

Elvira Basevich, Ph.D.

elvirabasevich.com

elvira_basevich@uml.edu

APPOINTMENTS

Current:

University of California, Davis

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (*tenure-track*)

2022-

Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Faculty Fellow

2022-2023

Princeton's University Center for Human Values

Previous:

University of Massachusetts, Lowell

2018-2022

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (*tenure-track*)

Courtesy Appointments in Labor Studies & Race and Ethnic Studies Programs

University of Michigan, Dearborn

2017-2018

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (*tenure-track*)

EDUCATION

The Graduate Center, CUNY

2017

Ph.D. Philosophy

Hunter College, CUNY

2011

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

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:

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

Select Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

- Forthcoming. "The Promise and Limit of Kant's Theory of Justice: On Race, Labor, and Structural Domination," *Kantian Review* 27 (4)
- Forthcoming. "The Gender Politics of Physical Beauty and Racial Integration," *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review*
2022. "Self-Respect and Self-Segregation: A Du Boisian Challenge to Kant and Rawls," *Social Theory & Practice* 48 (3): 403–427.
2022. "W.E.B. Du Bois's Socialism: On the Social Epistemology of Democratic Reason," *Philosophical Topics* 48 (2): 23–49.
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 Du Boisian Constructivist Theory of Justice," *Journal of Moral Philosophy* (early view)
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. "The Function of the Philosopher and the Public in Du Bois's Political Thought," *Australasian Philosophical Review* 4 (1): 63–68.
2020. "Reckoning with Kant on Race," *The Philosophical Forum* 51 (3): 221–45.
2020. "God Comes to Her: St. Teresa of Ávila, Simone Weil, and the Kantian Conception of Modern Religious Experience," *Cosmos and History* 16 (1): 325–46.
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 (*indicates peer review)

- Forthcoming. "The Category of Moral Persons: On Race, Labor, and Alienation," in Edgar Valdez (Ed.) *Rethinking Kant*. Vol 6. New York: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- Forthcoming. "W.E.B. Du Bois," in Manjeet Ramgotra and Simon Choat (Eds.) *Reconsidering Political Thinkers*. New York: Oxford University Press.*
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 Noorbaloohi) *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:

Editor of Special Issue on “W.E.B. Du Bois and Democracy” in *The Monist*

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*.

In Progress:

Books:

A Du Boisian Theory of Justice: On Political Constructivism, Democratic Development, and Reform (manuscript under review)

Articles & Book Chapters:

In Preparation:

- Essay on Structural Oppression, Group Experience, and Resistance (under review)
- Essay on Kant and racial justice (under review)
- “Who should speak for the Uyghur struggle?”

Commissioned:

- “A Du Boisian Critique of Liberal Conceptions of Democratic Plurality” commissioned for special issue in *The Monist*
- “Agency” for *The Philosopher Magazine*
- “A Paradigm Shift in Normative Political Theorizing: Grappling with Mills’s *The Racial Contract*” for *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.

Written in the tradition of epic poetry, my poems retrace 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
- Finalist of The 2019 International Beverly Prize for Literature

Interviews/Opinion Pieces:

“[The Philosophical Legacy of Charles W. Mills](#),” *The Philosopher Magazine* 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

- Roundtable on Black Political Thought, Eastern Division Meeting, American Political Science Association, Montreal, CAN (*invited*) (Sept 2022)
- Colloquium, Indiana University, Bloomington (November 2022)

“The Method of Impure Democratic Proceduralism in Du Boisian Political Constructivism”

- Panel on the 50th Anniversary of Rawls’s *A Theory of Justice*, Philosophy, Politics, & Economics, New Orleans (*invited*) (Postponed to 2023)

In Honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Publication of Charles Mills’s *The Racial Contract*

- In conversation with Nathifa Greene, Hosted by *The Philosopher Magazine* (June 2022)

“Reform or Revolution? Du Bois on the Political Use of Violence”

- SPEP Panel on Critical Philosophy of Race (Oct 2022)

“The Shared Experience of Oppression”

- Boston University, Philosophy Department Colloquium (Jan 2022) (*invited*)
- UC Davis, Philosophy Department Colloquium (Jan 2022) (*invited*)
- ECPR Standing Group Seminar Series (October 2021)
- California Roundtable on Philosophy and Race, Emory University (October 2021)
- North American Kant Society Workshop (August 2021)
- Social Ontology Conference, University of California, San Diego (August 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 (February 2022) (*invited*)
- Conference in Honor of Charles Mills, The Graduate Center, CUNY (April 2022)

