

MEET OUR AMBASSADORS



Arnon Keren
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Field of Research:

Social Epistemology; Bioethics, Science and Democracy

SHORT BIO

I earned my BA in Psychology and MA in History and Philosophy of Science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, followed by a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Columbia University. Subsequently, I pursued post-doctoral studies at the Department of Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health. At Haifa, I initiated and chaired the Psyphas Honors Program in Psychology and Philosophy. Additionally, I have served as a visiting scholar at prestigious institutions such as the University of Oxford and King's College London.

I specialize in the philosophy of knowledge, with a focus on the social dynamics of knowledge and ignorance. Specifically, I investigate how trust and distrust shape our acquisition of knowledge, sometimes facilitating it and at other times hindering it. Despite its abstract nature, my research directly tackles pressing societal issues such as the proliferation of fake news and misinformation, as well as the crisis of expertise in modern society. Employing a multidisciplinary approach, I collaborate with scholars from various fields to develop more effective strategies for addressing these challenges.

FUNDRAISING NEEDS

The Department of Philosophy combines cutting-edge research with a number of elite multidisciplinary undergraduate programs: the Psyphas honors Program in Psychology and Philosophy, the PPE (Philosophy, Political Science and Economics) program, and a new program in AI and Ethics. We also contribute to the new University of Haifa-Technion Center for Humanities and Artificial Intelligence.

Our aim is to foster understanding in these complex fields and train future leaders by combining philosophical analysis with empirical and mathematical methods. To advance this, we are establishing the PsyPhil Lab, Israel's first philosophical psychology lab, requiring funding for equipment and student fellowships. We are also launching an MA in AI and Ethics and an ethical counseling service for AI ventures, in partnership with the Haifa-Technion Center. Donations will support this service and student fellowships.