

Louise Rebecca Chapman

Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts

CEO, Lex Academic®

Boustany Cambridge Pembroke Doctoral Scholar in Philosophy at the
University of Cambridge

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Louise Rebecca Chapman is a philosopher and academic entrepreneur whose career combines research excellence with institution-building. She graduated with First-Class Honours in Philosophy from King's College London, and thereafter pursued postgraduate research in Ancient Philosophy and Kant across the University of Oxford (St Anne's College) and the University of Cambridge (Pembroke College). Offered more than £250k in scholarships and fellowships for her postgraduate research, she has published and presented internationally on Kant and Plato, and remains an active researcher. Louise is keen to show that business leadership and philosophical scholarship are not mutually exclusive.

Alongside her academic career, Louise is the founder and CEO of Lex Academic®, a multi-million-pound enterprise employing five permanent staff and serving more than 2,500 clients worldwide. Established to help researchers communicate their work at the highest level, Lex has grown into a trusted international partner across the humanities, social sciences, and STEM. Her leadership of this business has given her extensive insight into the challenges and opportunities facing global higher education, from publication and funding pressures to cross-disciplinary collaboration. Straddling research and enterprise, she brings both the intellectual credibility of an Oxbridge-educated philosopher and scholar and the strategic vision of a business leader, making her uniquely placed to contribute within any research-intensive university.

Areas of specialization:

Kant
Plato
Moral psychology
Practical reasoning

Areas of competence:

History of philosophy
Normative ethics
Moral education
Aristotle

Positions:

2020–present

Lex Academic® (Founder and CEO)

Academic author services; educational consulting; custom projects

Turnover to date: £3.2m

2017–2018 Tulane University, Louisiana, USA (Visiting Scholar reporting to Professor Oliver Sensen)
Centre de Recherche en Éthique (CRÉ), Montréal, Canada (Resident Researcher reporting to Professor Valéry Giroux)

Education:

2018–2022 Pembroke College, University of Cambridge
Philosophy
Thesis supervisors: Professor Angela Breitenbach and Professor Richard Holton
Thesis: Examples of the Law

2016–2017 St Anne’s College, University of Oxford
Ancient Philosophy
Thesis supervisor: Professor Terence Irwin
Thesis: Moral Psychology and Education in the *Meno* (Distinction)

2013–2016 King’s College London
Philosophy
First-Class Honours
Average mark: 76 (80 in Dissertation)
2016 Arts and Humanities nominee for Jelf Medal

2012–2013 University of London International Programmes
Philosophy
All papers First-Class

Publications:

Sole-authored, peer-reviewed publications:

2016 ‘We Don’t Need No Noumena? Freedom Through Rational Self-Cultivation in Kant’. *Pli: The Warwick Journal of Philosophy Special Volume: Self-Cultivation: Ancient and Modern*. 55–69.

First-authored, peer-reviewed publications:

- 2018 “Music to the Ears of Weaklings”: Moral Hydraulics and the Unseating of Desire’ (with Constantine Sandis). *Manuscript: Special Issue on Agency and Rationality*, eds. David Horst and Sergio Tenenbaum. Vol. 41, Iss. 4.

Journalism and public philosophy:

- 2022 “Analytic Philosophy has a Language Problem.” with Filippo Contesi & Constantine Sandis. *Institute of Art and Ideas News*.
- 2021 “Unconscious Bias or Deliberate Gatekeeping?” with Filippo Contesi & Constantine Sandis. *The Philosophers' Magazine* (95):9–11.
- 2019 “The Value of Shame: On Immanuel Kant's Hydraulic Model of Education.” *Aeon*.
- 2013 “Be Not Afeared.” *Philosophy Now*, Issue #99.

Presentations:

- 2018 “Grounding the *Groundwork*.” Kant work-in-progress workshop, University of Cambridge.
- 2016 “We Don’t Need No Noumena?”. *UK Kant Society Annual Conference: Kant, Normativity, and Naturalism*, University of Southampton.
- 2016 “We Don’t Need No Noumena?”. *Kant’s Moral Psychology*, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul.
- 2015 “We Don’t Need No Noumena: Freedom through Rational Self-Cultivation in Kant”. *Modern Appraisals of the Hellenistic Legacy: Prospects for an Ethics of Self-Cultivation*, Monash University.

Scholarships, awards, investment:

2022	Shortlisted for the 2022 <u>Parmee Prize for Entrepreneurship</u> , Pembroke College, University of Cambridge Lifelong business mentorship with Dr Richard Parmee
2021	Sold 10% (11 Class C shares) of Lex Professional Services Ltd. (Lex Academic®) to Peter Redhead (former MD JPMorgan Hong Kong)
2018–2022	Boustany Cambridge Pembroke PhD Scholarship in Philosophy Awarded by: Cambridge Trust, Pembroke College, and the Boustany Foundation, Monaco Award value: £122,952 [Four years' full funding: University Composition Fees; Maintenance Fees] Onora O'Neill Doctoral Scholarship in Philosophy Awarded by: Newnham College, Cambridge Award value: £36,000 [<i>Not taken up</i>] Ferguson Studentship Awarded by: Newnham College, Cambridge [<i>Not taken up</i>] Award value: £12,000 <i>The Philosophical Quarterly</i> Scholarship Awarded by: University of St Andrews Award value: £56,985 [<i>Not taken up.</i>] Full AHRC Scholarship Awarded by: University of Reading Award value: £56,916 [<i>Not taken up.</i>]
2016–2018	Keeling Scholarship in Philosophy Awarded by: University College London

Award value: £45,000 [*Not taken up.*]

2016 Jelf Medal Nominee, KCL Art & Humanities
[The Jelf Medal is awarded to the student who has “most distinguished themselves during their undergraduate course in the College, both by achieving the highest grades of their cohort and by contributing extensively to the wider life of the College”.]

2015 Classical Association Scholarship
Award value: £685.

2015 KCL Philosophy Department Commendation for work on Aristotle, Kant, Historical Ethics, and Epistemology.

Languages:

English	Fluent (native)
French	Advanced reading and writing ability
Ancient Greek	Advanced reading ability
German	Intermediate reading ability
Greek	Fallible but nevertheless effective eavesdropping ability

Professional service:

2025	Entrepreneurship mentor to MBA students at Pembroke College, University of Cambridge
2019	Reviewer for <i>British Journal for the History of Philosophy</i> Indexer (Classics and Philosophy) for Cambridge University Press Copy editor for <i>Journal of the Philosophy of Emotion</i>

Miscellaneous:

2017	Invited speaker to Francis Bacon Workshop at University of Hertfordshire on the work of Christine Korsgaard
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2015–16	Invited member of Ancient Philosophy Graduate Seminar, KCL
2014–15	Social Secretary and Chair for KCL Philosophy Society
2011	Shortlisted for Beat Charity Award for “inspirational work relating to eating disorder recovery” (House of Lords)
2006	Art Culture Gallery Portrait Prize (1 st place) Award value: £300

Referees:

Knightbridge Professor of Philosophy
Professor Rae Langton
Newnham College
Cambridge
CB3 9DF

Stavros Niarchos Foundation Fellow of Ancient
Greek Philosophy
Professor Luca Castagnoli
Oriental College
Oxford
OX1 3PG