

JENNIFER PURVIS

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Education

Ph.D., English & Philosophy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana,
August, 2002

Graduate Minor in Women's Studies, April, 2001

Primary Areas: Feminist Theory and Philosophy, Literary and Critical Theory, Social and
Political Philosophy

Secondary Areas: Cultural Studies, Nineteenth-Century and Contemporary Continental
Philosophy, Ethics

M.A. in English, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, August, 1992
Major Areas: Literature; Literary Criticism and Theory

B.A. in Philosophy & English, Manhattanville College, Purchase, New York, May, 1990
Thesis: *Philosophy Through Literature*

Dissertation

Engagement and Intervention: Feminism's Exchange with Nineteenth-Century Master Thinkers. Committee: Co-chairs: Professor William L. McBride (Arthur G. Hansen Distinguished Professor of Philosophy) and Professor Geraldine Friedman (Associate Professor of English; Director of English and Philosophy Ph.D. Program); Professor Calvin O. Schrag (George Ade Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus); Professor Janet Afary (Associate Professor of History). Given the complex and necessarily "impure" relationship of feminisms to the masculinist texts of the past, it is not possible for feminists to bring an end to phallogocry by direct "overthrow." Both the persistence of corrupt logics and the shifting relations of power under late capitalism demand inventive forms of subversion. I hold that such innovative methods for rethinking relations of discourse and power are at work within contemporary psychoanalytic feminisms. This manuscript investigates the relationship between key French and psychoanalytic feminist texts—primarily those of Luce Irigaray and Julia Kristeva—and the philosophies of Hegel, Marx, and Nietzsche. The project illuminates feminist resources that emerge from a radical reformulation of the most pivotal concepts at work within certain "mastertexts," and suggests a more effective path for liberatory theory.

Professional Employment

Assistant Professor, Department of Women's Studies, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Fall 2002-Present

Publications

“Irigaray’s (Marxist) Placental Economy: Corporeal Paradigms and the Destabilization of Domination.” Forthcoming, *Witnessing Bodies*, ed. Peter Gratton, *Continuum: Textures Series*.

“Generations of Antigone: An Intra-Feminist Dialogue with Beauvoir, Irigaray, and Butler.” Feature Article. *New Antigone*. Volume 1, numbers 1-2. Spring 2005-Summer 2006 (Aus). 2-10.

“A ‘Time’ for Change: Negotiating the Space of a Third Wave Political Moment.” *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy*. Volume 5, number 1. Fall 2005. 6-10.

“Grrrls and Women Together in the Third Wave: Embracing the Challenges of Intergenerational Feminism(s).” *NWSA Journal*. Volume 16, number 3. Fall 2004. 93-123.

“Hegelian Dimensions of *The Second Sex*: A Feminist Consideration.” *Bulletin de la société américaine de philosophie de langue française*. Special Issue on Simone de Beauvoir. Volume 13, number 1. Spring 2003. 128-56.

Research In Progress/Under Review

“Beyond Repro-Teleology: Kristevan Contributions to a Vision of Queer Feminist Futurity.” (Article.)

“Feminisms’ “Antigone Complex”: Generating a Future Beyond Repro-Teleology.” (Article.)

Generations of Feminist Intervention: Revolutionary Modes and Corporeal Engagements. (Book manuscript.)

Conference Presentations and Invited Papers

“Irigaray, Kristeva, and the Hetero-Temporalities of Negation.” 47th Annual SPEP Conference (*Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy*), Pittsburgh, PA, October 16-18, 2008.

“Hetero-Hetero-Sexualities and the Hommo-Sexuality of Desire: Queering Feminism, Queering Sex.” Panel: “The Queer Feminist Agenda.” *Resisting Hegemonies: Race and Sexual Politics in Nation, Region, Empire: National Women’s Studies Association 29th Annual Conference*, Cincinnati, OH, June 19-22, 2008.

“Feminism and the Fear of Queer: Autokeonomy, Disidentification, and the Future of Women’s Studies.” *LGBTQ Caucus* Panel: “The Centrality of Sexuality Studies in the U.S. Southeast.” *Southeastern Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference: Frontiers of Feminism at Home and Abroad*, UNC Charlotte, April 3-8, 2008.

“Hetero-Temporalities of Negation: Irigaray and Kristeva Towards a Queer, Feminist Future.” *PhiloSOPHIA: A Feminist Society*, 2nd Annual Conference, Decatur, GA, March 19-22, 2008.

