

Elizabeth Cantalamessa | Curriculum Vitae

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Education

PhD Candidate in Philosophy. University of Miami; 2016-Present.

Master of Arts in Philosophy. University of Wyoming; 2014-2015.

Thesis: The Limits of Models: Model Schemata in Disability Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Minor in Disability Studies. University of Wyoming; 2012.

Employment

Philosophy Part-Time Adjunct. University of Wyoming; 2015 Present.

Philosophy Part-Time Adjunct. University of Houston-Downtown; 2015-2021.

Philosophy Part-Time Adjunct. Miami-Dade College; 2019.

Philosophy Full-Time Adjunct. University of Houston-Downtown; 2016.

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Language, Aesthetics, Metaphysics

Areas of Competence

History of Philosophy, Ethics, Philosophy of Race, Gender, and Disability

Publications

Disability Studies, Conceptual Engineering, and Conceptual Activism

Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy, 2021. Volume 64, Issue 1, Pg. 46-75.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2019.1658630>

Fair Use, Appropriation Art, and Metalinguistic Negotiation

The British Journal of Aesthetics, 2020. Volume 60, Issue 2, Pg. 115–129.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/aesthj/ayz055>

Public Philosophy

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/>

Dissertation Abstract

Laugh Hard at the Absurdly Evil

Humor is weird; consider the ways we use humor to do things with social norms— Richard Pryor used humor to challenge racist stereotypes, while the neighborhood bully uses derisive laughter to reinforce their superiority. Philosophers generally assume that humor is an essentially psychological kind, which suggests that the function and value of humor must be explained by reference to psychological features. However, the psychological model fails to capture the social dimensions of humor because a social-level description of what humor *does* can come apart from the individual-psychological level of what humor *is*. In my dissertation I introduce an alternative model of humor as a tool that enables us to manipulate social norms more effectively than other forms of expression; I also show how my model does a better job unifying insights from the social and cultural sciences than traditional psychological accounts.

Awards and Grants

Awards

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 Alum, University of Wyoming; 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

Fellowships

Quarry Farm Graduate Student Workshop, Center for Mark Twain Studies; 2022.
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.
Dick and Lynne Cheney International Study Abroad Scholarship; 2014.

Grants

Teaching Circle 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.

Honorariums

Distinguished Graduate Speaker, Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference; 2022.

Trouble Begins Lecture Series Honorarium, Center for Mark Twain Studies; 2022.

Invited Graduate Speaker, Southern Aesthetics Workshop; 2021.

Department of Philosophy Honorarium, University of Wyoming; 2019

Presentations

Refereed

Panel on the Fiction/Nonfiction Divide, British Society for Aesthetics Annual Conference; 2022 (Projected)

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, Annual Meeting of the American Society of Aesthetics; 2018. Legal Philosophy Workshop, Rutgers; 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.

Invited

Laughter is the Most Effective Weapon, Trouble Begins Lecture Series; 2022

Humor as Social Technology, Mountain Graduate Conference in Philosophy; 2022

A Social Theory of Humor, Steel Center Wed. Afternoon Discussions, Hendrix College; 2022

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); 2021.

Art as Conceptual Engineering, Arché Philosophical Research Center for Logic (Online); 2020. AWG Aesthetics Workgroup, College of Charleston; 2018.

Volunteer

Artistic Innovation and Aesthetic Disagreement, University of Miami Research Group; 2019.

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

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

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

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

Teaching Experience

As Sole Instructor

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.
Meaning in Life. University of Houston-Downtown, in person and online; 2019-2021.
The Philosophy of Rick and Morty. University of Wyoming, Summer 2019; online.
Critical Thinking and Ethics. Miami-Dade College, in person; Spring, Summer 2019
Philosophy of Love. University of Miami, Summer 2018; online.
Introduction to Ethics. University of Houston-Downtown, in person, online; 2015-2021.
Introduction to Philosophy. University of Houston-Downtown, 2015-2020; in person, 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.

As Co-teacher

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

As Graduate Teaching Assistant

Philosophy of Sex and Love: University of Wyoming, 2015; in person.
Introduction to Philosophy: University of Wyoming, 2014- 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.

Service

Counselor University of Wyoming Stoic Camp; 2014, 2015, 2022.
Organizer Graduate Conference in Social Philosophy, University of Miami; 2021.
Philosophy Inclusive 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,' 2019.
Digital Annotations Pedagogy Group, 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.

References

Simon Evnine, University of Miami (Dissertation Chair)
Amie Thomasson, Dartmouth College
C. Thi Nguyen, University of Utah
Andrew Pavelich, University of Houston-Downtown (Teaching Reference)