

# Integrating kaupapa Māori in a pākeha philosophy programme

Dan Weijers

Kīngitanga Day, 15 September 2022

University of Waikato

# Dan's Pākehā Pepeha

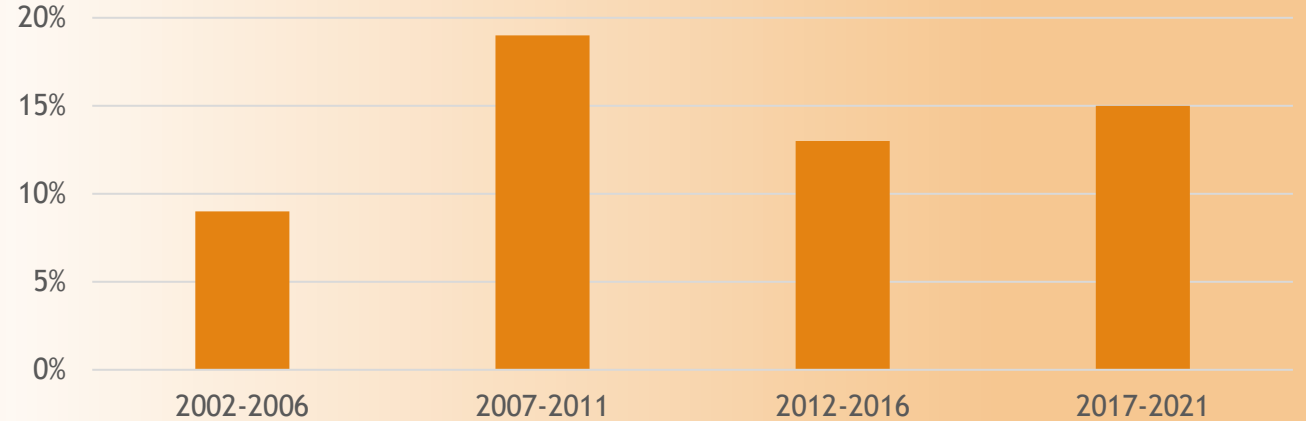
- ▶ Tēnā koutou katoa
- ▶ Ko Ingarangi te whakapaparanga mai (engari)
- ▶ Ko Taranaki te whenua tupu
- ▶ Ko Aotearoa taku kāinga
- ▶ Kei Kirikiriroa au e noho ana
- ▶ He Philosophy kauwhau tōku umanga i Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato
- ▶ Ko Dan Weijers au
- ▶ Tēnā tātou katoa

(Inspired by Opai 2022)

