

**CYNTHIA R. NIELSEN**  
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#### EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Dallas, 2011  
M.A. University of Dallas, 2006  
B.Music University of North Florida, 1994, *magna cum laude*  
Non-degree Moscow State University (1997-98) advanced Russian studies,  
Portland State University (1999) advanced Russian studies

#### DISSERTATION

“Constructed Subjectivities and a ‘Thick’ Account of Agency: A Foucauldian Dialogue with  
Douglass, Fanon, and the Augustinian-Franciscan Tradition”

Philipp W. Rosemann, dissertation director  
Joerg Rieger, Charles Sullivan, readers  
Accepted with distinction, August 29, 2011

#### PUBLICATIONS—BOOKS

*Foucault and Self-Writing: On the Art of Living as Improvisation* (forthcoming Wipf &  
Stock/Cascade 2012).

*Fanon, Douglass, Foucault, Augustine, and Scotus in Dialogue: On Social Construction and Freedom*  
(forthcoming Palgrave Macmillan 2013)

#### PUBLICATIONS—ARTICLES

“Hearing the Other’s Voice: How Gadamer’s Fusion of Horizons and Open-ended  
Understanding Respects the Other and Puts One’s Self in Question” (currently  
under editorial review with the *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*)

“Augustine and Foucault: On Dynamic Relational Subjectivity or Echoes of Selves and  
Other-Self Inflections” (currently under editorial review with the *Journal of Religious  
Ethics*)

“Augustine and Social Activism: Empire Critiques and the Slavery-Issue Revisited”  
(currently under editorial review with the journal *Studies in Christian Ethics*)

“Philosophy of Music,” *New Catholic Encyclopedia Supplement 2012-13*, eds. Robert Fastiggi and  
Joseph Koterski, S.J., forthcoming 2012.

- “Foucault's Polyphonic Genealogies and Rethinking Episteme Change via Musical Metaphors” (forthcoming, *Radical Orthodoxy: A Journal of Theology, Philosophy, and Politics* 2012).
- “Unearthing Consonances in Foucault's Account of Greco-Roman Self-Writing and Christian Technologies of the Self,” (forthcoming, *Heythrop Journal* 2012).
- “Resistance Through Re-Narration: Fanon on De-constructing Racialized Subjectivities,” *African Identities: Journal of Economics, Culture, and Society* 9:4 (Dec. 2011): 363–85. DOI: 10.1080/14725843.2011.614410.
- “Resistance is Not Futile: Frederick Douglass on Panoptic Plantations and the Un-Making of Docile Bodies and Enslaved Souls,” *Philosophy and Literature* 35.2 (2011): 251–68. DOI: 10.1353/phl.2011.0018.
- “What Has Coltrane to Do With Mozart: The Dynamism and Built-in Flexibility of Music,” *Expositions* 3 (2009): 57–71.
- “St. Augustine on Text and Reality (and a Little Gadamarian Spice),” *Heythrop Journal* 50 (2009): 98–108.

#### PUBLICATIONS—BOOK REVIEWS

- Kolbet, Paul R. *Augustine and the Cure of Souls: Revising a Classical Ideal*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2010 (forthcoming, *Speculum* 2012)
- Jeremy S. Begbie. *Resounding Truth: Christian Wisdom in the World of Music*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 84:1 (Winter 2010): 166–168.
- Edward T. Oakes (ed.). *The Cambridge Companion to Hans Urs Von Balthasar*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 82:2 (Spring 2008): 374–378.
- Louis Dupré. *The Enlightenment and the Intellectual Foundations of Modern Culture*. New Haven: Yale Univ. Press, 2004. *Philotheos* 6 (2006): 333–340.
- James K.A. Smith. *Who's Afraid of Postmodernism? Taking Derrida, Lyotard, and Foucault to Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 80:4 (Fall 2006): 642–646.
- Jean-Luc Marion. *Being Given*. Stanford: Stanford Univ. Press, 2002. *Ars Disputandi: The Online Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, Vol. 5 (2005), <http://www.ArsDisputandi.org>. ISSN 1566-5399.

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Augustine and Foucault On Self-Writing, Social Construction, and the Sexualized Subject.” Philosophy Colloquium, University of Dallas, Spring 2012.

