

Kaitlyn (Kaity) Creasy
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RESEARCH AREAS

AOS Nineteenth-century European philosophy, moral psychology, philosophy of emotion, ethics
AOC Existentialism, twentieth-century European philosophy, environmental philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

California State University, San Bernardino	
Chair, Department of Philosophy	2025-present
Associate Professor of Philosophy	2022-present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy	2019-2022
Butler University (Indianapolis, IN)	
Assistant Professor of Philosophy	2017-2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	The University of New Mexico, Philosophy (with distinction).	2017
B.A.	New York University, Philosophy (with honors), <i>magna cum laude</i> .	2010

RESEARCH

Book

The Problem of Affective Nihilism in Nietzsche. Palgrave Macmillan. (2020)
Paperback edition published in June 2021.

Reviews:

1. Paul Katsafanas, *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*. (2022)
2. Lawrence Hatab, *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*. (2022)
3. Osman Allaga and Muhamed Abdelmageed, *Revista de Filosofia Aurora*. (2022)

Book symposia:

1. Author-meets-critics session with Mark Alfano, Ken Gemes, and Paul Katsafanas. 95th Annual Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association. (2021)
2. Author-meets-critics session with Rebecca Bamford and Lawrence Hatab. 60th Annual Meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy. (2022)

Edited volume

Cambridge Elements: *The Philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche*, ed. Kaitlyn Creasy and Matthew Meyer.
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (publication ongoing)

Edited volume in progress

The Moral Psychology of Loneliness, ed. Kaitlyn Creasy. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield.
• Volume in the *Moral Psychology of the Emotions* series.

Journal articles

13. “Stubborn Social Emotions and Their Harms.” *Philosophical Studies*. (forthcoming)
12. “Meaning at the Limits of Practical Agency.” *Philosophical Psychology* 39:1 (2026): 110-132.
11. “Loneliness and Resentment.” *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 11:4 (2025): 677-695.
10. “Nietzschean Decadence as Agential Disunity.” *Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 55:2 (2024): 127-146.
9. “Morality and Feeling Powerful: Nietzsche’s Power-Based Sentimental Pragmatism.” *Inquiry*. (2023) *Online-first*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2023.2240844>
8. “Nietzsche on the Sociality of Emotional Experience.” *European Journal of Philosophy* 31:3 (2023): 748-768.
7. “Making Knowledge the Most Powerful Affect: Overcoming Affective Nihilism.” *Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 50:2 (2019): 210-232.
6. “On the Problem of Affective Nihilism.” *Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 49:1 (2018): 31-51.
5. “Environmental Nihilism: Reading Nietzsche Against New Conservationism.” *Environmental Philosophy* 17:2 (2017): 339-359.

Papers in edited volumes

4. “Sexism is Exhausting: Nietzsche and the Affective Dynamics of Sexist Oppression.” In *Nietzsche and Politicized Identities*, ed. Rebecca Bamford and Allison Merrick. Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2024.
3. “Nietzsche on the Re-naturalization of Humanity in *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*.” In *Nietzsche’s Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Critical Guide*, ed. Keith Ansell-Pearson and Paul S. Loeb. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022.
2. “Contending with New Conservationism.” In *Conservation: Integrating Social and Ecological Justice*, ed. Helen Kopnina and Haydn Washington. New York: Springer, 2020.
1. “The Birth of Dada out of the Spirit of Nihilism.” In *Understanding Nietzsche, Understanding Modernism*, ed. Douglas Burnham and Brian Pines. New York: Bloomsbury, 2019.

Works in progress (drafts upon request)

5. “Nietzsche on Constructing Emotions”
4. “Loneliness, Co-Valuing, and Emotional Resonance”
3. “The Doxastic and Affective Elements of Nietzschean Nihilism”
 - Invited contribution to special issue with the *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*.
2. “Emotional Dominance in Nietzsche”
1. “Against Heidegger’s Nietzsche as Technological Thinker”
 - Invited contribution to a volume on Heidegger’s Nietzsche with CUP.

