

Dr. Serena Marie Parekh

Department of Philosophy
University of Connecticut
Manchester Hall 136
344 Mansfield Road
Storrs, CT, 06269-2054

office: 860-486-3463
email: serena.parekh@uconn.edu

TEACHING POSITIONS

University of Connecticut, Department of Philosophy and Institute for Human Rights
2005 to present Assistant Professor

Boston College, Department of Philosophy
2001-2005 Teaching Fellow

ACADEMIC TRAINING

Boston College (2000 to 2005)

Ph.D. in Philosophy, August 30, 2005

Dissertation: "The Phenomenological Analysis of Human Rights in the Work of Hannah Arendt." Defended June 17, 2005. Directors: James Bernauer, David M. Rasmussen and Jacques Taminiaux

Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) (1998 to 2000)

M.A. in Philosophy (*magna cum laude*)

McGill University (Montreal, Canada) (1993-1998)

B.A. in philosophy (*cum laude*)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social and Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Human Rights, Ethics, Feminist Theory, Continental Philosophy

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Fall 2005 to present

Member of the Gladstein Committee at the Human Rights Institute

Spring 2006 to present

Book review editor for the *Journal of Human Rights*

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Connecticut

Feminist Theory (PHIL 218)
Philosophy and Social Ethics (PHIL 104)
Topics in Philosophy and Human Rights (PHIL/HRTS 219)
Social and Political Philosophy (PHIL 217)
Introduction to Human Rights (in association with the Political Science department) (POLS 125)

Boston College, Philosophy Department

Person and Social Responsibility (a year long, service-learning course)
Philosophy of the Person I and II (a two-semester, historically informed introduction to philosophy, using primary sources.) Received an award for teaching excellence for this class (2001-2002)

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Hannah Arendt and the Challenge of Modernity: A Phenomenology of Human Rights. Routledge Press, 2008. In the series, *Studies in Philosophy*, edited by Robert Bernasconi. 100,000 words.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

"When Being Human Isn't Enough: Reflections on Women's Human Rights" in *Global Ethics: Feminist Ethics and Social Theory* edited by Rebecca Whisnant and Peggy Desautels, (Rowman and Littlefield 2008).

"Conscience, Morality and Judgment: An Inquiry into the Subjective Basis of Human Rights" in a special edition of *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, entitled "The Uses of Judgment" (Alessandro Ferrara, guest editor), Vol. 34, No 1, January 2008.

"Resisting 'Dull and Torpid' Assent: Returning to the Debate Over the Foundations of Human Rights" in *Human Rights Quarterly* Vol. 29, No. 3 (August 2007), 754-778.

"Can a Violent Husband Violate Human Rights?" in *The Journal of Human Rights*, Volume 6, Issue 1, January 2007, p. 131-141.

"A Meaningful Place in the World: Hannah Arendt on the Nature of Human Rights" in *The Journal of Human Rights* Vol. 3, number 1, March 2004, 41-53.

"The Constitution of the Other as a Ground for Transcendental Intersubjectivity: A Comparison of the Work of Edith Stein and Edmund Husserl" in *Discourse* (University of San Francisco), Spring 2001, p 17-28

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Care and Human Rights in a Globalized World” forthcoming in *Southern Journal of Philosophy* (Proceedings from the Spindell Conference, October 2007)

Book review of Catherine MacKinnon’s *Are Women Human? And Other International Dialogues* (Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2006) for the American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy, Spring 2007, Vol 6, No 2.

“Human Rights” and “Illegal Aliens” in *Encyclopedia of Culture Wars*. New York: M.E. Sharp, 2008 (forthcoming).

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

PEER REVIEWED OR INVITED ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Care and Human Rights in a Globalized World: A Response to Gould” Invited presentation at the Spindel Conference, on Global Feminist Ethics and Politics. University of Memphis (Memphis, TN), October 18-20 2007.

“Modern Rightlessness.” SPEG: The Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, (Philadelphia, PA), October 13, 2006.

“Turning Rational Agents into Souls: Reflections on the Role of Love, Evil and Shame in Human Rights.” Invited talk at Nazareth College, Department of Philosophy (Rochester, NY), September 22, 2006.

“On the Gap Between Women’s Rights and Human Rights.” FEAST: Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (Clearwater Beach, Florida), January 5-8, 2006.

“When the Chips are Down: Arendt on Morality in Times of Crisis.” The American Philosophical Association, (New York, NY), December 27-30.

“An Introduction to Hannah Arendt and *On Violence*.” Invited talk given at the Goethe Institute in Boston, May 18, 2005.

“Women’s Human Rights” given at the Women’s Studies Association Symposium at York University (Toronto, Canada), April 13, 2005.

“Hannah Arendt’s Phenomenology of Human Rights” invited talk at the Human Rights Institute and Philosophy Department at the University of Connecticut, (Storrs, CT), February 3, 2005

“‘Women’s Rights are Human Rights’: A Philosophical Analysis” at NEWSA: The New England Women’s Studies Association, University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT). April 2, 2004

“Aristotle and Liberalism” Emory University, Department of Philosophy, (Atlanta, GA), February 6-7, 2004

“The Most Anti-Socratic Conclusion that Plato Ever Reached” at SPEP: Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, (Boston, MA), November 6-8, 2003

“A Meaningful Place in the World: Hannah Arendt on the Nature of Human Rights” at SPEP: Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, (Chicago, IL), October 10-12 2002

“Hannah Arendt’s Philosophical, Historical and Political Interpretation of Rights” at *Representing the Border*, at McGill University, (Montreal, Canada), March 22-24 2002

"A Meaningful Place in the World: Hannah Arendt on Human Rights" at *Democracy and Literature*, Emory University, (Atlanta, Georgia), February 22- 24 2002

OTHER

“Liberal Eugenics and the Politics of Life.” New England Seminar in Continental Philosophy. St Anselm College (Manchester, NH). April 26, 2008.

“Refugees and the Right to Belong.” Invited talk given at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Center for Global Health, as part of the Durant Fellowship for Refugee Medicine. September 14, 2007

Participant at the University of Birmingham, Center for Global Ethics, Summer course on human rights. July 4-15, 2005.

Summer Seminar on International Human Rights Law at the European University Institute, Academy of European Law in Florence, Italy. June 21 to July 2, 2004.

Co-organizer of the Boston College/Boston University Feminist Philosophy Reading Group. Boston September 2003 to 2005

Co-Organizer of a graduate student conference at Boston College entitled Women in Dialogue with Philosophy. Boston, MA. April 4-5 2002

Summer Seminar on Philosophy and Political Theory held through Notre Dame University (seminar leader: Arthur Madigan). Boston, MA. June 2-23 2001

Summer Seminar on Political Philosophy in Cortona, Italy, sponsored by the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM) in Vienna. Italy. July 5-19 2001

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

General Education Course Development Grant. Grant awarded, with Anne Hiskes, in the University of Connecticut Provost's general education course development competition. Grant is to develop a course entitled "Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspectives"

Donald and Helene White Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in the Field of Humanities at Boston College May 2006. This is an award given out for the best dissertation across all the fields of the humanities.

Fortin Memorial Grant 2003, 2004, 2005 for summer research in Europe

Dissertation Fellowship Boston College, Academic year 2003/2004

Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Award Boston College, Spring 2002

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship
Highest award given in the humanities through the Canadian government, May 2001 to May 2004

Presidential Fellowship from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Boston College, September 2000 to 2005. Fellows are nominated by their department and only 5 awards are given out across the university

Valedictorian for graduating class at the Catholic University of Leuven, June 2000

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The American Philosophical Association (APA)

The Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)

Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST)

Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP)