

Department of Philosophy
Temple University
1114 Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122

(410) 274-0656
mary.brennan@temple.edu
katiebrennan2@gmail.com

M. Katie Brennan

Areas of Specialization: Nineteenth-Century European Philosophy, Aesthetics, Feminism

Areas of Competence: Ethics, Critical Race Studies/Philosophy of Race, Environmental Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor-Instruction, Department of Philosophy, Temple University, 2021–present

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Morgan State University, 2019–2020

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, Temple University, 2019

M.A., Philosophy, SUNY Stony Brook, 2009

M.A.L.A., St. John's College, Annapolis, 2007

B.A., English and Philosophy, St. Mary's College of Maryland, 2004

DISSERTATION

Title: *Nietzsche on Suffering, Affirmation, and Modern Tragedy*

Committee: Kristin Gjesdal (Chair), Susan Feagin, Lara Ostaric, Paul Kottman (New School for Social Research), Andrew Huddleston (University of Warwick)

As an artform, tragedy is deeply perplexing. On the one hand, it depicts events that are painful, depressing, and difficult to watch. On the other hand, it is a genre that has been continually replicated, revered, and enjoyed throughout history. I examined Nietzsche's response to this problem. On his account, tragedy is valuable because, even though (or precisely because) it is painful to watch, it allows us to affirm life. This project expands the relevance of Nietzsche's discussion of tragedy, which is focused almost exclusively on the tragedy of the ancient Greeks and Wagner, by engaging with his comments on Shakespeare.

PUBLICATIONS

"The Nihilism of the Oppressed: Hedwig Dohm's Feminist Critique of Nietzschean Nihilism," *The Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 52 (2021): 209–233.

"The Wisdom of Silenus: Suffering in *The Birth of Tragedy*," *The Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 49 (2018): 174–193.

"Nietzsche's Hamlet Puzzle: Life Affirmation in *The Birth of Tragedy*," *The Routledge Companion to Shakespeare and Philosophy*, ed. Craig Bourne and Emily Caddick Bourne, London: Routledge, 2019.

"Nietzsche's Shakespeare: Musicality and Historicity in *The Birth of Tragedy*," *Memoria di Shakespeare* 1 (2014): 109–128.

PRIZES

2017 Friedrich Nietzsche Society R. J. Hollingdale Prize

2017 Temple University Philosophy Department Teaching Prize

CONFERENCES

Invited Presentations

- 2020 “Et tu Hamlet?: Nietzschean Revaluations of Shakespeare,” Morgan State University, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Colloquium Series**canceled due to COVID-19
- 2018 “Nietzsche’s Great Men: *Julius Caesar*, Shakespeare, and the Third Reich,” Shakespeare and/as Philosophy, September 3–4, Senate House, London, UK
- 2017 “Nietzsche’s *Hamlet* Puzzle: Life Affirmation in *The Birth of Tragedy*,” Kingston Shakespeare Seminar: Shakespeare and Nietzsche, September 2, Garrick’s Temple to Shakespeare, Hampton, UK

Peer-Reviewed Presentations

- 2022 Author Meets Critics Panel, Tracy Llanera, *Richard Rorty: Outgrowing Modern Nihilism*, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, March 10–12, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida
- 2021 Comments on Joel Van Fossen, “Nietzsche on Self-Reverence,” North American Nietzsche Society, October 15–16, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- 2021 “The Nihilism of the Oppressed: Hedwig Dohm’s Feminist Critique of Nietzschean Nihilism,” Friedrich Nietzsche Society, September 16–18, Online via Zoom
- 2019 “Et tu Hamlet?: Nietzschean Revaluations of Shakespeare,” American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division, April 5–6, Philadelphia, PA
- 2018 “Nietzsche’s Great Men: *Julius Caesar*, Shakespeare, and the Third Reich,” Friedrich Nietzsche Society: Nietzsche and the Politics of Difference, September 20–21, Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK
- 2017 “The Wisdom of Silenus: Suffering in *The Birth of Tragedy*,” Friedrich Nietzsche Society: Nietzsche’s God(s): Theism, Pantheism and Atheism, September 1–3, Bath Spa University, Bath, UK
- 2017 “Nietzsche’s *Hamlet* Puzzle: Life Affirmation in *The Birth of Tragedy*,” American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division, April 28–29, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 “Nietzsche’s *Hamlet* Puzzle: Life Affirmation in *The Birth of Tragedy*,” Fourth Annual Lehigh Philosophy Conference, 19th Century Philosophy: 1781–1905, October 27–28, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
- 2014 “Tragic Knowledge: Reading Nietzsche through Shakespeare,” Shakespeare: The Philosopher, September 12–13, University of Hertfordshire, UK
- 2012 “Traveling Spaces: Memory’s Passport Imagination’s Suitcase,” Canadian Society for Aesthetics, May 26–28, University of Waterloo, Ontario
- 2011 “The Unveiling of the I in James and Levinas,” Annual Philosophy and the Arts Conference at SUNY Stony Brook, April 1–2, Stony Brook Manhattan, New York, NY
- 2010 “Traveling Spaces: Memory’s Passport Imagination’s Suitcase,” International Association of Philosophy and Literature, May 24–30, University of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

