

HANNAH LYN VENABLE, PH.D.

Department of Philosophy, University of Mary
7500 University Drive, Bismarck, North Dakota 58504
hlvenable@umary.edu

EDUCATION

- 2019 Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Dallas
*Dissertation Title: Madness in Merleau-Ponty and Foucault:
Toward an Inclusive Account of the Nonrational in Human Experience*
- 2009 M.A. in Philosophy, University of Auckland
Thesis Title: Existential Aesthetics
- 2008 M.A. in Christian Thought, Reformed Theological Seminary
- 2005 B.A. in Philosophy, university honors, University of Texas at Austin
- 2005 B.A. in Music, university honors, University of Texas at Austin

TEACHING AND RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2021-present Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Mary
- 2020 Visiting Lecturer, Trinity University
- 2017-2019 Lecturer, Texas State University
- 2016-2017 Visiting Research Student, Institut Catholique de Paris
- 2014-2015 Adjunct Instructor, University of Dallas
- 2007 Teaching Assistant, Reformed Theological Seminary

PUBLICATIONS

Book

*Madness in Experience and History: Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenology and Foucault's
Archaeology.* New York: Routledge, 2022. Part of the Psychology and the
Other Book Series.

Articles in Refereed Journals

- "Miracle in Myth: Nietzsche on *Wunder*." *Religions* 14: 1071 (2023): 1-18.
Invited article for special issue entitled "The Intersection of Phenomenology and
Religion."
- "The Carnival of the Mad: Foucault's Window into the Origin of Psychology." *Foucault
Studies* No. 30 (2021): 54-79.
- "The Weight of Bodily Presence in Art and Liturgy." *Religions* 12: 164 (2021):
1-14. Invited article for special issue entitled "Phenomenology and Liturgical
Practice."
- "At the Opening of Madness: An Exploration of the Nonrational with Merleau-Ponty,
Foucault and Kierkegaard." *Journal of Speculative Philosophy* 33, no. 3 (2019):
475-488.
- "Situating Melancholy in Kierkegaard's *The Concept of Anxiety*." *Philosophy & Theology
Journal*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (2014): 39-64.

Chapters in Edited Books

“To Speak of Suffering: Art’s Ethical Obligation.” In *Aesthetic Ethics: Towards A Moral Imagination*, edited by M. Mookie C. Manalili, David M. Goodman and Diana Boros, 101-124. New York: Routledge, 2026.

“Foucault’s Care of Self: A Response to Modern Technology.” In *Routledge International Handbook for Psychoanalysis, Subjectivity and Technology*, edited by David Goodman and Matthew Clemente, 101-115. New York: Routledge, 2023.

“The Need for Merleau-Ponty in Foucault’s Account of the Abnormal.” In *Normality, Abnormality, and Pathology in Merleau-Ponty*, edited by Talia Welsh and Susan Bredlau, 97-115. New York: SUNY Press, 2022.

Invited Book Review

“Centrality of Touch: Reflections on Kearney’s Touch: Recovering Our Most Vital Sense.” *Crossings: The International Network of Philosophy and Religion Journal*, Vol 3 (2023): 151-156.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Book (Under Contract)

Art and the Flourishing of the Ordinary. With Mark Allen. Forthcoming with Routledge 2027.

COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Philosophy/Search for Truth

Introductory class to philosophy looking at truth from the approaches of Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Anselm and Kierkegaard.

University of Mary. Fall 2021. Spring 2022. Fall 2022. Spring 2023. Fall 2023. Spring 2024. Fall 2024. Spring 2025. Fall 2025. Spring 2026.

Philosophy of the Human Person

Upper division class focused on the conceptions of the human in Aristotle, Augustine, Descartes, Dawkins, Marcel and Stein with application to social issues.

University of Mary. Fall 2021. Fall 2022. Spring 2023. Fall 2023. Fall 2024.

Aesthetics

Upper division class covering classical, existential, Japanese and theological approaches to art.

University of Mary. Fall 2022. Spring 2025.

Introduction to Phenomenology

Upper division class introducing the key themes and thinkers in the phenomenological movement.

University of Mary. Spring 2022. Spring 2024. Spring 2026.

Ethics

Introductory class on the major ethical methods of Aristotle, Aquinas, Kant, Mill and Levinas and applying them to current social issues.

University of Mary. Spring 2024.

Ancient Philosophy

Upper division class on Presocratics, Plato, Aristotle and Hellenistic philosophy.

University of Mary. Fall 2023. Fall 2025.

Philosophy of Disability

Upper division class covering philosophical approaches and reflections on disability.
University of Mary. Spring 2023.

Biomedical Ethics

Introductory class covering the conceptions of the human in Aristotle, Descartes, Kant, Marcel and Dawkins and applying them to the issues in contemporary bioethics.
Trinity University. Spring 2020.

Environmental Ethics

Introductory class covering the primary philosophical approaches to the environment and applying them to current environmental issues.
Trinity University. Spring 2020.

Ethics and Society

Introductory class on the major ethical methods of Aristotle, Kant, Mill and Kierkegaard and applying them to current social issues.
Texas State University. Fall 2017. Spring 2018. Fall 2018. Fall 2019.

