

Elvira Basevich, Ph.D.

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APPOINTMENTS

Current:

University of California, Davis

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (*tenure-track*)

2022-

Previous:

Princeton's University Center for Human Values

Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Faculty Fellow

2022-2023

University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (*tenure-track*)

2018-2022

University of Michigan, Dearborn

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (*tenure-track*)

2017-2018

EDUCATION

The Graduate Center, CUNY

Ph.D. Philosophy

2017

Hunter College, CUNY

BA in Philosophy with Honors, Salutatorian, *Summa Cum Laude*

2011

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Social and Political Philosophy, Modern European Philosophy,
Africana Philosophy (esp. W.E.B. Du Bois)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Race, Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Law

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Forthcoming. *Du Bois's Democracy: On Method and Practice*. (Under Contract with Oxford University Press)

2020. *W.E.B. Du Bois: The Lost and The Found*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Select Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

2024. "What is a Black Radical Kantianism without Du Bois? On Method, Principle, and Abolition Democracy," *Journal of Social Philosophy* 55(1): 6-24.
2024. "Democracy's Values and Ideals: A Duboisian Defense," *The Monist* 107(1): 13-25.
2024. "American Reconstruction and the Abolition of Second Slavery: On Pascoe's Intersectional Critique of Kant's Theory of Labour," *Kantian Review* 1-9.
2023. "The Gender Politics of Physical Beauty and Racial Integration," *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* 62 (1): 63-67.
2022. "The Promise and Limit of Kant's Theory of Justice: On Race, Gender, and the Structural Domination of Laborers," *Kantian Review* 27 (4): 541-55.
2022. "Self-Respect and Self-Segregation: A Du Boisian Challenge to Kant and Rawls," *Social Theory & Practice* 48 (3): 403-427.
2022. "What is an Anti-Racist Philosophy of Race and History? A New Look at Kant, Hegel, and Du Bois," *Critical Philosophy of Race* 10 (1): 71-89.
2021. "A Duboisian Constructivist Theory of Justice," *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 19 (2): 170-195.
2021. "What it's Like to Grow up Poor, but Fall in Love with Philosophy: A Notice to the Profession in Case it Forgot," *APA Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy* 20 (3): 15-19.
2020. "W.E.B. Du Bois's Socialism: On the Social Epistemology of Democratic Reason," *Philosophical Topics* 48 (2): 23-49.
2020. "Reckoning with Kant on Race," *The Philosophical Forum* 51 (3): 221-45.
2020. "The Function of the Philosopher and the Public in Du Bois's Political Thought," *Australasian Philosophical Review* 4 (1): 63-68.
2019. "W.E.B. Du Bois's Critique of American Democracy in the Jim Crow Era: On the Limitations of Rawls and Honneth," *Journal of Political Philosophy* 27 (3): 318-340.
2018. "W.E.B. Du Bois's Critique of Radical Reconstruction (1865-77): A Hegelian Approach to American Modernity," *Philosophy & Social Criticism* 45 (2): 168-85.

Book Chapters/Shorter Pieces (*indicates peer review)

- Forthcoming. "Rawls and Racial Justice," in Christie Hartley, Blain Neufeld, and Lori Watson (eds.) *Oxford Handbook on the Philosophy of John Rawls*.*
2024. Editor's Introduction "A Paradigm Shift in Normative Political Theory: Grappling with Mills's *The Racial Contract* 25 Years Later," *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*
2023. "W.E.B. Du Bois," in Manjeet Ramgotra and Simon Choat (Eds.) *Reconsidering Political Thinkers*. New York: Oxford University Press.*
2022. "The Category of Moral Persons: On Race, Labor, and Alienation," in Edgar Valdez (Ed.) *Rethinking Kant*. Vol 6. New York: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. pp. 196-215.
2021. "On Progress: The Role of Race in Kant's Philosophy of History," *The Court of Reason: Proceedings of the 13th International Kant Congress* Ed. Camilla Serck-Hanssen and Beatrix Himmelmann. Boston: Walter de Gruyter. pp. 1697-1706.
2017. "Modern Representations of Evil: Kant, Arendt, and the Devil in Goethe's *Faust* and Bulgakov's *The Master and Margarita*," in *Philosophical Approaches to Demonology*. (Ed.) Benjamin McGraw and Robert Arp. New York: Routledge, pp. 242-56.
2016. "Simone de Beauvoir," in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Imperialism and Anti-Imperialism*. (Eds.) Immanuel Ness and Zak Cope. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan Press. pp. 46-50.
2016. "The Place of Values in a World of Politics: Personality, Motivation, and Ideology," (with

