

## Carmen De Schryver

Northwestern University  
Department of Philosophy  
Kresge Hall 3512  
1880 Campus Drive  
Evanston, IL, 60208  
[carmendeschryver2021@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:carmendeschryver2021@u.northwestern.edu)  
(+1) 312-748-2687

### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Africana Philosophy  
Decolonial Theory  
Phenomenology

### AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Critical Race Theory  
Feminist Philosophy (esp. Latinx)  
19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Century European  
Social & Political Philosophy

### EDUCATION

2022 (expected)	PhD in Philosophy, Northwestern University  <i>Dissertation:</i> “Philosophical Universality in Crisis: Hountondji and the Decolonization of Phenomenology”  Committee: Penelope Deutscher (Chair), José Medina, Rachel Zuckert, Peter Fenves, Souleymane Bachir Diagne (Columbia University)
2016	Graduate Credit Program in Philosophy, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
2015	MSc with Distinction in Political Theory, London School of Economics and Political Science  <i>Thesis:</i> “Rousseau and Nietzsche on Individuality and Community”
2014	BA with First Class Honours in History and Politics, University of Warwick

### PUBLICATIONS

“Philosophical Universality in Crisis: Hountondji’s Interruption of Phenomenology” in *Phenomenology in an African Context: Contributions and Challenges*, ed. Abraham Olivier, M. John Lamola and Justin Sands (Albany: SUNY Press, forthcoming 2021).

“Deconstruction and Epistemic Violence”, *Southern Journal of Philosophy* (available online prior to print publication) (2021), pp.1-21. [\[link\]](#)

**RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

“Reading Heidegger through Lugones: Multiplicitous Selfhood, Being-in-the-World and the Issue of Authenticity” (under review)

“Absolute Ideas and Empirical-Anthropological Types: Tracking Husserl’s Eurocentrism”

“Decolonial Universality: Césaire and Fanon Between the Particular and the Universal”

**DISSERTATION**

*Philosophical Universality in Crisis: Hountondji and the Decolonization of Phenomenology*

My research project explores the contemporary decolonial “crisis” of philosophical universality as it is treated within the African phenomenological tradition. I do this by considering how Paulin J. Hountondji begins with, but radically transforms, one of the most well-known considerations of philosophical universality in crisis, *viz.* Edmund Husserl’s phenomenological writings. Offering a novel interpretation of Hountondji’s relationship to classical phenomenology, I argue that his thinking on the universal is best understood in dialogue with a largely neglected genealogy of universalistic thinking: Africana phenomenology indexed to the Global South. On the basis of a scholarly intervention that sets Hountondji’s work into dialogue with Aimé Césaire and Frantz Fanon, I develop a decolonial notion of universality that emphasizes the interconnection between the particular and the universal. This idea, which I term “dialogical universality”, holds that universalizable philosophical insights depend upon particular spaces of horizontal, maximally inclusive debate. When the classical theme of philosophical universality in crisis is examined from the perspective of Africana philosophy, what emerges is a type of thinking that makes vitally important contributions to ongoing conversations about what constitutes philosophy, pluralizing the canon, and the possibilities of affirming a non-Eurocentric form of universal, philosophical reason.

Committee: Penelope Deutscher (Chair), José Medina, Rachel Zuckert, Peter Fenves, Souleymane Bachir Diagne (Columbia University)

**PRESENTATIONS****Invited Papers**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2021 | “Dialogical Universality: Hountondji’s Inheritance of Césaire and Fanon”, AFRISEM, Northwestern University, May 2021                                    |
| 2020 | “María Lugones on Multiplicitous Selfhood”, Guest Lecture, Feminist Philosophy Course, Prof. Gina Zavota, Kent State University, October 2020           |
| 2020 | “Toward a Decolonial Universality: Reading Strategies”, Invited Speaker, <i>Minorities and Philosophy</i> Chapter, Kent State University, February 2020 |

**Conference Presentations**

- 2021 “Hountondji’s Interruption of Phenomenology”, Conference Presenter, 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy Conference at Villanova University: Phenomenology and its Worlds, March 2021
- 2018 “Responding to Others: Deconstruction and Epistemic Violence”, Conference Presenter, Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference: Displacement, The Graduate Center, CUNY, November 2018
- 2017 “Hospitality: On the Space Between Ethics and Politics”, Conference Presenter, 24<sup>th</sup> Annual DePaul University Graduate Student Conference: Place and Space, DePaul University, February 2017
- 2016 “Liberal Interventionism and African Political Philosophy: Applbaum’s ‘Forcing a People to be Free’”, Conference Presenter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bath Spa Colloquium for Global Philosophy and Religion, Bath Spa University, April 2016

### Workshop Presentations

- 2020 “Hountondji on Decolonial Universality”, Dissertation Research Seminar, Northwestern University, June 2020.
- 2019 “Epistemic Injustice and Deconstruction”, Dissertation Research Seminar, Northwestern University, May 2019.

