

CALVIN ROOSEVELT BELL III

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EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 2024-
Ph.D., Department of Philosophy
Affiliated with the Critical Theory Cluster
Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA 2021-24
BA, *summa cum laude*, Philosophy and Political Science, Phi Beta Kappa
Oxford College of Emory University, Atlanta, GA 2020-21

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Aesthetics (Black Aesthetic Tradition)
African American Philosophy (Black Intellectual and Political Thought)
Critical Theory
Legal Theory
Philosophy of Race
Social and Political Philosophy (Resistance; Social Contract Theory; Utopianism)

BOOK CHAPTERS

Bell III, Calvin, and Keon L. Gilbert. "Restoring the Social Contract: Environmental Justice, Racial Equity, and the Fight for Democratic Renewal," In *The Handbook of Urban Planning and Social Justice*, edited by Robert Silverman., De Gruyter, Forthcoming.
Bell III, Calvin. "What's In A Name?: Finding Self-Identity in the Midst of Paternal Uncertainty," In *Black Children of Incarcerated Parents Speak Truth to Power: Social Revolution*, edited by Britany J. Gatewood, et al., Routledge, 2023, pp. 21-23.

PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH ARTICLES IN UNDERGRADUATE JOURNALS

Bell III, Calvin R. "Reimagining the Carceral Landscape: From Discipline and Punishment to Social Reckoning and Radical Love in Academic Spaces," *Johns Hopkins University Macksey Journal*, vol. 3, art. 25, 2022.

PUBLIC WRITING

Busette, Camille, Keon L. Gilbert, and **Calvin Bell**. "Community Perspectives on Well-being for Black Boys." *The Brookings Institution*, February 7, 2025, sec. How We Rise.
Gilbert, Keon L., and **Calvin Bell**. "Banning Critical Race Theory Could Hinder the Pursuit of Environmental Justice." *The Brookings Institution*, August 19, 2024, sec. How We Rise.
Gilbert, Keon L., and **Calvin Bell**. "Olympic Transformation of Metropolitan Cities—for Better or for Worse." *The Brookings Institution*, August 29, 2024, sec. How We Rise.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Philosophy Honors (HPHI 201) Fall 2023
Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA
• Held recitations for students on topics such as ethics, metaethics, epistemology, race, and free will
• Course Lead: Daniel Peterson, Ph.D., Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

Beinecke Scholarship Program Recipient, The Sperry Fund 2024-29
Qualitative Methods Enrichment Scholarship, UNC Odum Institute for Research in Social Science 2025
The Graduate School Interdisciplinary Conference Travel Grant, Northwestern University 2025
Graduate Student Travel Grant, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP) 2025
Graduate Fellowship in Legal Studies, Northwestern University 2025
Philosophy Graduate Student Travel Grant, Northwestern University 2025
UNCF/Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship 2022-24
Quarterman-Keller Scholars Program, Spelman College Social Justice Program, Reparations Project 2022-24
Otis Moss Jr. and Otis Moss III Oratorical Contest First Place Recipient 2024
Rhodes Scholarship Finalist 2023
Morehouse Advocacy Reaching Capitol Hill (MARCH) Program 2023

White House HBCU Recognition Scholar	2023
Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation Finalist	2023
Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society (Political Science)	2023
Phi Sigma Tau Honor Society (Philosophy)	2022
Gloucester County NAACP Next Generation Award	2022
UNCF Macy's Brighter Futures Scholarship	2022
Oprah Winfrey Scholars Program, Morehouse College	2022
Social Justice and Leadership Innovation Award, Morehouse Andrew Young Center for Global Leadership	2022
Luard Morse Scholarship Finalist, English-Speaking Union	2022
Harvard Kennedy School Public Policy Leadership Conference (PPLC) Fellow	2021