Philosophy of Being

Upper division class on the metaphysics of Parmenides, Aristotle, Aquinas, Kant, Hawking, Heidegger and Marcel.
University of Dallas. Fall 2015.

Nietzsche: Textual Seminar

Upper division class on Nietzsche for philosophy majors.
University of Dallas. Spring 2015.

Philosophy and the Ethical Life

Introductory class on ethics and philosophy in Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, and Nietzsche.
University of Dallas. Fall 2014. Spring 2015.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

2025

“Out of the Silence: Art as Irreplaceable in Bearing Experiences of Personal and Political Death.” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*. South Bend, IN.
“An Explication of Aesthetic Freedom with Implications for Mental Health.” *Psychology and the Other*. Boston, Massachusetts.
“Out of Bondage: An Existential Case for Aesthetic Freedom.” *Northern Plains Philosophy Conference*. Fargo, North Dakota.
Invited Chair. *Foucault and Phenomenology Conference*. Memphis, Tennessee.

2024

“Centrality of Sexuality: A Beginning to Metaphysics.” Response to Maria Fedoryka’s “The Intimate Structure of Sex and Its Meaning.” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*. Chicago, IL.
“Art Speaks the Unspeakable: Suffering of the World in Aesthetic Expression.” *International Network of Philosophy and Religion*. Perugia, Italy.
Response to Karl Hefty’s “Toward a Phenomenology of Mercy.” *Doctoral Seminar at the Institut Catholique de Paris*. Paris, France.
“Disability as Openness and Brokenness: Philosophical and Theological Reflections on How to Understand and Love Those with Disabilities.” *Christian Leadership Center*. Bismarck, North Dakota.
Debate on Rationality and the Trinity. *Aquinas Gala*. Bismarck, North Dakota.

2023

“Tradition as Dynamic and Transgressive.” Panel on “Tradition for Today: A Panel Discussion on Philosophical Pedagogy.” *American Catholic Philosophical Association*. Houston, Texas.

Invited Respondent to Deborah Savage’s “Woman and the Soul of Technology.” *Hildebrand Project*. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

“No Longer Foreign: Four Phenomenological Principles Drawn from Disability Studies.” *Psychology and the Other*. Boston, Massachusetts.

“Practical Considerations for Schizophrenia, Major Depressive Disorder and Bipolar I Disorder: Drawn from Phenomenological Experiences and Historical Structures.” *Psychology and the Other*. Boston, Massachusetts.

“Revelation in Suffering: The Merits of a Phenomenological Approach.” *Phenomenology and Revelation Seminar and Conference*. Long Island, NY.

“Reimagining the Relationship between Suffering and Disability.” *Northern Plains Philosophy Conference*. Bismarck, North Dakota.

Debate on Human Sin and Incarnation. *Aquinas Gala*. Bismarck, North Dakota.

2022

“Reimagining the Relationship between Suffering and Disability with Merleau-Ponty and Kierkegaard.” *International Merleau-Ponty Circle*. Washington, D.C.

“Madness in Experience and History.” *University of Mary Convocation as Recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award*. Bismarck, North Dakota

“Sketching a New Approach to Art and Ordinary Flourishing” (with Mark Allen). *Baylor Symposium for Faith and Culture*. Waco, Texas.

“The Secret of Madness: Foucault’s Overarching Nonrational.” *International Network of Philosophy and Religion*. Paris, France.

“The Roots of Technological Prosthesis and Hope in Foucault’s Care of Self.” Panel on “Technological Prosthesis: Transcending Finitude and the Trauma of Death.” *Society for Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic Psychology, Division 39*. Virtual Conference.

“A Merleau-Pontian Reading of Aristotle’s Notion of Form in ‘Book Z’ of the *Metaphysics*.” *Northern Plains Philosophy Conference*. Fargo, North Dakota.

Debate on Soul as Gendered. *Aquinas Gala*. Bismarck, North Dakota.

“Disability as Brokenness and Openness.” *University of Mary Community Learning Day*. Bismarck, North Dakota.

2021

“Why and How to Read Dante.” *University of Mary Convocation Panel*. Bismarck, North Dakota.

“Virtual Symphony and Virtual Church: Considering the Importance of Bodily Presence.” *Psychology and the Other*. Virtual Conference.

2020

“The Carnival of the Mad: Foucault’s Window into the Origin of Psychology.” *North Texas Philosophical Association*. Dallas, Texas (canceled due to COVID-19).

2019

“The Carnival of the Mad: Foucault’s Window into the Origin of Psychology.”
Psychology and the Other. Boston, Massachusetts.

Respondent to Adam Graves’s “Sense, Non-sense, Innocence: Towards a Hermeneutic Anthropology of Guilt.” *International Network of Philosophy and Religion*. Paris, France.

2018

“The Need for Merleau-Ponty in Foucault’s Account of the Abnormal.”
International Merleau-Ponty Circle. Chattanooga, Tennessee.

“At the Opening of Madness: An Exploration of the Nonrational with Merleau-Ponty, Foucault and Kierkegaard.” *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy*. State College, Pennsylvania.

