Elizabeth Cantalamessa | Curriculum Vitae

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AOS

Social and Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Aesthetics

AOC

Philosophy of Law, Metaphysics, Disability Studies, History of Philosophy, Ethics, Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Science

Employment

Assistant Professor of Philosophy. St. Bonaventure University; 2024-
Philosophy Instructor. University of Houston-Downtown; 2015-2024.
Philosophy Graduate Instructor. University of Miami; 2017-2023.
Philosophy Instructor. University of Wyoming; 2015-2022.
Philosophy Instructor. Miami-Dade Community College; 2019.

Education

PhD Philosophy. University of Miami; 2024.
   Dissertation: Laugh Hard at the Absurdly Evil: Humor and Authority
MA Philosophy. University of Wyoming; 2015.
   Thesis: The Limits of Models: Model Schemata in Disability Studies
BA Philosophy. University of Wyoming; 2012.
   Minor in Disability Studies.

Publications

Disability Studies, Conceptual Engineering, and Conceptual Activism. *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy*, 2021. Volume 64, Issue 1, Pg. 46-75.

Fair Use, Appropriation Art, and Metalinguistic Negotiation. *The British Journal of Aesthetics,* 2020. Volume 60, Issue 2, Pg. 115–129.

A Pragmatist Approach to Aesthetic Disagreement. Forthcoming in *Art and Philosophy*. Edited by Alex King. Oxford Press. Invited.

Rights of the Living Dead: Taylor Swift's Zombie Army. Forthcoming in *Taylor Swift and the Philosophy of Re-recording*. Edited by Brandon Polite. Routledge. Invited.

Humor. Forthcoming in *Introduction to Aesthetics*. Edited by Evan Malone and Elizabeth Scarbrough. Routledge. Invited.

Public-Facing Philosophy

Our One Really Effective Weapon *Trouble Begins Lecture Series*, 2022.
https://marktwainstudies.com/tag/elizabeth-cantalamessa/

Democracy Should Be Sentimentalist Not Rationalist *Aeon*, 2021.
https://aeon.co/democracy-should-be-sentimentalist-not-rationalist/

Debating Bon Jovi's Cheesiness Will Enrich Your Conceptual Life *Psyche*, 2020.
https://psyche.co/ideas/debating-bon-jovis-cheesiness-will-enrich-your-conceptual-life/

Is This *Really* Art? Aesthetic Disagreement and Conceptual Negotiation *Aesthetics For Birds*, 2018.
https://aestheticsforbirds.com/2018/12/13/is-this-really-art-aesthetic-disagreement-and-conceptual-negotiation/

Teaching Experience

Sole Instructor
Ancient Philosophy. University of Houston-Downtown, Spring 2024; in person.
Contemporary Ethical Issues. University of Houston-Downtown, Spring 2024; online.
Meaning of Life. University of Houston-Downtown, 2021-2024; in person and online.
Intro to Philosophy. University of Houston-Downtown, 2015-2023; in person and online.
Social and Ethical Issues in Computing. University of Miami, Spring 2023; in person.
Philosophy of Language. University of Miami, Fall 2022; in person.
Modern Philosophy. University of Miami, Spring 2019, Spring/Fall 2022; in person.
19ᵗʰ Century Philosophy. University of Miami, Spring 2022; in person.
Philosophy and Technology. University of Wyoming, Summer 2022; online.
Philosophy and Disability. University of Wyoming, Fall 2021; online.
Philosophy and Comedy. University of Wyoming, Summer 2021; online.
Philosophy and Black Mirror. University of Wyoming, Summer 2020; online.
The Philosophy of Rick and Morty. University of Wyoming, Summer 2019; online.
Critical Thinking and Ethics. Miami-Dade College, Spring, Summer 2019 in person.
Philosophy of Love. University of Miami, Summer 2018; online.
Introduction to Philosophy. University of Miami, 2016-2019; in person.
Philosophy and Film. University of Wyoming, Summer 2018; in person.
Contemporary Moral Issues. University of Miami, Fall 2018; in person.
Philosophy of Love. University of Wyoming, Summer 2017; in person.
Introduction to Philosophy. University of Wyoming, 2014-2015; in person. 2021; online.

Co-Teacher
Existentialism (with Mark Rowlands). University of Miami, 2018; in person.

Teaching Assistant

Philosophy of Sex and Love. University of Wyoming, 2015; in person.
Introduction to Philosophy. University of Wyoming, 2013- 2015; in person.

Non-Philosophy Instruction

Literacy, Dance, Film History and Theory. The Terry Cooper Center for Creative Arts, Day Habilitation Center for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities, Laramie WY; 2012-2014.

Awards and Grants

Awards

Emerging Scholar, Mark Twain Circle of America; 2023-2026.
Cheryl Hayes Travel Award, American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting; 2023.
Graduate Teaching Award, University of Miami; 2021.
Finalist Outstanding Adjunct, University of Houston-Downtown; 2020, 2021.
Cheryl Hayes Travel Award, American Society for Aesthetics; 2021.
Wyoming Institute for Disabilities Distinguished Alumna, 2019.
Outstanding Student Paper Award, American Society for Aesthetics; 2018.
Student Travel Award, American Philosophical Association; 2018.
GAFAC Travel Award*,* University of Miami; 2017-2019.
Outstanding Graduate Paper Award, Florida Philosophical Association; 2017.
Paul P Stock Award, University of Wyoming; 2015.

Grants

Teaching Circle Diversity Grant, University of Houston-Downtown; Spring 2021.
Ethics and Philosophy Summer Internship, University of Miami**;** 2017, 2018.
Kriloff Travel Grant, University of Miami; 2017-2019.
Office of Research and Economic Development Grant, University of Wyoming; 2014.

Fellowships

Quarry Farm Fellowship, Center for Mark Twain Studies; 2022.
Visiting Fellowship, ConceptLab University of Oslo; 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID).
Holmes Fellowship, University of Miami Philosophy Department; 2016-2017.
International Study Abroad Scholarship, University of Wyoming; 2014.

Honorariums

Quarry Farm Graduate Workshop Honorarium, Center for Mark Twain Studies; 2022.
Trouble Begins Lecture Series Honorarium, Center for Mark Twain Studies; 2022.
Distinguished Graduate Speaker, Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference; 2022.

Invited Graduate Speaker, Southern Aesthetics Workshop at Auburn University; 2021.
Department of Philosophy Honorarium, University of Wyoming; 2019.

Presentations

Invited
Richard Rorty Society Panel, Pacific APA. 2024 (projected)
Panel on Philosophy and the Arts, Eastern APA. 2024
Panel on the Philosophy of Comedy, Rocky Mountain ASA. 2023
Collecting Practices and Aesthetic Value, ASA Diversity Discord Presentations; 2023
Panel on the Philosophy of Celebrity, Central APA. 2023
Commerce and Communitarianism About Aesthetic Value, Eastern APA; 2023
Laughter is the Most Effective Weapon, Trouble Begins Lecture Series; 2022
Humor as Social Technology, Rocky Mountain Graduate Conference in Philosophy; 2022
A Social Theory of Humor, Steel Center Wed. Afternoon Discussions, Hendrix College; 2021
Laugh Hard at the Absurdly Evil: Humor and Normativity, Southern Aesthetics Workshop; 2021
Inverting the Implementation Challenge: Lessons From the Disability Rights Mvmt., Arché
Workshop on the Implementation Challenge for Conceptual Engineering (Online); 2020
Art as Conceptual Engineering, Arché Philosophical Research Center for Logic (Online); 2020.
AWG Aesthetics Workgroup, College of Charleston; 2018

Refereed
Roundtable on Mark Twain's Illiberal Imagination. The Society of Nineteenth Century
Americanists; 2024
Panel on Taylor Swift and the Philosophy of Re-Recording, American Society for Aesthetics
Annual. 2023
Panel on The Philosophy of Modern Song, World of Bob Dylan Conference, 2023
Panel on Anti-Aesthetic Egalitarianism, American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division; 2023
Panel on the Fiction/Nonfiction Divide, British Society for Aesthetics Annual Conference; 2022
The Devil and Mark Twain, The Ninth International Conference on the State of Mark Twain
Studies; 2022
Humor as Social Technology, Pacific Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics; 2022
Post-Truth Laughter, Why and How We Give and Ask for Reasons, University of Hradec
(Online); 2021
Two Pragmatist Approaches to Conceptual Engineering (w Jared Riggs). Trad. Entanglements of
Pragmatism and Conceptual Engineering (Online); 2021
Deadheads and Dylan Fans: On the Goods of Disagreement. Panel on Social Aesthetics, Pacific
Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics (Online); 2021
Artistic Innovation and Aesthetic Disagreement, XXVIII Edition of the SIUCC; 2019. Mountain-
Plains Philosophy Conference; 2019. Eastern Division Meeting for the American Society for
Aesthetics; 2019
Mockumentary as Revisionism, British Society for Aesthetics: Documentaries and the
Fiction/Nonfiction Divide; 2019
Conceptual Engineering and Public Institutions: On the Limits of Negotiation, BPPA Masterclass
on Conceptual Engineering; 2019
An Inferentialist Approach to Conceptual Engineering (w Jared Riggs), 11th Barcelona Workshop:

Issues in Conceptual Ethics and Engineering; 2019. Themes from the Philosophy of Robert Brandom; 2019

Art by Fiat? Copyright, Ontology, and Metalinguistic Negotiation, Legal Philosophy Workshop, Rutgers; 2018; Annual Meeting of the American Society of Aesthetics; 2018.

