

Gwendalynn Roebke

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
University of Pennsylvania
roebke@sas.upenn.edu
<https://www.gwendalynnroebke.com/>

AREAS

Specialization

Philosophy of Race, Political Philosophy (Anti-Colonial Philosophy), Social Epistemology

Competence

Latin American Philosophy, Indigenous Philosophy, Philosophy of Emotions

EDUCATION

2024 **Ph.D. Candidate in Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania**

Dissertation: "Who Can We Become, After All this Blood: An Embodied Philosophical Pursuit of the Potentiality of the Colonized's Capacity for Coherence in the Wake of Colonial Rupture"

Committee: Daniele Lorenzini (co-chair), Carlos G. Santana (co-chair), Ege Yumusak, James Haile III (external member), Natalie Avalos (external member)

Certificates: Latin American and Latinx Studies, College and University Teaching

2021 **B.A. in Distributed Studies, Magna Cum Laude, University of Colorado, Boulder**

CERTIFICATES

Latin American and Latinx Studies

College and University Teaching

PUBLICATIONS

Forth **Roebke, G.** "The three C's of decoloniality: conflict, connection, creation" Multiform essay and long form poem, a decolonial manual, Punctum Books.

2025 **Roebke, G.** "When the Witnesses in War stop waiting for a Necrotic Peace: A Contemplation on Nelson Maldonado's Against War" Review Essay *parrhesia: a journal of critical philosophy, Special Volume (digital)*.

2022 **Roebke, G.** "Review Essay | The Sky Watched: Poems of Ojibwe Lives, by Linda LeGarde Grover", *Wicazo Sa Review: A Journal of Native American Studies, Volume 37*.

BLOG POSTS

2025 **Caliban's Readings (Caribbean Philosophical Association's blog)**, "Can a Diaspora Ever Be Sated?: Ruminations with Glissant on the Hungers of Diasporic Being"

2024 **American Philosophical Association Blog (Black Issues in Philosophy)**, "To be made a Martyr or a Minstrel: Lessons from Aesthetic Theory on Academic Philosophy Pornographic Relation to Black Thinkers and their Ideas"

PUBLIC WRITING

2025 **Motif Magazine** "The Un-Making of Wombs and Worlds Understanding the Guilt and Grief Behind the "Monstrous" Survivals of Black and Indigenous Women as a Means of Enacting their Agency Against Coloniality's Capture"

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

Roebke, G., ["Hermeneutic Illness"]

Roebke, G., ["Monstrous Agency and the (Un)making of Wombs: Black and Indigenous Women's Embodied Affective Agency in their Resistance to Colonial Conditions in the Americas"]

Roebke, G. ["Guilt and Grief as Witnesses in Oppressive Ideology: 'Dissonant Affect's' Relation to the Epistemic as a Complication to Understanding Participation in Oppressive Ideologies"]

Roebke, G. ["To Be Made a Martyr or a Minstrel Aka Lord(e), We're Not for Everybody: Interrogating 'Academic Negrophilia' in Philosophy's Pornographic Reading of Audre Lorde"]

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2026 School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Research Award | I won a competitive award of 5000 dollars to support my qualitative survey and interview work.
- 2026 MIT PIKSI Boston Teaching Fellow
- 2025 Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by Graduate Students
- 2025 Emotion and Society Lab Fellow| I was selected through a competitive national pool of applicants to participate in a collaborative research lab held between UC Riverside and Wake Forrest University.
- 2025 Center for the Advancement of Multimodal Research Arts (CAMRA) Research Assistantship
- 2023 Social, Cognitive, and Affective Neuroscience (SCAN) Graduate Fellow
- 2023 Mellon Humanities Graduate Fellow | I was awarded a competitive institutional grant meant to support interdisciplinary scholarship to cover my stipend and fees for an academic year.
- 2022 Fontaine Fellow | A competitive school wide award.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND GROUPS

