

# Mike Thicke

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## Education

2016: PhD, History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto  
Dissertation Topic: Science-Market Analogies: A Philosophical Examination

- Defended May 9, 2016.
- My dissertation examines analogies between the organization of science and the marketplace and considers whether these analogies can be used to justify trust in science. It particularly concentrates on areas of science that have significant market-like features, such as climate science. I argue that most such analogies ultimately fail, although in recent decades science has been becoming more similar to the market, with varying epistemic consequences.

Supervisor: Joseph Berkovitz ([joseph.berkovitz@utoronto.ca](mailto:joseph.berkovitz@utoronto.ca))

Committee: Marion Blute ([marion.blute@utoronto.ca](mailto:marion.blute@utoronto.ca)), Mark Peacock ([mpeacock@yorku.ca](mailto:mpeacock@yorku.ca))

2008: MA, History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto

2007: BA Philosophy, University of British Columbia

2003: BSc Computer Science, University of British Columbia

## Current Research

“Market Epistemology” (Manuscript under review)

“Prediction markets for science: Is the cure worse than the disease?” (Manuscript in preparation)

## Publications

“Review: Cold War Social Science,” *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (2016) 115-117.

“Economic Aspects of Science: Editor’s Introduction,” *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2013) 1-5.

“Review: David Tyfield, *The Economics of Science: A Critical Realist Overview, Volumes 1 and 2*,” *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2013) 94-96.

“Review: Steve Fuller’s *Science*,” *Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (2011) 91-94.

## **Conference Presentations**

2016: “Reconsidering the Scientific Commodity,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

2011: “Social Science Indicators in Action: U.S. Senator Walter Mondale’s Initiative to Create a Council of Social Advisers,” with Mark Solovey, Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science.

2010: “To Measure, Monitor, and Manage the Nation’s Social Progress: U.S. Senator Walter Mondale’s Initiative to Create a Council of Social Advisers, 1967-1974,” with Mark Solovey, History of Science Society annual meeting.

2010: “What’s Wrong with Genome Canada? Path Dependence in Canadian Science Policy,” Public Science in Canada / Strengthening Science and Policy to Protect Canadians Symposium

2010: “Efficient Science: Applying the Efficient Market Hypothesis to Scientific Communities,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

2009: “Bayesian Statistics in Gravitational Wave Astronomy,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

## Teaching

### Instructorships

Course	Description	Dates
Economic Debates (Bard Prison Initiative)	An introduction to economics for non-economists that balances between teaching economic concepts and methods, and examining philosophical and methodological debates about economics.	Spring 2016
First Year Seminar (Bard College / Bard Prison Initiative)	FYSem is a required course for all Bard freshmen. It is a reading- and writing-intensive course with a strong focus on the classics of Western literature and philosophy.	Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016
History of Economic Thought / Economic History (AUCA: ECO 107, ECO 108, ECO 110)	This is a combined course in economic history and history of economic thought required for economics majors at AUCA.	Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015
History and Philosophy of Science (AUCA: NTR 105)	This is an introductory course taken by most students at AUCA.	Fall 2014, Spring 2015
First Year Seminar (AUCA: FYS 100/ FYS 211)	This is a writing-intensive, seminar-based literature, philosophy, and academic writing course taken by all incoming students at AUCA.	Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015
History and Philosophy of Science (University of Toronto: HPS 100)	This is an introductory course that can be taken as a science or humanities credit.	2011

### Teaching Assistantships (University of Toronto)

- 2012 – HPS 200 “Science and Values”
- 2011 – HPS 250 “Introductory Philosophy of Science”

- 2009 – HPS 100 “Introduction to History and Philosophy of Science”
- 2008 – HPS 255 “History of Evolutionary Biology II”
- 2008 – HPS 253 “History of Evolutionary Biology I”

**Teachable Subjects:** history and philosophy of science, science and society, history of economics, epistemology, social epistemology

## Professional Service

Fall 2014-Spring 2014: Social Sciences Assessment working group, AUCA

- Developed learning objectives and a rubric for evaluating social sciences courses.

Fall 2014: Editor, AUCA international faculty guide

- Edited, and wrote substantial portions of, a guide for new international faculty introducing them to AUCA and Bishkek.

2013-2014: First Year Seminar curriculum committee, AUCA

- Helped to select texts for the FYS syllabus taught to all first year students at AUCA. I assisted on three committees, which involved many meetings, researching possible texts, helping to write the final syllabus, and helping to present the syllabus to new faculty.

2013: Concepts of Modern Science curriculum committee, AUCA

- Helped to clarify learning objectives for the “Concepts of Modern Science” course at AUCA and distinguish its goals from history and philosophy of science.

2012-13: Editor-in-Chief, *[Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science](#)*.

- 2012-13 Focused discussion topic: “Economic Aspects of Science”
- Solicited articles; communicated with authors; coordinated reviews, edited articles.
- I continue to be involved with *Spontaneous Generations* as part of its editorial board.

2010-Present: Editor & Developer: *The Bubble Chamber: Thoughts, analysis, and debate at the intersection of science and society* (<http://thebubblechamber.org>).

- Blog by historians and philosophers of science, as well as STS scholars, aimed at public engagement.
- I make regular posts analyzing scientific happenings from the perspective of history and philosophy of science.