Standpoint theorists emphasize the epistemic resources, resilience and insights that can arise from situated experience of oppression. This orientation has been the rationale for “starting inquiry from the margins” in the social sciences; it provides a framework in science studies for understanding the impact of transformative critique on scientific inquiry; and recently it has been getting uptake in analytic epistemology. I address a set of questions central to these three threads of standpoint theorizing: what does the achievement of a standpoint require beyond the situated experience that grounds and informs it?

Who is Alison Wylie?

Alison Wylie is the Canada Research Chair in Philosophy of the Social and Historical Sciences and Professor of Philosophy at the University of British Columbia. She has a long-standing interest in philosophical questions raised by archaeology, feminist theory, and collaborative research practice. She works with the Indigenous/Science research network at UBC and the Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science.