

ALEXIS SHOTWELL  
CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of Philosophy  
Laurentian University  
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**CURRENT POSITION**

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy and Member of the Graduate Faculty,  
Laurentian University (Sudbury, Ontario, Canada)

**EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. 2006 University of California, Santa Cruz, History of Consciousness  
(Philosophy)  
Dissertation: "Implicit Understanding and Political Transformation"  
Committee: James Clifford (Chair), Angela Davis, Donna Haraway, David Hoy
- M.A. 2000 Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Women's Studies  
M.A. Thesis: "Giving Name to the Nameless: Heterodox Nonpropositional  
Understanding and Liberatory Personal Transformation"  
Committee: Sue Campbell (Chair), Ann Manicom, Susan Sherwin
- B.A. 1996 McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Philosophy  
Foundation Year Programme, King's College, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1992

**FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS**

*Laurentian University Research Fund*, Laurentian University, 2010  
*Institute for Humanities Research Dissertation Fellowship*, University of California, 2006  
*History of Consciousness Endowment Fellowship*, University of California at Santa Cruz, 2005  
*Doctoral Student Sabbatical Fellowship*, University of California at Santa Cruz, 2005  
*Travel and Research Grant*, Institute for Humanities Research, UCSC, 2004  
*Doctoral Fellowship*, Social Sciences And Humanities Research Council of Canada 2002-4  
*Travel and Research Grant*, Institute for Humanities Research, UCSC, 2001  
*Fee Grant & Tuition Fellowship*, University of California at Santa Cruz, 2000-2001  
*Graduate Division Merit Fellowship*, Dalhousie University, 1998-2000

**PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

**Book:**

*Knowing Otherwise: Race, Gender, and Implicit Understanding* (Penn State Press, 2011)

**Refereed Journal articles**

"Open normativities: gender, disability, and collective political change." (*Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*; forthcoming – accepted for publication, 37:4 Summer 2012) (35 MS pages).

"'No proper feeling for her house': The co-constitution of white womanliness in Shirley Jackson's fiction" *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*; forthcoming – accepted for publication (34 MS pages)

**Refereed Journal articles cont.**

Primary author, with Trevor Sangrey, “Resisting Definition: Gendering Through Interaction and Relational Selfhood,” *Hypatia* 24.3 Summer 2009) pp. 56-76 (21).

With Pamela Perry (co-authors), “Relational Understanding and White Antiracist Praxis,” (*Sociological Theory* 27.1 February 2009) pp. 33-50 (17).

“Liminality, Radical Personal Transformation, and the Conditions for Rational Deliberation: Susan Babbitt, María Lugones, and Toni Morrison” *LIMEN – Journal for the theory and practice of liminal phenomena* February 2002 (<http://limen.mi2.hr/>)

**Chapters in edited books:**

“Appropriate Subjects: Whiteness and the Discipline of Philosophy.” in George Yancy, ed. *The Center Must Not Hold: White Women on The Whiteness of Philosophy*, Lexington Books, (2010). pp. 117-130

“A Knowing That Resided in My Bones: Sensuous Embodiment and Genderqueer Social Movement,” (refereed) in Susan Sherwin, Susan Campbell, and Letitia Meynell (eds.). *Agency and Embodiment*. Penn State, 2009 pp 58-75

“Shame in Alterities: Adrian Piper, Intersubjectivity, and the Racial Formation of Identity” in Silke Horstkotte and Esther Peeren (eds.) *The Shock of the Other: Situating Alterity*. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2007. Series: Thamyris/Intersecting: Race, Sex, Place. pp 127-136

“Common Sense and Race: Nonpropositional Elements in Thinking through Gramsci,” (refereed) in Joseph Young and Jana Evans Braziel (eds.) *Race and the Foundations of Knowledge*. University of Illinois Press, 2006 pp 46-62

“‘Telling the Truth’ about Her Life: The Politics of Representing Experience” McGill University: The Centre for Research and Teaching on Women Monograph Series – conference collection, 2001

**Book Reviews:**

*American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy: Review: Critical Perspectives on bell hooks*. Edited by Maria del Guadalupe Davidson, George Yancy (New York: Routledge, 2009).

*Hypatia* 25:1 Review: Sally Scholz *Political Solidarity* (Penn State Press, 2008); Noelle McAfee *Democracy and the Political Unconscious* (Columbia University Press, 2008)

“Toward autonomous feminist politics” review of *Color of Violence: the INCITE! Anthology* South End Press, 2006 in *Upping the Anti: A Journal of Theory and Practice* vol. 6, 2008.