- “Mos Def on Socially Constructed Subjectivities, Stigmatized Spaces, and the Mutability of ‘Blackness’.” Philosophy Colloquium, University of Dallas, Fall 2010.
- “Michel Foucault and Frederick Douglass on Power Relations and Resistance Strategies ‘From Below.’” *15th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture* hosted by St. Catherine’s College, Oxford University, Sept. 2010.
- “St. Augustine and Frederick Douglass: Counternarratives from the Underside as a Mode of Resistance and *Confessio*.” *35th Annual Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Conference*, Villanova Conference Center, Philadelphia, PA. Oct., 2010.
- “Phenomenological Reflections on Music as Performed: Embracing Continua and Deconstructing Dichotomies.” *North Texas Philosophical Association, Annual Conference*, University of North Texas, April 2010.
- “Fanon and the Quest for a Phenomenology That Saves Difference.” *34th Annual Conference National Council for Black Studies*, Atlanta, GA. March 2010.
- “Paul and Slavery: Submit, Subvert or Something In-Between?” *Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA. Nov. 2009. (My paper was accepted, but I was unable to attend).
- “Scotus and the Will as a Self-Determining Active Power,” *33rd Annual Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Conference*, Villanova Conference Center, Philadelphia, PA. Oct., 2008.
- “A Glimpse at Christocentric Friendship in the Heartbeat of Hans Urs von Balthasar,” *Symposium on Faith and Culture, Friendship: Quests for Character, Community and Truth*, Baylor University, Oct., 2007.
- “St. Augustine on Text and Reality and a Little Gadamerian Spice,” *32nd Annual Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Conference*, Villanova Conference Center, Philadelphia, PA. Oct., 2007.
- “Hermeneutical Continuities: St. Augustine and Hans-Georg Gadamer,” *Institute of Philosophic Studies Colloquium*, University of Dallas, Oct. 2007.
- “The Anti-Enlightenment Nature of Jazz: Embracing Particularity and Universality, Freedom and Form, Tension and Resolution,” *The World and Christian Imagination*, Baylor University, Nov. 2006.

#### TEACHING COMPETENCE

*Primary:* 20th Century Continental Philosophy (esp. Michel Foucault), Social & Political Philosophy, Ethics, History of Philosophy

*Secondary:* Critical Race Theory, Philosophy of Music, Feminist Philosophy, Applied Ethics,

## TEACHING HISTORY

University of Dallas, *Dallas, TX*, 2008–present

- Philosophy of the Human Person (Fall 2008, Spring 2011, Fall 2011)
  - Texts planned for 2011 course: Plato, *Symposium*, Aristotle, selections from, *De Anima*; St. Augustine, selections from, the *Confessions*; St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* I.75-83; René Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*; Kierkegaard, selections from *Fear and Trembling*, *The Concept of Anxiety*, *Philosophical Fragments*, *Concluding Unscientific Postscript*; Foucault, selections from *Ethics, Subjectivity and Truth*: “Self-Writing,” “Technologies of the Self,” “On the Genealogy of Ethics,” “The Ethics of the Concern for Self as a Practice of Freedom”
  - Texts covered in 2008 course: Plato, *Phaedo*; Aristotle, selections from, *De Anima*; St. Augustine, selections from, the *Confessions*; St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* I.75-83; René Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*; John Locke, selections from, *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*
- Philosophy and the Ethical Life (Fall 2009, Fall 2010)
  - Texts covered in 2010 course: Plato, *Republic*; Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*; St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* I-II.90-95; Frederick Douglass, selections from *Frederick Douglass: Autobiographies: Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* and Douglass’s 1852 Orations, “The Internal Slave Trade” and “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?”; Simona Forti, “The Biopolitics of Souls: Racism, Nazism, and Plato”
- Philosophy of Being (Spring 2010)
  - Texts covered in 2010 course: Aristotle, *Metaphysics*; St. Thomas Aquinas, *De Ente et Essentia*; Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*; Heidegger, selections from *Basic Writings* “What is Metaphysics?,” “The Question Concerning Technology,” “The End of Philosophy”
- Recent Philosophy (Spring 2012)
  - Selected Readings *From Modernism to Postmodernism*, ed. Lawrence Cahoone (Wiley-Blackwell, 2003), *Black Skin, White Masks* (F. Fanon), and *Feminist Contentions* (ed. Linda Nicholson). Texts covered: Kant, “An Answer to the Question: ‘What is Enlightenment?’”; From the Preface to *Critique of Pure Reason*; Hegel, “Absolute Freedom and Terror”; Nietzsche, “On Truth and Lies in a Non-moral Sense”; “The Madman”; “How the ‘True World’ Finally Became a Fable”; “The Dionysian World”; Heidegger, “The Question Concerning Technology”; Derrida, “*Differance*”; Foucault, “Nietzsche, Genealogy, History”; From “Truth and Power”; Cornel

West, “A Genealogy of Modern Racism”; Frantz Fanon “The Lived Experience of the Black Man” (chapter 5 of *Black Skin, White Masks*); Seyla Benhabib, “Feminism and Postmodernism”; Judith Butler, “Contingent Foundations: Feminism and the Question of ‘Postmodernism’”

Eastfield College, *Mesquite, TX*, 2005–present

- Introduction to Western Philosophy
  - *Sophie’s World: A Novel About the History of Philosophy* by Jostein Gaarder;
  - *Philosophy: A Text with Readings* by Manual Velasquez

Invited Lectures

- “Frantz Fanon and Racialized Subjectivities,” *University of Dallas*, HUSC-3331: Sciences of Society and Culture Course, Irving, TX, Spring 2012.