Public philosophy (including public talks and interviews)

10. “[On Loneliness](#).” Webinar with *The Philosopher*. February 2026. (upcoming)
9. “How to Be Lonely.” Invited public talk in downtown Merced, CA.
8. “[Lessons in Loneliness](#).” *The Philosopher*. Autumn 2025 issue.
7. “[You can be loved and still be lonely. Philosophy can help explain why](#).” Interview with NPR Phoenix/KJZZ.
6. “[Loved, yet lonely](#).” *Aeon*. 2023.
 - ⇒ Cited in “[A.I. is About to Solve Loneliness. That’s a Problem](#).” *The New Yorker*. 2025.
 - ⇒ Winner of the 2024 American Philosophical Association Op-Ed Contest
5. “[For Nietzsche, nihilism goes deeper than ‘life is pointless.’](#)” *Psyche*. 2023.

4. [“Three Therapies for the Affective Nihilist: Talking to Kaitlyn Creasy.”](#) *LA Review of Books Blog*. 2020.
3. [“Envisioning a Nietzschean Land Ethic.”](#) *Ecological Citizen*. 2020
2. Interviewee for [“Is This the End of American Optimism?”](#) *Vox*. 2020.
1. [APA Member Interview](#). Blog of the *American Philosophical Association*. 2020.

Book reviews and published commentaries

6. *Nietzsche’s Earth* by Gary Shapiro in the *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*. (2023)
5. Rethinking Nihilism and Resisting Heidegger’s Nietzsche in Tracy Llanera’s *Outgrowing Modern Nihilism*. *Philosophical Forum*. (2022)
4. *Nietzsche’s Moral Psychology* by Mark Alfano in the *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*. (2022)
3. *Individuality and Beyond* by Benedetta Zavatta in the *Journal of the History of Philosophy*. (2021)
2. *Friedrich Nietzsche and European Nihilism* by Paul van Tongeren in *The Agonist*. (2018)
1. *Naturalizing Heidegger* by David E. Storey in the *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*. (2017)

Invited talks

Upcoming

19. TBD
International Society for Nietzsche Studies. Universität Bonn. (September 2026)
18. TBD
Keynote address for the *History of Philosophy Society*. UC-Berkeley. (May 2026)
17. TBD
SoCal Normative Philosophy Workshop. UC-Riverside. (May 2026)

Past

16. “Loneliness and Emotional Resonance.”
Department of Philosophy at UC-Merced. (December 2025)
- 14-15. “Emotional Dominance in Nietzsche.”
Post-Kantian European Philosophy Seminar, Oxford University. (2025)
Nietzsche in the Northeast. (2025)
13. “Meaning at the Limits of Practical Agency.”
Meeting of the American Society for Existential Phenomenology. (2025)
12. “Nietzsche’s Psychological Constructionism.”
King’s College, London. (2024)
11. “The Psychology of Nietzschean Nihilism.”
IFILNOVA Nietzsche Seminar. Lisbon, Portugal. (2024)
10. “Nietzsche on the Philosophers of the Future.”
Text seminar for *The History of Philosophy Society*. Seattle, WA. (2024)
9. “Self-Knowledge, Self-Ignorance, and Feeling One’s Way Through.”
Bombay Beach Biennale. (2024)
- 7-8. “Nietzsche on Constructing Emotions”
2024 Meeting of the American Society for Existential Phenomenology. (2024)
SUNY-Binghamton. (2023)
6. “Nietzschean Self-Affirmation: Against Authenticity.”
Utah Valley University. (2023)
5. “Exhausting Environmental Optimism.”
University of Maine. (2021)
- 3-4. “Nietzsche on Sociocultural Impacts on Emotions”

- University of London, Birkbeck. (2021)
 Friedrich Nietzsche Society's Works in Progress Series. (2021)
2. "Resisting Human Exceptionalism in the Anthropocene: Nietzsche's Ecocentrism."
 Nietzsche in the Northeast. (2020) (*canceled due to COVID-19*)
 1. "Nietzschean Nihilisms: Distinctions and Interactions."
 Quinnipiac University. (2019)

