

MICAH D. TRAUTMANN

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy mtrautmann@skidmore.edu
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RESEARCH AREAS

Areas of Specialization:

Social and Political Philosophy | Applied Ethics | Post-Kantian Continental Philosophy

Areas of Competence:

Ethics | Ancient Greek Philosophy | Philosophy of the Emotions

APPOINTMENTS

Visiting Assistant Professor	Department of Philosophy Skidmore College	Aug. 2026 - May 2027
Postdoctoral Associate	Center on Forced Displacement Boston University	Jan. 2024 - Jul. 2026

EDUCATION

Boston University | Ph.D. in Philosophy Jan. 2024

Dissertation: "Refugees and a Right to Place"

Committee: Daniel O. Dahlstrom, Susanne Sreedhar, Serena Parekh (Northeastern Univ.)

In my dissertation, I map and critique a series of significant recent shifts in the global management of refugees. I focus, in particular, on the unique harms of protracted displacement, locating them not in the loss of national membership or specific rights as most philosophers have done, but in the prolonged deprivation of the environmental background conditions necessary for leading a minimally dignified life. Drawing on phenomenological insights into the way our spatial environment shapes various aspects of our agency and well-being, I identify and articulate a set of under-recognized harms in the function of encampment, the non-durability of refugee infrastructure, and the liminality of contemporary asylum processing spaces. Ultimately, I make the case that the meaning of displacement today has changed: refugees no longer merely lose their homes, they are also deprived (often indefinitely) of access to genuinely habitable places.

Boston University | Graduate Certificate in Teaching Writing Aug. 2023

Vassar College | B.A. in Philosophy May 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

"Life in Limbo: Asylum Detention and the Environmental Conditions of Hope." *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 12, no. 2 (2026): 182-200.

"The Wrong of Refugee Containment." *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 63, no. 1 (2025): 99-115.

"Non-Durable Solutions: The Harm of Permanently Temporary Refugee Housing." *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 41, no. 4 (2024): 612-629.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"A Politics of Trust: Arendt on the Recognitive Structure of Political Action" [Under review.]

“Idle Dreams: Imagination and the Atrophy of Hope” [In preparation.]
 “Is the Territorial Arrival Requirement for Asylum Justifiable?” [In preparation.]
 “Just Temporary Refugee Protection” [In preparation.]

PRESENTATIONS (*’refereed; †’invited)

“Idle Dreams: Imagination and the Atrophy of Hope” *American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting	2027
“Is the Territorial Arrival Requirement for Asylum Justifiable?” *15th Braga Summer School, University of Minho, PT	2025
“Life in Limbo: Asylum Detention and the Environmental Conditions of Hope” *Philosophy & Politics of Despair Workshop, University College Dublin, IE *Politics, Populism, and Affects, UiT The Arctic University, NO	2025 2024
“Hannah Arendt and a Right to a Place in the World” *Rethinking Migration Colloquium, Villa Vigoni, IT	2024
“Non-Durable Solutions: The Harm of Permanently Temporary Refugee Housing” *MANCEPT Workshops, University of Manchester, GB	2022
“The Wrong of Refugee Containment” *American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting †Immigration Workshop, Hoffberger Center for Ethics, Univ. of Baltimore	2022 2022
“A Politics of Trust: Arendt on the Recognitive Structure of Political Action” *Arendt Circle Meeting	2022
“Heidegger on Homecoming” *American Phil. Association, Eastern Division, Heidegger Circle Satellite Meeting	2021
“Apolis: Ostracism in Aristotle’s <i>Politics</i> ” *Ancient Philosophy Society (Emerging Scholar Essay Prize Winner)	2021
“Hegel and Arendt on Recognition and Forgiveness” Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Città di Castello, IT	2019
“ <i>Refugium</i> : Arendt and Agamben on the Spatial Conditions of Hospitality” *Stakes of Sanctuary Workshop, McGill University	2019
“A Heideggerian Hospitality: The Ethical Significance of <i>Unheimlichkeit</i> ” *The Heidegger Circle, Goucher College *Borders and Walls Conference, The New School	2018 2018

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

The Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar Graduate Fellowship, Center on Forced Displacement, Boston University	2023
Helen G. Allen Humanities Award & Angela and James J. Rallis Memorial Award, BU Center for the Humanities	2023
Summer Research Fellow, Center on Forced Displaced, Boston University	2023
Boston Phenomenology Circle, BU Center for the Humanities “Humanities Enhancement Project” Grant (with Daniel O. Dahlstrom)	2021, 2022
Writing Program Fellowship, Boston University	2021-2023
Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Boston University	2020
Summer Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, BU	2020

Fellow, Summer Institute for Research in Forced Displacement, Boston University	2020
Emerging Scholar Prize, Ancient Philosophy Society	2020
John R. Silber Professorship Research Stipend, BU	2017, 2019
Vernon Venable Prize for Excellence in Philosophy, Vassar College	2013
Departmental and Institutional Honors, Vassar College Dept. of Philosophy	2013

TEACHING (*co-taught)

Principal Instructor:

Introduction to Philosophy	Skidmore College Fall 2026
Introduction to Philosophy	Skidmore College Fall 2026
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Forced Displacement*	Boston University Spring 2026
Philosophy and Film	Boston University Fall 2025
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Forced Displacement*	Boston University Spring 2025
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Forced Displacement*	Boston University Spring 2024
Moral Psychology	Boston University Fall 2022
Political Emotions	Boston University Spring 2022
Moral Psychology	Boston University Fall 2021
History of Ancient Philosophy	Boston University Summer 2021

