

March 2026

## ALLAUREN SAMANTHA FORBES

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### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Feminist philosophy, Early Modern philosophy

### AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Social epistemology, Ethics, Political philosophy

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

### McMaster University, Canada

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy

Faculty, Gender and Social Justice

*July 2025 – present*

*July 2020 – June 2025*

*July 2020 – present*

## EDUCATION

### University of Pennsylvania, United States

*Ph.D.* in Philosophy

2020

Supervisor: Karen Detlefsen

Committee: Samuel Freeman, Daniel J. Singer

Dissertation: “Transformative Relations in Early Modern Philosophy”

### University of Jyväskylä, Finland

*Visiting Student*, “Feminist Thinking in Historical Perspectives”

2016

### Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada

*M.A.* in Philosophy

2013

Supervisor: Rebekah Johnston

Major Research Paper: “The Skills of Self-Definitional Autonomy in Oppressive Social Contexts”

### Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada

*B.A., Honours* in Philosophy and Psychology

2012

## PUBLICATIONS

\* = peer reviewed

### *Journal Articles*

[ ] \*[Revised and Resubmitted]

2025 \*\*“Margaret Cavendish’s Feminine Utopias: Speech, Silence, and Gendered Space”  
*Journal for New Narratives in the History of Philosophy*

- 2025 \*"Three Early Modern Feminists on Wooing," *Feminist Philosophy Quarterly*
- 2024 \*"Scudéry's Portraits: Patriarchy, Agency, and Genre," in *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*
- 2023 \*"Prejudice as Viciousness: Marie de Gournay and Anton Wilhelm Amo," in *The Journal of Southern Philosophy: Special Edition on Social Justice in Early Modern Philosophy*
- 2022 \*"Madeleine de Scudéry on Conversation and its Feminist Ends," in *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*.
- 2021 \*"Astell, Friendship, and Relational Autonomy," in *European Journal of Philosophy*.
- 2019 \*"Astell on Bad Custom and Epistemic Injustice" in *Hypatia*.

#### *Book Chapters*

- forthcoming* "Esteem and Political Participation: 19th/20th Century American Feminists on the Value of Women," *Esteem and Self Esteem: Rewriting the History of Philosophy*, Routledge, Andreas Blank and Attila Németh, eds.
- 2026 "The Case for Malebranche's Feminist Potential," *Oxford Handbook on Malebranche*
- 2026 "Emotions: Love, Anger, and Feminist Praxis," *Contemporary Introduction to Feminist Ethics*, Routledge, Charlotte Sabourin and Celia Edell, eds.
- 2024 \*"Sex, Suffrage, and Marriage: Russell and Feminism," in *Philosophical Women in Russell's Circle*, Landon Elkind and Alexander Klein, eds. Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2024 "Care Ethics: Love, Care, and Connection," in *Ethical Theory in Global Perspective*, Michael Hemmingsen, ed. SUNY Press.
- 2023 \*"Mary Astell," in *Rethinking Political Thinkers*, Manjeet Ramgotra and Simon Choat, eds. Oxford University Press.
- 2023 \*"Friendship as a Means to Freedom," in *The Routledge Handbook of Women and Early Modern European Philosophy*, Karen Detlefsen and Lisa Shapiro, eds. Routledge.

#### *Book Reviews*

- 2026 *Women Philosophers in Nineteenth-Century Britain*, Alison Stone. *Journal for the History of Philosophy*.
- 2025 *Self-Control*, Mary Brunton. *Journal for Scottish Philosophy*

- 2025 *Women Moralists in Early Modern France*, Julie Candler Hayes. *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*.
- 2023 *Elisabeth of Bohemia (1618-1680): A Philosopher in her Historical Context*, Sabrina Ebbersmeyer and Sarah Hutton, eds. *Journal for the History of Philosophy*.

