

# Alison Forster

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

St. John's, NL

[acforster@mun.ca](mailto:acforster@mun.ca)

## 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)

(expected completion Sept 2025)

*Memorial University Newfoundland*

"From 'Touch, Feel, Listen' to 'Touching, Feeling and Listening': The Phenomenological Mismatch Between Physicians 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**

- “A Cataphatic Sūnyatā: A Pure Land Alternative to Dialogue Between Eckhart and Japanese Buddhism” (accepted) – *Journal of Interreligious Studies* **(2025)**
- Academic Blog Stories available at [www.alisonforsteronline.com](http://www.alisonforsteronline.com)
- 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)**