

Neil Aaron Thompson
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Management and Organisation
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Personal information

Neil Aaron Thompson is an Associate Professor in Entrepreneurship and Organization Studies. He received Msc degrees in International Economics and Business from the Utrecht University in 2009. In 2013 he received his PhD degree, based on a dissertation with the title Institutional Logics and Entrepreneurship – Struggling for legitimacy in the emerging bio-energy field.

His ongoing research covers topics about Entrepreneurship as Practice; Organizational Creativity; New Venture Creation; Sustainable Development; Organization Theory; Institutional Theory; Organizational Change; New Industry Development; Economic Sociology; and Historical Methods. Present research questions are; How do entrepreneurs experience and cope with anxiety through the entrepreneurship process? How has a global entrepreneurship ecosystem emerged and evolved? How can we best conceptualize and research entrepreneurial ecosystems? How does institutional work assist business historians in historiography? How is the imagination implicated in organizational creativity?

Employment

Associate Professor

Management and Organisation
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
1 Nov 2021 → present

research fellow

Amsterdam Business Research Institute
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
15 Nov 2013 → present

Research outputs

Circular Strategies as Practice: Connecting Circular Business Models to Circular Ecosystems

van Erkelens, A. M., Thompson, N. A., Quintelier, K. & van Bommel, K., 2024, In: Academy of Management Proceedings. 2024, 1, 1 p.

Entrepreneuring as multispecies composting

Crossen, B., Byrne, O., Lassalle, P., Thompson, N. A., Verduijn, K. & Yeröz, H., 2024, *Organization Studies and Posthumanism: Towards a More-than-Human World*. de Vaujany, F-X., Gherardi, S. & Silva, P. (eds.). Routledge, p. 53-74 22 p.

The dynamic construction of an incubation context: a practice theory perspective

van Erkelens, A. M., Thompson, N. A. & Chalmers, D., 2024, In: Small Business Economics. 62, 2, p. 583-605

Viewing entrepreneurship 'in motion': Exploring current uses and future possibilities of video research methods in entrepreneurship research

Ormiston, J. & Thompson, N. A., 2024, *Big Questions and Great Answers in Entrepreneurship Research: Discussing Up-to-date Methodological and Philosophical Issues*. Fayolle, A., Le Pontois, S. & Pelly, R. D. M. (eds.). Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd., p. 220-263 44 p.

Concepts as Mirrors and Torches: Rigor and Relevance as Scholarly Performativity

Thompson, N. A., Byrne, O. & Dimov, D., Nov 2023, In: Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice. 47, 6, p. 2155-2173 19 p.

'How might we?': Studying new venture ideation in and through practices

Nicolai, M. & Thompson, N. A., Jun 2023, In: Scandinavian Journal of Management. 39, 2, p. 1-10 10 p., 101275.

Imagining Futures: Theorizing the Practical Knowledge of Future-making

Thompson, N. A. & Byrne, O., 1 Feb 2022, In: Organization Studies. 43, 2, p. 247-268 22 p.

Research Handbook on Entrepreneurship as Practice: Handbooks of Business and Management Research as Practice

Thompson, N. A. (ed.), Byrne, O. (ed.), Jenkins, A. (ed.) & Teague, B. T. (ed.), 1 Jan 2022, Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd. 356 p.

Entrepreneurship as practice: grounding contemporary theories of practice into entrepreneurship studies

Thompson, N. A. (ed.), Verduyn, K. (ed.) & Gartner, W. B. (ed.), 2022, Routledge. 118 p.

Introduction to the Research Handbook on Entrepreneurship as Practice

Thompson, N. A., Byrne, O., Jenkins, A. & Teague, B. T., 2022, *Research Handbook on Entrepreneurship as Practice*. Thompson, N. A., Byrne, O., Jenkins, A. & Teague, B. T. (eds.). Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd., p. 1-19 19 p.