## PUBLICATIONS FOR A BROADER AUDIENCE

- 2023 “Mary Astell: The First English Feminist,” part of the *Wise Women Series* for *Philosophy Talk*, a radio show and podcast hosted by Ray Briggs and Josh Landy through KALW and Stanford University  
<https://www.philosophytalk.org/shows/mary-astell>
- 2023 “Season 3: Episode 2: Madeleine de Scudéry’s *Illustrious Women*: Interview with Allauren Samantha Forbes,” *Extending New Narratives Podcast: New Voices in the History of Philosophy*  
<https://www.newnarrativesinphilosophy.net/podcast.html>
- 2022 “Mary Astell,” Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy  
<https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/display/document/obo-9780195396577/obo-9780195396577-0430.xml>
- 2020 “A woman philosopher calls out misogyny in the 17<sup>th</sup> century,” in *Aeon*.  
<https://aeon.co/ideas/a-woman-philosopher-calls-out-misogyny-in-the-17th-century>
- 2018 “Mary Astell and Theories of Friendship,” Project Vox’s blog *Revealing Voices*  
<https://projectvox.org/revealing-voices/revealing-voices-allauren-forbes/>

## WORKS UNDER REVIEW

[paper on Wollstonecraft and stories]

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

Marriage and Alienated Labour: Cavendish on Chastity

Marriage as Microcosm

Teaching Cavendish’s Plays

## RECENT FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONOURS

- 24, 001 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Connection Grant, for *Women and Epistemic Emotions in the Early Modern Period* (October 2024, McMaster University) (with Elena Gordon)

61, 724 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Insight Development Grant for the project, “The Metaphysics of Marriage: Modern Women Philosophers”

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

\* = refereed

“Prejudices at War with Nature and Reason”: Emotion and Motivated Reasoning in Hume, Wollstonecraft, and Amo\*

University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland: June 2026

Marriage as Unfreedom: Servitude, Slavery, and Tradwives

*Canadian Philosophical Association\**

Halifax, NS: June 2026

*TEMPO 2026\**

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California: May 2026

*Slavery and Abolition in Eighteenth Century Philosophy\**

Emory University, Atlanta, GA: May 2026

*Panel: Humanities Seminar – Historical Feminisms* (with Lara Campbell)

*Office of Alumni Engagement*

McMaster University, Hamilton, ON: March 2026

*Panel: Developing Mutually-Beneficial Philosophical Partnerships between High Schools and Universities* (with Karen Detlefsen and Chase Trull)\*

*Public Philosophy Network 2025*

McMaster University, Hamilton, ON: October 2025

Monstrous Marriages: Cavendish’s Cuckolds, Cads, and Whores

*Jyväskylä Early Modern Workshop*

University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland: June 2026

*Critical Perspectives on Human Nature from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries*

Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.: July 2025

Teaching Cavendish’s “Non-Traditional” Texts

*Center for Canon Expansion and Change Summer Program 2025*

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities MN: June 2025

Marriage as Microcosm: Anglo-American Women Philosophers’ Political Theorizing

*Philo-Femmes Seminar*

McGill University/Università Ca’ Foscari de Venezia: Dec 2025

*Extending New Narratives in the History of Philosophy Workshop*

McGill University, Montréal, QC: June 2025\*

Macaulay and Wollstonecraft: An Epistemology of Political Resistance (co-auth: Elena Gordon)  
*Women and Epistemic Emotions in the Early Modern Period*  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON: October 2024

*Monsters & Domesticity*  
Gender in Renaissance and Early Modern Philosophy  
University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland: March 2025

Marriage and Alienated Labour: Cavendish on Chastity  
*Oulu Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*  
University of Oulu, Finland: May 2026

*Women in the History of Political Thought: Labor, Property, and the Family*  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON: October 2023

TEMPO 2024 – Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization  
Metropolitan State University, Denver, CO: April 2024\* (*unable to attend due to illness*)

*Université du Québec à Montréal Department of Philosophy Colloquium*  
Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, QC: March 2025

Panel: *Catharine Macaulay and Mary Wollstonecraft* (with Elena Gordon)  
“Wollstonecraft on Education and Benevolence”  
TEMPO 2023 – Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization  
Washington University, St. Louis, MO: May 2023