- Mini-conference in Honor of Charles Mills at The Western Political Science Association (March 2022)
- Kant and Racial Discrimination Workshop at the Institute of Philosophy of the Ruhr-University Bochum (February 2022) (*invited*)
- North American Kant Society, Portland, OR (April 2021) (*invited*)
- Global Kant Society Network (May 2021) (*invited*)

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

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

“Thinking with Du Bois Today: In Conversation with Reiland Rabaka”

- Virtual Fall Speaker Series organized by the public philosophy magazine *The Philosopher*, UK (October 2021)

“The Du Boisian Critique of Political Economy”

- Guest speaker at Bard College Berlin (October 2021)

“The Experience of Hardship and the Study of Philosophy”

- Guest speaker at Georgetown University for Dr. Huaping Lu-Adler’s Seminar on Late Modern German Philosophy (December 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 (December 2020)
- Workshop on Gender and Philosophy, MIT (March 2021)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Colorado, Boulder (November 2020) (*invited*)
- The Montreal Social Justice Theory Workshop, Concordia University, Canada (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 (November 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 (Delayed due to COVID)

“Du Bois’s Political Thought”

- Guest Speaker in a Graduate Seminar on Du Bois and Socialism, Marquette University, WI (March 2021)
- *A Night of Philosophy and Ideas* hosted by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, NY (January 2021) (*invited*)
- The School of Oriental and African Studies, Kingston University London, UK (*invited*) (Delayed 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, San Diego, CA (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 Political Thought: Basic Concepts and Principles”

- Guest Lecture, Northeastern University (Feb 2019) (*invited*)
- MAP Workshop, Western Michigan University (April 2018) (*invited*)

“W.E.B. 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 (August 2018)
- On the 150th Birthday of W.E.B. Du Bois, University of Michigan (February 2018) (*invited*)

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

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

- European Consortium for Political Research, University of Oslo (September 2017)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, University of Oakland, Rochester, MI (October 2017) (*invited*)
- Philosophy Department Colloquium, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI (March 2018) (*invited*)

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

- University of Bayreuth, Germany (May 2018) (*invited*)
- Central APA, Main Program, Chicago, IL (February 2018)
- MANCEPT Workshop, University of Manchester (September 2017)
- Who’s Got the Power? Philosophical Critique of Social and Political Structures, University of Iceland, Reykjavík (October 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 (October 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 (RoME), University of Colorado, Boulder (August 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 (August 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 (August 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 (December 2015)

“Du Bois and Hegel on the Normative Significance of the Family,” Northeastern Political Science Association (November 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 (November 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 (February 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

Erin Pineda. Critic for Author-Meets-Critic Session on *Seeing Like an Activist: Civil Disobedience and the Civil Rights Movement*. Philosophy, Politics, Economics. New Orleans, LA. (postponed to 2023)

Cynthia Coe. “Hegel in the Creaking Forest: Exoneration, Forgetting and Critical Race Theory,” Northwest Annual Philosophy Conference Portland, OR 2022.

Steven Haug. “From the Beautiful to the Political: How Arendt’s Kantian Political Philosophy Avoids the Situatedness Critique,” Eastern APA 2020

Lavender McKittrick-Sweitzer. “Identifying Exploitation and Providing Care: Unifying the Capabilities Approach and Feminist Contractarianism,” Pacific APA, 2018

Discussant on Panel: “Pregnant Bodies, Raped Slaves, and the Politics of Death,” Northeastern Political Science Association, 2015

Justin Remhof. “Nietzsche on Subject Eliminativism,” Pacific APA, 2015

Elisabeth Paquette. “Beauvoir and the Limits of Political Responsibility,” Pacific APA, 2014

Federica Trentani. “The Teleology of ‘Human Development’ in Kant’s Metaphysics of Morals,” Biennial Meeting of the North American Kant Society, Cornell University (June 2013)