“From Here to *L’In-Fini*: Kristevan Contributions to a Queer Feminist Futurity.” Panel: “Queer Futurity.” 46th Annual SPEP Conference (*Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy*), Chicago, IL, November 8-10, 2007.

“Thinking Beyond the Straight Mind: Towards a Non-Reproductive Feminist Futurity.” *“Past Debates, Present Possibilities, Future Feminisms”*: National Women’s Studies Association 28th Annual Conference, St. Charles, IL, June 28-July 1, 2007.

“Tragedy Beyond Hegel: Antigone’s Feminist Futurity.” *“Interrogating Antigone”*: An International Interdisciplinary Symposium, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, October 6-7, 2006.

“‘Unnatural’ Communities of Feminist Resistance: Queering Antigone and Refiguring Difference through Beauvoir, Irigaray, and Butler.” *“The Politics of Being”*: Australasian Society for Continental Philosophy Annual Conference, Sydney, Australia, June, 15-17, 2005.

“The Politics of Third Wave Feminism: Challenging Our ‘Mothers,’ Honoring the Future.”

- Invited Presentation, *The Cultural Theory Institute*, The University of Manchester, Manchester, England, April 20, 2005.
- Invited Presentation, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, England, April 19, 2005.
- Invited Presentation, *National Women’s History Month*, The University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, TX, March 24, 2005.

“The Third Wave and the Academy: Negotiating a Generational Legacy for the Future of Gender Justice.” Invited Faculty Brownbag Presentation, The University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, TX, March 24, 2005.

“A ‘Time’ for Change: Negotiating the Space of a Third Wave Political Moment.” Invited Presentation, Special Session of the *APA Committee on the Status of Women*: “Feminists Connecting Across Generations,” 101st Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Boston, MA, December 27-30, 2004.

“Politics and Corporeal Paradigms: A Feminist Investigation of Irigaray’s (Marxist) Placental Economy.” *“Virtual Materialities”*: International Association for Philosophy and Literature 28th Annual Conference, Syracuse, NY, May 19-25, 2004.

“Grrrls and Women in the Third Wave: The Politics of Intergenerational Feminism.” *“Southern Discomforts”*: National Women’s Studies Association 24th Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, June 19-22, 2003.

“Queering the Discursive Terrain of ‘Inclusion’.” Invited Response to: “Is ‘Inclusion’ Really Inclusive?” *Pacific Division American Philosophical Association Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, March 26-30, 2003.

“Embracing a Politicized Model of Third Wave Feminism: The Challenges of a Generational Legacy.” *“Third Wave Feminism”*: 6th Annual Women’s Studies Symposium, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, April 5-6, 2002.

“The Politics of Corporeality: French Feminism and the Demassification of Difference.” *Illuminations Lecture Series*, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, October 30, 2001.

“Irigaray’s Placental Economy: The Power of the Maternal in Destabilizing Domination.”
“2001.Women’s.Studies.com?”: *National Women’s Studies Association 22nd Annual Conference*, Minneapolis, MN, June 13-17, 2001.

“Simone de Beauvoir and the Limits of Otherness.” *Simone de Beauvoir Circle: Central Division American Philosophical Association Meeting*, Chicago, IL, April 20-23, 2000.

Other Conference Activities and Service to the Profession

NWWSA Officer: Southeastern Region Co-Chair: *National Women’s Studies Association*, June 2007-June 2009.

Advisory Board Member: *PhiloSOPHIA: A Feminist Society*. Spring 2008-Present.

Editorial Board Member: *New Antigone*. Fall 2005-Present.

Referee/Editorial Contributor: *Atlantis*. Spring 2008.

Referee/Editorial Contributor: *Hypatia*. Fall 2007.

Referee/Editorial Contributor: Special 2008 Issue, *Women’s Studies in Communication* on “Power Feminism: Exploring Agency, Oppression and Victimage,” eds. Cindy Griffin and Karma Chávez, Fall 2007.

Referee/Editorial Contributor: Special Fall 2005 Double Issue, *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* on “The Becoming-Deleuzoguattarian of Queer Studies,” ed. Michael O’Rourke, Spring-Summer 2005.

Moderator: “Diaspora in Theory.” *The African Diaspora and the Study of Religion*. Department of Religious Studies Annual Conference, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, April 7-8, 2005.