Speech, Silence, and Gendered Space: Women’s Epistemic Nature in Cavendish’s Plays  
*Reinventing Woman’s Nature: Early Modern Feminism and Its Roots*  
University of California: Los Angeles: March 2023

*The Female Voice in Philosophical Conversations*  
Australian Catholic University, Rome, Italy: May/June 2024\*

*Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*  
Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS: July 2024\*

Panel: *A Day with Amo* (with Dwight K. Lewis and Yosef Washington)  
“Amo on Prejudice”  
University of Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, PA: March 2023

Panel: *Social Contract and Its Critics* (with Hagar Kotef and Signy Gutnick-Allen)  
“Astell and the Social Contract”  
*Reconsidering Political Thinkers Workshop*  
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London, UK: Sept 2022

Panel: *Wollstonecraft: Cross-Genre Philosopher* (with Charlotte Sabourin and Martin Fog Lantz Arndal)

“Mary Wollstonecraft: Telling Stories”

*TEMPO 2022 – Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization*

Rutgers University (*held virtually because of covid-19*): May 2022

“Scudéry’s Portraits: Patriarchy, Agency, and Genre”

*Philosophy and Genre in the Early Modern Period*

Duke University, Durham, NC: April 2022

*York University Department of Philosophy Colloquium*

York University, Toronto, ON: October 2022

*University of Pennsylvania Department of Philosophy Colloquium*

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA: March 2023

“Himpathy, History, and Philosophy,”

*Workshop on Early Modern Women Philosophers*

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA: April 2022

“Gender and Racial Prejudice in Testimony: Marie de Gournay and Anton Wilhelm Amo,”

*Social Justice in Early Modern Philosophy*, hosted by the *Southern Journal of Philosophy*,

Memphis, TN, April 2022\*

“On Wooing”

*New Voices: Women in the History of Philosophy*

University of Paderborn (*held virtually because of covid-19*): February 2022\*

“Courtship, Marriage, and Power”

*Québec-Ontario Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*

Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, QC: November 2021

“Marie de Gournay and Anton Wilhelm Amo on Prejudice”

*TEMPO 2021 – Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization*

Rutgers University (*held virtually because of covid-19*): June 2021\*

“Sex, Suffrage, and Marriage”

*Feminism and Philosophical Women in Russell’s Circle: The Bertrand Russell Research Centre*

McMaster University (*held virtually because of covid-19*): March 2021

“TAgency”

Graduate Teaching Voices in Philosophy

APA – Central (*held virtually because of covid-19*), February 2021\*

“The Importance of Being Angry: Anger, credibility, and epistemic injustice”

*2020 Meeting of The Association for Feminist Epistemologies, Methodologies, Metaphysics, and Science Studies (FEMMSS8)*

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON: August 2020 (*postponed because of covid-19*)

*Panel: Models of Philosophical Engagement with K-12 Students* (with Dustin Webster and Michael Vazquez)

*2020 Meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society*

Pittsburgh, PA: March 2020\*

“Wollstonecraft’s Political Conception of Marriage”

*Wollopalooza III*: hosted at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (*held virtually because of covid-19*): September 2020

*Australasian Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*

University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia: November 2019\*

*International Conference on Women in Modern Philosophy*

Rio de Janeiro State University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: June 2019\*

*Early Modern Philosophy: St. Louis*

Sponsored by Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO: May 2019\*

“Feminist Historiography: Genre, Method, and the Scope of Philosophy” (with Karen Detlefsen)

*NYSWIP (New York Society for Women in Philosophy)*

CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY: May 2019

## **TEACHING**

**Primary Instructor, McMaster University**

2LM3: Love & Monsters (co-taught; Dr. Michael Egan)	F25
2S03: History of Political Philosophy	W21
2X03: Early Modern Philosophy	W26, W25, F23
2ZZ3: Philosophy of Love & Sex	F25, W24, F21, F20
3I03: Philosophy & Feminism	F20
3T03: Philosophy & Race	W22
3WP3: Modern Women Philosophers	F24, F22
4YY3: Relationship Ethics	F25, W25

