

Lisa Tessman

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Philosophy Department
Binghamton University
Binghamton, NY 13902-6000

Education **University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.**

MA in Philosophy, May 1992.

Ph.D. in Philosophy, February 1996.

Carleton College, Northfield, MN.

B.A. in Philosophy, June 1988, Summa cum laude.

AOS/AOC AOS: Ethics, Feminist Philosophy.

AOC: Social and Political Philosophy, Ancient Greek Philosophy, Philosophy of Race.

Academic Positions

Binghamton University (State University of New York).

Professor of Philosophy, Fall 2015-present

Associate Professor of Philosophy, Fall 2005-Spring 2015.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Fall 1999-Spring 2005.

Teach undergraduate and graduate courses primarily in the areas of Ethics, Feminist Ethics and Social Theory, Critical Theories of Race, and Social and Political Philosophy; direct MA theses and Ph.D. dissertations; serve on MA and Ph.D. committees; advise undergraduate Philosophy and “Philosophy, Politics and Law” majors, MA students, and Ph.D. students.

University of New Hampshire, Durham.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1998 – 1999.

Mt. Holyoke College, Massachusetts.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1995 – 1998.

North Adams State College, Massachusetts.

Instructor of Philosophy, 1994 – 1995.

Publications

Monographs

2015. *Moral Failure: On the Impossible Demands of Morality*. Oxford University Press.
2005. *Burdened Virtues: Virtue Ethics for Liberatory Struggles*. Oxford University Press.

Edited Volumes

2009. *Feminist Ethics and Social and Political Philosophy: Theorizing the Non-Ideal*. Springer. Edited and with an introduction by Lisa Tessman.
2001. *Jewish Locations: Traversing Racialized Landscapes*. Rowman and Littlefield. Co-edited and with an introduction by Lisa Tessman and Bat-Ami Bar On.

Articles/Book Chapters

2014. "Making More Space for Moral Failure." In *Virtue and the Moral Life: Theological and Philosophical Perspectives*, ed. William Werpehowski and Kathryn Getek-Soltis. Lexington Books: 133-152.
- 2013 (appeared in print 2015). "Value Pluralism, Intuitions, and Reflective Equilibrium." *Philosophical Topics* 41(2): 175-201.
2013. "Virtue Ethics and Moral Failure: Lessons from Neuroscientific Moral Psychology." *Virtues in Action: New Essays in Applied Virtue Ethics*, ed. Michael Austin. Palgrave Macmillan: 171-189.
2010. "Idealizing Morality." *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. 25 (4): 797-824.
2010. "Against the Whiteness of Ethics: Dilemmatizing as a Critical Approach." In *The Center Must Not Hold: White Women Philosophers on the Whiteness of Philosophy*, ed. George Yancy. Lexington Books: 193-209.
2009. "Feminist Eudaimonism: Eudaimonism as Non-Ideal Theory." In *Feminist Ethics and Social and Political Philosophy: Theorizing the Non-Ideal*, ed. Lisa Tessman. Springer: 47-58.
2009. "Expecting Bad Luck." *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. 24 (1): 9-28.
2008. "Reply to Critics." *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. 23 (3): 205-216. This article is part of the "Tessman Symposium" on *Burdened Virtues*, including the work of three critics (Cheshire Calhoun, Marilyn Friedman, and Christine Koggel) and my response.
2005. "The Burdened Virtues of Political Resistance." In *Feminist Interventions in Ethics and Politics*, eds. Barbara S. Andrew, Jean Keller and Lisa H. Schwartzman. Rowman and Littlefield: 77-96.