John T. Jost, Eric S. Dickson, & Sharareh Noorbaloochi) *Handbook of Value: Perspectives from Economics, Neuroscience, Philosophy, Psychology and Sociology*. (Eds.) Tobias Brosch and David Sander. New York: Oxford University Press. pp. 351-74.*

Edited Works:

2024. Editor of Special Issue on “W.E.B. Du Bois and Democracy” in *The Monist*
Contributions by Elvira Basevich (University of California, Davis), Robert Gooding-Williams (Columbia University) Liam Kofi-Bright (London School of Economics and Political Science), Kimberly Ann Harris (University of Virginia), Chike Jeffers (Dalhousie University), Wendy Salkin (Stanford University), Inés Valdez (Johns Hopkins University)

2024. Editor of Special Issue in Honor of the 25th Anniversary of Charles Mills’s *The Racial Contract* for *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*
Contributions by Linda Martín Alcoff (CUNY), Frank Kirkland (CUNY), Dale Matthew (York University), Lucius T. Outlaw (Vanderbilt University), Andrea Sullivan-Clarke (University of Windsor);

In Progress:

In Preparation:

- Essay on Mills’s nonideal theory (under review)
- Essay on Kant and Du Bois (under review)
- Essay on Political Epistemology
- Essay on Du Bois, Marx, and racial exploitation
- New Monograph: *Transitional Justice: On the Descriptive Dimension of Ideal and Nonideal Theory*

Commissioned:

- “Rethinking Ideology with Charles Mills,” in Sally Haslanger, Jason Stanley, and Robin Celikates (eds.) *Rethinking Ideology*.
- “Making Conceptual Space for Care Work in Dignitarian Socialism: Comments on Gilbert’s *Human Dignity and Social Justice*” *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*

Book Reviews:

Inés Valdez, Transnational Cosmopolitanism: Kant, Du Bois, and Justice as a Political Craft in *Kantian Review* (2021): 1-6.

Nick Bromell (Ed.), A Political Companion to W.E.B. Du Bois in *Political Theory* 47.5 (2018): 766-72.

Axel Honneth, Freedom’s Right: The Social Foundations of Democratic Life in *Marx and Philosophy Review of Books* (2015)

Popular Media:

Poetry:

How to Love the World. New York: Pank Books, 2020.

This poetry collection retraces my mother's journey to America as a Jewish-Uyghur refugee during perestroika; I was born along the way.

- Finalist of the 2020 National Jewish Book Awards in the category of Poetry: The Berru Award in Memory of Ruth and Bernie Weinfeld
- Winner of the Pank Big Books Competition in Poetry

Interviews/Opinion Pieces:

[“Happy Caregiver Exploitation Day”](#) *The Philosopher* (2024)

“Agency,” *The Philosopher* 110.4 (2022): 5-9.

[“The Philosophical Legacy of Charles W. Mills,”](#) *The Philosopher* 109.4 (2021): 73-77.

[“An Interview with Elvira Basevich, author of *How to Love the World*,”](#) *Pank Magazine* 9 June 2020.

[“APA Member Interview,”](#) *American Philosophical Association Blog*. 14 February 2020.

[“Author of the Month,”](#) A Featured Author of the Boston Athenaeum. 15 October 2019.

[“Against the Trump Administration’s Attack on Migrants and Asylum Seekers,”](#) *Radical Philosophy Association Magazine*. 20 June 2018.

[“Du Bois, Racism, and Plurality,”](#) for The Owl Podcast, a public philosophy series

PRESENTATIONS

TBD.

- Colloquium, Philosophy Department, Penn State (Spring 2025)
- Colloquium, Philosophy Department, Stanford University (Spring 2025)
- Jeffrey Douglas Jones Memorial Lecture, Lewis & Clark College (January 2025)
- Havana Normative Philosophy Workshop, Cuba (January 2025)

TBD. Keynote at McMaster University, Graduate Philosophy Student Conference (Fall 2024)

TBD. Political Epistemology and Oppression Workshop, Princeton University (2024-2027)

“Kant and Du Bois on the Practical Value of the Social Sciences,”

- Pacific Study Group of the North American Kant Society, University of Washington (March 2024)
- Cardiff/Peking Political Theory Speaker Series (May 2024)

