

Jennifer E. Marra

Curriculum Vitae

Marquette University, Department of Philosophy
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Areas of Specialization

Ethics; German Phenomenology; Philosophy of Culture; Social and Political Philosophy

Areas of Competency

Humor; Carceral Studies; Kant; Feminist Philosophy; Philosophy of Race and Racism

Education

PhD, Philosophy, Marquette University (In Progress)

Dissertation: "Humor, Power, and Culture: A New Theory of the Experience and Ethics of Humor"

Director: Dr. Sebastian Luft

Committee: Drs. Theresa Tobin, Michael Monahan, and Drucilla Cornell

B.A., Philosophy, Writing, Metropolitan State University of Denver, 2010

A.A., English, Red Rocks Community College, 2007

Academic Positions

Visiting Assistant Professor. Marquette University (2018)

Lecturer. Full Responsibility. Marquette University (2015-2018)

Teaching Assistantship. Full Responsibility. Marquette University (2013-2016)

Research Assistantship. Marquette University (2011-2013)

Instructor. Rosa dels Vents Idiomas Summer English Program, Middleton College (2010, 2012)

Publications

Articles

"Make Comedy Matter: Ernst Cassirer on the Politics and Morality of Humor". *European Journal of Humour Research*. Vol. 6.1. (2018)

"The Phenomenological Function of Humor". *Idealistic Studies*. Vol. 46. No. 2. (2017)

Book Chapters

"Toward an Objective Ethic of Humor". *Ethics and Comedy*. Ed. Steven A. Benko (Forthcoming)

"Feminists Can Take a Joke: Louis CK's Feminist Philosophy". *Louis CK and Philosophy*. Ed. Mark Ralkowski. Popular Culture and Philosophy Series. (Open Court Publishing, 2016): 236-245.

"Humor as a Symbolic Form: Cassirer and the Culture of Comedy". *The Philosophy of Ernst Cassirer*. Eds. J Tyler Friedman and Sebastian Luft. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter (2015): 419-434.

"You Couldn't Handle Real Life: The Villains of *Labyrinth* and *Mirrorsmask*". *Jim Henson and Philosophy: Imagination and the Magic of Mayhem*. Eds. Tim Dale and Joseph Foy (Lanham: Rowan and Littlefield Publishers, 2015): 129-138.

Book Reviews

"Review. The Importance of Being Funny". *European Journal of Humour Research* (Forthcoming).

"Review. Isn't That Clever: A Philosophical Account of Humor and Comedy". *The Israeli Journal of Humor Research: An International Journal*. Vol. 6. No. 2. (2017): 120-125.

“Review. The Kantian Aesthetic: From Knowledge to the Avant-Garde”. *The Review of Metaphysics*. Vol. 66. No. 1. (2012): 138-140.

Conference Reports

“How to Create Dialogue Between Theory and Practice: Stand-Up Comedy's Demand for Interdisciplinary Engagement”. *American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-Journal*. Vol. 9. No. 2 (Spring/Summer 2017).

Teaching

Marquette University

PHIL 1001: Foundations of Philosophy (Fall 2018)
PHIL 2310H: Honors Theory of Ethics (Spring 2018)
HOPR 2953: Gender and Mass Incarceration. Co-Instructor. (Spring 2017)
HOPR 1953: Comedy and Philosophy. (Fall 2015)
PHIL 2310: Theory of Ethics. (Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016)
PHIL 2310 ONLINE: Theory of Ethics (Summer 2017, Summer 2018)
PHIL 1001H: Honors Human Nature (Fall 2017)
PHIL 1001: Human Nature. (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Summer 2015)

Additional Pedagogical Training

Training: *Inside/Out Prison Exchange Program*. Macomb Correctional Center. Temple University (May 2017)
Training: *Facilitating Your Online Course*. Marquette University Center for Teaching and Learning (Spring 2017)
Training: “Healing from Toxic Whiteness to Better Fight for Racial Justice”. Everyday Feminism Online Workshop (15 Sept 2016)
Training: *Small Teaching*. Guided Reading Faculty Seminar. Marquette University Center for Teaching and Learning (Fall 2016)
Training: *How Learning Works*. Guided Reading Faculty Seminar. Marquette University Center for Teaching and Learning (Fall 2016)
Training: Advising Students with Academic Difficulties and Mental Health Issues. Organized by the Klingler College of Arts and Science and the Faculty Advising Committee. Marquette University (1 March 2016)
Training: Diversity Advocate. Marquette University (21 Dec 2015)
Philosophy Department Shadow Teaching, Marquette University (Spring 2012)
Philosophy Department Teaching Seminar, Marquette University (Fall 2011)

