

Dear prospective MA students,

I am an analytic philosopher who does research in the philosophical subfield of aesthetics, which concerns issues to do with art, beauty and aesthetic experience. My main interests are in the aesthetics of things other than art, in particular nature, everyday design objects, and people. However, I am fairly well versed in the contemporary aesthetics literature and would probably be qualified to supervise projects on most topics in analytic aesthetics, including those concerning art.

My research also partially overlaps some other areas, including the philosophy of love and sex, environmental ethics, the philosophy of technology, and the philosophy of science. In the philosophy of love, for example, I have written on personal beauty and romantic love. Some of my work on nature aesthetics concerns aesthetic reasons of the preservation of wilderness. And some of my work on design overlaps with some issues in the philosophy of technology. With respect to the philosophy of science, I have done some work on theories of naturalized teleology, in connection with the concept of artifact function. Depending on the project, I might be suited to supervise or at least co-supervise work in these areas. A note on the philosophy of science in particular: I do teach this at the undergraduate level, but not at the graduate level, and, outside of the specific topic of teleology, I am likely not adequately qualified to supervise MA projects in this area.

Glenn Parsons