- 2025 **Selected Participant**, *School of Criticism and Social Theory*, The Terms of Violence (course taken)
- 2023-26 **Affiliated Student**, *Center for Experimental Ethnography*, University of Pennsylvania
- 2022-24 **Graduate Research Assistant**, *Dispossessions in the Americas*, University of Pennsylvania
- 2020 **Undergraduate Research Fellow**| **Peter Ossorio Archives**, "*Being and the Collectively Well/unwell, known/unknown Self: An Investigation into how Ossorio's ideas on cognition, mental health, and community in the framework of Descriptive Psychology are compatible with the practice of Curanderismo*", University of Colorado, Boulder
- 2019 **Undergraduate Research Grant Program**, "*Power, Death, and Freedom: An Investigation into how Social Identity Affects our Perception of Self and our Existential Experience*", University of Colorado, Boulder, and Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla, Colombia

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

- 2026-27 **Graduate Advisor**, *Foundations Undergraduate Philosophy Journal*, UPenn
- 2025-26 **Director**, *Center for the Advancement of Multimodal Research Arts*
- 2025-27 **International Organizer and Co-Director**, *Minorities and Philosophy*
- 2025- **Graduate Mentor**, *Graduate School Mentoring Initiative*
- 2024 **Invited Graduate Mentor/Panelist**, *Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy (SIDP)*, Rutgers New Brunswick
- 2024-27 **Secretariat**, *Secretary of Poetry as Theory and Praxis*, Caribbean Philosophical Association
- 2023-25 **Graduate Board Member**, *Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies*, University of Pennsylvania
- 2023 **Volunteer Philosophy Instructor**, *El Futuro, Mighty Writers Program*
- 2023 **Volunteer Philosophy Instructor**, *Philosophy for the Young*
- 2023-25 **Guest Judge**, *Philadelphia High School Ethics Bowl*

TEACHING

- Instructor of Record**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2027 Philosophy of Race (Spring)
- 2026 Ethics (Summer Intensive)
- Graduate Teaching Assistant**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2025 History of Modern Philosophy (Sabina Vaccarino Bremner)
- 2024 Intro to Ancient Greek Philosophy (Sukaina Hirji)
- 2024 Introduction to Philosophy (Bill Kowalsky)
- 2023 Philosophical Issues Around Love And Sex (Sukaina Hirji)

GUEST LECTURES

- 2026 "(Health)Care Work as a Commitment to Justice: The Social Justice (Bio)Ethic of Midwifery and Nursing" *Lauder Community Care Nurse Practitioner Program*, University of Pennsylvania
- 2025 "Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz" *History of Modern Philosophy*, University of Pennsylvania
- 2023 "In Pursuit of Revolutionary Love: Joy James" *Philosophical Issues Around Love And Sex*, University of Pennsylvania

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

- 2027 Colloquium Talk University of Alberta "Hermeneutic Illness: Understanding the Intimate Virality of Settler Colonialism's Embodied Epistemic Violence"
- 2024 Penn Grad Talk "Wound Righting through Communicative Re-Kinning and Imagination"

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

"Guilt and Grief as Witnesses in Oppressive Ideology: "Dissonant Affect's" Relation to the Epistemic as a Complication to Understanding Participation in Oppressive Ideologies"

- *European Philosophical Society for the Study of Emotions*, Eichstadt, Germany, 2026
- *Caribbean Philosophical Association Conference*, New York City, 2026
- *The ALARI IV Continental Conference on Afro-Latin American Studies*, Cali, Colombia, 2026, Unable to present due to family matter

"Monstrous Agency and the (Un)making of Wombs: Black and Indigenous Women's Embodied Affective Agency in their Resistance to Colonial Conditions in the Americas"

- *Latin American Studies Association (LASA)*, Paris, France 2026

"Hermeneutic Illness"

- *The Association for Philosophy and Literature (APL)*, University of Frankfurt, 2025

"Poetics and its (After)Lives as a Philosophical Method: A Workshop and Open Forum on the Centrality of Poetry/Poetics to Philosophy"

- *Caribbean Philosophical Association*, Martinique, 2025

"The Kinlessness of Coloniality as a Wound open to Hermeneutic Illness: Understanding the disruptions to kinship and wellness imposed by colonial ways on knowing"

