UQAM, Montréal, Canada. (*Invited; declined due to financial constraints.*) June 2026
- **Attendee:** *Imagination Day* – University of St Andrews. May 2026
- **Attendee:** *The Non-Conference* – Queen’s University, Belfast. May 2026
- **Attendee:** *Knowledge, Techne, and Rule in Plato’s Republic* – Danish Institute at Athens. June 2025
- **Attendee:** *Philosophy of Mathematics* – Université de Lille. June 2025
- **Attendee:** *Nietzsche and St. Thomas: Thomism After MacIntyre* – Priory Institute. Jan 2025

TEACHING & MENTORING

Freelance Mathematics & Philosophy Tutor

2022 – Present

Self-employed (GoStudent, SuperProf, FindTutors, AFEPI)

- One-to-one and group tutoring; students aged 6–21, neurodiverse learners.
- Subjects: Primary and Junior Cycle Mathematics, Leaving Certificate Mathematics, and undergraduate Philosophy and Logic.
- Developed customised lesson plans; set and marked assignments and assessments.
- Managed client base, scheduling, and finances independently.

Residential Assistant

July 2023

Centre for Talented Youth Ireland (CTYI)

- Supervised and mentored academically gifted secondary-school students on CTYI's residential summer programme.
- Organised student activities and events; provided academic and pastoral support.

Mentor & Prefect

2021–2022

Drogheda Grammar School

Cinnire (Mentor)

August 2019

Campa Gaeilge

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- **Entrance Exhibition Award** – Trinity College Dublin.
- **All Ireland Mathematics Award** – Irish Mathematics Teachers Association.
- **Award for Visual Art & Community Contribution** – Drogheda Grammar School.

EXTRACURRICULAR & ACADEMIC SERVICE

- **The Irish Philosophical Society** – Member Dublin, Ireland.
- **The Metaphysical Society** – Member & Contributor Trinity College Dublin.
– Published in *Daedalus*, the Society's journal; attendee and participant.
- **The Philosophical Society (Phil)** – Member Trinity College Dublin.
- **The Historical Society (Hist)** – Member Trinity College Dublin.
- **All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad** – Competitor Dublin City University.
- **Dublin 22** – Invited Participant Common Purpose Ireland.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The following roles were concurrent with full-time study and reflect financial self-sufficiency throughout my degree.

MiriamSimon.ie – Digital Media Writer & Editor	2018 – Present
Gerry's Fresh Foods – Sales Assistant	2024 – 2025
Saba To Go – Front of House Staff	2022 – 2024
O'Sullivan's Safety – Receptionist / Administrative Assistant	2021 – 2022
Choice – Sales Assistant	2019 – 2021
Internships: Accenture, Arup, ExitEntry, Indaver	<i>(temporary placements)</i> 2019 – 2020

CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLS

- **Language, Proof and Logic**, Stanford University, Online - Certified.
- **Classroom Strategies for Inquiry-Based Learning**, The University of Texas Austin, Online - Audited.
- **Paradox and Infinity**, MIT, Online - Audited.
- **Technical:** L^AT_EX, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Data Entry & Analysis.
- **Compliance:** Garda Vetted; Tusla - Children First; Manual Handling Certificate.
- **Creative:** Graphic Design; Copywriting; Oil Paint; Sculpture.

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Prof. James Levine – Trinity College Dublin	jlevine@tcd.ie
Prof. Vasilis Politis – Trinity College Dublin	vpolitis@tcd.ie
Dr. Richard Teague – Trinity College Dublin	teaguer@tcd.ie