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "To Steal the Self, To Be Stolen: Capturing Black Performance and Cultural Appropriation in the Archive of Enjoyment," Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy 63rd Annual Meeting, Virtual, 25 October 2025
- "On Epistemic Fatigue, Epistemic Overburden, and Forging Futures of Horizontal Resistance," Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference, University of Dayton, 23 October 2025
- "Rhythmic Exodus," Summer Institute for Audiovisual Criticism, Goethe University Frankfurt, 17 July 2025
- "On Protest: In Search of a Liberal Democracy," Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy 52nd Annual Meeting, Howard University, 15 March 2025
- "Reimagining the Carceral Landscape: From Discipline and Punishment to Social Reckoning and Radical Love in Academic Spaces," National Collegiate Research Council Conference, Harvard University, 20 Jan. 2023
- "Reimagining the Carceral Landscape: From Discipline and Punishment to Social Reckoning and Radical Love in Academic Spaces," National Collegiate Honors Council Conference, Dallas, TX, 5 Nov. 2022
- "Reimagining the Carceral Landscape: From Discipline and Punishment to Social Reckoning and Radical Love in Academic Spaces," Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium, Johns Hopkins University, 10 April 2022
- "The Liberal Arts Extinction: Exploring the Perspectives of Dr. William Cronon and Ta-Nehisi Coates on the Demise of Liberal Arts Values," Bouchet Conference on Diversity and Graduate Education, Yale University, 7 April 2022
- "Carcerality is Ubiquitous: Examining the Parallels Between the Carceral System and the American Educational System," National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Virtual, 5 April 2022
- "Carcerality is Ubiquitous: Examining the Parallels Between the Carceral System and the American Educational System," Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference, University of West Georgia, 5 Nov. 2021

INVITED PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND SYMPOSIA

- "The Graduate School Student Q&A Panel," Office of Student Life, Northwestern University, 05 September 2025
- "Critical Theory Workshop: Comments on Fumi Okiji's *Billie's Bent Elbow*," Critical Theory Cluster, Northwestern University, 19 March 2025
- "Alumni Panel VIII: Fellowship Funding in Graduate School," Institute for Recruitment of Teachers (IRT), 18 September 2024
- "What is to Be Done? Black College Students Confronting The Carceral State," The Petey Greene Program, 13 April 2023
- "Student Leaders & Advocacy," Beyond Bars South Conference, Columbia University Center for Justice, Morehouse College, 24 March 2023
- "Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline: Education & Reform: Mentorship, Sponsorship, and Scholarship," Racial Equity Community Impact Fund Conference, Gilead Sciences, 14 Sept. 2022

MEDIA AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Bell, Calvin. Interview with Jessica Castellani. *APA Member Interview: Calvin Roosevelt Bell III*, American Philosophical Association (APA), 09 May 2025.

Bell, Calvin. Interview with Brianna Carr. *We Expect Nothing Less: The Benjamin E. Mays Story*, WABE, 20 Sept. 2024.

Bell, Calvin. Interview with Denise Cooper. *Wellness in Black Life*, The Brookings Institution, 26 Sept. 2024.

Bell, Calvin and Kipton Jensen. Interview with The Morehouse Office of Strategic Marketing & Communications.
On Topic: Discussing the Higher Education in Prisons Initiative at the Andrew Young Center for Global Leadership (AYCGL), Morehouse College, 22 May 2024.

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Northwestern University

Fall Quarter 2025

PHIL 499-0-Independent Study: Elementary Logic I (Peter van Elswyk)

PHIL 402-1-Proseminar II: Reason and Polity (Baron Reed)

PHIL 410-0-Seminar-Special Topics in Philosophy: Epistemic Injustice and Recognition Theory (José Medina)

Spring Quarter 2025

PHIL 461-0-Seminar in Social and Political Theory: Theories of Exploitation (Pascal Brixel)

PHIL 415-0-Seminar in French Philosophy: Foucault and After (Penelope Deutscher)

