

November 2023

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

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy

2020 - present

Faculty, Gender and Social Justice

2020 - present

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, United States

Ph.D. in Philosophy

2020

Supervisor: Prof. Karen Detlefsen

Committee: Prof. Samuel Freeman, Prof. 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: Prof. 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

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*, Vol. 61 (1), 182-205.

2022 * "Madeleine de Scudéry on Conversation and its Feminist Ends," in *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, Vol. 30 (1), 48-70.

2021 *"Astell, Friendship, and Relational Autonomy," in *European Journal of Philosophy* Vol. 29 (2), pp. 487-503.

2019 *"Astell on Bad Custom and Epistemic Injustice" in *Hypatia* Vol. 34 (4), pp. 777-801.

Book Chapters

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.

2023 *"Sex, Suffrage, and Marriage: Russell and Feminism," in *Philosophical Women in Russell's Circle*, Landon Elkind and Alexander Klein, eds. Palgrave Macmillan.

2023 "Care Ethics: Love, Care, and Connection," in *Ethical Theory in Global Perspective*, Michael Hemmingsen, ed. SUNY Press.

Book Chapters Under Contract

"Esteem and Self-Esteem in 19th and Early 20th Century Feminist Philosophy"

"Emotions: Love & Anger"

Book Reviews

2023 *Elisabeth of Bohemia (1618-1680): A Philosopher in her Historical Context*, Sabrina Ebbersmeyer and Sarah Hutton, eds.

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 Allairen 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 17th 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

- Early Modern Feminists on Wooing
- Scudéry’s Portraits: Patriarchy, Agency, and Genre
- Mary Wollstonecraft: Telling Stories

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Margaret Cavendish’s Social Epistemology
- Cavendish’s Feminine Utopias: Speech, Silence, and Gendered Space
- A project on benevolence and education in Macaulay and Wollstonecraft

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONOURS

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|-----------|---|
| 2023-2025 | Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Insight Development Grant (\$61,724) for the project, “The Metaphysics of Marriage: Modern Women Philosophers” |
| 2019-2020 | Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (<i>granted to 25 students per year</i>) |
| 2019 | President Gutmann Leadership Award, University of Pennsylvania (<i>granted to 12-15 students per year</i>) |
| 2017-2018 | Dean’s Scholar, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (<i>granted to 9 students per year</i>) |
| 2016 | Student Exchange Grant, Erasmus+ Foundation (EU) |
| 2015-2016 | F. S. Pepper Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania |
| 2014-2015 | Lynne and Michael Tarnopol Graduate Prize Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania |
| 2014-2019 | Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania |
| 2012-2013 | Graduate Scholarship in Philosophy, Wilfrid Laurier University |

2012-2013

Graduate Fellowship in Philosophy, Wilfrid Laurier University

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

* = refereed

Marriage and Alienated Labour

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

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

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”

University of Pennsylvania Department of Philosophy Colloquium
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA: March 2023

York University Department of Philosophy Colloquium

York University, Toronto, ON: October 2022

Philosophy and Genre in the Early Modern Period

Duke University, Durham, NC: April 2022

“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 Workshop 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*

“Friendship as a Means to Freedom”
Invited speaker, *Bilkent University Philosophy Colloquium Series*
Bilkent University, Bilkent, Turkey: February 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

“The Philosophy for Youth Project at the University of Pennsylvania”
with Brian Reese (University of Pennsylvania), in Penn-MAP’s 4th annual philosophy
conference: *Inclusive Methodology and Pedagogy*.
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA: April 2018

“Astell’s Bad Custom as Epistemic Injustice”
Symposium presentation in *New Narratives in the History of Philosophy: Renaissance and
Early Modern Women*, Canadian Philosophical Association,
Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, QC: June 2018*

Bridging the Gender Gap Through Time
King’s College London, London, UK: February 2018*

Wilfrid Laurier University Philosophy Colloquium Series
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON: January 2018

“Female Friendship and the Virtue of Conversation”
5th Annual Philosophy Conference: Women in Early Modern Philosophy
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA: October 2017*

“Mary Astell and the Power of Female Friendship”
Writing Friendship III: Peril or Protection – Canadian Society for Renaissance
Studies: Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences,
Ryerson University, Toronto, ON: May 2017*

“Telling Stories: Teaching, Research, and the Importance of Early Modern Women to Philosophy,”
co-written with Prof. Karen Detlefsen
Early Modern Works by and about Women: Genre and Method
McGill University, Montréal, QC: November 2016

“*Philia* and Relational Autonomy in Mary Astell’s *A Serious Proposal to the Ladies*”
Philosopher’s Cocoon Philosophy Conference
University of Tampa, Tampa, FL: October 2016*

Early Modern Philosophy Workshop
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA: October 2016

“Marriage as Friendship in Mary Wollstonecraft”
Feminist Thinking in Historical Perspective: Gender and Philosophy Summer School
University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland: August 2016

“The Nature of Desire in Plato's *Philebus*”
West Coast Plato Workshop
Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ: May 2016*

CONFERENCE COMMENTS

Timothy Yenter (University of Mississippi), “Gender and Religion in the Aesthetic Judgments of Elizabeth Montagu and David Hume”
APA-Eastern, Montréal, QC: January 2023

Marie Jayasekera (California State University, Long Beach), “Liberty, Selves, and Custom in Astell”
APA-Pacific, Vancouver, B.C.: April 2022

Paula Keller (Cambridge University), “Women and Education: Discovering the Philosophical Writings of Rahel Varnhagen”
2021 Meeting of SWIP-UK: *Women in the History of Philosophy*
University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland (*held online*): January 2021

Michaela Manson (University of Toronto), “Prejudice and Astell's Serious Proposal”
Virtual Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA: August 2020

Penny Weiss (St. Louis University), “A Political Reading of Mary Astell's *Serious Proposal to the Ladies*”
APA-East, Philadelphia, PA: January 2020

Georgia Mouroutsou (Western University), “Aristotelian Pleasures in the *Nicomachean Ethics*: Transforming the Platonic Distinction Between Pure and Impure Pleasures”
APA-East, Baltimore, MD: January 2017

Alexis Elder (University of Minnesota-Duluth), “Repeatable Reasons, Irreplaceable Friends”
Philosopher's Cocoon Philosophy Conference
University of Tampa, Tampa, FL: October 2016

Tylor Cunningham (Duquesne University), “If you liked it you should have put a ring on it: Pleasure as a necessary, but not sufficient condition for teachable virtue in the *Protagoras*”
Pennsylvania Circle of Ancient Philosophy
Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA: March 2015

TEACHING

Primary Instructor, *McMaster University*

2S03: History of Political Philosophy	W21
2X03: Early Modern Philosophy	F23
2ZZ3: Philosophy of Love & Sex	W24, F21, F20
3I03: Philosophy & Feminism	F20
3T03: Philosophy & Race	W22
3WP3: Modern Women Philosophers	F22
700: Theorizing Gender and Social Justice	F23, W23, W22, W21
752: Modern British Philosophers: The Philosophy of Margaret Cavendish	W24
753: Early Modern Women Philosophers: Education, Marriage, Community	F21

Graduate Reading Courses

Superiority vs. Equality – Marinella and Astell	W21
Epistemic Injustice and Emotional Misperception	S21
Autonomy, History, Gender	W22
19 th Century Women Philosophers	S22

Primary Instructor, *University of Pennsylvania*

Social Contract	S19
Introduction to Philosophy: Philosophy and Technology	F18
Introduction to Ethics	S18

GRADUATE SUPERVISION

Completed

Alexis Murray, MA (GSJ): 2021
Corey McKibbin, MA (Phil): 2022
Ashlynn Whalley, MA (Phil): 2022
Mads Clement, MA (GSJ): 2022
Bennet Soenen, MA committee (Phil): 2022
Marjan Alipur, MA committee (GSJ): 2023

In Progress

Monika Bar, PhD committee (Phil)
Nigel Freno, PhD committee (Phil)
Alana Jolly, PhD committee (Phil)
Tyra Lennie, PhD committee (Phil)
Lydia Tales, MA committee (Phil)

Sydney Northey, MA Supervisor (Phil)

OTHER TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Center for Canon Expansion and Change, University of Minnesota (June 2023)

Certificate in CCEC Summer Program for Early Modern Philosophy course innovation

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)

Guest Lectures

Epistemic Injustice – Feminist Philosophy (instructor: Dr. Melissa Jacquart, Fall 2017)

Moral Freedom and Responsibility; Humans in the State of Nature – Introduction to Philosophy (instructor: Dr. Stephen Steinberg, Spring 2017)

Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* Books II and III – Introduction to Ancient Philosophy (instructor: Simon Shogry, Fall 2015)

Ecofeminism – Environmental Ethics (instructor: Carlos Santana, Fall 2015)

SERVICE

McMaster University

Gender and Social Justice, MA Committee, Fall 2021 – Winter 2022

Gender and Social Justice, PhD Diploma Committee, Fall 2022 – Winter 2023

Department of Philosophy, Hiring Committee, Fall 2021 – Winter 2022

Department of Philosophy, Graduate Placement Coordinator, Fall 2020 – Summer 2023

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

Faculty of Humanities, Undergraduate Prize Committee – Winter 2022

Faculty of Humanities, 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

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

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

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

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).
