

ELLA MYERS

Department of Political Science & Division of Gender Studies • University of Utah
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EMPLOYMENT

- *Professor*, Political Science Department and Gender Studies Division, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, 2023 -
- *Associate Professor*, Political Science Department and Gender Studies Division, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT. 2015 – 2023.
- *Assistant Professor*, Political Science Department and Gender Studies Program, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT. 2007 - 2015.
- *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Politics Department, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA. 2006 - 2007.
- *Instructor*, Political Science Department and Gender Studies Program, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. 2003 - 2006.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Northwestern University. 2006.

- Dissertation: *The Turn to Ethics and its Democratic Costs*
- Political Science Department Class Prize for outstanding graduate student

B.A., Politics, University Honors and Honors in the Major, University of California, Santa Cruz. 1997.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contemporary Democratic Theory; Black Political Thought; Feminist Theory; Collective Action and Social Movements; Ethics; Counter-Institutions; Economic Inequality

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Ella Myers, *The Gratifications of Whiteness: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Enduring Rewards of Antiracism*, Oxford University Press, 2022.
- Ella Myers, *Worldly Ethics: Democratic Politics and Care for the World*, Duke University Press, 2013.

Journal Articles

- Ella Myers, “The Last Human,” *Polity* 54, no. 4 (Oct. 2022): 771-780 [peer-reviewed]
- Ella Myers, “Beyond the Psychological Wage: Du Bois on White Dominion,” *Political Theory* 47, no. 1 (Feb. 2019): 6-31 [blind-reviewed]

- Ella Myers, “The Non-Scandal of American Oligarchy,” *Theory & Event* 20, no. 2 (April 2017) [blind-reviewed]
- Ella Myers, “Presupposing Equality: The Trouble with Rancière’s Axiomatic Approach,” *Philosophy and Social Criticism* 42, no. 1 (January 2016): 45-69 [blind-reviewed]
- Ella Myers, “From Pluralism to Liberalism: Re-Reading Isaiah Berlin.” *The Review of Politics* 72, no. 4 (Fall 2010): 599-625 [blind-reviewed]
- Ella Myers, “Resisting Foucauldian Ethics: Associative Politics and the Limits of the Care of the Self,” *Contemporary Political Theory* 7, no. 2 (May 2008): 125-146 [blind-reviewed]

Chapters

- Ella Myers, “Berlin and Democracy” in *Isaiah Berlin and the Politics of Freedom: ‘Two Concepts of Liberty’ 50 Years Later*, eds. Bruce Baum and Robert Nichols. (Routledge, 2012), pp. 129-142 [peer-reviewed]

Work in Progress

- “The Peculiar Feminist Politics of the Jane Collective: Blood, Secrecy, and Solidarity,” article ms.
- “Jane’s Afterlives: Feminist Direct Action and ‘Taking’ the Right to Abortion Then and Now,” article ms., invited contribution to *Polity* special issue on “Reproduction After Dobbs”
- Co-editor, with Andrew Douglas, Kimberly Harris, and Jared Loggins, *W.E.B. Du Bois on Political Economy* (book proposal, invited to submit to *Oxford New Directions in Philosophy* series)

Symposia, Reviews, and Reference Entries

- “Brutal Competition,” symposium on *W.E.B. Du Bois and the Critique of Competitive Society* by Andrew Douglas. *Political Theory* 49, no. 3 (June 2021).
- Review of *A Political Companion to Du Bois*, ed. Nick Bromwell, *Perspectives on Politics* 18, no. 3 (Sept. 2019).
- Review of *Rancière and Literature*, eds. Grace Hellyer and Julian Murphet. *Arcadia: International Journal of Literary Culture* 54, no. 1 (March 2019).
- “Making Change Popular,” review essay of *The Politics of Common Sense: How Social Movements Use Public Discourse to Change Politics and Win Acceptance* by Deva Woodly. *Theory & Event* 19, no. 3 (July 2016).
- Review of *Everyday Utopias: The Conceptual Life of Promising Spaces* by Davina Cooper. *Contemporary Political Theory* 14, no. 2 (April 2015).
- Review of *Reproductive Politics* by Rickie Solinger. *Public Integrity* 16, no. 1 (Winter 2013-2014).
- “Mary Wollstonecraft” and “Monique Wittig” entries in *The Encyclopedia of Political Science* (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2011).
- Review of *New Waves in Political Philosophy* edited by Boudewijn de Bruin and Christopher F. Zurn. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (August 2009).
- “Evil’s Effects” (review essay), *Political Theory* 33, no. 1 (February 2005).
- Review of *Ethics of Dissensus* by Ewa Ziarek. *Philosophy in Review* 23, no. 4 (August 2003).

Commentary

- “‘Get Out’ and the Horror of White Pleasure,” *Public Seminar* (April 2017).
- “Beyond the Wages of Whiteness: Du Bois on the Irrationality of Anti-Black Racism,” *Items*, Social Science Research Council, Reading Racial Conflict Series (March 2017).
- “The Truth About Women and Guns” op-ed, *Salt Lake Tribune*, March 2, 2013.

INVITED TALKS

- “The Jane Collective and the Bodily Politics of Direct Address.” University of Chicago Political Theory Workshop, Nov. 2023.
- “The Irrationality of Race Hate: Du Bois and the Problem of White Sadism,” Department of Political Science Lecture Series, University of California, Davis, May 2022.
- Keynote, “Taking Sides: For an Adversarial Democratic Ethos of Care” *Caring for the World: Ethos and Partisanship* conference, University of Utrecht, Netherlands, Nov. 2018
- “‘Feeding Their Vanity’? Du Bois and the Contours of 21st Century Whiteness,” *Race and Populism in the Age of Trump* workshop, Ohio State University, Nov. 2018.
- “Du Bois on Whiteness as Dominion,” Yale Humanities Program Colloquium, April 2018.
- “Beyond the Psychological Wage: Du Bois on the Irrationality of Anti-Blackness,” Political Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2017.
- “Anti-Blackness as White Solace,” Political Theory Workshop, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, December 2015.
- “Anti-Blackness and White Solace,” Institute for Social Justice at Australian Catholic University, Sydney, Australia, May 2015.
- “Hannah Arendt and the Politics of Extrasubjectivity,” The Center for Philosophy, Arts, and Literature at Duke University. Durham, NC, April 2015.
- “Invisible Men: Racial Indifference in Theories of Neoliberalism,” Political Theory Colloquium, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, December 2014.
- “Radical Capitalism and the Struggle over Common Sense.” University of Chicago Political Theory Workshop, Chicago, IL, May 2014.
- Author Meets Critics Roundtable: *Worldly Ethics* by Ella Myers, Western Political Science Association Meeting, Seattle, WA, April 2014.
- Participant in Roundtable Discussion of *Worldly Ethics*. University of Utah Hinckley Institute of Politics, Salt Lake City, UT, April 2013 (Podcast on KUER).
- “Value Pluralism and Moral Absolutism: On the Uses and Abuses of Isaiah Berlin.” *Isaiah Berlin’s Two Concepts of Liberty: Fifty Years Later* conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, October 2008.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “The Jane Collective and the Material Politics of Direct Address,” Western Political Science Association Meeting, San Francisco, April 2023.

- “Du Bois, ‘Propaganda,’ and the Fight Against White Supremacy” American Political Science Association Meeting, San Francisco, CA. Sept. 2020 [canceled due to COVID]
- “What are We Talking About When We Talk About Racial Capitalism?” Western Political Science Association Meeting, Los Angeles, CA. April 2020. [canceled due to COVID]
- “The Struggle for Multiracial Democracy & the Specter of White Sadism: Re-reading Du Bois in the 21st Century,” American Political Science Association Meeting, Washington, DC, Aug. 2019.
- “Du Bois and the Specter of White Sadism,” Association for Political Theory Meeting, Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges, Oct. 2018.
- “Beyond the Wages of Whiteness: Du Bois on White Dominion,” American Political Science Association Meeting, Sept. 2017.
- “The Gratifications of Whiteness: Du Bois on the Rationality and Irrationality of Anti-Blackness,” American Political Science Association Meeting, Philadelphia, Sept. 2016.
- “Anti-Blackness as White Solace,” Association for Political Theory Meeting, University of Colorado, Boulder, Oct. 2015
- “Black Objectification and White-Pleasure-in-Possession,” American Political Science Association Meeting, San Francisco, Sept. 2015.
- “Invisible Men: Racial Indifference in Theories of Neoliberalism,” Association for Political Theory Meeting, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Oct. 2014.
- “Contesting Radical Capitalism,” American Political Science Association Meeting, Washington, D.C., Sept. 2014
- “Neoliberalism and the Non-Scandal of Oligarchy,” Association for Political Theory Meeting, Vanderbilt University, Oct. 2013.
- “Oligarchy in a Neoliberal Key,” American Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, Sept. 2013.
- “Axiomatic Equality?” Western Political Science Association Meeting, Hollywood, March 2013.
- “Democratic Politics and Worldly Ethics,” Western Political Science Association Meeting, San Antonio, TX, Sept. 2011
- “Toward an Ethics of the Third Term,” American Political Science Association Meeting, Toronto, Sept. 2009.
- “Caring for Worldly Things: A Democratic Ethos?” Western Political Science Association Meeting, Vancouver, April 2009.
- “The Other Isaiah Berlin: Resisting Liberal System Building,” Western Political Science Association Meeting, Las Vegas, March 2007.