Displaying and negotiating entrepreneuring expertise in context: A practice theory perspective

Thompson, N. A. & Campbell, B., Aug 2021, In: Academy of Management Proceedings. 2021, 1

Called to volunteer and stay longer: The significance of work calling for volunteering motivation and retention

Faletahan, A. F., van Burg, E., Thompson, N. A. & Wempe, J., Jul 2021, In: Voluntary Sector Review. 12, 2, p. 235-255 21 p.

Entrepreneurial learning as practice: a video-ethnographic analysis

Thompson, N. A. & Illes, E., 19 Mar 2021, In: International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour & Research. 27, 3, p. 579-599 21 p.

Viewing entrepreneurship "in motion": Exploring current uses and future possibilities of video-based entrepreneurship research

Ormiston, J. & Thompson, N. A., 2021, In: Journal of Small Business Management. 59, 5, p. 976-1011 37 p.

Entrepreneurs' Creative Responses to Institutional Challenges: Insider Perspectives from Sub-Saharan Africa

Thompson, N. A. & Eijdenberg, E., 28 May 2020, Emerald Publishing. 132 p. (Emerald Points)

[Book Review of:] Betsy Campbell *Practice Theory in Action: Empirical Studies of Interaction in Innovation and Entrepreneurship*: Empirical Studies of Interaction in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Thompson, N. A., May 2020, In: Organization Studies. 41, 5, p. 727-729 3 p.

No Need to Worry? Anxiety and Coping in the Entrepreneurship Process

Thompson, N. A., van Gelderen, M. & Keppler, L., 12 Mar 2020, In: Frontiers in Psychology. 11, 398.

Advancing Entrepreneurship as Practice: previous developments and future possibilities

Thompson, N. A. & Byrne, O., 2 Mar 2020, *Research Handbook on Entrepreneurial Behavior, Practice and Process: Behavior, Practice, Process and Action*. Gartner, W. B. & Teague, B. T. (eds.). Edward Elgar, p. 30-55 26 p. (Research Handbooks in Business and Management series).

Entrepreneurship-as-practice: grounding contemporary theories of practice into entrepreneurship studies

Thompson, N. A., Verduijn, K. & Gartner, W. B., Mar 2020, In: Entrepreneurship and Regional Development. 32, 3-4, p. 247-256 10 p.

Jump for joy: happiness as the route to increased living standards of entrepreneurs in Zambia

Eijdenberg, E. L. & Thompson, N. A., 2020, In: Small Enterprise Research. 27, 2, p. 240-257 18 p.

Imagining Possible Opportunities through Business Development Practices: A Practice-Based Study
Byrne, O., Thompson, N. A. & Dimov, D. P., 1 Aug 2019, In: *Academy of Management Proceedings*. 2019, 1

Entrepreneurial activities in a developing country: an institutional theory perspective
Eijdenberg, E. L., Thompson, N. A., Verduijn, K. & Essers, C., 18 Apr 2019, In: *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour and Research*. 25, 3, p. 414-432 19 p.

'Don't Think, Look!': A Wittgensteinian Critique of Entrepreneurial Action and a Way Forward
Thompson, N. A., Byrne, O. & Dimov, D. P., 2019, In: *Academy of Management Proceedings*. 2019, 1

Why do sustainable ventures fail to attract management talent?
Thompson, N. A. & Eijkemans, R., 21 Nov 2018, In: *Sustainability (Switzerland)*. 10, 11, p. 1-14 14 p., 4319.

SME Knowledge Commercialization Through Public Sector Partnerships
Thompson, N. A., Herrmann, A. M. & Hekkert, M. P., Jun 2018, In: *International Journal of Innovation and Technology Management*. 15, 3, p. 1-27 27 p., 1850021.

Biofuels are (not) the future! Legitimation strategies of sustainable ventures in complex institutional environments
Thompson, N. A., 30 Apr 2018, In: *Sustainability (Switzerland)*. 10, 5, 1382.

Critiquing and renewing the entrepreneurial imagination
Thompson, N. A., 2018, *Philosophical reflexivity and entrepreneurship research*. Fayolle, A., Ramoglou, S., Karatas-Ozkan, M. & Nicolopoulou, K. (eds.). Routledge, p. 126-138 13 p. (Routledge rethinking entrepreneurship research).