Benjamin Freed. “Virtues of the Epistemic Imagination,” Experimental Philosophy and its Limits, The Graduate Center, CUNY (April 2013)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Faculty Fellow	2022-23
Princeton’s University Center for Human Values (\$80k)	
Research Intensive Status at Dean’s Office (2-1 course load)	2021-22
College of Fine Arts Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Massachusetts, Lowell	
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)	
Funds a research visit to the Einstein Forum, Potsdam, Germany	2017

Honoree as an “Activist, Organizer, and Scholar,” jointly awarded by the Du Bois Bunche Center for Public Policy & the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture	2017
Writing Across the Curriculum Fellow , Queens College, CUNY	2015-17
Summer Workshop Participant , “Urban Inequalities, Neoliberalism & the Welfare State,” Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany	2014
Summer Workshop Participant , “Metaphysics or Modernity? Bamberg University, Germany	2012
Enhanced Chancellor Dissertation Fellow , The Graduate Center, CUNY	2011-16
Phi Beta Kappa	2011
William Bryar Memorial Award for Best Undergraduate Philosophy Student	2011
Max Kade Foundation Grant for German language study in Kassel, Germany	2011
Ernst Hoffman Memorial Award for German language study in Kassel, Germany	2011

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Existence & Anxiety

Capitalism and its Critics

The Problem of Evil

Nietzsche

Introduction to Philosophy

Introduction to Ethics: Honors

University of Michigan, Dearborn

Early Modern Philosophy

20th Century Philosophy

Philosophy of Race

Introduction to Ethics

City University of New York (CUNY)

19th Century Philosophy

Political Philosophy (MA course)

History of Modern Philosophy II: Kant to Nietzsche

Philosophy and Race

Feminist Philosophy

Philosophy of Religion

Moral Philosophy

Business Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy

Thesis Supervision:

Undergraduate Senior Capstones at UML:

- Austin Gray, “Hegel and the Content of Needs” (2021)

- Dominick Procopio, “On Revolution: The Political Philosophy of Locke and Kant in Contemporary American Revolution” (2021)
 - David Piracini, “Historical Materialism: Can It Survive Contemporary Leftist Criticism?” (2020)
 - Nora Roche, “Booker T. Washington: His Future and Failings” (2019)
- Undergraduate Senior Honors Theses at University of Michigan, Dearborn
- Savona Safaoui, “Aesthetics: Du Bois and Locke” (2018)
- Undergraduate Senior Honors Theses at CUNY
- Clorissa Pauletich, “Free Will: A Myth” (2016)
 - Paul Maestry-Williams, “Authentic Black Identity” (2015)
 - Carolyn Conway, “Gendered Subjectivity, Ideology, and Social Location” (2015)
- MA Thesis
- Alexia Papigiotis, “Veiling Justice: Justice as Fairness and Gender” (2016)

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Reviewer for Journals: *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*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Hyphatia*, & *Science et esprit*
- Reviewer for Presses: Routledge
- Advisory Board: Prize for Distinguished Achievement in Social Philosophy
- Co-organizer with Helga Varden (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) of *The Pariah Workshop* to support historically under-represented philosophers complete book manuscripts
- Co-organizer of an online lecture series “Philosophy in Times of Crisis” with Henny Blomme (KU Leuven) and Ansgar Lyssy (University of Heidelberg)
- PIKSI-Boston, Panelist on Diversity & Graduate School, MIT (June 2019) (*invited*)
- Panel Organizer, “Du Bois, German Idealism, & the Black Atlantic,” The Caribbean Philosophical Association (2019)
- APA Workshop: *Mentoring the Mentors*. Eastern APA. Savannah, GA (January 2018) (*invited*)
- Panel Chair, Eastern Division, APA, Rawls, Philadelphia 2015

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES AT UML

- Global Studies, Graduate Faculty, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
- Race and Ethnic Studies Program, Faculty Member, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
- Labor Studies Program, Faculty Member, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
- Philosophy Club Faculty Coordinator

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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

LANGUAGES

Russian (advanced: reading, speaking), German (basic reading), Spanish (basic reading)

MISCELLANEOUS

Volunteer Work:

- Food distribution with *Fresh Truck*, dedicated to fighting hunger and providing free or affordable fresh fruits and vegetables in Boston communities **(2020-21)**
- Philosophy Instructor at Rethink for court-involved youth in the South Bronx and women and girls in domestic violence shelters **(2015-2017)**

Poetry:

My poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *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