

Alison Forster

B.Sc. B.Sc.(MRS) MRT(T) M.T.S. M.Phil. PhD (c)

St. John's, NL

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Humanities and Social Sciences

In Progress

Global Centre for Advanced Studies (Accredited), Dublin

"Quantum Change in Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy: A Philosophical Companion"

Master of Philosophy (Humanities)

2025

Memorial University Newfoundland

"Embodied and Dis-embodied: The Phenomenological Mismatch Between Clinicians and Patients" – supervised by Dr. J. Foster

Master of Theological Studies (With Honours) - Thesis Stream

2023

Queen's College, Newfoundland

"An Affirmative Sunyata: An Alternative Buddhist Reading of Meister Eckhart" - supervised by Dr. S. McGrath

Bachelor of Science (MRS) and Advanced Diploma (With Honours)

2012

University of Toronto, Michener Institute

Granted National License to Practice Radiation Therapy – MRT(T)

Bachelor of Science (Honours Science)

2004

University of Waterloo

Biology Minor, Religious Studies Minor

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Memorial University Newfoundland

(Winter 2024 – Winter 2025)

Graduate Assistant – Introduction to Religious Ethics - Dr. M. Rebidoux

- Graded 3 short essay assignments for 66 students
- Identified and addressed academic misconduct
- Met with students to address concerns, provide detailed feedback and support

Graduate Assistant – Introduction to World Religions - Dr. M. DeRoche

- Graded short essay assignments for approximately 80 students
- Identified and addressed incidents of academic misconduct
- Met with students to address concerns, provide detailed feedback and support

Graduate Assistant - Introduction to World Religions - Dr. M. Rebidoux

- Graded multiple choice and short answer exams for approximately 80 students

University of Toronto/Michener Institute

(2010-2011)

Physics Tutor for Student Services

- Provided one on one additional support on a weekly basis for first year students in Radiation Physics

University of Waterloo

(2004-2005)

Teaching Assistant - Genetics (BIOL 239)

- Instructor for weekly didactic tutorials for approximately 30 students
- Graded assignments for all students within assigned section
- Met with students to address concerns, provide detailed feedback and support

Teaching Assistant - Human Physiology (BIOL 273L)

- Instructor for weekly laboratory sessions for approximately 30 students
- Graded laboratory reports for all assignments within assigned section
- Met with students to address concerns, provide detailed feedback and support

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant for Dr. John Heikkila – *University of Waterloo* -- Investigated expression of heat shock proteins in *Xenopus Laevis* development **(Summer 2004)**
- Research Assistant for Dr. Andrew Bendall – *University of Guelph* -- Investigated regulation of gene expression during skeletal development in vertebrates **(Summer 2003)**
- Research Assistant - Advanced Center for the Detection of Cancer -- *Mount Sinai Hospital* – Assisted in identification of oncological antigens and monoclonal antibody evaluation **(Fall 2002)**
- Research Assistant - The Center for Applied Genomics -- *Hospital for Sick Children* – Performed screening of mouse BAC libraries and DNA sequencing **(Winter 2001)**

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- ["Cataphatic Sūnyatā? A Pure Land Alternative to Dialogue Between Eckhart and Japanese Buddhism"](#) – *Journal of Interreligious Studies* **(2025)**
- Academic Blog Stories available at www.alisonforsteronline.com
- ["Hope, Grief and Value: A Reflection on the Humanities"](#) – Article for *State of the University* series by *The Independent* **(2025)**
- Presenter of "I am (Not) Robot: A Buddhist Critique of AI Consciousness Tests" at *Radical Impossibilities: Theology, Religion and AI Symposium* **(2023)**

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Fellow of the School of Graduate Studies – Memorial University **(2025)**
- Alternate for SSHRC national grant – \$22 500 **(2023-2024)**
- Featured Student Profile for Queen's College Promotional Campaign **(2023)**