**In preparation:**

- “What Maestra Knew” (Under review, 22 MS pages)  
“Aspirational solidarity as bioethical norm: The case of reproductive justice” (Under review, 21 MS pages)  
“Racism without words?”  
“Embodiment, Eating and Ethical Entanglement”  
“The queer work of remembering for the future: Genealogy, memory, and bioethics”

**Invited presentations:**

- “Racial formation and implicit understanding” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division main program Symposium: Race, Racism and Racial Cognition (December 2011)

Author Meets Critics sessions for *Knowing Otherwise*:

- Radical Philosophy Association (Group program, Eastern APA, December 2011)  
Society for Women in Philosophy (Group program, Pacific APA, April 2012)  
Canadian Philosophical Association and the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (joint session, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, June 2012)

“Racism without words?”

- Vanderbilt University, Philosophy Colloquium series (September, 2011)  
Brock University (November, 2011)  
University of Waterloo (November, 2011)

“Classification, nourishment, and ethical implication” University of Alberta Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series (October, 2010).

“Philosophers as Troublemakers” Equity Committee at the Canadian Philosophical Association meeting, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Concordia University (Summer 2010).

“Embodiment and ethical implication” International Association of Philosophy and Literature Special Panel, University of Regina (Summer 2010).

“What Maestra Knew: The Inadequacy of the Knowing-How/Knowing-That Distinction,” Dalhousie Philosophy Colloquium (Summer 2008).

“Sensuous Knowledge for Social Movements,” Practice as Research Conference, UC Davis (Spring 2005)

**Conference presentations:**

- “The queer work of remembering for the future: Genealogy, memory, and bioethics” APA Committee on LGBT people in the profession panel, Pacific APA main program (Spring 2012)
- “Embodiment, ethical implication, and entanglement” (refereed) The Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy annual conference, University of Victoria (Fall 2011)
- “Classification and refusals of purity in the praxis of genealogy” (refereed) Canadian Philosophical Association annual conference (June 1, 2011)
- “Feeling and expression: The importance of Sue Campbell’s work for current theories of affect” (refereed) Canadian Philosophical Association annual conference (May 30, 2011)
- “What Maestra Knew” (refereed) International Association of Women Philosophers biennial international Symposium, University of Western Ontario (Summer 2010).
- “Becoming who you never were: Co-produced selfhood in the Dollhouse” (refereed) International Association of Women Philosophers biennial international Symposium, University of Western Ontario (Summer 2010).
- “Becoming Gendered: Ahmed and Butler on New Normativities,” (refereed) North American Society for Social Philosophy at the Eastern APA (Winter 2009).  
(refereed) Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, George Mason University (Fall 2009).
- “Ethical Polyamory, Responsibility, and Significant Otherness,” (refereed) The Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy annual conference, University of Guelph (Fall 2009).
- “Shaming whiteness” (refereed) Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture annual conference (May 2009)
- “Finding our bearings: New normativities and collective epistemic privilege” (refereed) FEMMSS conference, University of South Carolina (March 2009)
- “Aesthetics and Politics,” (refereed) Radical Philosophy Association conference, San Francisco State (Fall 2008).
- “Sensuousness, Reason, and Action,” (refereed) Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy annual conference, University of Windsor (Fall 2008).
- “Social bodies in the ‘feminist’ blogosphere.” Transsomatechnics conference. Simon Fraser University (Spring 2008).
- “Enacting Solidarity,” (refereed) Richard R. Baker Colloquium (“Building Coalitions Across Difference”) University of Dayton, Ohio (Spring 2008).

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- “What recent trans organizing has to teach feminist theory about non-voluntarism,” (refereed) The Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy annual conference, University of Alberta (Fall 2007).
- “Relational Gender Formation in the Feminist Blogosphere,” (refereed) Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory annual conference, Florida (Fall 2007).
- “Co-constituted Gender Formation: On the Non-Voluntarism of Trans Genders,” Thinking Gender Conference, UCLA (Winter 2007)
- “Social Movement and an Aesthetics of Sensuousness,” Society for Women in Philosophy, Pacific Division (Spring 2006)
- “Racial Delusions, Racialised Lucidities,” (refereed) Delusion and Lucidity - 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Western Humanities Alliance (Fall 2004)
- “Shaming Whiteness, Enacting Marked Ethnicities,” (refereed) Performing Ethnicity Conference and Arts Festival, jointly sponsored by Ma-Yi Theater Company, The City College of the City University of New York, The University of the Philippines, and Philippine Forum (Fall 2004)
- “Shame in Alterities: Adrian Piper, Intersubjectivity, and the Racial Formation of Identity,” (refereed) Identities and Alterities: Amsterdam School of Cultural Analysis annual conference (Winter 2004)
- “Faith in Reincarnation: Theory and Practice of Mediated Identity Formation,” Identifications: Faith, Theory, and Identity-Making (graduate student conference) Purdue University (Winter 2004)
- “Adrian Piper, Epistemic Perception, and Nonpropositionality,” Color, Hair, and Bone – The Persistence of Race into the 21st Century, Bucknell University (Winter 2002)
- “‘Look at Me’ Scenarios: Nonpropositionality, Seeing  $x$  and Seeing that  $x$  is  $B$  (or  $A$  or  $W$ ),” The Problem of Race W.E.B. du Bois annual conference, Harvard University (Winter 2002)
- “Common Sense and Race: Nonpropositional Elements in Thinking through Gramsci,” Race in the Humanities interdisciplinary conference, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. (Fall 2001)
- “Representing Another: Semi-Collaborative Autobiographics,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association annual conference, Santa Clara University. (Fall 2001)
- “‘Telling the Truth’ about Her Life: The Politics of Representing Experience,” McGill University: The Centre for Research and Teaching on Women Conference (1999)