- *Latin American Studies Association (LASA)*, Online, 2025

"To be made a Martyr or a Minstrel Aka Lord(e), we're not for Everybody: Interrogating the philosophy's Negrophilic "love" of Audre Lorde via a discussion of pornographic valuation and the consistently inadequate affective and hermeneutic resources for processing critical Black women thinkers"

- *The Roundtable for Black Feminist and Womanist Theory*, University of Rhode Island, 2025

"Who Can we Be, Who Can we Become, After all this Blood: An Embodied Philosophical Pursuit of the Potentiality of the Marginalized's Capacity for Self Coherence in the Wake of Colonial Rupture"

- *Caribbean Philosophical Association Conference*, Quintana Roo, Mexico, 2024
- *Latin American Studies Association (LASA)*, University Javeriana, 2024
- *Penn-Mellon Disposessions in the Americas conference*, Dejusticia, 2024

"From the Shadow of the Savage to heeding their Incessant Whispers: Following Fanon through Black Skin, White Masks and Wretched of the Earth to bring to light a third overlooked actor, The Savage, in the struggle against colonial imposition and meaning making"

- *Decolonization and the Afterlives of Fanon, Graduate Student Conference*, University of California, Berkeley, 2024

"Philosophy Never Loved Me (just the Idea of Me): The Future of Philosophy as Paved by Critical Love, as a move to grow beyond reducing people to "mere ideas" and Instill Practices of Compassionate and Honest Mentorship"

- *Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Flash Talk at the Central APA*, Online, 2024

"The Public Performance of Ignorance in the Knowing Deployment of Unintelligibility: What Supposed Unintelligibility can Mean for Contemporary Discussions of the Harms and Culpability of the Powerful's Intentional Actions"

- *Wisconsin Philosophical Association Conference*, Saint Norbert College, 2023

"Gaslighting for the Good of the Violent in Popular Non Violence Activism Rhetoric"

- *Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Group Session on Public Philosophy and Activism at the Central APA*, Online, 2021

"When there are no more Chairs, your Brethren's Backs become One: Why Seat at the Table Politics are anti-Liberatory by their compliance with Colonial and Capitalist Ideology and bolster the Construction of Whiteness"

- *Poster Presentation, 5th Annual Latinx Philosophy Conference*, Online, 2020

ACADEMIC EVENT ORGANIZING

- 2027 **Co-organizer**, *Indigenous Philosophy across the Americas: Social and Political Philosophy at the End of the Settler Colonial World*, University of Pennsylvania and Temple University
- 2026 **Co-organizer**, *Indigenous Philosophy across the Americas: Epistemologies and Ontologies outside of Settler Colonial Hegemony*, University of Pennsylvania and Temple University
- 2026 **Primary Organizer**, *(Un)Making the (Abyssal) Womb: A Symposium Centering Afro Latinas' Roles in Culture, Inheritance, and the "Monstrous" Gestation of Worlds Otherwise*, University of Pennsylvania and Temple University
- 2024 **Primary Organizer and Moderator**, *Poetry's Essential Place in Anti-Colonial Philosophy: A Discussion with Jason Allen-Paisant and Company*, University of Pennsylvania and the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium
- 2024 **Co-Organizer and Moderator**, *Imag(in)ing Revolutions Traditions of Unrest for an Anticolonial Art Praxis (co-organizer and moderator)*, University of Pennsylvania, Wolf Humanities Center

REFERENCES

Daniele Lorenzini

Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of Pennsylvania
danlor@sas.upenn.edu

Carlos Gray Santana

Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of Pennsylvania
csantana@sas.upenn.edu

James Haile III

Professor of Philosophy
University of Rhode Island
james.haile@uri.edu

Dr. Anita L. Allen

Henry R. Silverman Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus
University of Pennsylvania
anita.allen@upenn.edu

Cathy Bartch

Associate Director of the Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies
University of Pennsylvania
bartch@sas.upenn.edu