Presentations (peer-reviewed)

- "Loneliness, Co-Valuing, and Emotional Resonance."
 Annual Meeting of the European Philosophical Society for the Study of Emotions. Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, June 2026. (upcoming)
- "Meaning at the Limits of Practical Agency"
 Devotion and Meaning in Life Conference. Boston University, December 2024.
- "Loneliness and Ressentiment"
 Love and Loneliness Workshop, California State University, San Bernardino, December 2024.
 Politicized Loneliness, University of Helsinki, March 2024.
- "On Loneliness and Really Being Seen"
 98th Annual Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 2024.
- "Nietzsche's Changing Conceptions of Self-Affirmation: From Authenticity to Empowerment"
 28th Annual Meeting of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society, September 2023.
- "Emotional Dominance and Psycho-physiological Decadence"
 North American Nietzsche Society, Brown University, October 2022.
 27th Annual Meeting of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society, September 2022.
- "Stubborn Social Emotions and their Harms"
 97th Annual Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2023.
 39th International Social Philosophy Conference, July 2022.
- "The Affective Freedom of Nietzsche's Free Spirit"
 North American Nietzsche Society, Georgia State University, October 2021.
- "Nietzsche on Sociocultural Impacts on Emotions"
 26th Annual Meeting of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society (virtual), September 2021.
 Southwest Seminar in Continental Philosophy, May 2021.
- "Nietzsche on Affect, Self-Knowledge, and Personal Transformation"
 57th Meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, October 2018.
- "Nietzsche on Nihilism, Affect, and Agency"
 North American Nietzsche Society, Stanford University, October 2018.
- "Contending with New Conservationism"
 Humanities Without Walls, Indiana University, May 2018.
 International Society of Environmental Ethics at the 92nd Annual Pacific APA, March 2018.
 Irish Philosophical Society, Carlowe College, November 2017.

“How to Feel Differently: The Problem of Affective Nihilism in Nietzsche”
23rd Annual Meeting of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society, September 2017.

“Environmental Nihilism: Reading Nietzsche Against New Conservationism”
91st Annual Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 2017.

“Thinking Self-Transformation and Openness”
55th Annual Meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, October 2016.

“The Limits of Self-Determination in Nietzsche”
21st Annual Meeting of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society, September 2015.

“Finding Love in Nietzsche: from the *Untimely Meditations* through *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*”
20th Annual Meeting of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society, September 2014.

Invited commentaries

Comments on Bernard Reginster’s *The Will to Nothingness*. 119th Annual Eastern Meeting of the American Philosophical Association. (2023)

Comments on “Pessimism and the Affirmation of Life: Nietzsche's Music-Making Socrates” by Peter Stewart-Kroeker. 96th Annual Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association. (2022)

Comments on “Dionysian Women: Hedwig Dohm’s Feminist Critique of Nietzschean Life Affirmation” by Katie Brennan. WIP Series for *Extending New Narratives in Philosophy*, an organization committed to “retrieving philosophical works of women and individuals from... marginalized groups.” (2021)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS (selected)

Research

- 2025 Philosophy in Media Fellowship, *Marc Sanders Foundation*
A fellowship for academically trained philosophers seeking to write, speak to, and produce for the general public in the major media market spaces.
- 2024 Faculty Achievement Innovative Research Award, *California State University, San Bernardino*
Winner of the 2024 American Philosophical Association Op-Ed Contest
This prize recognizes the best opinion-editorials published by philosophers in a given year.
- 2023 Office of Academic Research Grant (course release), *California State University, San Bernardino*
Professors Across Borders Award (university-wide), *California State University, San Bernardino*
Dean’s Research Grant (course release), *California State University, San Bernardino*
Professors Across Borders Award (university-wide), *California State University, San Bernardino*
- 2022 Office of Academic Research Grant (course release), *California State University, San Bernardino*
- 2021-22 Postdoctoral Research Leave Fellowship, *American Association of University Women* (\$30,000)
- 2021, 2020 Dean’s Summer Research Fellowship, *California State University, San Bernardino*
- 2018 Faculty Summer Research Grant, *Butler University*
- 2016-17 Dissertation Fellowship, *Russell and Dorothy Bilinski Foundation* (\$30,000)
- 2014 Intensive Language Course Grant, *Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst* (DAAD: German Academic Exchange Service)