Select Awards and Honors

Philosophy of Creativity Dissertation Research Fellowship, \$2,200. Resident Fellow at the American Institute for Philosophical and Cultural Thought. (Summer 2018)
Travel Grant, \$1250. American Society for Aesthetics 75th Annual Meeting, New Orleans (17 November 2017)
Joseph Ellin Memorial Prize for Best Paper, Lighthearted Philosophers’ Society 10th Annual Conference (1 April 2017)
Travel Grant, \$500. Ethics and Aesthetics of Stand-Up Comedy Conference. (Spring 2017)
Travel Grant, \$200. Marquette University Philosophy Department (Spring 2017)
Arthur J. Schmitt Leadership Fellowship, \$18,000 (2016-2017)
Travel Grant, \$250. Lighthearted Philosophers’ Society (Summer 2016)
Travel Grant, \$400. Marquette University Philosophy Department (Fall 2015)
Joseph Ellin Memorial Prize for Best Paper, Lighthearted Philosophers’ Society 9th Annual Conference (11 Oct 2015)
Thomas C. Anderson Graduate Instructor Teaching Award, Marquette University (2014-15)
Travel Grant, \$300. Marquette University Philosophy Department (Fall 2013)
Magna Cum Laude, Metropolitan State University of Denver (2010)

Service to the Profession

- Organizer. "Cassirer in Contemporary Political Philosophy". International Ernst Cassirer Society. APA Central Division Meeting (February 2018)
- Organizer. "Cassirer's Later Works: Politics, Myth, and Ethics". International Ernst Cassirer Society. APA Central Division Meeting (March 2017)
- Reviewer for *Teaching Philosophy*. 2016.
- Co-Organizer (with Stephen Lofts). "Art and Myth in the Everyday". Centre for Advanced Research in European Philosophy Panel. Central APA (March 2016)
- For the Lighthearted Philosophers' Society:
 - Vice President. (2017)
 - Secretary (2015-2017)
 - Media Coordinator (2014-present)
 - Job Market Support Officer (2014-2015)
 - Co-Organizer. Job Market Q&A. 9th Annual Conference (October 2015)
 - Reviewer. 9th Annual Conference. 2015.
- Conference Assistant. Interdisciplinary Moral Forum for the Self, Motivation, and Virtue Project. Marquette University (12 March 2015)
- Co-Organizer. The Philosophy of Ernst Cassirer: A Novel Assessment. (18-21 June 2014)

Service to the University

- Interviewee. "The Ignatian Promise". Advertisement for Scholarship Donors. Marquette University (aired Fall 2018)
- (Invited) "Education, Social Responsibility, and Community". 2017 New Colleagues' Convocation. Marquette University (21 August 2017)
- Graduate Student Organization Representative for the Sexual Violence Prevention Education Coordination Committee (2016-2017)
- Diversity Advocate Trainer, Marquette University (2016-present)
- Diversity Advocate, Marquette University (2015-present)

Service to the Department

- Co-Organizer. Graduate Philosophy Conference. Marquette Graduate Student Conference. Marquette University (2015-2016)
- Co-Organizer. Philosophy Graduate Student Orientation. Marquette University (17 Aug 2015)
- Shadow Teaching Mentor for Tracy Wietecha (Spring 2015)
- Graduate Student Mentor (2014-2017)
- Ombudsperson for Graduate Student Mentor Program (2014-2016)
- Philosophy Graduate Student Association, PhD Student Representative (2014)
- Graduate Student Handbook Revision Project, Lead (2014, 2015)
- Marquette University Historic Core Committee, Graduate Student Liaison (2013)
- Philosophy Department Graduate Committee, Graduate Student Liaison (2012-2013)
- Philosophy Graduate Student Association, MA Student Representative (2012-2013)

Service to the Community - Bridging Academic and Local Communities

- LGBTQ Summer Reading Group. Organizer, Facilitator. Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center. Milwaukee, WI (2017)
- Organizer. Hari Kondabolu: Night of Standup Comedy – Unifying Communities through Humor. Marquette University. 7 Nov. 2015.

