

Gregory J. Grobmeier, PhD
Regis University Philosophy Department
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EDUCATION

2021 Doctor of Philosophy in Religious and Theological Studies

University of Denver | Iliff School of Theology
Philosophy, Theology, and Cultural Theory Concentration

Dissertation: "Community Unclaimed: Plurality and the Problem of Sovereignty in Bataille, Nancy, and Blanchot"

Committee: Ted Vial, Thomas Nail, Sarah Pessin (Chair)

2010 Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies: Religious Studies and Philosophy

Arizona State University, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences

Thesis: "Between Transcendence and Immanence: Re-imagining the Religious in a Post-secular Age"

Committee: Linell Cady, Patricia Huntington, Martin Beck Matušík (Chair)

2008 Bachelor of Science in Molecular and Cellular Biology

University of Arizona

TEACHING & ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2014- Regis University, Regis College of Liberal Arts

Present Term Professor, Philosophy Department

- ***Philosophical Explorations***
An introductory philosophy course and part of the liberal arts "distributive core" offered to all first-year students.
- ***Human Ecology***
An interdisciplinary course on the social, economic, political, and ideological roots of the global climate crisis, part of the upper division "integrative core" offered to all juniors and seniors.
- ***God and the Good after Auschwitz***
An interdisciplinary course on theological and philosophical responses to the Holocaust and the aftermath of the Second World War, part of the upper division "integrative core" offered to all juniors and seniors.
- ***Emmanuel Levinas: Between Philosophy and Prophecy***
An upper division seminar on the life and works of Emmanuel Levinas, offered to majors in philosophy and religious studies.
- ***Philosophy in Dark Times***
An upper division seminar offered to philosophy majors on philosophical responses to fascism and authoritarianism, with an emphasis on the antifascist writings and activism of Georges Bataille, the post-Holocaust philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas, Martin Heidegger's involvement with National Socialism, and Hannah Arendt's analysis of totalitarian violence.

2016- **University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology**

2017 **Comprehensive Exam Facilitator, Joint Doctoral Program in the Study of Religion**

- Facilitated a weekly seminar for doctoral students preparing to complete their comprehensive exams on classical and contemporary texts in the study of religion.

2011- **Front Range Community College, Boulder County Campus**

2014 **Lecturer, Arts & Letters Department**

- Taught introductory and interdisciplinary courses in ethics, philosophy, death and dying, and environmental ethics.

2011- **University of Denver**

2013 **Guest Lecturer and Moderator, Philosophy Department**

- "The Ethics of Becoming: Deleuze and Geophilosophy," Guest Lecturer Contemporary Continental Philosophy, Professor Jere Surber (Winter 2013)
- "Gadamer and the Hermeneutic Tradition," Moderator Cultural Theory Colloquium, Professor Jere Surber (Winter 2013)
- "Absolute Knowing: Contemporary Responses to Hegel," Guest Lecturer and Moderator Great Thinkers: Hegel, Professor Jere Surber (Spring 2012)
- "Phenomenology, Mysticism, and the Language of Prayer," Guest Lecturer Philosophy and Mysticism, Professor Sarah Pessin (Fall 2011)

RESEARCH INTERESTS & AREAS OF COMPETENCE

- **History of Philosophy:** Ionian natural philosophy, Hellenistic philosophy, early modern and Enlightenment, 19th and 20th century German and French philosophy, phenomenology, contemporary continental European philosophy and its reception in Anglo-American philosophy and philosophy of religion
- **Political Philosophy and Political Theory:** ancient, modern, and contemporary
- **Religious and Judaic Studies:** religion and secularism in Western intellectual history, modern Jewish philosophy, post-Holocaust ethics and theology, Holocaust Studies
- **Human Ecology and Ecocriticism:** the intersection between the Earth System Sciences, Political Ecology, and the Environmental Humanities

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Research Fellow, Yad Vashem, International School for Holocaust Studies (2018)
- Dissertation Fellowship, DU-Iliff Joint Doctoral Program (2015)
- Full Tuition Scholarship and Graduate Teaching Assistantship, DU-Iliff Joint Doctoral Program (2010-13)
- Academic Fellowship, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, Arizona State University (2008)

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Community Unclaimed: Plurality Beyond Liberalism, Sovereignty after Fascism

A book-length study on the question of community and the problem of political authority as it figures in several 20th century and contemporary European philosophers and political theorists: Martin Heidegger, Hannah Arendt, Emmanuel Levinas, Georges Bataille, Maurice Blanchot, and Jean-Luc Nancy. The book situates these thinkers against the historical backdrop of the social and political circumstances under which they were living and writing (the rise of fascism and authoritarianism, the crises of liberalism and liberal democracy, the aftermath of the Second World War, and the collapse of Soviet communism in the late 1980s and early 1990s) in order to argue that any conception of authority fashioned according to the political-theological ideal of “sovereignty” is inherently hostile to “community.” The broader aim of the study is to make the case for a political pluralism capable of responding to both (1) the moral indifference and cynicism characteristic of liberal or neo-liberal society in times of crisis, and (2) the persistent threat of democracy’s descent into authoritarian nihilism, ever the unwelcome shadow of any self-styled democratic State claiming to be at once “plural” and “sovereign.”

PRESENTATIONS

- “Community between Liberal Cynicism and Authoritarian Nihilism”
University of Denver, DURAPS Research Summit (April 2017)
- “Negative Excess: Levinas and Bataille on the Death of Others”
University of Vienna, Institute for Philosophy (November 2013)
- “Becoming-Zombie: A Deleuzo-Guattarian Topography of Life (and Death) at the Surface”
Tulane University, Fifth International Deleuze Studies Conference (June 2012)
- “The Face as Icon and Enigma: Counter-Phenomenology of the Other in Levinas and Marion”
University of Denver, Southwest Seminar in Continental Philosophy (May 2011)
- “Re-imagining the Religious in a Post-secular Age: A Transdisciplinary Perspective”
Arizona State University, Philosophical and Religious Studies Society (February 2010)