## REFEREEING

Reviewer for: Broadview Press, *Atlantis*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, *Phaenex: Journal of Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture*, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, *Feminism & Psychology* (special issue on transgender issues in psychology).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE & EMPLOYMENT

Graduate Supervision. Supervisory Committee Membership in Laurentian Graduate Programmes  
Jodi Oliver (Human Studies PhD programme – in progress)  
Lee-Ann Fielding (Human Studies PhD programme – in progress)  
Christine Schmidt (Sociology MA programme – in progress)  
Anne Boulton (Humanities MA programme – completed)

### Graduate Courses Taught

HUST 6156: Theories in Interdisciplinarity (PhD program in Human Studies, 2008)  
HUST 6026: Human Development (PhD program in Human Studies, 2009, 2010)  
HUMA 5306: Identity Formations: Gender and Sexuality (MA in Humanities, 2011S, 2011F)  
HUST 6216 Directed Reading Course: Queer Theory (2009)  
HUST 6216 Directed Reading Course: Classification and its Consequences (2011)  
HUMA 5400: Directed Reading Course: Philosophy of Otherness (2010)

### Undergraduate Courses Taught

PHIL 3026: Feminist Philosophy (2010)  
PHIL 1115EL: Introduction to Philosophy (2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2011-2012)  
ENGL 3936EL-02: Postcolonial speculative fiction (2007)  
ENGL 3306/3416: American Thought and Culture (2008-2009, 2011W, 2011F)  
ENGL 3936: Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Literature (2007, 2012)  
ENGL 3347: Contemporary Women's Writing (2009)  
ENGL 3496: Unsettling Canada (2011)  
ENGL 4687: Honours Seminar: Houses & Homes (2010)

## ACADEMIC SERVICE TO LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY

2011 – present: Chair, Committee on Sexual and Gender Diversity at Laurentian  
2010 – present: Director, Center for Humanities Research and Creativity/ Le Centre de recherche et de créativité en humanités (Laurentian University)  
2010 – present: Philosophy paper prize selection committee (member)  
2010-2012 – Humanities representative to Academic Senate  
2009 - 2010 – Humanities MA Curriculum and Practicum committee  
2009 – Chair, Philosophy Department Committee on Communications and Mentoring  
2008- 2010 – Philosophy Department Curriculum Committee.  
2007 - present Centre for Humanities Research and Creativity Board member  
2009 - present Co-coordinator Laurentian University Pedagogy Research Cluster  
2008 - 2010 Coordinator Laurentian University Feminist Research Cluster (HCRC)  
2009- present Co-coordinator Giigdown Brown Bag Lunch Series  
2008 - 2009 Humanities MA admissions committee

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- 2009 Thornloe Women's Studies hiring committee  
2008, 2009, 2010: "Practical Strategies For Writing the Thesis or Dissertation" Writing Workshop for advanced undergraduates and graduate students  
2010, 2011: "The Craft of Writing: Revision and polish" Writing Workshop for advanced undergraduates and graduate students  
2008 English Department post-colonial studies hiring committee  
2008 English Department Canadianist hiring committee  
2007-2008 Writing Program committee  
2008 Le Centre international de recherche interdisciplinaire en sciences humaines (CIRISH) organizing committee  
2009 – Organizer: Bodily Differences: Social and Scientific Technologies for Self-Making, Laurentian University (Centre for Humanities Research and Creativity, May 8 & 9)

**ACADEMIC SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

- 2011 – present: Member, American Philosophical Association GLBT Committee  
2011 – present: Member, Canadian Philosophical Association Equity Committee  
2010 – present: Past President Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy  
2009 – 2010 President, Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy (elected position, national professional organization)  
2008 – 2009 - Vice-President, Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy (elected position, national professional organization)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Philosophical Association  
Canadian Philosophical Association  
Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy  
Feminist Ethics and Social Theory  
Society for Women in Philosophy, Eastern Division  
Society for the Philosophy of Sex and Love