Who is (Really) Disabled? Disability Studies, Verbal Disputes, and Metalinguistic Negotiation, Workshop on Metaphilosophy with David Chalmers; 2018

Disability Studies, Conceptual Ethics, and Metalinguistic Negotiation, Virginia Tech Graduate Conference; 2018. Biannual International Social Ontology Conference; 2018. 4th GRS Barcelona; 2018. Purdue Inclusiveness Conference; 2018. Pacific Divisional Meeting of the American Philosophical Association; 2018. Northern Illinois Graduate Conference; 2017

Perverts and Degenerates: Toward an Ontology of Appropriation Art, FPA Session at the Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association; 2018. Florida Philosophical Association Annual Meeting; 2017. Texas Tech University Graduate Conference in Aesthetics; 2017

A Modal Understanding of Authenticity, The North American Sartre Society Annual Meeting; 2015

Models for Change: A Mediating Model Analysis of the Social Model of Disability, SWIP-Midwest Conference; 2015

Rewriting the Preface Paradox, New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society, University of Houston; 2015

In Search of Utopia: Emancipatory Pedagogy in the Films of Alejandro Jodorowsky Society for Disability Studies Annual Conference; 2012

Volunteer

Artistic Innovation and Aesthetic Disagreement, University of Miami Grad Student Visiting Weekend; 2020.

Linguistic Activism, Faculty Research Talk, University of Houston-Downtown; 2019.

A (More) Optimistic View of Conceptual Engineering, University of Wyoming Dept. of Philosophy; 2019

On the Metaontology of Social Kinds, University of Miami Metaontology Workshop; 2019.

Model Schemata in Disability Studies, Lecture for Critical Disability Studies EST550, Colorado State University; 2015.

Service

Referee for: *Philosophical Studies, Journal of Social Philosophy, Journal of Philosophy, Synthese, Inquiry, Journal of Social Ontology,* the *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism.*

Stoic Camp Counselor, University of Wyoming; 2014, 2015, 2022.

Organizer Graduate Conference in Social Philosophy, University of Miami; 2021.

Philosophy Teaching Circle, University of Houston-Downtown; 2021.

Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) University of Miami; 2018-Present.

Program Committee Member, Workshop on Science & Humanism, 2021.

Program Committee Member, Annual Meeting, American Society for Aesthetics (Online); 2020.

PhilPapers Area Editor, 'The Concept of Disability.

Digital Annotations Pedagogy Panel, University of Houston-Downtown; 2019.

Graduate Student Representative, University of Miami; 2018-2019.

Commenter, American Philosophical Association – Eastern Division, 2019.

Commenter, Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference (RoME); 2015.

Scientific World Conceptions, University of Vienna; 2015, 2022.

Commenter, New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society; 2015.

Commenter, Western Canadian Philosophical Society Annual Conference; 2014.

Summer School on Mathematical Philosophy for Female Philosophers, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy; 2014.

Dissertation

Laugh Hard at the Absurdly Evil: Humor as Social Tool

Dissertation Committee: Simon Evnine (Chair), Aleksandra Hernandez, Mark Rowlands, Amie Thomasson (External)

Humor is weird; Richard Pryor used humor to challenge racist stereotypes, while the neighborhood bully uses derisive laughter to enforce their superiority. Philosophers generally identify humor with a psychological capacity or response. However, existing psychological accounts are insufficient for capturing humor's communicative function because what humor *does* can come apart from an individual-psychological level explanation of what humor "is." I introduce an alternative model of humor as a cultural technology for revealing, reinforcing, and challenging social norms; I also show how my model reframes first-order debates regarding the ethics of jokes.

References

Amie Thomasson, Dartmouth College
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C. Thi Nguyen, University of Utah
Contact: c.thi.nguyen@utah.edu

Berit Brogaard, University of Miami
Contact: bxb177@miami.edu

Simon Evnine, University of Miami (Dissertation Chair)
Contact: evnine@miami.edu

Andrew Pavelich, University of Houston-Downtown (Teaching Reference)
Contact: pavelicha@uhd.edu