### Discussant

- 2019 Noémi Michel, “Embodied Voices and Paradoxical Inclusion: A Black Feminist Critique of Democracy”, Northwestern University, Workshop: Democracy, Critique, and Europe’s Crises, August 2019
- Renxiang Liu, “Between Repetition and Renewal: Varieties of Duration in Alia Al-Saji’s Critical Phenomenology of Race”, Northwestern University Graduate Conference in Critical Theory, February 2019
- 2018 Nadia Yala Kisukidi, “Racial Hospitality: On Decoloniality and Afro-Pessimism”, Northwestern University Workshop on Decolonizing Critical Theory: Decolonial Aesthetics and Epistemic Violence, November 2018
- 2017 Anastasia Berg, “You Can’t Move Without Being Moved: On the Moral Significance of the Human Capacity for Feeling”, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Northwestern University Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics, April 2017

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2020 Ways of Knowing: Learning in (Post-)Colonial Times, Prof. Hermez and Prof. Menge, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University in Qatar, cross-listed with Anthropology (Online Class)

Spring 2020	Introduction to Africana Philosophy, Dr. William Paris, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University (Online Class)
Winter 2020	Introduction to the Philosophy of Language, Prof. Megan Hyska, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University
Winter 2019	Introduction to Critical Theory, Prof. Mark Alznauer, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University
Fall 2018	Bioethics, Prof. Mark Sheldon, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University
Winter 2018	History of Early Modern Philosophy, Prof. Baron Reed, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University
Fall 2017	Bioethics, Prof. Mark Sheldon, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University

### **PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING**

2019	Syllabus Workshop: “Errant Syllabi: Latin American and Latinx Feminist, Cuir/Queer, and Gender Theory”, Invited Scholar, Northwestern University, November 2019
2019	Caribbean Philosophical Association Summer School, Participant, Williams College, June 2019
2018	Rethinking Pedagogy Workshop and Practicum, Invited Scholar, National Autonomous University of Mexico, November 2018
2018	“Inventing School/Hacer Escuela” Workshop, Invited Scholar, Fordham University, April 2018

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & SERVICE**

2021	Principal Organizer, “Decolonizing Universality, Decolonizing the University”, Andrew W. Mellon Project: Critical Theory in the Global South, Northwestern University, June 2021
2020	Referee, <i>Puncta: Journal of Critical Phenomenology</i> , December 2020
2020	Graduate Convener, “Critical Theory in Critical Times: Santiago Castro-Gómez’s <i>Critique of Latin American Reason</i> ,” Northwestern University, October 2020
2018-Present	Research Assistant, Andrew W. Mellon Project: Critical Theory in the

- Global South, Professor Penelope Deutscher, Northwestern University
- 2018-Present Organizer and co-founder, “Northwestern University’s Annual Graduate Conference in Critical Theory”, Northwestern University.
- 2018 Principal Organizer, “Annual Inclusiveness Lecture: Professor Ariana Stokas, ‘Tracing Epistemic Reparation: The University as a Collective Site of Amends’”, Department of Philosophy, Northwestern University, November 2018
- 2017-Present Organizer, “After-Life of Phenomenology Workshop”, Northwestern University
- 2017-2019 Member, Climate Committee, Northwestern University
- 2016-2018 Mentor and ESL Teacher, RefugeeOne Mentorship Program, Chicago
- 2014-2015 Tutor Volunteer, London School of Economics Widening Participation Programme, Newham Collegiate Sixth Form

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

### *Northwestern University (Philosophy)*

- “Heidegger and Gadamer”, Prof. Cristina LaFont, Winter 2019
- “Love and Friendship in Plato and Aristotle”, Prof. Richard Kraut, Spring 2018
- “Habermas”, Prof. Cristina LaFont, Winter-Spring 2018
- “Critical Race Theory”, Prof. José Medina, Winter 2018
- “Kant’s First Critique”, Prof. Axel Mueller, Winter 2018
- “Nietzsche and Bernard Williams on Ethics”, Prof. Mark Alznauer, Fall 2017
- “Biopolitics After Foucault”, Prof. Penelope Deutscher, Spring 2017
- “Global Capitalism and Law”, Prof. Cristina LaFont, Winter 2017
- “Love, Reasons and Reasoning” (Audit), Prof. Kyla Ebels-Duggan, Winter 2017
- “Wittgenstein”, Prof. Sean Ebels-Duggan, Fall 2016
- “Hegel and Honneth on Politics”, Prof. Mark Alznauer, Fall 2016
- “Epistemic Psychology”, Prof. Baron Reed, Fall 2016-Winter 2017

### *Northwestern University (Other Disciplines)*

- “Indian Ocean Epistemologies”, Prof. Evan Mwangi (Comparative Literature), Spring 2018
- “Benjamin and Derrida on Phenomenology”, Prof. Peter Fenves (German), Fall 2017
- “Kafka and his Critics”, Prof. Sam Weber (Comparative Literature), Spring 2017

### *Fordham University*

- “Husserl and Heidegger” (Audit), Prof. John Drummond, Spring 2021

### *DePaul University*

- “Heidegger’s Being and Time”, Prof. William McNeill, Spring 2017

*KU Leuven*

“Jewish Philosophy”, Prof. Luc Anckaert, Spring 2016

“Ethics”, Prof. William Desmond, Spring 2016

“Aquinas on Aristotle’s Metaphysics”, Prof. Henning Tegtmeier, Fall 2015

“Plato’s Timaeus”, Prof. Guy Claessens, Fall 2015

*London School of Economics*

“Global Justice and African Political Philosophy”, Prof. Katrin Flikschuh, Spring 2015

“Europe Beyond Modernity: Nietzsche and Derrida”, Prof. Simon Glendinning, Spring 2015

“Philosophy of History and the Idea of Europe”, Prof. Simon Glendinning, Winter 2015

“Kant’s Political Theory”, Prof. Katrin Flikschuh, Winter 2015

“Hobbes”, Prof. Johan Olsthoorn, Fall 2014

“Foundations of Political Theory”, Prof. Kai Spiekermann and Joe Mazor, Fall 2014

**LANGUAGES**

English: Native

Dutch: Native

German: Advanced in reading, speaking and writing

French: Intermediate in reading, speaking and writing

Spanish: Intermediate in reading, speaking and writing

Italian: Beginner in reading, speaking and writing

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request