“Kant and race” in conversation with Huaping Lu-Adler, *The Philosopher’s Magazine* Fall 23 Online Speaker Series

“Democracy’s Values and Ideals: A Duboisian Defense”

- Columbia River Ethics Workshop, Astoria, Oregon (August 2023)
- Philosophy, Politics, & Economics, New Orleans (November 2023)

“The Circumstances of Injustice”

- Philadelphia Normative Philosophy Conference, University of Pennsylvania (October 2023)
- University Center for Human Values Speaker Series, Princeton University (March 2023)

Book Symposium

- On my new monograph *A Duboisian Democracy: On Method and Practice*, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University (April 14, 2023)

“Black Radical Kantianism at the Intersection of Du Bois and Marx: The Case of Second Slavery”

- Pacific Northwest Kant Reading Group (October 2023)
- Kant and Marx Workshop, Erasmus University of Rotterdam (July 2023)
- Social and Political Philosophy Workshop, Fordham University (April 2023)
- “German Idealism and the Question of Colonialism,” Classic Leuven Series (Feb 2023)

“A Duboisian Critique of Private Property”

- Philosophy Department Colloquium, City College, CUNY (May 2023)
- Guest speaker at Bard College Berlin (Oct 2021)

“Kant on Race and Racial Justice,”

- Philosophy Department Colloquium, Seton Hall (March 2023)
- Guest Lecturer in Andrew Chignell’s Kant’s Practical Philosophy Seminar, Princeton University (Nov 2022)

“Duboisian Political Constructivism”

- Guest lecturer in Wendy Salkin’s graduate seminar “Du Bois and Democracy,” Stanford University (Feb 2023)
- Panel on the 50th Anniversary of Rawls’s *A Theory of Justice*, Philosophy, Politics, & Economics, New Orleans (*invited*) (Nov 2023)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, UC Merced (Oct 2022)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, San Jose State University (Nov 2022)

“The Shared Experience of Oppression”

- Philosophy Department Colloquium, Boston University (Jan 2022) (*invited*)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, UC Davis (Jan 2022) (*invited*)
- ECPR Standing Group Seminar Series (Oct 2021)
- California Roundtable on Philosophy and Race, Emory University (Oct 2021)
- North American Kant Society Workshop (Aug 2021)
- Social Ontology Conference, University of California, San Diego (Aug 2021)
- The Düsseldorf Colloquium on the Philosophy of Race (May 2021) (*invited*)

“The Promise and Limit of Kant’s Theory of Justice”

- Marquette University, Philosophy Department Colloquium (April 2022) (*invited*)
- Syracuse University, Philosophy Department Colloquium (Feb 2022) (*invited*)
- Conference in Honor of Charles Mills, The Graduate Center, CUNY (April 2022)
- Kant and Racial Discrimination Workshop at the Institute of Philosophy of the Ruhr-University Bochum (Feb 2022) (*invited*)
- North American Kant Society, Portland, OR (April 2021) (*invited*)
- Global Kant Society Network (May 2021) (*invited*)

Author-Meets-Critics Sessions on *Du Bois: The Lost and the Found*

- Pacific APA Vancouver (April 2022)
- Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (March 2021)
- Eastern APA (Jan 2021)

“Thinking Politically with Du Bois”

- In Conversation with Reiland Rabaka, Virtual Fall Speaker Series organized by the public philosophy magazine *The Philosopher*, UK (Oct 2021)
- Panel on Race, History, and Public Philosophy, Indiana University, Bloomington (Nov 2022)
- Guest Speaker in a Graduate Seminar on Du Bois and Socialism, Marquette University (March 2021)
- *A Night of Philosophy and Ideas* hosted by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, NY (Jan 2021) (*invited*)
- Guest Lecture, Northeastern University (Feb 2019) (*invited*)
- MAP Workshop, Western Michigan University (April 2018) (*invited*)

“The Experience of Hardship and the Study of Philosophy”

- Guest speaker at Huaping Lu-Adler’s Seminar on Late Modern German Philosophy, Georgetown University (Dec 2021)

“Du Bois’s Constructivist Theory of Justice” (under various titles)