SELECTED OTHER CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

- Invited Participant, Workshop on Du Bois and Political Economy, Brown University, forthcoming April 2024.
- Discussant, “Feminists Strike Back!: Resistance, Protest, and Power” panel, 2023 Western Political Science Association meeting, San Francisco.
- Discussant, “Bodies, Health, Justice,” 2020 Association for Political Theory Meeting (remote).

Discussant, “Political Demonstration and Engagement,” 2015 Association for Political Theory Meeting, University of Colorado, Boulder.

Roundtable Participant, “Can There Be a (Good) Ethics for Politics?” 2015 American Political Science Association Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Discussant, “Democracy and Violence: From Machiavelli to Chaplin” Panel, 2014 American Political Science Association Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Discussant, “Disaster and the Political” Panel, 2013 American Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Discussant, “Other Democratic Theorists” Panel, 2013 Western Political Science Association Meeting, Hollywood, CA.

Discussant and Chair, “Menaces and Misfits” Panel, 2012 American Political Science Association Meeting, Seattle, WA.

Discussant, “Reading Arendt: Provocations of Freedom” Panel, 2011 Western Political Science Association Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Roundtable Participant, “Ethos and Politics: New Paradigm or Retreat from the Political?” 2007 American Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Nominee, University Distinguished Teaching Award, University of Utah, 2020.

Recipient, Superior Teaching Award (Senior Faculty), College of Social and Behavioral Science, University of Utah, 2020.

Recipient, Superior Teaching Award (Junior Faculty), College of Social and Behavioral Science, University of Utah, 2014.

Recipient, University of Utah Faculty Fellowship, Fall 2014.

Recipient, University of Utah Faculty Fellowship, Fall 2011.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) Summer Language Training. Goethe-Institut, Berlin, Germany, 2002.

The School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 2001.

Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM) International Summer School in Political Philosophy, Cortona, Italy, 2000.

TEACHING

University of Utah

- Introduction to Political Theory
- Modern Political Theory
- Contemporary Political Theory (Undergraduate and Graduate)
- Black Political Thought

- Feminist Political Theory (Undergraduate and Graduate)
- Introduction to Feminist Theories
- Consent & Dissent
- Economic Inequality and American Democracy
- Gender & Democracy
- Gender and Contemporary Issues
- Gender, Power, Freedom
- Racism and Capitalism in the U.S. (Graduate)
- Graduate-Level Independent Studies: Hannah Arendt; Feminist Political Theory; Liberalism

Other Institutions

- Political Freedom
- Feminist Theories
- Modern European Political Thought
- Critical Approaches to Power (co-taught)
- Consent, Obedience, and Resistance
- Ethics and Politics
- Critical Race Studies and Feminist Theory

Graduate Committees

Current

Aaron Coombs, Ph.D.

Chris Jensen, Ph.D.

Zachary Stickney, Ph.D. (Chair)

Completed

Karolyn Campbell, Ph.D (chair), “The Coalition Politics of *ADAPT* in the Disability Rights Movement of the 1980s-90s,” 2022.

Jake Garrett, Ph.D., “Pragmatic Citizenship: How School Community Councils Make Better Citizens,” 2020.

Stephen Michael Christian, Ph.D., “A Critical Disability Studies Analysis of ‘Norms’ in International Relations,” 2019.

Karolyn Campbell, M.S. (Chair), “Invisible Disability and the Politics of Storytelling,” 2018.

Daniel Patterson, M.A., “Reconsidering Teiresias: Interpretation, Deliberation, and *Phronimos* in Sophocles’ *Antigone*,” 2018.

Brandon Bowen, Ph.D. (Philosophy), “Egalitarianism without Equality,” 2018.

Jennifer Yim, Ph.D., “Delinquency’s Treatment: Why Interactions Produce Policy and Identity in Secure Juvenile Facilities,” 2017.

Johan Uribe, Ph.D. (Economics), “Three Essays on the Social Context of Wealth Accumulation and Racial Wealth Inequality in the U.S.,” 2017.

Megan McFarlane, Ph.D. (Communication), “The Issue with Women: Rhetorically Framing Servicewomen’s Bodies as Problematic in the U.S. Military,” 2015.

Chuck Hudgins, Ph.D. (Philosophy), “A Relational Approach to the Moral Value of Privacy,” 2013.

Jennifer Warriner, Ph.D. (Philosophy), “Autonomy and the Liberal State,” 2013.

