

WILLIAM MICHAEL PARIS

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2021-Present Assistant Professor of Philosophy at University of Toronto
2020-2021 Frank B. Weeks Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Wesleyan University
2018-2020 Postdoctoral Weinberg Fellow in Philosophy at Northwestern University

EDUCATION

2012-2018 The Pennsylvania State University
PhD, Philosophy and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Dissertation Title: The Value of Invention: On the Ungendering of Black Life in
Frantz Fanon, Sylvia Wynter, and Hortense Spillers
Dissertation Committee: Nancy Tuana and Robert Bernasconi (Co-Chairs), Leonard
Lawlor, AnneMarie Mingo

2010-2012 New York University
MA, Interdisciplinary Studies

2006-2010 Susquehanna University
BA, Philosophy and Creative Writing, *summa cum laude*

AWARDS AND HONORS

2017 Forrest S. Crawford Graduate Fellowship in Ethical Enquiry at Penn State
2017 Harold F. Martin Teaching Award at Penn State
2016 Sara Woods Outstanding Graduate Student Award at Penn State

PUBLICATIONS

2022 "Crisis Consciousness, Utopian Consciousness, and the Struggle for Racial Justice"
in *Puncta: Journal of Critical Phenomenology* (Forthcoming).

2021 "'Socialism or Barbarism?': C. L. R. James and the Politics of Hope and Utopia" in
The Journal of the Hannah Arendt Center for Politics and Humanities at Bard College. 9:
31-37.

2020 "On Protest and Hope as Social Inquiry" in *APA Blog*, <https://blog.apaonline.org/2020/12/29/on-protest-and-hope-as-social-inquiry/>.

- 2019 “One Does Not Write for Slaves’: Wynter, Sartre, and the Poetic Phenomenology of Invention” in *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy*. 33 (3): 407-421.
- 2019 “Gender and Technology in Frantz Fanon: Confrontations of the Clinical and Political” in *Philosophy Compass*.
- 2018 Book Review of Tommie Shelby’s *Dark Ghettos: Injustice, Dissent, and Reform* in *Critical Philosophy of Race*. 6 (1): 101-108.
- 2018 “Humanism’s Secret Shadow: The Construction of Black Sexuality/Gender in Frantz Fanon and Hortense Spillers” in *PhiloSOPHIA: A Journal of Continental Feminism*. Winter 8 (1): 81-99.
- 2018 Co-Authored Book Chapter with Dr. Kathryn Gines, Azita Ranjbar, Edward O’Byrn, Eyo Ewara “Philosophical Special Topics: ‘Black Feminism and Intersectionality’ (A Case Study for Pedagogy and Praxis)” in *Black Women’s Liberatory Pedagogies: Resistance, Transformation, and Healing within and Beyond the Academy*. Edited by Olivia Perlow, Durene I. Wheeler, Sharon L. Bethea, and Barbara M. Scott with Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2016 “Developing Resistant Imaginations in Assata Shakur and Mamphela Ramphele” in *Critical Philosophy of Race*. 4 (2): 205-221.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Racial Justice and Forms of Life: Towards a Critical Theory of Utopian Epistemology (Book Manuscript)

“Do We Need a Social Theory of Knowledge to Understand the Construction of Race?”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Oct. 2021 “*Amor Mundi* and Black Modernity: James Baldwin, Hannah Arendt, and the Tragedy of the Common World” at *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*
- Nov. 2020 “The Monism of God in *The Fire Next Time*: On James Baldwin’s Theology of Liberation” at *Foucault Workshop* at Elon University
- Nov. 2019 “Toward a Postcolonial Ethics of Medicine: Frantz Fanon and Bioethics” at *Towards an Asymmetrical Ethics* at Södertörn University
- Oct. 2019 “The Race for Utopia: Rethinking the Relationship between Mythology and Political Praxis” at *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*

- Jun. 2019 “Racial Technics: Fanon, Marcuse, and the Management of Race” at *Diverse Lineages of Existentialism II*
- Oct. 2018 “Dreaming Machines: Sartre and Fanon on Technology and Freedom” at *North American Sartre Society*
- Oct. 2018 “‘One Does Not Write for Slaves’: Wynter, Sartre, and the Poetic Phenomenology of Invention” at *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*
- Nov. 2017 “Hortense Spillers, Black Life, and the Critique/Creativity of ‘Ungendering’” at *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)*
- Oct. 2017 “‘We Know Nothing about Her’: Hortense Spillers’ ‘Ungendering’ and Frantz Fanon’s Unfinished Argument in *Black Skin, White Masks*” at *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*
- Oct. 2017 “Black Semiotic, White Symbolic: *Chora*, Abjection, and Hortense Spillers’s Reformulation of Kristevan Psychoanalysis in ‘Mama’s Baby, Papa’s Maybe’” at *California Roundtable on Philosophy and Race*
- Oct. 2017 “Black Semiotic, White Symbolic: *Chora*, Abjection, and Hortense Spillers’s Reformulation of Kristevan Psychoanalysis in ‘Mama’s Baby, Papa’s Maybe’” at *The Kristeva Circle*
- Jun. 2017 “Living on the Critical Edge: Sylvia Wynter, Hortense Spillers, and the Forms of Black Culture” at *Caribbean Philosophical Association*
- Apr. 2017 “Refusing the Progress of Time: Black Grief and Critical Consciousness” at *The Big No: A Center for 21st Century Studies Conference*
- Mar. 2017 “Black Grief and the Politics of Time” at *PhiloSophia*
- Feb. 2017 “Sylvia Wynter, Hortense Spillers, and the Liminal Dialectics of a New Genre of the Human” at *The Women’s Studies Graduate Organization Conference*
- Oct. 2016 “The Abolitionist Promise of the Curse of Ham: Discerning the Role of Race in the Third Session of Derrida’s Death Penalty Seminars” at *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*
- Dec. 2015 “On Angela Davis and the Demands of Abolition” at *Political Violence Workshop* at University of Connecticut
- Sep. 2015 “Derrida, Charleston, and the Problem of Racial ‘Hostipitality’” at *Pittsburgh Continental Philosophy Network*