“At the Opening of Madness: An Exploration of the Nonrational with Merleau-Ponty, Foucault and Kierkegaard.” *North Texas Philosophical Association*. Dallas, Texas.

2017

“Rethinking Mental Disorders: Educating leaders on the ethical implications of psychopathology.” *Society for Ethics Across the Curriculum*. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Invited Discussant. *International Network of Philosophy and Religion*. Paris, France.

2016

“Merleau-Ponty on Habit with Possible Implications for Psychopathology.” *North Texas Philosophical Association*. Dallas, Texas.

2015

“Foucault’s Care of Self: An Ethical Approach to Technology in the Global Age.”
Society for Ethics Across the Curriculum. Greenville, North Carolina.

2014

“Jewish Characteristics of Hobbes’s Covenant.” *Institute for Philosophic Studies Colloquium*. Dallas, Texas.

“The Dialectic of ‘Meaning’ in Merleau-Ponty’s *The Structure of Behavior*.” *North Texas Philosophical Association*. Denton, Texas.

2013

“Situating Melancholy in Kierkegaard’s *The Concept of Anxiety*.” *Baylor Symposium for Faith and Culture*. Waco, Texas.

“The Need for World Community: Lonergan’s Cosmopolis and Arendt’s Public Realm.” *North Texas Philosophical Association*. Denton, Texas.

“Understanding Plato’s Democratic Character with Reference to Kierkegaard’s Aesthete.” *Institute for Philosophic Studies Colloquium*. Dallas, Texas.

2012

“Technology: Demonstrating Our Detached Disinterested Desire to Know.”
Baylor Symposium for Faith and Culture. Waco, Texas.

2009

“Existential Aesthetics: Art Founded on Freedom.” *University of Auckland Graduate Seminar Series*. Auckland, New Zealand.

2008

“Gabriel Marcel’s Aesthetics.” *Australasian Society of Continental Philosophy*. Auckland, New Zealand.

SERVICE

Journal Submission Referee: *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy, Religions (2X), Philosophies*

Conference Submission Referee: *Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture*

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

Chair of Department. 2024-present.

Chair of Philosophy Search Hiring Committee. 2024-2025.

Senior Philosophy Capstone Coach. Fall 2022. Spring 2023. Fall 2024. Spring 2024.

Philosophy Search Hiring Committee. 2022-2023.

Senior Philosophy Capstone Director:

Fall 2022, Isaiah Blickenstaff, “Divine Hiddenness”

Spring 2023, Gabriel Suda, “Phenomenology of Faith”

Fall 2023, Emma Thorp, “Phenomenology of Lust”

Spring 2024, Wyatt Weiber, “Aesthetics of the Grotesque”

Spring 2024, Thomas Pueyo, “Phenomenology and Mental Health”

Spring 2024, John Paul Farrell, “Loneliness in Light of Subjectivity”

Fall 2024, Daniel Hogan, “Mirrors and the Face of the Self and Others”

Fall 2024, Elizabeth Winkelmann, “Sartre’s Reformulation of Husserl’s Method”

Spring 2025, Audrey Wohletz, “Metaphysical Reflections on a Gendered Soul”

Spring 2026, Maryanne Mongin, “Existentialist Literature and Philosophy”

LANGUAGES

French

Reading: Advanced, Speaking: Conversational (Level: B1), Writing: Intermediate.

Graduate Reading Proficiency Exam, Passed 2014.

Latin

Reading: Advanced (with dictionary), Writing: Intermediate.

Graduate Proficiency Passed through Advanced Reading Course, 2013.

Spanish

Reading: Basic, Speaking: Basic, Writing: Basic.

Completed two year undergraduate proficiency, 2005.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

St. Thomas Aquinas Research Award, Given by the St. Augustine Fellows Committee, University of Mary, 2024

Faculty Excellence Award, University of Mary, 2022

Braniff Full-Tuition Scholarship, University of Dallas, 2012-2019.
Graduate Travel Award, University of Dallas, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018.
Braniff Living Stipend, University of Dallas, 2012-2013.

AFFILIATIONS

Northern Plains Philosophy Group, 2022-present.
Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, 2018-present.
Psychology and the Other, 2017-present.
International Merleau-Ponty Circle, 2018-present.
Society for Ethics Across the Curriculum, 2015-present.
International Network in Philosophy of Religion, 2017-present.
North Texas Philosophical Association, 2013-present.
Graduate Writing Group, Organizer, 2013.

REFERENCES

Chad Engelland, Professor of Philosophy, University of Dallas
cengelland@udallas.edu
Philipp Rosemann, Professor of Philosophy, Cottrill-Rolfes Chair of Catholic Studies,
University of Kentucky
philipp.rosemann@uky.edu
Craig Hanks, Professor of Philosophy and Chair of Department, Texas State University
ch25@txstate.edu
Judith Norman, Professor of Philosophy and Chair of Department, Trinity University
jnorman2@trinity.edu (Teaching Reference)
Emmanuel Falque, Professor of Philosophy and Honorary Dean of Department,
Institut Catholique de Paris
efalque@orange.fr