- 2010 “William James, Michel Foucault and Aliens?” Annual Philosophy and the Arts Conference at SUNY Stony Brook, March 26–27, Stony Brook Manhattan, New York, NY
- 2009 “The Unveiling of the I in James and Levinas,” North American Levinas Society, June 28–30, University of Toronto, Canada

Conferences Co-Organized

- 2020 Conference Co-Organizer, Philosophy and HBCU’s V: 5 Years after the Baltimore Uprising, Morgan State University, March 27–28**postponed due to COVID19
- 2016 Conference Co-Organizer, Nietzsche’s *Birth of Tragedy*: Philosophy, Music, Theater, April 29–30, Temple University. Conference Participants: Michael Forster, Tom Stern, Dean Moyar, Mark Franko, Tamsin Shaw, Richard Eldridge, Joshua Billings, Marcia Ferguson, Paul Katsafanas, Andrew Huddleston, Kristin Gjesdal
- 2016 Conference Co-Organizer, Graduate Conference in Aesthetics, April 17, in collaboration with the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium and the American Society for Aesthetics, April 17, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 Conference Co-Organizer, Encountering Crisis: Working Across the Humanities, Center for the Humanities Graduate Fellows Conference, March 10, Temple University
- 2015 Conference Co-Organizer, The Scholar as Activist, The Activist as Scholar, Center for the Humanities Graduate Fellows Conference, March 24, Temple University

Panels

- 2015 Chair, “Heights and Depths,” American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division, March 20–21, Philadelphia, PA
- 2014 Chair, Ariane Nomikos (SUNY Buffalo), “Illuminating the Everyday,” Comments: Dr. Ingvild Torsen (Marquette University), Graduate Conference in Aesthetics, in collaboration with the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium and the American Society for Aesthetics, March 30, Philadelphia, PA

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2018 Temple University Dissertation Completion Grant
- 2015 CLA Advanced Graduate Scholar Award, Center for the Humanities, Temple University
- 2015 Temple University Fellowship
- 2014–2015 Graduate Associate Fellowship, Center for the Humanities, Temple University
- 2011–2014 Temple University Philosophy Department Teaching Assistantship
- 2000–2004 Achieved academic standards of Dean’s List at St. Mary’s College of Maryland for 8 of 8 semesters
- 2002–Present Member of the OMICRON DELTA KAPPA national leadership honor society
- 2002–2004 Achieved Designation of St. Mary’s Scholar
- 2004 Graduated Magna Cum Laude from St. Mary’s College of Maryland

TRAVEL AWARDS

- 2018 Temple University Philosophy Department Travel Award
- 2017 Temple University Philosophy Department Travel Award
- 2016 Graduate Student Travel Stipend, Fourth Annual Lehigh Philosophy Conference

2014 Graduate Student Travel Stipend, Shakespeare: The Philosopher Conference
2014 Temple University Philosophy Department Travel Award
2012 Temple University Philosophy Department Travel Award

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, ed. Susan Feagin, Fall 2011-Spring 2013

Assistant Copy Editor, *Interpreting Schelling: Critical Essays*, ed. Lara Ostaric, Cambridge University Press, 2014, 251 pages.