700: Theorizing Gender and Social Justice	W26, F23, W23, W22, W21
752: The Philosophy of Margaret Cavendish	W24
753: Early Modern Women Philosophers: Education, Marriage, Community	F21
773: Feminist Philosophy: Bodies – Beauty, Monstrosity, Food, and Fat	F24
<i>Reading Courses</i>	
Superiority vs. Equality – Marinella and Astell	W21
Epistemic Injustice and Emotional Misperception	S21
Autonomy, History, Gender	W22
19 <sup>th</sup> Century Women Philosophers	S22
Jane Austen: Feminist Philosopher	W24
Heaven Exploded: Acidification and xenofeminism	F24
Philosophy of Marriage	W25

## **GRADUATE SUPERVISION**

### *Gender and Social Justice – MA (MRP)*

Alexis Murray (supervisor): 2021  
Mads Clement (supervisor): 2022  
Marjan Alipur (second reader): 2023  
Jae Sy Lim (second reader): 2024  
Alyssa Ramjass (supervisor): 2025  
Quinn McNeill (supervisor): *in progress*

### *Department of Philosophy – MA (Thesis)*

Corey McKibbin (supervisor): 2022  
Ashlynn Whalley (supervisor): 2022  
Bennet Soenen (committee): 2022  
Sydney Northey (supervisor): 2024  
Lydia Tales (committee): 2024  
Sarah Turnbull (supervisor): 2025  
Riley Troisi (supervisor): 2025  
Izabella Morawski (supervisor): 2026  
Sanghavi Sripathy (committee): *in progress*  
Clare Monahan (supervisor): *in progress*  
A.J. Flores (supervisor): *in progress*  
Liam McLean (committee): *in progress*

### *Department of Philosophy – PhD*

Alana Jolly (committee): 2025  
Tyra Lennie (committee): 2025  
Monika Bar (committee): *in progress*  
Andrew de Jong (committee): *in progress*  
Nigel Freno (committee): *in progress*  
Regina Fidelis Ilagan (supervisor): *in progress*  
Matt Lam (supervisor): *in progress*  
Manuela Rondón Triana (committee): *in progress*  
Lauren Rundell (committee): *in progress*  
Pragya Upreti (committee): *in progress*  
Cathy Zhu (committee): *in progress*

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## **OTHER TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

*Center for Canon Expansion and Change*, University of Minnesota

Certificate: CCEC Summer Program, Early Modern Philosophy innovation (June 2023)

Guest Pedagogy Expert (July 2025)

*Philosophy for the Young Project*, University of Pennsylvania (2016-2020)

Co-author (with Dr. Steve Esser), Philosophy Curriculum Manual, in service of the Teachers Institute of Philadelphia course “Critical Thinking in Elementary School English Language Arts” (Fall 2019)

Facilitator, Philosophy Club, Carver School for Science and Engineering (2018-2019)

Ethics Bowl Coach, Carver School for Science and Engineering (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

Facilitator, Think About It! Penn Alexander Elementary School, Philadelphia (Spring 2018)

Facilitator, Think About It! Benjamin B. Comegys Elementary School, Philadelphia (Spring 2018)

Mentored a Philadelphia Futures high school student (S. L.) who presented a paper at the 2017 Penn Philosophy and Engagement Conference

Mentored a Philadelphia Futures high school student (A. C.) who presented a paper at the 2016 Penn Philosophy and Engagement Conference

Session leader, Philadelphia Futures Philosophy Club, Fall 2016-Spring 2017

*Center for Teaching and Learning*, University of Pennsylvania

Teaching Certificate (Fall 2019)

Workshop on Effective Lecturing (Spring 2019)

Workshop on Media in the Classroom (Spring 2019)

Workshop on Designing and Teaching an Online Course (Fall 2018)

Workshop on Teaching Philosophy to Pre-College Students (Fall 2018)

Workshop on Sensitive Topics in the Classroom (Fall 2015)