- Symposium, Pacific APA, Virtual (April 2021)
- Extending New Narratives Seminar for Early Career Researchers, Virtual (Dec 2020)
- Workshop on Gender and Philosophy, MIT (March 2021)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Colorado, Boulder (Nov 2020) (*invited*)
- The Montreal Social Justice Theory Workshop, Concordia University (Aug 2020) (*invited*)
- North American Social Philosophy Conference, Neuman University, PA (July 2020) (Cancelled due to COVID)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, The Graduate Center, CUNY, NY (Dec 2019) (*invited*)
- Political Science Department Colloquium, Reed College, Portland, OR (April 2019) (*invited*)
- Power and Authority in Modernity: History, Politics, Theory Workshop, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, (March 2019) (*invited*)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of New Hampshire (April 2019) (*invited*)
- Social Science History Association, Phoenix, AZ (Nov 2018)

“Reckoning with Hegel on Race”

- Warwick Continental Philosophy Conference, Warwick University, UK (March 2021)

“What is an Anti-Racist Philosophy of Race in Kant and Hegel?”

- Hegel and the Unity of Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN (Feb 2020) (*invited*)
- The Hegel Society of America, Nashville, TN (Cancelled due to COVID)

“Reckoning with Kant on Race”

- 13th International Kant Congress, Oslo, Norway (August 2019)
- North American Kant Society, Brandeis University (May 2019)
- Practical Philosophy Workshop, Northwestern University (April 2019) (*invited*)
- Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia (March 2019) (*invited*)

“Du Bois, Kant, and the Sorrow Songs”

- Caribbean Philosophical Association, Brown University (June 2019)

Roundtable on “Douglass, Du Bois, and Afro-Modern Thought Between Past and Future”

- Western Political Science Association (April 2019) (*invited*)

“Travelling with Ghosts: Seeing the Present through Historical Memory”

- *A Night of Philosophy and Ideas* hosted by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, NY (February 2nd 2019) (*invited*)

“Du Bois’s Critique of Radical Reconstruction (1865-77): A Hegelian Approach to American Modernity”

- Institute of Philosophy, The Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic (May 2018) (*invited*)
- Power & Governance: Forms, Dynamics, Consequences, Tampere, Finland (Aug 2018)
- On the 150th Birthday of W.E.B. Du Bois, University of Michigan (Feb 2018) (*invited*)

“Race and Kantian Political Liberalism: Sites of Intervention,” Guest Lecture in Graduate Seminar on Kant, University of Illinois, Champagne-Urbana (Nov 2017) (*invited*)

“On Progress: The Modern Race Concept in Kant’s Philosophy of History”

- European Consortium for Political Research, University of Oslo (Sept 2017)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Oakland (Oct 2017) (*invited*)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, Eastern Michigan University (March 2018) (*invited*)

“W.E.B. Du Bois on Democracy and Dissent in the Jim Crow Era”

- University of Bayreuth (May 2018) (*invited*)
- Central APA, Main Program (Feb 2018)
- MANCEPT Workshop (Sept 2017)
- Who’s Got the Power? Philosophical Critique of Social and Political Structures, University of Iceland, Reykjavík (Oct 2017)
- “Democracy and Dissent: Theorizing Political Agency from Sites of Difference,” University of Oxford (June 2017)

“Du Bois, Reconstruction, and the Remaking of the Modern American State”

- Race, Reconstruction, & Reparations Conference, *Center for Place, Culture and Politics*, The Graduate Center, CUNY (Oct 2016) (*invited*)
- Society for the Study of Africana Philosophy, Fall 2016 Speaker Series, NY (*invited*)

“W.E.B. Du Bois’s Racialism and Two Liberal Approaches to Plurality”

- Brooklyn Public Philosophers, Brooklyn Central Library (March 2017)
- Ninth Annual Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (Aug 2016)

“Charles Mills’s Black Radical Liberalism and the Category of Moral Personhood”

- APA Pacific Division, Main Program, San Francisco, CA (April 2016)
- European Consortium for Political Research, University of Montreal (Aug 2015)

“Du Bois and Hegel on Social Freedom”

- Society for German Idealism, APA Pacific Division (April 2016)
- European Consortium for Political Research, University of Montreal (Aug 2015)
- Southwest Seminar in Continental Philosophy, Northern Arizona University (May 2015)

“God Comes to Her: St. Teresa of Ávila, Simone Weil, and the Kantian Conception of Modern Religious Experience,” *Redemption of Feeling: The Religious Existentialists*, Queens College (Dec 2015)

“Du Bois and Hegel on the Normative Significance of the Family,” Northeastern Political Science Association (Nov 2015)

“Modern Representations of Evil: The Devil in Goethe’s *Faust* and Bulgakov’s *The Master and Margarita*,” Philosophy and Russian Literature Conference, Princeton University (Oct 2015)