2003. "On (Not) Living the Good Life: Reflections on Oppression, Virtue and Flourishing." *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* Supplementary Volume 28 on Feminist Moral Philosophy: 3-32.
2002. "Do the Wicked Flourish? Virtue Ethics and Unjust Social Privilege." *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy* 01 (2) (Spring 2002): 59-63.
2001. "Jewish Racializations: Revealing the Contingency of Whiteness." In *Jewish Locations: Traversing Racialized Landscapes*, eds. Lisa Tessman and Bat-Ami Bar On. Rowman and Littlefield.
2001. "Critical Virtue Ethics: Understanding Oppression as Morally Damaging." In *Feminists Doing Ethics*, eds. Peggy DesAutels and Joanne Waugh. Rowman and Littlefield. Volume selected as a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Book, 2003.
2000. "Moral Luck in the Politics of Personal Transformation." *Social Theory and Practice*. 26 (3): 1-21.
1999. "The Other Colors of Whiteness" with Bat-Ami Bar On. In *Whiteness: Feminist Philosophical Reflections*, eds. Chris Cuomo and Kim Hall. Rowman and Littlefield. Reprinted in *Oppression, Privilege, and Resistance*, eds. Lisa Heldke and Peg O'Connor. McGraw Hill, 2004.
1999. "The Racial Politics of Mixed-Race." *Journal of Social Philosophy*. 30 (2): 276-294.
1998. "Dangerous Loyalties and Liberatory Politics." *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. 13 (4): 18-39.
1995. "Beyond Communitarian Unity in the Politics of Identity." *Socialist Review*, vol. 94, 1-2 (1995): 54-83.
1995. "Who Are My People? Communitarianism and the Interlocking of Oppressions." *International Studies in Philosophy*, vol. XXVII/1 (1995): 105-117.

Book Reviews

2014. Review of Macalester Bell's *Hard Feelings: The Moral Psychology of Contempt*. *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. *Hypatia Reviews Online*. <http://hypatiaphilosophy.org/HRO/reviews/content/203>
2011. Review of Anita Superson's *The Moral Skeptic*. *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. 26 (4): 883-887.

2005. Review of Christine Swanton's *Virtue Ethics: A Pluralistic View*. *Philosophical Review*. 114 (3).

Paper Presentations

"One Thought Too Many and One Thought Too Few: On Constructing Morality," Davidson College, March 2015.

"Thinking the Unthinkable: On the Risks of Constructing Morality," Bard College, April 2014; Dalhousie University, May 2014.

"Intuitions and Reflective Equilibrium in Feminist Ethics," Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Tempe, AZ, Oct. 2013; Bryn Mawr College, Feb. 2014.

"Moral Sociality," North American Society for Social Philosophy Conference, Northeastern University, Boston, July 2012.

"Moral Failure," Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Binghamton University, October 2011.

"On Having a Bottomless Source of Moral Failure," Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Zion, IL, September 2011.

"Making More Space for Moral Failure," The Intersection of Virtue and Ethics Lecture Series, Villanova University, February 2011.

"Moral Failure," Faculty Seminar, Villanova University, February 2011.

"Idealizing Morality," Colloquium for the program in Social, Political, Ethical and Legal Philosophy, Binghamton University, October 2009.

"Dilemmaticity in Moral Life," Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Clearwater, FL, September 2009.

"Worthy Ideals and Non-Ideal Conditions: Theorizing Moral Failure." North American Society for Social Philosophy Conference, Philadelphia, July 2009.

"On Moral Dilemmas." Invited lecture. Philosophy Department, Tel Aviv University, Israel. December 2008.

"Moral Conditions under Oppression: Dilemmaticity as a Measure of Moral Disrepair." North American Society for Social Philosophy Conference, Portland, OR, July 2008.

“Moral Disrepair.” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meetings (main program), Pasadena, CA, March 2008.

“Feminist Eudaimonism: Eudaimonism as Non-Ideal Theory,” Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Clearwater, FL, September 2007.

“Morality on the Open Seas: Seeking a Naturalized Ethics that Authorizes Feminist Critique,” Feminist Philosophy at U. Mass.: Celebrating the Career and Legacy of Ann Ferguson, Amherst, May 2007.

“Response to My Critics” in Author Meets Critics session on *Burdened Virtues: Virtue Ethics for Liberatory Struggles*, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meetings (main program), San Francisco, April 2007.

“In the Absence of Hope,” Radical Philosophy Association 7th Biennial Conference, Creighton University, November 2006.

“Moral Luck and the Unattainable Good Life,” Cardfest—a Conference in Honor of Claudia Card, University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 2006.

“Eudaimonistic Virtue Ethics Under Adversity,” Colloquium of the program in Social, Political, Ethical, and Legal Philosophy, Binghamton University, November 2004.

“Affirming Liberatory Struggle in the Face of Failure: A Eudaimonistic Choice,” Radical Philosophy Association 6th Biennial International Conference, Howard University, November 2004.

“Pessimism and Eudaimonistic Choices,” XIth Symposium of the International Association of Women Philosophers, Göteborg, Sweden, June 2004.

Excerpts from *Burdened Virtues: Virtue Ethics for Liberatory Struggles* (book manuscript), Socialist and Feminist Philosophers Association, New Haven, CT, May 2004.

“The Burden of Political Resistance,” Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Clearwater, FL, October 2003.

“Indifference and Anguish,” Colloquium on Ethics in the History of Philosophy, Sponsored by the program in Social, Political, Ethical and Legal Philosophy, Binghamton University, April 2003.

“A (Radical) Philosopher’s Contribution to a Politics of Resistance: Or: When the Comrades in Struggle could use Moral Theory,” Radical Philosophy Association National conference, Brown University, November 2002.

“Indifference as Meta-Vice, Or: How to be Free While Others are Oppressed,” 10th Symposium of the International Association of Women Philosophers, Barcelona, Spain, October 2002.

Invited paper, “Reflections on Oppression, Virtue and Flourishing,” Feminist Moral Philosophy Conference, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, August 2002.

Panel discussion, “Mentoring for Diversity.” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting (main program), Chicago, April 2002.

“Do the Bad Guys Lead the Good Life? Virtue Ethics and Unjust Social Privilege.” Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Clearwater, FL, October 2001.

Commentator on Alison Jaggar’s “Capabilities and Colonialism.” Socialist and Feminist Philosophers Association Meeting, Amherst, MA, September 2001.

“On (Not) Living the Good Life: Oppression and Moral Damage.” National Women’s Studies Association Conference, University of Minnesota, June 2001.

Commentator on Johanna Brenner’s *Women and the Politics of Class*, Socialist and Feminist Philosophers Association Meeting, New York City, April 2001.

“Critical Virtue Ethics: Understanding Oppression as Morally Damaging.” Feminist Ethics Revisited Conference, sponsored by The Ethics Center, University of South Florida, October 1999; Women’s Studies Brown Bag Lunch Series, Binghamton University, Fall 1999.

“Character and Racial Discourse.” Radical Philosophy Association National Conference, San Francisco State University, November 1998.

Invited lecture: “Moral Luck in the Politics of Personal Transformation.” Department of Feminist Studies and the Department of Philosophy, University of Göteborg, Göteborg, Sweden, May 1998.

“Moral Luck in the Politics of Personal Transformation.” Eastern Division of the Society for Women In Philosophy Conference, University of New Hampshire, March 1998.

Invited lecture: “Feminist Ethics: What’s Luck Got To Do With It?” Seven College Conference on Ethics, Mount Holyoke College, March 1998.

“The Other Colors of Whiteness” with Bat-Ami Bar On. Intersections of Race Conference, Morgan State University, Baltimore, October 1997.

“The Racial Politics of Mixed-Race,” Radical Philosophy Association National Conference, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana, November 1996; Socialist and Feminist Philosophers Association Meeting, May 1997.

“Tragic Heroines and Moral Education: comments on ‘A Feminist Reading of the Narrative Structures of Aristotle’s *Poetics*,” University of Massachusetts, October 1995.

“‘Culture’ and Political Community,” Centennial Faculty Colloquia Series, North Adams State College, Massachusetts, April 1995.

“Beyond Communitarian Unity in the Politics of Identity,” Radical Philosophy Association National Conference, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, November 1994.

“Having a People: Communitarianism and the Interlocking of Oppressions,” Philosophy, Interpretation and Culture Conference, SUNY Binghamton, April 1994; Eastern Division of the Society For Women In Philosophy Conference, SUNY Binghamton, April 1994.

“A Critique of Separatism,” Philosophy, Interpretation and Culture Conference, SUNY Binghamton, March 1991.

Commentator on panel: “Identity, Marginalization and Empowerment,” Midwest Radical Scholars and Activists Conference, Loyola University, Chicago, October 1990.

“An Analysis of A Priori Primary Relationships,” National Women’s Studies Association Conference, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, June 1988; Minnesota Philosophical Society Conference, Minneapolis, March 1988.

Grants and Awards

Sabbatical Award, Spring 2013, Fall 2006.

Stipended Faculty Fellowship, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Binghamton University, Fall 2011.

Harpur College Grant in Support of Research, Scholarship and Creative Work, Binghamton University, 2009.

Outstanding Graduate Director Award, Binghamton University, 2007-2008.

Individual Development Awards, Fall 2009, Fall 2006, Spring 2002.

Dean’s Research Semester Award, Fall 2002.

Implementation Grant (for curricular changes), Fall 2000.

Professional Organizations

American Philosophical Association (APA).

Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST).

North American Society for Social Philosophy (NASSP).

Professional Service

Board of Associate Editors, *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. 2009-2014.

American Philosophical Association:

2001-2003: Appointed member of the APA Committee on Inclusiveness in the Profession.

Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory:

Founding Member (1999).

Steering Committee Member (1999-2011).

Chair of the Diversity Committee (1999-2002).

Program Committee Member for the 2001 conference.

Chair of the Program Committee for the 2003 and 2005 conferences.

Chair of the Steering Committee (2009-2011).

International Association of Women Philosophers: Program Committee, 2004.

Radical Philosophy Association: Program Committee, 2000.

Socialist and Feminist Philosophers' Association: Organized meetings every other year 1997-2008.

Society for Women in Philosophy

Distinguished Woman Philosopher Award Selection Committee, 2007-2010

Referee manuscripts for: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Feminist Theory*, *Hypatia*, *Mind*, *Public Affairs Quarterly*, *Political Theory*, *Social Philosophy Today*, *Studies in Practical Philosophy*; Broadview Press, McGraw-Hill, Oxford University Press, Polity Press, Routledge, Rowman and Littlefield.

External reviewer for tenure and promotion cases for: Stonybrook University, Wesleyan University, and York University.

External examiner for Ph.D. dissertations at: Dalhousie University (Halifax, Canada) and University of New South Wales (Sydney, Australia).

Service at Binghamton University

Member of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Advisory Committee, 2014-present.

Member of the All-University Personnel Committee, representative from the Humanities Division, 2007-2009, 2015-present.

Member of the Faculty Senate, representative from the Philosophy Department, 2002-2004; 2010-2012; 2014-present.

Member of the Harpur College Faculty Diversity and Inclusion Committee, 2014-2015.

Director of Graduate Studies in Philosophy, MA and Ph.D. program in Social, Political, Ethical and Legal Philosophy (SPEL), 2005-2010; Acting Director Fall 2012.

Affiliated faculty member and steering committee member for the Women's Studies program (renamed Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies program in 2013) and for the Graduate Certificate in Feminist Theory program, 1999-present.

Affiliated faculty member and steering committee member for the undergraduate program in Philosophy, Politics and Law, 1999-present.

Member of the Harpur College Council, representative from the Philosophy Department, 2009-2011.

Undergraduate Director in Philosophy, 2002-2005.

Dissertations directed at Binghamton University:

Saba Fatima, Ph.D. 2012. Current position: Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville (tenure track).

Sean Cummings, Ph.D. 2011. Current position: Binghamton University Acres Farm.

Selin Gürsozlu, Ph.D. 2010: Current position: Instructor, Goucher College (previous: Villanova University).

Monica Mueller, Ph.D. 2009: Current position: Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Capital University (tenure track).

Carol Tushabe, Ph.D. (Philosophy, Interpretation and Culture) 2008: Current position: Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, Kansas State University (tenure track).

Desirée Melton, Ph.D. 2006: Current position: Associate Professor of Philosophy, College of Notre Dame of Maryland (tenured).

Chris Frakes, Ph.D. 2004: Current position: freelance editor (previous: University of Colorado, Colorado Springs; Colorado College).