## **SERVICE**

### *McMaster University – Gender and Social Justice*

GSJ Caucus, Fall 2023 – Winter 2025

PhD Diploma Committee, Fall 2022 – Winter 2023

MA Admissions Committee, Fall 2021 – Winter 2022

MA Committee, Fall 2024 – Winter 2025

GSJ PhD Colloquium organizer – Spring 2025; Spring 2026

### *McMaster University – Department of Philosophy*

Equity Advisor, Fall 2024 – Winter 2025; Fall 2025 – Winter 2026

Ethics Bowl/High School Coordinator, Fall 2023 – Winter 2024; Fall 2024 – Winter 2025

PhD Admissions Committee, Winter 2024

Graduate Placement Coordinator, Fall 2020 – Summer 2023

Speaker Series Committee, Fall 2020 – Winter 2021; Fall 2022 – Winter 2023

Hiring Committee, Fall 2021 – Winter 2022

### *McMaster University – Faculty of Humanities*

Hiring Committee – Wilson College, Fall 2023 – Winter 2024

Undergraduate Essay Prize Committee (Chair) – Winter 2024

Graduate Scholarship Committee – Fall 2023

Undergraduate Essay Prize Committee – Winter 2022

Millennium Award Committee – Fall 2022

*University of Pennsylvania*

Department of Philosophy, Graduate Student Representative to the faculty, Fall 2019 - Spring 2020

Department of Philosophy, Hospitality Committee, Prospective Student Weekend, Spring 2018

Department of Philosophy, Co-organizer, Philosophy Graduate Colloquium Series, Fall 2015 - Spring 2016

*Conference organization*

Hume Society, annual conference, July 2025

Women and Epistemic Emotions in the Early Modern Period, *SSHRC–CG*, 2024

APA-Pacific Group Meeting, *Friends of Mary Astell*, April 2022

Astell on Social Philosophy, *Friends of Mary Astell*, September 2021

Southwestern Ontario Feminist Philosophy Workshop, October 2020

Penn-MAP 2020: Philosophy of Race (*cancelled due to covid-19*)

Penn-MAP 2018: Inclusive Methodology and Pedagogy

Penn-MAP 2017: Global Feminisms

Penn, Princeton, and Rutgers Social Epistemology Workshop 2017

Penn-MAP 2016: Non-Western Traditions

Penn Ancient Workshop: Lucretius

Penn-MAP 2015: Non-Western Traditions

Penn Ancient Workshop: Anaxagoras

*Professional association membership*

TEMPO (Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization), Board Member, 2024 – *present*

Ethics Bowl Canada, Board Member, 2025 – *present*

Member, New Voices, History of Women Philosophers and Scientists, 2022 – *present*  
<https://historyofwomenphilosophers.org/projects/new-voices-on-women-in-the-history-of-philosophy/>

Collaborator, Extending New Narratives, 2021 – *present*  
<https://www.newnarrativesinphilosophy.net/index.html>

Friends of Mary Astell, APA-affiliated group, founding member. 2019 – *present*  
[www.friendsofmaryastell.weebly.com](http://www.friendsofmaryastell.weebly.com)

Minorities and Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania chapter, Fall 2014 - Spring 2020;  
chapter representative Fall 2015 - Spring 2020

American Philosophical Association, 2016 – *present*

Penn Early Modern Workshop, Fall 2016 – Spring 2020

*Other academic activity*

Member: SSHRC Insight Development Grant Committee, 2025

Mentee: The Mentoring Workshop, The Marc Sanders Foundation and The University of  
Missouri, June 2023

Participant: JHP Summer Seminar: Marinella, McGill University, Montréal, May 2023

Research intern at the Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law, University of Pennsylvania  
Law School, Summer 2019

Research assistant, Professor Samuel Freeman  
Preparation of *Liberalism and Distributive Justice*, Oxford University Press (2017-2018).

Research assistant, Professor Karen Detlefsen  
*New Narratives in Early Modern Philosophy*. Supported by the Social Sciences and  
Humanities Research Council of Canada (2016-2019).

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