Teaching

2019 Outstanding Professor of the Year Award in Teaching (university-wide), *Butler University*
2019 Social Justice and Diversity Vocational Fellowship, *Butler University*

COURSES TAUGHT

California State University, San Bernardino

- Capstone seminars: Schopenhauer and Nietzsche (Advanced Issues in the History of Philosophy); Being Human and Becoming a Self (Advanced Issues in Value Theory)
- Upper-level courses: 19th-century European Philosophy; Moral Psychology; The Meaning of Life; Existentialism; Continental Philosophy; Phenomenology; Environmental Ethics
- Introductory courses: Honors Critical Thinking; Introduction to Ethics; Introduction to Philosophy
- Honors thesis supervised: Resisting Epistemic Injustice in Mental Health Narratives

Butler University

- Capstone seminar: Genealogy and Power: Nietzsche and Foucault
- Upper-level courses: History of Modern Philosophy; Wilderness and the Land Ethic
- Introductory courses: Marginalized in America; Ethics, the Good Life, and Society; First Year Seminar: Becoming Who You Are (two semesters); Principles of Reasoning
- Honors theses supervised: Philosophy of Adoption and Parenthood; Omar Khayyam and Albert Camus on the Absurd

The University of New Mexico

- Introductory courses: Introduction to Philosophy; Reasoning and Critical Thinking

SERVICE

Service to the profession

- Program Committee, American Philosophical Association-Pacific Division (2024-) (*three-year term*)
- Steering Committee, North American Nietzsche Society (2019-)
- Advisory Board, *The Ecological Citizen* (2019-)
- Member, American Philosophical Association Majors Task Force (2024-)
- Lead Organizer, Love and Loneliness Workshop, California State University, San Bernardino (2024)
- Lead Organizer, 2024 Meeting of the North American Nietzsche Society (2024)
- Chair, Program Committee, 2024 Meeting of the North American Nietzsche Society (2023-24)
- Secretary-Treasurer, The Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (2018-21)
- Program Committee, North American Nietzsche Society (2019-20)
- Organizer, Southwest Seminar in Continental Philosophy (virtual) (2021)
- Referee for *Ergo*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Emotion Review*, *Ethics and the Environment*, *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Oxford University Press*, *Bloomsbury Press*, *Palgrave Macmillan*

Departmental, college, and university service

California State University, San Bernardino

- Department Chair, Department of Philosophy (2025-present)
- Recruitment Coordinator, Department of Philosophy (2022-2025)
- Mentor, Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, CSUSB (2022-2024)

- Writing Intensive Advisory Board, CSUSB (2019-2024)
- Student Sponsor, Summer Program for the Advancement of Women in Philosophy (2022)
- Search Committee (tenure-track), Department of Philosophy (2022-2023)
- Faculty Coordinator for the Philosophy Club, Department of Philosophy (2019-2022)
- Search Committee (tenure-track), Department of Philosophy (2021-2022)
- Search Committee (tenure-track), Department of Philosophy (2019-2020)
- Curriculum Committee, College of Arts and Letters (2019-2021)

Butler University

- Faculty Advisor and Coordinator for the Philosophy Club (2017-2019)
- Faculty Senator, Butler University Faculty Senate (2018-2019)
- Search Committee (tenure-track), Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Classics (2017-2018)
- Faculty Sponsor, Philosophy in an Inclusive Key Summer Institute (PIKSI) (2017-2018)