



**Professor James Ladyman**  
**M.Sc.(Lond.), B.A.(York), Ph.D.(Leeds)**

Professor

Cotham House,  
Cotham Hill, Bristol BS6 6JL

[\(See a map\)](#)

+44 (0) 117 331 0934

[james.ladyman@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:james.ladyman@bristol.ac.uk)

## Summary

I am interested in most areas of philosophy, but my work has primarily been in general philosophy of science and philosophy of physics. I have worked extensively on scientific realism, constructive empiricism and structural realism (I made the distinction in my 1998 paper between epistemic and ontic forms of structural realism and I have defended the latter). I also work on scientific representation, physicalism, the relationship between the special sciences and physics, naturalised metaphysics, the philosophy of information and computation, and the philosophy of mathematics. I am currently working with Stuart Presnell on the foundations and philosophy of Homotopy Type Theory and its application to physics. I am also interested in the impact agenda and science policy, and in understanding the epistemological and broader implications of big data technologies for science and society.

## Biography

Philip Leverhulme Prize in Philosophy and Ethics 2005

Choice (American Library Association) Outstanding Academic Text Award for Understanding Philosophy of Science

I was co-editor (with Professor Alexander Bird) of The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, for which I was previously a deputy editor and assistant editor, (2004-2011).

I was Honorary Secretary of The British Society for the Philosophy of Science (2003-2007).

## Teaching

- Foundations of Complexity Science (doctoral level)
- Philosophy of Physics (3rd year)
- Philosophy of Physics (MA)
- Introduction to Philosophy A (1st year)
- Introduction to Metaphysics (1st year)
- Foundations of Modern Physics (4th year)

## Keywords

- Philosophy of Science
- Philosophy of Physics
- Philosophy of Information and Computation
- Philosophy of Mathematics

## Memberships

## Organisations

## Academics by department

- [Philosophy](#)

## Recent publications

- Ladyman, J & Wiesner, K, 2020, '[What is a Complex System](#)'. Yale University Press
- Ladyman, J & Presnell, S, 2019, '[Universes and Univalence in Homotopy Type Theory](#)'. *Review of Symbolic Logic*, vol 12., pp. 426-455
- Ladyman, J & Presnell, S, 2019, '[The Hole Argument and Homotopy Type Theory](#)'. *Foundations of Physics*.
- Ladyman, J, 2019, '[Introduction: Structuralists of the world unite](#)'. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*, vol 74., pp. 1-3
- Blumenthal, G, Ladyman, J & Seifert, V, 2018, '[Referring to chemical elements and compounds: Colourless airs in late eighteenth century chemical practice](#)'. in: Elena Ghibaudi, Eric Scerri (eds) *What is a chemical element? A collection of essays by chemists, philosophers, historians and educators..* Oxford University Press
- Ladyman, J, 2018, '[Scientific Realism Again](#)'. *Spontaneous Generations: Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science*, vol 9., pp. 99-107
- Burr, C, Cristianini, N & Ladyman, J, 2018, '[An Analysis of the Interaction Between Intelligent Software Agents and Human Users](#)'. *Minds and Machines*, vol 28., pp. 735-774
- Blumenthal, G & Ladyman, J, 2018, '[Theory comparison and choice in chemistry, 1766-1791](#)'. *Foundations of Chemistry*, vol 20., pp. 169-189
- Ladyman, J, 2018, '[Scientism with a Humane Face](#)'. in: Jeroen de Ridder, Rik Peels, Rene van Woudenberg (eds) *Scientism: Prospects and Problems*. Oxford University Press
- Ladyman, J & Presnell, S, 2017, '[Identity in homotopy type theory: Part II, the conceptual and philosophical status of identity in HoTT](#)'. *Philosophia Mathematica*, vol 25., pp. 210-245

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