Secured Funding for this event from:

- Marquette University Office of Diversity and Inclusion, \$2000
- Marquette University Department of Management, \$500
- Marquette University College of Arts and Sciences, \$500
- Marquette University Center for Intercultural Engagement, \$200

Marquette University Honors Program, \$50

Lighthearted Philosophers' Society, \$150

Organizer. Local Comedian Shawn Shelnett: Comedy and Ethics Q&A. Marquette University (PHIL 2310: Theory of Ethics, Spring 2015)

Organizer. Local Comedian Scott Long: Comedy, Ethics, and Disability. Marquette University (PHIL 1001: Human Nature, Spring 2014)

Secured Funding for this event from:

Marquette University Center for Ethics Studies, \$300.

Volunteer Work

Horizon Home Care and Hospice. Inpatient Unit Hospice Companion. Mequon, WI (2012)

Project Angel Heart. Kitchen Volunteer. Denver, CO (2009)

AIDS Walk Denver. Volunteer. Denver, CO (2004-2006)

Selected Conference Participation

Talks

(Invited) "Cassirer and Eugen Fink on Play". International Ernst Cassirer Society. APA Central Division Meeting (Feb 2019)

"Humor in Protest". Lighthearted Philosophers' Society 12th Annual Conference. (13 Oct 2018)

(Invited Keynote Address) "Humor as Interpretation". First Annual William S. Minor Lecture. American Institute for Philosophical and Cultural Thought (22 July 2018).

"Philosophy in the Public: Cassirer, Humor, and Political Power". Philosophy of Creativity. APA Central Division Meeting (22 Feb 2018)

(Invited) "Humor at the Women's March". American Society for Aesthetics Conference (18 Nov 2017).

"Human Rights and Comedy: How Jokes Tell Us Who Counts". International Association for the Philosophy of Humor. APA Pacific Division Meeting (15 April 2017)

"Comedy, Trump, and Political Myth". The Ethics and Aesthetics of Stand-Up Comedy Conference. Bucknell University. (7 April 2017)

"Why We Should Stop Telling Jokes about Trump's Tiny Hands". Lighthearted Philosophers' Society 10th Annual Conference. (1 April 2017)

"Cassirer on the Politics and Morality of Humor". International Ernst Cassirer Society. APA Central Division Meeting (2 March 2017)

(Invited) "It's Funny 'Cause It's True: How Humor Reveals Culture Myths". UW-Parkside Practical Wisdom Lecture Series (4 Nov 2016)

"Cassirer, Comedy, and Contemporary Myth". 2016 Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences (22 Oct 2016)

"A Husserlian Function of Humor". Lighthearted Philosophers' Society 9th Annual Conference (11 Oct 2015)

"Feminists *Can* Take a Joke: Louis CK's Feminist Philosophy" Marquette University Philosophy Department Brown Bag Series (6 Oct 2015)

"Disruption and Narrative Identity". Milwaukee Area Women Philosophers Society (28 Feb 2015)

"Humor as a Symbolic Form: Cassirer and the Culture of Comedy". The Philosophy of Ernst Cassirer: International Conference (21 June 2014)

"Contextualizing the Philosophy of Humor: Bolstering a Belief-Based Theory through Jamesian Pragmatism". Wisconsin Philosophical Association (20 April 2013)

Panelist

(Invited) Author Meets Critic: *Isn't That Clever: A Philosophical Account of Humor and Comedy*, by Steven Gimbel. Lighthearted Philosophers' Society (29 Sept 2017)

"It's Just Jokes: Racism and the Argument for Moral Leniency in Standup Comedy". PCA/ACA National Conference. Comedy and Pedagogy Panel (22 March 2016)