“Civic Education: Forging an Alliance between Democracy and Justice,” Society for the Philosophical Study of Education, Columbia College (Nov 2013)

“Arendt and Habermas on the Purpose of Politics: A Defense of Ethical Normativity,” *Ideals and Reality in Social Ethics Conference*, University of Wales (March 2013)

“Normativity and Social Ontology: Revisiting the Rawls/Habermas Debate,” Social and Political Philosophy Workshop, CUNY (Feb 2013)

“Theorizing Sexuality, the Dialectic and Freedom: Reading Marcuse against Butler,” The Society of Women in Philosophy (SWIP), New York University (April 2012)

“The Normative Dimension of Hegel’s *Philosophy of Right*,” Critical Theory Conference: Principles of Uncertainty, The Graduate Center, CUNY (March 2012)

COMMENTS

Sally Haslanger. Prize for Distinguished Achievement in Social Philosophy. Vanderbilt University (Feb 2024)

Pablo Gilabert. *Human Dignity and Social Justice*. Author-Meets-Critics, Eastern APA (Jan 2024)

Chike Jeffers. Spindle Conference on the History of Philosophy, University of Memphis (Oct 2023)

Jordan Pascoe. *Kant's Theory of Labor*. Author-Meets-Critics at the PPE (Nov 2023) & Using People Well/Treating People Badly Forum (Sept 2023)

Leif Wenar. "A Society of Self-Respect," University Center for Human Values Speaker Series
Princeton University (Sept 2022)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Faculty Fellow	2022-23
Princeton's University Center for Human Values (\$80k)	
Humanities Faculty Award	2021
University of Massachusetts, Lowell for a Spring Course Release (reduced 2-1 teaching load)	
Teaching Excellence Award , College of Fine Arts Humanities and Social Sciences,	2020
University of Massachusetts, Lowell	
Research Fellow at The Hannah Arendt Working Group on Critical Theories of Modernity	
Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture (IASC), University of Virginia	2019
Dr. Richard M. Hunt Fellowship for the Study of German Politics, Society, and Culture	
Awarded by the American Council on Germany (\$7k)	2017
Writing Across the Curriculum Fellow , Queens College, CUNY	2015-17
Enhanced Chancellor Dissertation Fellow , The Graduate Center, CUNY	2011-16
Phi Beta Kappa	2011

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Davis

Graduate Seminars: *Rawls and Racial Justice*, *Du Bois and Democracy*

Upper-Level Undergraduate Courses: *Philosophy of Social Movements*, *Philosophy of Law*, *Political Philosophy*

University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Existence & Anxiety, *Capitalism and its Critics*, *The Problem of Evil*, *Introduction to Philosophy*, *Introduction to Ethics*

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Pacific APA Program Committee 2025-2028.
- Reviewer for Journals: *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* (1x 2024), *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* (1x 2024), *CRISPP* (1x 2023), *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Radical Philosophy Review*, *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, *Kantian Review*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Social Philosophy Today*, *American Political Science Review*, *Critical Philosophy of Race*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Idealistic Studies*, *Philosophia*, *History of Political Thought Journal*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, & *Hypatia*
- Reviewer for Presses: Routledge 2022; Oxford University Press, 2023
- Advisory Boards
 - 2023-present: Prize for Distinguished Achievement in Social Philosophy, *Con-Textos* Editorial Advisory Board
 - 2024-present Journal for New Narratives in the History of Philosophy (JNNHP), Charles Mills Prize Committee for the Journal of Value Inquiry
- Co-organizer with Helga Varden (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) of *The Pariah Workshop* to support historically underrepresented philosophers complete book manuscripts (2020-2023)
- Co-organizer of an online lecture series “Philosophy in Times of Crisis” with Henny Blomme (KU Leuven) and Ansgar Lyssy (University of Heidelberg) (2021-2023)
- Panelist on Diversity & Graduate School at PIKSI-Boston, MIT (June 2019), The Center for Human Values and the Philosophy Department, Princeton University (Feb 2023)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The American Philosophical Association, North American Kant Society, American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy (NOMOS)

MISCELLANEOUS

Poetry:

My poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Laurel Review*, *Diode*, *Pleiades*, *On the Seawall*, *Pank*, *Palette Poetry*, *Hayden’s Ferry Review*, *TriQuarterly*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *Blackbird*, *Projector Magazine*, *Women’s Studies Quarterly*, *Feminist Wire*, *Construction* & elsewhere

References available upon request