

ALLAN MOHAMAD HILLANI

180 Myrtle Avenue, #4R, Brooklyn, 11201 | (929) 302 4221
allanmh@newschool.edu | <https://nssr.academia.edu/AllanMHillani>

EDUCATION

- 2018–24 (expect.) **The New School for Social Research (NSSR)**, New York, US
Ph.D. Candidate (ABD), Department of Philosophy
Dissertation: *The Spell of the Leviathan*
Committee: Simon Critchley (advisor); Jay Bernstein; Samantha Frost
- 2015–17 **Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ)**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
M.A., Theory and Philosophy of Law, Department of Law
Thesis (passed with distinction): Na urgência da catástrofe: violência e capitalismo [In the Urgency of Catastrophe: Violence and Capitalism]
Supervisors: Bethania de Albuquerque Assy and Guilherme Leite Gonçalves
- 2010–15 **Federal University of Paraná (UFPR)**, Curitiba, Brazil
B.A., Law, Department of Law
Thesis (passed with distinction): Política em tempos de exceção: para uma crítica do direito de resistência [Politics in Exceptional Times: Towards a Critique of the Right of Resistance]
Supervisor: Vera Karam de Chueiri

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Social & Political Philosophy Comparative Metaphysics Modern Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Critical Theory & Marxism Visual Studies & Aesthetics Philosophy of Law
Ethics Psychoanalysis Cultural Studies
Philosophy of the Social Sciences Indigenous Philosophy Latin American Philosophy

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

My doctoral dissertation, “The Spell of the Leviathan,” proposes to demonstrate the fetishistic character of political power. This involves a reconceptualization of both fetishism and power. To achieve this, I hold that it is necessary to seriously engage with ethnology—especially with works of political anthropology and comparative metaphysics—so that the political notions and arrangements that are taken by us, Moderns, to be natural and universal can start to be questioned. I take Thomas Hobbes’s political philosophy as both paradigmatic of and antithetical to modern political thought and institutions, so the analysis of his ideas in comparison to other forms of political organization not only results in a new interpretation of his work, but also in a questioning of the “Hobbesianism” of our political imaginary.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023 (Fall) **Political Philosophy**, Eugene Lang College, Philosophy, instructor (teaching fellow)
- 2023 (Spr.) **Introduction to Psychoanalysis**, Eugene Lang College, Philosophy, instructor (teaching fellow)
- 2023 (Fall) **Introduction to Design Studies**, Parsons School of Design, recitation instructor (teaching assistant)
- 2019 (Fall) **Introduction to Visual Culture**, Parsons School of Design, recitation instructor
2021 (Spr.) (teaching assistant)
2022 (Spr.)
- 2021 (Fall) **French Language Group**, Philosophy Department, NSSR, facilitator
2022 (Spr.)
2022 (Fall)
- 2022 (Fall) **Introductory Proseminar**, Philosophy Department, NSSR, facilitator
- 2015–16 **Philosophy of Law**, University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, grader

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

- 2023 Hillani, A. M., "Hobbes Among the Savages: Politics, War, and Enmity in the So-Called State of Nature," *Hobbes Studies* 36:1 (2023), special issue on Hobbes and Race.
- 2023 Hillani, A. M., "The Mythical Authority of Foundation: Towards a Critique of Justice," *Contexto Internacional* 45:1 (2023), PUC-Rio, special issue on Walter Benjamin's 'Critique of Violence'.
- 2021 Hillani, A. M., "Os usos de Agamben em tempos de pandemia" [The Uses of Agamben in Pandemic Times], *Sociologia & Antropologia* 11 (2021), UFRJ, special issue on the coronavirus pandemic, 247–57.
- 2020 Hillani, A. M., "The Spell of Authority: On Adorno's Political Philosophy of the Bann," *Dissonâncias: Revista de Teoria Crítica* 3:2 (2019), UNICAMP, special issue on Theodor W. Adorno, 213–54.
- 2020 Hillani, A. M., "The Ideology of Human Rights: On the Semiotics of Having Rights and the Politics of Being Human," *Revista Direito, Estado e Sociedade* 57 (2020), PUC-Rio, 10–31.