Assistant Copy Editor, *Debates in Nineteenth-Century European Philosophy: Essential Readings and Contemporary Responses*, ed. Kristin Gjesdal, London: Routledge, 2015, 416 pages.

TEACHING CERTIFICATE

Temple University, Teaching in Higher Education Graduate Certificate Program
Teaching In Higher Education Certificate, 2016

TEACHING

Morgan State University

Lecturer, Ethics and Values, Fall 2019, Spring 2020
Lecturer, Nineteenth Century Philosophy, Spring 2020

Temple University

Instructor, Philosophy of the Human, Fall 2021, Spring 2022
Instructor, Introduction to Feminist Philosophy, Fall 2020, Spring 2022
Instructor, Environmental Ethics, Fall 2020, Summer I 2021, Fall 2021 (honors)
Instructor, Intellectual Heritage, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2018,
Spring 2019, Spring 2021, Summer II 2021, Fall 2021
Instructor, Meaning of the Arts, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014, Summer 2015
Course Coordinator, Meaning of the Arts, Spring 2015

Rowan University

Instructor, American Philosophy, Fall 2014

Dowling College

Instructor, Western Philosophy I, Fall 2009
Instructor, Western Philosophy II, Spring 2010
Instructor, Introduction to Ethics, Spring 2010

St. Mary's College of Maryland

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Michael Taber, Introduction to Ethics, Spring 2003
Writing Center Tutor, Spring 2002- Spring 2004

SERVICE

2020-2021 Journal Referee for *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* and *Film and Philosophy*
2019 Morgan State University Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies Public Life
Committee
2015-2019 Participant in the Philosophy Mentor Program, Temple University Philosophy
Department
2014-2018 Prospective Student Campus Visit and Fall Welcome Committee
2014-2015 Graduate Representative for the Temple University Philosophy Department
2013-2014 Colloquium Series Organizer, Temple University Philosophy Department "Works in
Progress" Graduate Student and Faculty Colloquium Series

2013 Graduate Assistant, Center for the Humanities at Temple University
2012-2013 Head of the Temple University Philosophy Colloquium Assistants Committee
2002-2004 Vice President of the Philosophy Club of St. Mary's College of Maryland
2002-2004 Editor, Reflections (Journal of Philosophy and Religious Studies), St. Mary's College of Maryland
2000-2004 Editor, *Avatar* (Literary Magazine), St. Mary's College of Maryland

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Temple University

Philosophy of the Self (Joe Margolis)
Teaching in Higher Education (Rebecca Alpert)
Feminist Epistemology and Philosophy of Science (Miriam Solomon)
History of Aesthetics: Philosophy of Tragedy (Kristin Gjesdal)
Kant (Espen Hammer)
Seminar in Contemporary Continental Philosophy: Husserl (Kristin Gjesdal)
Greek Philosophy (David Wolfsdorf)
British Empiricism (Han-Kyul Kim)
Philosophy of Medicine (Miriam Solomon)
Sartre (Lewis Gordon)
Philosophy of Theater (Susan Feagin)
Pragmatism and American Thought (Joe Margolis)

Audited Courses

Philosophy of Literature (Elisabeth Camp, University of Pennsylvania)
Nietzsche (Kristin Gjesdal, Temple University)
Toward a Shakespearean Poetics (Daniel O'Hara, Temple University)
Hegel (Kristin Gjesdal, Temple University)

REFERENCES

Dr. Kristin Gjesdal
Professor of Philosophy
Philosophy Department
Temple University
1114 W. Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122
kgjesdal@temple.edu

Dr. Susan Feagin
Visiting Research Professor
Philosophy Department
Temple University
1114 W. Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122
feagin@temple.edu

Dr. Andrew Huddleston
Senior Lecturer in Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
Birbeck, University of London
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HX
a.huddleston@bbk.ac.uk

Dr. Paul Kottman
Associate Professor and Chair of Liberal Studies
Comparative Literature
The New School for Social Research
80 Fifth Avenue, Room 511
New York, New York 10011
kottmanp@newschool.edu