Expanding entrepreneurial, innovative and sustainable (EIS) ecosystems: A cultural-historical activity theory perspective
Audhoe, R., Thompson, N. A. & Verduyn, K., 2018, *Entrepreneurial, Innovative and Sustainable Ecosystems: Best Practices and Implications for Quality of Life*. Leitão, J., Alves, H., Krueger, N. & Park, J. (eds.). Springer, p. 67-89 23 p. (Applying quality of life: Best practices).

Hey DJ, don't stop the music: Institutional work and record pooling practices in the United States' music industry
Thompson, N. A., 2018, In: *Business History*. 60, 5, p. 677-698 22 p.

Imagination and Creativity in Organizations
Thompson, N. A., 2018, In: *Organization Studies*. 39, 2/3, p. 229-250 22 p.

Biofuels are (not) the future! Image mismatch and image work by hybrid organizations
Thompson, N. A., 2016, *Academy of Management Proceedings*. Anaheim, California: AOM

Entrepreneurship as practice: grounding contemporary practice theory into entrepreneurship studies
Thompson, N. A., Verduyn, K., Stam, A. M. C. E. & Gartner, W. B., 2016, In: *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development*. 28, 9-10

Local entrepreneurial assistance and education practices in globalized world: A nexus analysis
Thompson, N. A. & Verduijn, J. K., 2016, *RENT conference*. Antwerp: RENT

Creating Anomalous Practices through Assemblage: Insights from the Dutch Bio-energy Field
Thompson, N. A., 2015, *Proceedings of the Academy of Management Conference*. Vancouver: AOM

Hey DJ, don't stop the music: The timing of institutional entrepreneurship
Thompson, N. A., 2015, *Proceedings of the Academy of Management Meeting*. Vancouver: AOM

How sustainable entrepreneurs engage in institutional change: insights from biomass torrefaction in the Netherlands
Thompson, N. A., Herrmann, A. M. & Hekkert, M. P., 2015, In: Journal of Cleaner Production. 106, November, p. 608-618

Institutional Logics and Entrepreneurship: Struggling for Legitimacy in the Emerging Bioenergy Field
Thompson, N. A., 2013

Distinctions not dichotomies: Exploring social, sustainable, and environmental entrepreneurship
Thompson, N. A., Kiefer, K. & York, J., 2011, *Social and Sustainable Entrepreneurship*. Katz, J. & Corbett, A. C. (eds.). Bingley, UK: Emerald Books, p. 201-229 28 p. (Advances in Entrepreneurship, Firm Emergence and Growth; no. 13).

Teaching and Administrative Experience

Program Director, MSc Entrepreneurship, VU University, The Netherlands (Sept. 1 2023 - Present)
Premaster Coordinator School of Business and Economics, VU University, The Netherlands (Sept. 1 2018 - Dec. 31 2023)
Entrepreneurship, Institutions and Corporations, Coordinator, VU University, The Netherlands (Nov. 2014/Dec.2015)
Social Entrepreneurship, Coordinator, VU University in collaboration with UvA, The Netherlands (Nov. 2014/Present)
Enterprising Behavior, Coordinator, VU University in collaboration with UvA, The Netherlands (Nov. 2015/2019)
Social Dynamics of Entrepreneurship, Coordinator, VU University (Jan. 2016/2019)
Strategic and Organizational Change, Coordinator, VU University, The Netherlands (Feb. 2014/Mar.2014)
Entrepreneurship in Action, Coordinator, VU University, The Netherlands (Feb. 2014/Mar.2014)
Bachelor and Master's Theses Supervision, Supervisor, VU University, The Netherlands (Nov. 2013/Present)

Projects

ACCELERATE - Entrepreneurship Education in Europe (EEE)
Thompson, N. A.
1/07/22 → 31/12/22

Accelerate Entrepreneurship Education in Europe
Thompson, N. A.
1/07/22 → 1/07/24