PHIL 401-1-Proseminar I: Classics of Pragmatism (Mark Alznauer)

Winter Quarter 2025

PHIL 420-0-Seminar in Ancient Philosophy: Wisdom in Plato's *Republic* (Claudia Yau)

PHIL 410-0-Seminar-Special Topics in Philosophy: Understanding Human Rights (Cristina Lafont)

PHIL 401-1-Proseminar I: Classics of Pragmatism (Mark Alznauer)

Fall Quarter 2024

PHIL 423-0-Seminar in Contemporary Philosophy: Alain Locke (Corey Barnes)

PHIL 402-1-Proseminar II: Resistance (José Medina)

LEGAL_ST 376-0-Topics in Legal Studies: Policing Protest (Abigail Barefoot)

ResearchTalk and the UNC Odum Institute for Research in Social Science

Summer 2025

Photovoice: Powerful Images That Communicate Current Realities to Direct Social Change (Keon Gilbert)

Learning from Marginalized Voices via Community-based Participatory Research (Keon Gilbert & Kristin Black)

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Campaign Assistant

Winter 2025

Parielle Davis, Evanston, IL

Candidate for 7th Ward City Council of Evanston

- Created a field plan for canvassers to engage with prospective voters

Research Assistant

Winter 2025

Northwestern University Philosophy Department, Evanston, IL

- Indexed forthcoming *Oxford Handbook on Social Epistemology*
- Advisor: Jennifer Lackey, Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy

Research Intern

Summer 2024

The Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.

Governance Studies; Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion (RPI) Initiative

- Published several articles on the How We Rise blog, focusing on varying social and political issues
- Developed a facilitator model for the Wellness in Black Life project
- Carried out interviews on police reforms in St. Louis and Baltimore for the Policing Project
- Supervisor: Keon Gilbert, Dr. P.H., Governance Studies Fellow

Research Intern

Summer 2023

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, MA

Leadership Alliance Summer Research Early Identification Program

- Coded transcript data from 1000+ interviews examining the impact of socio-economic status on first-generation and continuing-generation students

- Edited developing manuscript entitled *When Colleges Closed: Inside the Upended World of Elite Colleges*
- Advisor: Anthony Abraham Jack, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Education

South Africa Leadership Program Fellow

Spring 2023

Morehouse Oprah Winfrey Scholars Program

- Studied social justice leadership abroad for two weeks in South Africa and curated an e-portfolio to share with the Morehouse community about the lessons I learned

Senator Cory Booker Congressional Intern

Summer 2022

Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

- Assisted legislative aids on co-sponsor memos, co-recommendations, and constituent letters concerning issues ranging from judiciary, agriculture, artificial intelligence, healthcare, and education

Research Intern

Summer 2021

Camden Education Association, Camden, NJ

- Compiled statistical data for manuscript on the impact of charter schools on Camden City residents
- Advisor: Keith E. Benson, Ed.D., Camden Education Association President

Research Intern

Summer 2021

The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP)

- Developed a policy brief to be dispersed to 100+ African think tanks on international policy issues
- Advisor: James McGann, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer in International Studies

SERVICE

Social Chair; Communications Chair, Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA), Northwestern University 2024-

Graduate Representative, Minorities and Philosophy (MAP), Northwestern University 2024-

Executive Board Member, Organizational Advancement Chair, ProjectHBCU 2024-

Historian, Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel Assistants Program 2022-24

President, Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society 2022-24

Cohort Captain; Student Ambassador, Andrew Young Center's Higher Education in Prisons Initiative 2022-24

Senator At-Large, Morehouse College Student Government Association 2022-23

Editor, Litterātus, Howard Thurman Honors Program Journal, Morehouse College 2022

President; Vice-President; Parliamentarian, Morehouse College Pre-Alumni Association 2021-24

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Philosophical Association

Member, American Political Science Association

Member, Association for Political Theory

Member, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society

Member, Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

Member, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy