

TORSTEN MENGE

Northwestern University in Qatar
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PROFILE

Areas of Specialization: Social and Political Philosophy, Social Ontology

Areas of Competence: 20th Century European Philosophy, Critical Philosophy of Race, Social Epistemology, Analytic Pragmatism

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor in Residence, Northwestern University in Qatar, 2017-present

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas, 2016-2017

Adjunct Instructor, Georgetown University, 2015-2016

EDUCATION

Georgetown University: Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2015

Committee: Quill R. Kukla (Chair), Mark Lance, Terry Pinkard, Joseph Rouse

Dissertation: *The Power of Genealogy*

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany): M.A. in Philosophy, 2008

Advisor: Thomas Schmidt

Thesis: *Niklas Luhmann's Conception of Morality*

PUBLICATIONS

"Colonial Genealogies of National Self-Determination," *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* (forthcoming)

"Colonial Genealogies of Immigration Controls, Self-Determination, and the Nation-State," *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*. Ahead of print (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1080/13698230.2021.2007342>.

"Fictional Expectations and the Ontology of Power," *Philosophers' Imprint*, vol. 20, no. 29 (2020), pp. 1-22. <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.3521354.0020.029>

"Violence and the Materiality of Power," *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*. Ahead of print (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1080/13698230.2019.1700344>

"How Far Does the European Union Reach? Foreign Land Acquisitions and the Boundaries of Political Communities," *Land*, vol. 8, no. 3 (2019), <https://doi.org/10.3390/land8030044>

"The Role of Power in Social Explanation," *European Journal of Social Theory*, vol. 21, no. 1 (2018), pp. 22-38, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1368431017714426>

"The Uncanny Effect of Telling Genealogies," *Southwest Philosophy Review*, vol. 33, no. 1 (2017), pp. 63-73, <http://doi.org/10.5840/swphilreview20173317>

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Colonial Genealogies of National Self-Determination” (Revise and resubmit)

“Power as an Expressive Concept”

“Making Concepts Uncanny: Foucaultian Genealogies and Conceptual Engineering”

“Why Collective Self-Determination Is Not Always Valuable”

“The Social Ontology of the Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Contested Notions of Collective Self-Determination and the Ethics of Immigration Control”
2022 Global Meeting on Law and Society, Law and Society Association, Lisboa, July 2022

“An Ecological Account of Power”
2022 Critical Social Ontology Workshop, March 2022 (virtual)

“Discrimination at the Border: Telling Genealogies of Modern Immigration Practices”
Confronting Discrimination: Phenomenological and Genealogical Perspectives, University of Innsbruck, October 2021

“Power’s Expressive Role and the ‘Essential Contestedness’ of Social Ontology”
Social Ontology 2021 (13th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference), August 2021 (virtual)

“Colonial Genealogies of Self-Determination”
37th International Social Philosophy Conference. Neumann University (PA), July 2020 (cancelled)
38th International Social Philosophy Conference, Online, July 2021

“Fictional Expectations and the Ontology of Power”
Social Ontology 2020 (12th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference), Online, July 2020

“Making Concepts Uncanny: Foucaultian Genealogies and Conceptual Analysis”
Workshop on Genealogy and Conceptual Engineering, University of St. Andrews, May 2020 (cancelled)

“Neighborhoods and States: Why Collective Self-Determination Is Not Always Valuable”
American Philosophical Association Eastern Division, Philadelphia, January 2020

“Immigration, Imperialism, and the Genealogy of Liberal Self-Determination”
Critical Genealogies Workshop, University of Oregon, May 2019

“The Global Land Rush, Self-Determination, and the Ontology of Political Communities”
American Philosophical Association Eastern Division, New York, January 2019

“Foreign Land Acquisitions, Self-Determination, and the Boundary Problem”
3. Workshop für Politische Philosophie, Berlin, December 2018

“What Determines the Boundaries of a Political Community?”
Social Ontology 2018 (11th Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference), Tufts University, August 2018

“Is Collective Self-Determination Always Valuable? Civic Boundaries and the Effects of Past White Supremacist Immigration Policies”
35th Annual International Social Philosophy Conference, Oakland University July 2018

- “How Far Does the European Union Reach? Land Acquisitions, Transnational Governance, and Citizenship”
 Qatar Faculty Forum, Doha, September 2018
 LANDac Annual International Conference 2018, Utrecht, June 2018
- “Self-Determination, Foreign Land Acquisitions, and the Ontology of Political Communities”
 GAP10: The 10th Triennial Congress of the German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP),
 Universität zu Köln (Germany), September 2018
 17th Annual Conference of the International Social Theory Consortium, Chicago, May 2018
- “Local Polities with Global Reach: Self-Determination, Immigration, and Foreign Land Acquisitions”
 Liberal Arts International Conference 2018 at Texas A&M University at Qatar, February 2018
- “Peoples, Communities, Borders”
Who’s Got the Power? Philosophical Critique of Social and Political Structures, University of
 Iceland, October 2017
- “Power, Collective Acceptance, and Ontological Complicity”
Complicity and the Politics of Representation, Ruhr University Bochum (Germany), June 2017
- “Power as an Expressive Concept”
 Central States Philosophical Association, Lincoln, NE, October 2016
- “Making Uncanny: The Normative Effect of Telling a Genealogy”
 Southwestern Philosophical Society, Corpus Christi, November 2016
 American Philosophical Association Pacific Division, San Francisco, April 2016
- “Violence and the ‘Fiction of Power’ ”
Re-engaging Elaine Scarry’s The Body in Pain, University of Brighton (UK), December 2015
- “Violence and the Materiality of Power”
 Hannah Arendt Circle, West Chester University, March 2016
 Political Violence Workshop, University of Connecticut, December 2015
- “A Problem for Theories of Power”
 American Philosophical Association Central Division, St. Louis, February 2015
- “Hobbes and the Fiction of Sovereign Power”
 American Philosophical Association Eastern Division, Philadelphia, December 2014
 31th International Social Philosophy Conference, Ashland, Oregon, July 2014
Power and Representation, KU Leuven, June 2014
 North Carolina Philosophical Society Meeting, Chapel Hill, February 2014
- “Die Fiktion der Macht. Eine Analyse alltäglicher Machtzuschreibungen”
Perspektivierungen der Macht, Hochschule für Politik, München (Germany), October 2013
- “A Regress Problem for Theories of Power”
 MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory, University of Manchester, September 2013
 30th Annual International Social Philosophy Conference, Quinnipiac University, July 2013
- “A Deflationary Conception of Social Power”
 Studies in Social and Political Thought Annual Conference, University of Sussex (UK), June 2012

“Foucault, Power, and Norms”

Villanova University Annual Philosophy Conference, Villanova University, March 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Philosophy

Northwestern: Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021; University of Arkansas: Fall 2016
Marymount University: Fall 2015

Introduction to Political Philosophy (“Justice”)

Northwestern: Fall 2017, 2019; Georgetown: Spring 2012, 2013, Summer 2013
Georgetown (Online): Summer 2014, 2015, 2016

Ethics and Politics of Immigration

Northwestern: Fall 2018, Spring 2020

Language and Power

Northwestern: Spring 2019

Advanced Topics in Philosophy: Social Construction (Race, Gender, Disability)

Northwestern: Spring 2018, 2020, 2022

Ways of Knowing (interdisciplinary Liberal Arts class)

Northwestern: Fall 2020, 2021

Introduction to Ethics

Northwestern: Spring 2019, University of Arkansas: Spring 2017

Philosophy of Race

University of Arkansas: Fall 2016; Georgetown: Spring 2016

Philosophical Genealogies (Senior Capstone Seminar)

University of Arkansas: Spring 2017

Bioethics

Georgetown: Spring 2016

Theory of Knowledge

Georgetown: Fall 2015

Relationships (Philosophy of Love, Sex, and Sexuality)

Georgetown: Fall 2013, 2014

Moral Skepticism (Metaethics)

Georgetown: Summer 2011, Fall 2011

Introduction to Logic

Georgetown: Summer 2012

Teaching Certificates:

Apprenticeship in Teaching Certificate, Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship,
Georgetown University

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

NU-Q Faculty Research Fellowship, 2022

APA Graduate Student Travel Stipends, 2014 (Eastern), 2015 (Central)

Graduate Fellowship, Georgetown University, 2008-2015

Engelhard Teaching Fellow, Georgetown University, 2012–2015
 Graduate Fellow in Bioethics, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, 2010–2011
 Political and Social Thought Fellowship, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, 2010 – 2011

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for *Arendt Studies*, *Contexto International: Journal of Global Connections*, *European Journal of Social Theory*, *Public Affairs Quarterly*
 Faculty Advisor, NU-Q Debate Club, Northwestern University in Qatar, 2018-2020
 Academic Integrity Committee, Northwestern University in Qatar, 2019-present
 Curriculum Committee, Northwestern University in Qatar, 2018-2019
 Teaching and Pedagogy Committee, Northwestern University in Qatar, 2017-2020
 Faculty Organizer, Social And Political Philosophy Discussion Group, University of Arkansas, 2016-2017
 Research Associate, MLA/Mellon Connected Academics Grant, 2015-2016
 Member, Minorities and Philosophy (Georgetown Chapter), 2014-2015
 Member, Georgetown Diversifying Syllabi Reading Group, 2014-2015
 Organizing Committee, Georgetown University Philosophy Conference, 2013, 2014
 President, GradPride (Georgetown LGBTQ Graduate Student Group), 2011–2013
 Member, Georgetown 20th Century European Philosophy Workshop, 2010–2015
 Treasurer, Georgetown Graduate Student Philosophy Club, 2010–2012
 Organizer, Kennedy Institute of Ethics Bioethics Speaker Series, 2010–2011
 Associate Editor, *Eudaimonia* (Georgetown Undergraduate Philosophy Journal), 2010

LANGUAGES

German (native speaker)
 English (fluent)
 French (reading)
 Russian (reading)
 Italian (reading)

REFERENCES

Quill R. Kukla, Dept. of Philosophy, Georgetown University, rk75@georgetown.edu
 Joseph Rouse, Philosophy Dept., Wesleyan University, jrouse@wesleyan.edu
 Terry Pinkard, Dept. Philosophy, Georgetown University, pinkard1@georgetown.edu
 Mark Lance, Dept. of Philosophy, Georgetown University, lancem@georgetown.edu
 Sami Hermez (Teaching reference), Liberal Arts, Northwestern University in Qatar, sami.hermez@northwestern.edu