BOOK

- 2018 Hillani, A. M., *Na Urgência da Catástrofe: Violência e Capitalismo* [In the Urgency of Catastrophe: Violence and Capitalism], Rio de Janeiro: Gramma, 2018.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Savage Hobbes: Anthropological Philosophy Against Philosophical Anthropology,” Questioning ‘Western Philosophy’ Conference, Oxford University, Oxford.
- 2023 “Hobbes in Amazonia: Politics and Enmity in the So-Called State of Nature,” International Hobbes Association Annual Meeting, American Philosophical Association (Central) Meeting, Denver.
- 2022 “Fetishism,” Political Concepts Graduate Conference, N SSR, New York.
- 2020 “The Fetishism of the People: Money, Sovereignty, and Marx’s Critique of Political Philosophy,” Graduate Conference in Political Theory, N SSR, New York.
- 2019 “Representation and Disavowal: Political Fetishism in Freud’s Social Psychology,” Psychoanalytic Society Workshop Series, N SSR, New York.
- 2019 “Dispelling the Spell: Aesthetic Experience and Political Action in Theodor W. Adorno,” Aesthetics, Politics, and the Creation of the New, N SSR, New York.
- 2019 “The Mystery of Accumulation: Exception, Excess, and the Problem of Justice,” Anthropology Graduate Conference, N SSR, New York.
- 2018 “Not Only Economists are Fond of Robinson Crusoe Stories: The Underlying Critique of Political Philosophy in Marx’s Capital,” Historical Materialism, SOAS, London.

TRANSLATIONS

- 2019 Anderson, K. B., *Marx nas Margens: Nacionalismo, Etnicidade e Sociedades Não-Ocidentais* (trans. from English by A. M. Hillani & P. Davoglio), São Paulo: Boitempo, 2019.
- 2018 Safatle V., “This Fight Would Take Place Someday” (trans. from Portuguese by A. M. Hillani), *Public Seminar*, available at: <https://bit.ly/30JS9dl> (Oct 26).
- 2018 Safatle, V., “Neoliberalism with An Inhuman Face” (trans. from Portuguese by A. M. Hillani), *Public Seminar*, available at: <https://bit.ly/2OegQvX> (Nov 8).
- 2018 Rigouste, M., “Purificar o território: a luta anti-imigratória como laboratório securitário (1968-1974)” (trans. from French by A. M. Hillani & J. Horst), *Revista Direito & Práxis*, 9:2 (2018), 952–68.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 HILLANI, Allan M., “Para uma teoria do fetichismo político [For a Theory of Political Fetishism],” *Revista Porto Alegre*, <http://revistaportoalegre.com/para-uma-teoria-do-fetichismo-politico/>.

- 2021 SUBSET OF THEORETICAL PRACTICE, "Atlas of Experimental Politics," *ŠUM* 17, <https://www.sum.si/journal-articles/atlas-of-experimental-politics>
- 2020 HILLANI, Allan M. "Depois do fim do capitalismo [After the End of Capitalism]," *Revista Porto Alegre*, <http://revistaportoalegre.com/depois-do-fim-do-capitalismo/>.
- 2020 HILLANI, Allan M., "Os usos de Agamben em tempos de pandemia [The Uses of Agamben in Pandemic Times]," *Biblioteca Virtual do Pensamento Social*, <https://blogbvps.com/2020/06/15/os-usos-de-agamben-em-tempos-de-pandemia-por-allan-m-hillani/>
- 2018 HILLANI, Allan M., "O fantasma de Marx [The Specter of Marx]," *Horizontes ao Sul*, <https://www.horizontesaosul.com/single-post/2018/06/17/o-fantasma-de-marx>

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2021 (Fall) **Research Assistant**, Prof. Frank Leon Roberts (Arts Department, Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts at the New School)
Assisted in editing the Black Lives Matter Reader (Stanford University Press, forthcoming) and in organizing the speaker series The Revolution Will be Dramatized: Black Theater Now

FURTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020 **Editorial Assistant**, Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal, NSSR
Assisted in the issue 41:1 of the journal on Philosophy and Coloniality
- 2015 **Paralegal**, IDDH—Institute for the Defense of Human Rights, Rio de Janeiro
Assisted in legal suits against the state of Rio de Janeiro addressing extra-judicial killings by the state military police

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023-24 Teaching Fellowship, The New School for Social Research
- 2022–23 NSSR Dissertation Fellowship, The New School for Social Research
- 2020–21 Onassis Fellowship for the Study of Ancient Philosophy, Onassis Foundation
- 2018–23 Dean’s Fellowship, The New School for Social Research

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING

- 2022, 23 Political Concepts Graduate Conference, NSSR, New York.
- 2022 Graduate Political Theory Conference, Loyola University Chicago & NSSR (online).

OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- 2018–19 **Facilitator**, Philosophy Department, NSSR
Critique of Political Economy Reading Group
- 2020–21 **Facilitator**, Philosophy Department, NSSR
Anthropology & Philosophy Reading Group
- 2020–21 **Faculty Liaison**, Philosophy Department, NSSR
Philosophy Forum of Students

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Portuguese (mother tongue)	English
French	Spanish

REFERENCES

Simon Critchley (critchlS@newschool.edu)
Hans Jonas Professor of Philosophy, The New School for Social Research

Jay Bernstein (bernsteJ@newschool.edu)
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, The New School for Social Research

Margot Bouman (boumanm@newschool.edu)
Assistant Professor of Visual Culture, Parsons School of Design