May 2015 “The Time of Anger in the Space of Violence: Feminist (Mis)Apprehensions of Anger” at *Hypatia*

INVITED SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

Feb. 2022 “Crisis Consciousness, Utopian Consciousness, and the Struggle for Racial Justice” for the *Critical Phenomenology Reading Group* at Queen’s University

Nov. 2021 “Crisis Consciousness, Utopian Consciousness, and the Struggle for Racial Justice” at the University of Western Ontario

May 2021 “Whither Utopia?: Marcus Garvey and the Contradictions of Black Nationalism” *Reynolds Lecture* at Elon University

Nov. 2020 Interview with *Pedagogies for Peace* at <https://kroc.nd.edu/research/intersectionality/pedagogies-for-peace-podcast/>

Nov. 2020 “Looking for Tomorrow in Yesterday: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Utopia of *The Souls of Black Folk*” at the University of Sheffield

Oct. 2020 “Looking for Tomorrow in Yesterday: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Utopia of *The Souls of Black Folk*” at Elon University (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f75X2EG9L7U>)

Oct. 2019 “Sitting with Shakespeare: Du Bois, Culture, and the Practice of Utopia” at Pomona College

Jul. 2019 Text Seminar Leader at the *Collegium Phaenomenologicum*

May 2019 “Mythologies for the Lost: The Thought and Afterthought of Cultural Belonging in Du Bois’s *The Souls of Black Folk*” at Marquette University

Apr. 2019 “Mythologies for the Lost: The Thought and Afterthought of Cultural Belonging in Du Bois’s *The Souls of Black Folk*” at Loyola University

Feb. 2019 “What does it Mean to Have a Revolution in Culture?: Some Notes on Fanon’s Speculative Method of Critique” at Northeastern Illinois University

Sep. 2018 “Fanon’s Technological Psychopolitics” at Duquesne University’s *Fanon, Philosophy & Psychology: A Conversation*

Nov. 2017 “African American Philosophy and Ethics in the Time of Violence” at Susquehanna University

Jan. 2016 “Black Emancipation is Universal Emancipation: The Radical Democratic Praxis of Black Lives Matter” for the *Sara Woods Outstanding Graduate Student* Award

Feb. 2016 “Black Lives Matter and the Question of Radical Democratic Praxis” at Alvernia University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

PHIL 366H1F Topics in Political Philosophy—Africana Political Philosophy
PHIL 2141 S Political Philosophy: Philosophy of Race—W.E.B. Du Bois and the Prospects of a Black Critical Theory (Seminar)
PHIL 268H1S Philosophy and Social Criticism

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

PHIL 213F-01 Introduction to Existentialism
PHIL 280-01 Theory, Critique, Politics
PHIL 281-01 Africana Political Philosophy 1800s-1970
PHIL 352 Black Thought and Critical Theory

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

PHIL 261: Intro to Political Philosophy
PHIL 367: Studies in African-American Philosophy: Race, Rationality, Revolution

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

PHIL 102: Existentialism and European Philosophy
PHIL 119: Ethical Leadership
PHIL 012: Symbolic Logic
PHIL 208: Contemporary Philosophy
PHIL 106: Intro to Business Ethics
PHIL 103W: Intro to Ethics
PHIL 132: Introduction to Bioethics
PHIL 103: Introduction to Ethics
PHIL 014: Philosophy of Love and Sex
PHIL 001: Basic Problems in Philosophy

SUPERVISIONS

Matthew Delhey, Dissertation Committee Member, 2022-2024

Nicole Yokum, Postdoctoral Fellow, 2021-2023

Ori Gilboa, Undergraduate Research Project, 2021-2022

Kwesi Thomas, Faculty Mentor, 2021-2024

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

2022- SPEP Book Selection Advisory Committee
2018- Associate Editor for *Critical Philosophy of Race*
2016-2018 Assistant Editor for *Critical Philosophy of Race*

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2015-2016 President of Philosophy Graduate Student Organization (PGSO)
2014-2015 Vice-President of PGSO
2014 Conference Committee for 1st Inaugural Graduate Student Conference

RELATED EXPERIENCE

2021 Cultivating Underrepresented Students in Philosophy Invited Mentor; Pennsylvania State University
2020 Cultivating Underrepresented Students in Philosophy Invited Mentor; Pennsylvania State University
2019 Cultivating Underrepresented Students in Philosophy Invited Mentor; Pennsylvania State University
2015 Rock Ethics Institute Graduate Research Assistant; Sexual Violence and Abuse Initiative; Pennsylvania State University
2014 Philosophy in an Inclusive Key Summer Institute Graduate Assistant; Pennsylvania State University

LANGUAGES

Reading and Writing Proficiency in French
Reading Proficiency in German