Prefatory Speaker: Vron Ware and “The Future of Feminism” (Session: “Re-thinking Gender, Race, and Empire”). “Women and Others: Racial and Gender Difference in Anglo-American Literature and Culture,” 27th *Alabama Symposim: The Signs of Race Series*, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, March 17-19, 2005.

Moderator: “Gender, Race, and Liberation Theories.” *Critical Theory and Race: Contesting the Racial Contract*. English & Philosophy Program and African American Studies Symposium, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, March 22-24, 2001.

Staff Organizer: *The Task of Philosophy After Postmodernity: Celebration in Honor of Calvin O. Schrag*. Symposium on the Work of Calvin O. Schrag, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, April 1, 2000.

Academic Awards and Honors

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Research Grants Committee (RGC) Grant, 2007-2009

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Grant, 2005-2007

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Grant, 2003-2004

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

Purdue Research Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 1998-1999

Purdue Research Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 1997-1998

Purdue Research Foundation Research Grant, Summer 1997

Teaching Experience

The University of Alabama, Assistant Professor, Department of Women's Studies (Fall 2002-Present)

Graduate Courses Taught:

WS 525: Feminist Theory: Major Texts/EN 500: Special Topics (Grad Seminar): “Feminism Beyond Women? Gender, Subjectivity, and Power from Beauvoir to Butler” (Fall 2007); “What is a Woman? Gender, Subjectivity, and the Problem of Difference” (Fall 2006, Fall 2005); “Subjectivities and Subjection: Feminist Negotiations of Difference” (Fall 2004, Fall 2003, Fall 2002)

WS 530: Women in Contemporary Society: Feminist Theory/EN 500: Special Topics (Grad Seminar): “Feminism Beyond the Body? Corporeality, Desire, and the Bodies that Matter” (Spring 2008); “Feminist Theory: Bodies and Revolution” (Spring 2007); “Feminism and the Body: Ethics, Politics and Corporeality” (Spring 2006, Spring 2005, Spring 2004, Spring 2003)

WS 500: Directed Reading: “Contemporary Transgender Theory” (Fall 2005); “Asian-American Feminist Theory” (Fall 2002)

Undergraduate Courses Taught:

WS 430: Women in Contemporary Society: Feminist Theory/EN 444 Advanced Studies in Literary Criticism and Theory (Senior Seminar): “Intergenerational Feminism(s)” (Fall 2007, Fall 2006); “Third Wave Feminism: A New Generation?” (Fall 2005); “The Politics of Third Wave Feminism: The Challenges of a Generational Legacy” (Fall 2004, Fall 2003, Fall 2002)

WS 440: Seminar on Women's Studies/EN 444 Advanced Studies in Literary Criticism and Theory (Senior Seminar): “Feminism and Queer Theory: Compulsory Heteronormativity and Feminist Existence” (Spring 2008); “Feminism, Queer Theory, and Culture” (Spring 2007); “Feminism and Queer Theory” (Spring 2006, Spring 2005, Spring 2004)

WS 450: Independent Study: “Between Queer Covers: Constructions of Lesbian Identity Through Fiction” (Fall 2007); “Feminist Theory and the Politics of Difference” (Fall 2004); “*The Vagina Monologues* and Women's Sexuality” (Spring 2003)

WS 200: Introduction to Women's Studies: “Gender and Subjectivities: An Introduction to Women's Studies” (Spring 2003)

Departmental Committee Work:

WS 599: Thesis Research: Advisor/Committee Chair:

The Impossibility of Generosity and Community within Consumer Culture. Rachel Faulk, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Spring 2006-Present)

A Reading of the Cuban Telenovela Destino Prohibido as a Feminist Intervention in Popular Culture. Jennifer Butterworth, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2004-Spring 2008)

Beyond Intersectionality: Transsituating Difference Through Queer Theory. Ethan S. Brooks-Livingston, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)

Rereading "The Myth of the Vaginal Orgasm": Discovering New Realms of Power and Pleasure. Lana Estess, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2003-Summer 2004)

Revisioning the Queer Impulses of Queer Theory. Karma Chavez, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2002-Spring 2003)

Feminists & G-Strings? Finding the Female Gaze in the Heterosexual Male Strip Club. Bree Roberts, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2002-Spring 2003)