READING LANGUAGES

- French
- German
- Latin
- Russian

ACADEMIC AWARDS

- Dissertation accepted with distinction, August 29, 2011
- Travel stipend to attend *34th Annual Conference National Council for Black Studies*, Atlanta, GA. March 2010, awarded granted via the University of Dallas Graduate Student Association, Spring 2010.
- Travel stipend to attend the *15th Biennial Conference of the International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture* hosted by St. Catherine’s College, Oxford, Sept. 2010, award granted via the University of Dallas Philosophy Department.
- *McDermott Fellowship in Philosophy*, University of Dallas, 2007–2009
- *Edwin L. Jones Graduate Fellowship*, Westminster/Redeemer Seminary, 2005
- Phi Sigma Tau Honor Society: The International Honor Society for Philosophers
- Music Scholarship, University of North Florida
- Golden Key National Honor Society, 1990-94
- Graduated *magna cum laude*, University of North Florida

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

- American Academy of Religion
- American Philosophical Association
- Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory
- National Council for Black Studies

- North American Society for Philosophical Hermeneutics
- North American Society for Social Philosophy
- Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology
- Society for Women in Philosophy

#### UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT, COMMUNITY SERVICE, & CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

- Advisor for the University of Dallas Undergraduate Philosophy Club, 2011-12
- Braniff Graduate Student Association, University of Dallas, 2002-2011
- Faculty/graduate student reading group, University of Dallas, Fall 2010, Summer 2011
  - Contemporary Postmodern/Postchristian Readings of St. Paul: Giorgio Agamben, *The Time That Remains: A Commentary on the Letter to the Romans*, Alain Badiou, *St. Paul: The Foundation of Universalism*, Slavoj Žižek, *The Puppet and the Dwarf*, Fall 2010.
  - Readings on various contemporary thinkers/topics: Maurice Blanchot, *The Writing of the Disaster*, Giorgio Agamben, *Remnants of Auschwitz: The Witness and the Archive*, Philip Goodchild, *Capitalism and Religion: The Price of Piety*, Summer 2011.
- St. John's Episcopal Church, Dallas, TX
  - Adult Education
  - Volunteer for and contributor to Food and Clothing Projects for Genesis Women's Shelter, White Rock Center for Hope, Austin Street Centre (sandwich program).
- Prison Correspondence/Advocacy
  - I correspond regularly with a prisoner serving a life-sentence, and I advocate actively on his behalf via public petitions.
- Member of the Child Welfare League of America
- Ecumenical humanitarian aid internship assisting orphans and pensioners in Moscow, Russia 2000-2002.

#### REFERENCES

*University of Dallas, Department of Philosophy, 1845 E. Northgate Dr, Irving, TX 75062*  
Professor Philipp W. Rosemann, department chair, 972.721.5166  
[rosemann@udallas.edu](mailto:rosemann@udallas.edu)

*Liverpool Hope University, Hope Park, Liverpool, L16 9JD*  
Professor Steven Shakespeare, Department of Theology, Philosophy, and Religious Studies, Lecturer in Philosophy, Co-facilitator, The Association for Continental Philosophy of Religion [www.hope.ac.uk/acpr](http://www.hope.ac.uk/acpr), 0151 291 3208  
[shakess@hope.ac.uk](mailto:shakess@hope.ac.uk)

*University of California, Los Angeles, 212 Royce Hall, P.O. Box 951550, Los Angeles, CA 90095*  
Professor Patrick Coleman, Department of French and Francophone Studies, UCLA Center for 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Studies, 310.794.8920  
[coleman@humnet.ucla.edu](mailto:coleman@humnet.ucla.edu)

*Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology, P.O. Box 750133, Dallas, TX 75275-0133*  
Professor Joerg Rieger, Wendland-Cook Professor of Constructive Theology,  
214.768.2356  
[jrieger@smu.edu](mailto:jrieger@smu.edu)

#### CAREER GOALS

I hope to receive a tenure-track teaching/research appointment, to be an active, collegial contributor to my academic community (and of course beyond the university “walls”), and to continue publishing and developing both academic and “life-on-life” mentoring relationships with my students.