Teaching Assistant:

Introduction to Economic Justice	Northeastern University Fall 2020
Great Philosophers	Boston University Spring 2020
Existentialism	Boston University Spring 2019
Existentialism	Boston University Fall 2019
Introduction to Philosophy	Harvard Extension School Fall 2019
Introduction to Philosophy	Boston University Fall 2018
Medical Ethics	Boston University Spring 2018
Political Philosophy	Boston University Fall 2017

Additional Pedagogical Experience and Training:

Co-Organizer and Trip Leader, BU Summer School on Forced Displacement, Belgrade, SRB	2024
Co-Instructor, Migration and Displacement in the Balkans, BU HUB Co-Curricular	2024
Graduate Certificate in Teaching Writing, BU Writing Program	2023
Co-Trip Leader, BU Interdisciplinary Border Studies Program, Texas	2023
Faculty Seminar on Linguistic Justice in the Classroom, BU Writing Program	2022
Teaching College Writing Courses (WR 698+699), BU Writing Program	2021
Participant, Pedagogy Workshops, BU Center for Teaching and Learning	2018-2020
Participant, Inclusive Pedagogy Workshop Series, BU Philosophy Dept.	2017-2022
Participant, Teaching Fellow Observation Exchange, BU Philosophy Dept.	2018-2022

SERVICE

Equity, Diversity, and Pedagogy Service

Pedagogy Officer, Dept. of Philosophy, BU	2020-2021
Organizer, Inclusive Pedagogy Workshop Series	
Facilitator, New Teaching Fellow Workshop	2019, 2020
Coordinator, Teaching Fellow Observation Exchange	
Committee on Climate and Diversity, Dept. of Philosophy, BU	2018-2020
Departmental Subcommittee on Faculty-Graduate Feedback	2017, 2022
Graduate Student Mentor, Dept. of Philosophy, BU	2017-2020

Service to the Profession

Referee, <i>Ethics & Global Politics</i> and <i>International Migration Review</i>	2025-2026
Editor, <i>Critical Forced Displacement Magazine</i>	2024-2025
Co-organizer, "Center on Forced Displacement Annual Conference"	2023-2026
Co-organizer, BU Mellon Sawyer Seminar Series, "Border Externalization"	2023-2024
Principle Organizer, Mellon Seminar "The Ethics of Border Externalization"	2023
Convener, Boston Phenomenology Circle	2021-2023
Organizer, BPC Conference "Margins of Phenomenology"	2022
Organizer, BPC Conference "Phenomenology and Emotion"	2023
Referee, Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Boston University	2017, 2018, 2022

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association
The Heidegger Circle
The Ancient Philosophy Society
The Boston Phenomenology Circle

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

German
Spanish

GRADUATE COURSEWORK (*audit)

Pedagogy:

Teaching College Research	Sarah Madsen Hardy, Boston University
Teaching College Writing	Chris Walsh, Boston University

History of Philosophy:

Plato: Philosophy v. Rhetoric	David Roochnik, Boston University
Aristotle's <i>Politics</i>	David Roochnik, Boston University
Aristotle's <i>De Anima</i> *	David Roochnik, Boston University
Spinoza's <i>Ethics</i>	Aaron Garrett, Boston University
The Enlightenment and Its Critics	James Schmidt, Boston University

19th Century German Philosophy

Nietzsche*

Phenomenology

Heidegger's *Being and Time*

Later Heidegger

Phenomenology of the Stranger

Early Wittgenstein

Later Wittgenstein

Naturalism

Paul Katsafanas, Boston University

Paul Katsafanas, Boston University

Daniel O. Dahlstrom, Boston University

Daniel O. Dahlstrom, Boston University

Daniel O. Dahlstrom, Boston University

Richard Kearney, Boston College

Juliet Floyd, Boston University

Juliet Floyd, Boston University

Walter Hopp, Boston University

Contemporary Philosophy:

Ethics: Value and Agency

Global Justice and Forced Displacement (Ind. Study)

Self-Knowledge and Self-Opacity*

Philosophy and Narrative

Philosophy of Language*

Formal Logic

Paul Katsafanas, Boston University

Susanne Sreedhar, Boston University

Paul Katsafanas, Boston University

Allen Speight, Boston University

Juliet Floyd, Boston University

Juliet Floyd, Boston University

REFERENCES (*'research; '†'teaching)

* **Dr. Daniel O. Dahlstrom** | *John R. Silber Professor of Philosophy*, Boston University

To Request: send.Dahlstrom.EEB2DBBB14@interfoliodossier.com | Personal: dahlstro@bu.edu

* **Dr. Susanne Sreedhar** | *Professor of Philosophy*, Boston University

To Request: send.Sreedhar.78B41D0760@interfoliodossier.com | Personal: sreedhar@bu.edu

* **Dr. Serena Parekh** | *Distinguished Professor of Philosophy*, Northeastern University

To Request: send.Parekh.91A4E7BFF2@interfoliodossier.com | Personal: s.parekh@northeastern.edu

† **Dr. Michaela McSweeney** | *Associate Professor of Philosophy*, Boston University

To Request: send.McSweeney.93ED6D8C19@interfoliodossier.com | Personal: m3@bu.edu