Undergraduate Research Mentorship

- Angie Zheng, “The Hobbesian Assumption Behind Mearsheimer’s Theory of Offensive Realism,” Undergraduate Research Program (funded), 2021-2022.
- Cullen O’Brien, “An Analysis of Ideology in Online Environments,” Honors Thesis and Undergraduate Research Program (funded), 2020-2021.
- Sierra Holmes, “Imagining Gender After Abolition,” Ethnic Studies Capstone Project, 2020-2021.
- Dallas Blackburn, “Latinx Citizen Engagement in Salt Lake City’s School Community Councils,” Bennion Scholars Project and Undergraduate Research Program (funded), 2020-2021.
- Allyson Berri, “The Myth of the Justifiable Homicide: The Gendered Dynamics of Self Defense Law and Policy,” Honors Thesis, 2019-2020.
- India Schoenherr, “A Crooked Room? Black Women’s Experiences in the LDS Church,” Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (funded), 2018-2019.
- Anne Marie Bitter, “‘Women’s Safety’ in Arguments For and Against the Criminalization of Prostitution in the U.S.,” Honors Thesis, 2018-2019.
- Tillie McInnis, “Disruptive Power: A Comparison of Political Voice for Non-Elites After the Great Depression and the Recession of 2008,” Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (funded) and Honors Thesis, 2014-2015.
- Diya Shah, “The Appropriation of Sacajawea by the Women’s Suffrage Movement,” Honors Thesis, 2015.
- Jordan Jochim, “Forging a Truce, Forcing an Encounter: James Baldwin and the Paradox Of Injury,” Honors Thesis, 2013-2014.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Organizational Responsibilities

- Member, American Political Science Association, Foundations of Political Theory Best First Book Award Committee, 2022.
- Member, Governance Committee, Association for Political Theory, 2018-2020.
- Program Co-Chair (with Onur Ulas Ince), 2018 Association for Political Theory Meeting, Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges.
- Member, American Political Science Association Best Paper Award Committee, Foundations Section, 2014.
- Chair, American Political Science Association Best Paper Award Committee, Sexuality and Politics Section, 2012.

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association; Western Political Science Association; Foundation for Political Theory; Association for Political Theory.

Manuscript Reviewer

Journals: American Political Science Review; Journal of Politics; Perspectives on Politics; Political Theory; The Review of Politics; Contemporary Political Theory; European Journal of Political Theory; Hypatia; New Political Science; PRQ; Social Theory and Practice; Philosophia; Foucault Studies; Theory & Event; Constellations.

Presses: *Bloomsbury Press*; *Duke University Press*; *Fordham University Press*; *Oxford University Press*; *Polity Press*; *Rowman & Littlefield*; *University of Chicago Press*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

College, School, Department, and Division Service

- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Political Science, 2017-2022.
- Chair, Political Science Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2017-2022.
- Member, Faculty Search Committee, International Relations, Political Science, 2021-2022.
- Member, Faculty Search Committee, Black Feminist Studies, School for Cultural and Social Transformation, 2021-2022.
- College of Social and Behavioral Science Curriculum Committee, 2015-2016, 2017-2022.
- College of Social and Behavioral Science Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, 2019-2023.
- Member, School for Cultural and Social Transformation Research Advisory Committee, 2020-2023.
- Member, Review, Promotion, Tenure (RPT) Committee, Gender Studies, 2017-
- Member, Political Science Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, 2020-2023.
- Member, Executive Committee, Political Science, 2017-
- Member, Executive Committee, Gender Studies, 2007-
- Chair, Political Science Career-Line and Adjunct Review Committee, 2017-2022.
- Chair, Political Theory Subfield Committee, 2019-2023.
- Member, Review, Promotion, Tenure (RPT) Committee, Political Science, 2017-2020.
- Member, School for Cultural and Social Transformation Council, 2018-2020.
- Honors Faculty Advisor, Political Science, 2017-2019.
- Member, Political Science Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2010, 2014-2015, 2015-2016.
- Member, Political Theory Subfield Committee, 2007-2019. Chair, Political Science Colloquia Committee, 2012-2013.
- Faculty Advisor, *Hinckley Journal of Politics*, 2012-2013.
- Member, Neal A. Maxwell Chair in Political Theory, Public Policy, and Public Service Search Committee, 2010-2011 and 2008-2009.
- Member, Political Theory Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam Committee, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2011, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019.
- Member, Political Science Ad Hoc Merit Raise Committee, 2011.

University-Level Service

- Member, University-Wide Diversity Committee, 2012-2015.
- Member, Faculty Sub-Committee on Action Plan to Advance Equity and Diversity, 2012-2013.
- Member, University-Wide Academic Policy Advisory Committee, 2009-2011.
- Member, University-Wide Equity and Diversity Awards Committee, 2010-2011.