"Cassirer, Comedy, and Contemporary Myth". Art and Myth in the Everyday: Centre for Advanced Research in European Philosophy Panel. APA Central Division Meeting. (3 March 2016)

"Teaching Philosophy of Humor/Comedy". Lighthearted Philosophers' Society 9th Annual Conference (10 October 2015)

Session Chair

Comedy and Pedagogy Panel. PCA/ACA National Conference (22 March 2016)

Commentator

"Philosophy and/as Toxic Masculinity: Critical Reflections on 'How Philosophers Pick Up'" by Douglas Ficek (7 March 2017)

"Self-Deprecating Humor" by Camille Atkinson. Lighthearted Philosophers' Society 7th Annual Conference (11 Oct 2013)

Editorial Work

Editorial Assistant, *Developing Capabilities: A Feminist Discourse Ethics Approach*. Dissertation. Dr. Chad Kleist (2016)

Editorial Assistant, *Developing the Virtues*, Dr. Nancy Snow (2015)

Editorial Assistant, *Cultivating Virtue: Multiple Perspectives*, Oxford University Press, Dr. Nancy Snow (2013-2014)

Editorial Assistant, *Oxford Handbook of Virtue*, Oxford University Press, Dr. Nancy Snow (Summer 2014, January 2015-Dec 2015)

Editorial Assistant, Bibliographical Work, Dr. Nancy Snow (Summer 2014, Dec 2014)

Editorial Assistant, *The Philosophy and Psychology of Virtue: An Empirical Approach to Character and Happiness*, Routledge Press, Drs. Nancy Snow and Franco Trivigno (2013-2014)

Editorial Assistants, Dr. Irfan A. Omar, Department of Theology (Summer 2012)

Professional Membership

American Philosophical Association

Caribbean Philosophical Association

American Society for Aesthetics

The Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences

International Association for the Philosophy of Humor

Lighthearted Philosophers' Society

Milwaukee Area Women Philosophers

International Ernst Cassirer Society

Graduate Coursework

German Philosophy and Philosophy of Culture:

Philosophy of History - H. Sebastian Luft (Fall 2011)

Race and Gender Issues in Communication and Culture: Independent Study - Ana Garner (Fall 2014)

German Phenomenology and Existentialism - H. Sebastian Luft (Spring 2015)

Aesthetics - Curtis Carter (Spring 2015)

Painfully Funny: Exploring Slapstick in the Movies – Richard L. Edwards, Ball State University (Fall 2016)

Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Race and Racism, Personal Identity:

Problems in Ethics, Violence - Theresa Tobin (Spring 2013)

Philosophy of Race and Racism - Michael Monahan (Fall 2013)

Seminar in Metaphysics: Self, Time, and Narrative - Luca Ferrero, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Fall 2014)

Caribbean Philosophical Association Summer School – Lewis Gordon, Jane Anna Gordon, Paget Henry, Drucilla Cornell, et. al. UCONN (Summer 2016)

History of Philosophy:

Philosophy of Kant PHIL 4760 - Mark B. Tanzer, University of Colorado-Denver (Fall 2009)
History and Theory of Ethics - Theresa Tobin (Fall 2011)
Aristotle - Owen Goldin (Fall 2011)
Hume - William Starr (Spring 2011)
Kant - Javier Ibanez-Noe (Spring 2011)
Kant and His Contemporaries: Independent Study - H. Sebastian Luft (Fall 2012)
Classical American Philosophy - Stanley Harrison (Fall 2012)
Descartes - Joseph Cannon (Spring 2013)
Augustine - James South (Summer 2013)
Plato - Franco Trivigno (Fall 2013)
Kierkegaard's Concluding Unscientific Postscript - Noel Adams (Spring 2011)

Pedagogy and Languages:

Teaching Asian (Buddhist Philosophy) - Bronwyn Finnigan (Spring 2013)
German for Reading Knowledge - John Pustejovsky (Fall 2012)
French for Reading Knowledge - Jeanette Kraemer (Summer 2015)

References

Sebastian Luft, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Marquette University
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Email: mjmnahan@memphis.edu

Theresa Tobin, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Marquette University
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Nancy Snow, Professor of Philosophy and Director, Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing,
University of Oklahoma.
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