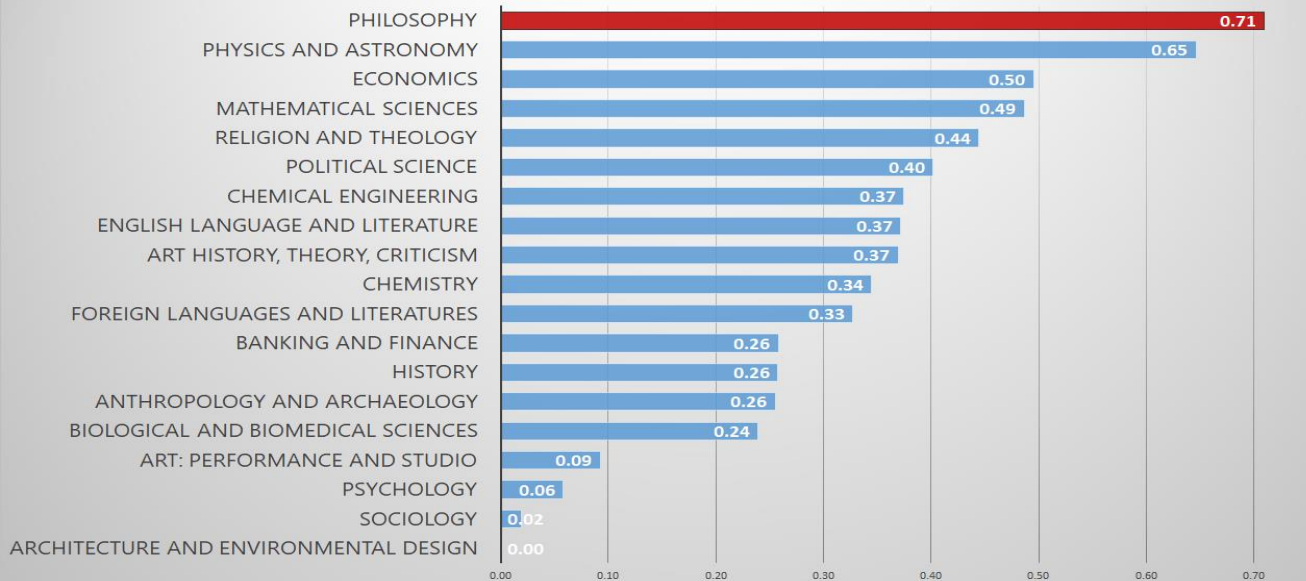
# The problem

- ▶ Māori are underrepresented in philosophy (18% instead of 24% for the whole Uni)
- ▶ Philosophy is valuable: majors double their salary in 10 years - best of 50 majors (WSJ 2017)
- ▶ Institutions, education, tax \$ etc should not favour non-Māori
- ▶ Our content and approach may be the main cause of the underrepresentation

Proportion of Philosophy majors and minors completed by Māori



Average Number of Standard Deviations Above the Mean for the Three Sections of the GRE (2015-2018)



Data based on seniors and non-enrolled college graduates who tested between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2018

Available here: [https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre\\_guide\\_table4.pdf](https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide_table4.pdf)

Mean and standard deviation data available here: [https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre\\_guide\\_table1a.pdf](https://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide_table1a.pdf)

Chart made in October 2019 by tomas.bogardus@pepperdine.edu

# Programmatic Pākehā paralysis

- ▶ Try teaching Māori philosophy
- ▶ Hire people that do Māori philosophy
- ▶ Outsource Māori philosophy
- ▶ Grow Māori philosophy
- ▶ In-source Māori philosophy (he aronga takirua!)
- ▶ Try teaching some Māori philosophy yourselves
  - ▶ We try, but worries about cultural appropriation, tokenism, disservice to ideas
  - ▶ Some consultation says we can't without Te Reo, tikanga, te ao Māori, etc.



# Fighting inertia (and Netflix)

- He moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka
  - A choppy sea can be navigated
- Acknowledge failure, strive for success
- Everyone is busy
- Put in the mahi, don't be the last to take responsibility
- It will be uncomfortable; we can't please everyone all of the time
  - Isn't it our turn to feel uncomfortable, anyway?

# Dan's Reference list

- ▶ Anon (2017). Salary increase by major, *Wall Street Journal*. Accessed 12 september 2022 from: [https://www.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/info-Degrees\\_that\\_Pay\\_you\\_Back-sort.html](https://www.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/info-Degrees_that_Pay_you_Back-sort.html)
- ▶ Anon (2022). Whakataukī: Māori proverbs, *Massey University*. Accessed 7 september 2022 from: <https://www.massey.ac.nz/student-life/m%C4%81ori-at-massey/te-reo-m%C4%81ori-and-tikanga-resources/te-reo-m%C4%81ori-pronunciation-and-translations/whakatauk%C4%AB-m%C4%81ori-proverbs/>
- ▶ Bogardus, Thomas (2019). Average number of standard deviations above the mean for the three sections of the GRE (2015-2018). Accessed historically from <https://philosophyisagreatmajor.com/category/skills-and-saleries/> (link now broken)
- ▶ Opai, Keri (2022). Pepeha for non-Māori, *E-Tangata*, 7 August 2022. Accessed 24 August 2022 from: <https://e-tangata.co.nz/reflections/pepeha-for-non-maori/>