Disrupting Identity: An Examination of Identity Politics and Cultural Anger in Asian American Feminism. Sharon Stanley, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2002-through Spring 2003; thesis completed summer 2003)

WS 599: Thesis Research: Committee Member:

Changing Conceptions: Feminist Disability Analysis of Pregnancy and Nella Larsen's Quicksand. Rachel McWhorter, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2007-Spring 2008)

The Pervasiveness, Nature, and Power of Women's Representation in Video Games: A Content Analysis and Theoretical Assessment of Social Effects. Ashley Danielle Cox, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2006-Spring 2008)

Exploiting Bias: Discriminatory Campaign Tactics, Hidden Consequences, and the Search for Ethical Possibilities. Dawn Rose Wilson, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Spring 2007-Present)

Cultural Coverture: Feminism and the Surname Debate. Summer Steib, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Spring 2005-Present)

"Workingwomen Unite": Women Textile Workers in the Deep South, 1900 to 1940. Beth Diane Robinson, Master's Thesis in Women's Studies (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)

Purdue University, Graduate Teaching Instructor, Women's Studies Program (Fall 2001-Spring 2002)

IDIS 280: Introduction to Women's Studies (Fall 2001-Spring 2002)

Purdue University, Graduate Teaching Instructor, Department of Philosophy (Spring 1997, Spring 2000-Spring 2001, & Fall 2000)

Philosophy 111: Introduction to Ethics (Spring 2000-Spring 2001; Spring 1997 with M. Kuehn)

Philosophy 206: Philosophy of Religion (Fall 2000 with W. Rowe)

Purdue University, Graduate Teaching Instructor, Department of English (Fall 1990-Fall 1996 & Fall 1999)

English 250: Great American Books (Fall 1999)

English 304: Advanced Composition (Spring 1995)

English 103: Accelerated First-Year Composition (Fall 1999; Fall 1996; Fall 1995; Spring 1992-Fall 1994)

English 102: English Composition II (Spring 1996; Spring 1991)

English 101: English Composition I (Summer 1995; Fall 1991; Fall 1990)

Teaching Areas

Feminist Theory and Philosophy

Queer Theory

Psychoanalytic Feminist Theory

19th Century and Recent Continental Philosophy

Literary and Critical Theory

Third Wave & Intergenerational Feminisms

Feminism and the Body

Feminist Literary and Cultural Studies

Service

Women's Studies Colloquium and Brown Bag Lecture Series Coordinator, Fall 2003-Present

Graduate Teaching Assistant Supervisor, Fall 2003-Present

McNair Scholars Program, Faculty Mentor, Spring 2008-Present

Capstone Alliance: Faculty and Staff Advocating for LGBTQ Justice, Spring 2007-Present

Faculty Advisor, Choice Alabama, Local Chapter of Choice USA, Fall 2007-Present

Faculty Senate, Spring 2006- Spring 2008

Research Grants Committee, 2006-2008

Faculty Life Committee, 2007-2008

Financial Affairs Committee, 2006-2007

Invited Panelist, "Sex, Gender, and Sexuality," WS 352: "Social Inequalities," Fall 2007

Invited Speaker, Students for a Democratic Society: Rally in Support of the Jena 6, Fall 2007

Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Competition, Faculty Mentor, Spring 2007, Spring 2006

E-Tech Review of Technology Infrastructure, Women's Studies Department, Spring 2007

Interdisciplinary and Interpretive Faculty Research Writing Seminar (I & I), Fall 2002-Spring 2007

Community Breakfast Program Volunteer, Spring 2003-Spring 2007

Race and Gender Pedagogy Group, Fall 2002-Spring 2007

Organizer, *Queer Film Series*, Spring 2007, Spring 2005

Organizer, *Third Wave Movie Series*, Fall 2005

Invited Lecturer, School of Social Work, Fall 2004

Invited Lecturer, Blount Undergraduate Initiative Convocation, Spring 2004

Women's Studies Library Liaison, Fall 2002-Summer 2003

Faculty Advisor, *The Vagina Monologues* 2003 V-Day College Campaign, Spring 2003

Presiding Speaker, Women's History Month Spring Colloquium, Spring 2003

Professional Affiliations

National Women's Studies Association

Southeast Women's Studies Association

Modern Language Association

American Philosophical Association

Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy

PhiloSOPHIA: A Feminist Society