

Curriculum Vitae
TYLER M. WILLIAMS

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EDUCATION

- 2016 Ph.D. in Comparative Literature
State University of New York at Buffalo
- 2011 M.A. in Comparative Literature
State University of New York at Buffalo
- 2008 B.A. in Philosophy and English (*summa cum laude*)
DePaul University

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2022- Associate Professor, Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy
Midwestern State University
- 2017 Assistant Professor, Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy
Midwestern State University

PUBLICATIONS

Books Edited

- 2022 *Plasticity: The Promise of Explosion* by Catherine Malabou, edited by Tyler M. Williams.
Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Books Translated

- 2021 *The Trial of Hatred: An Essay on the Refusal of Violence* by Marc Crépon, translated by D.J.S. Cross and Tyler M. Williams. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- 2018 *The Vocation of Writing: Literature, Philosophy, and the Test of Violence* by Marc Crépon, translated by D.J.S. Cross and Tyler M. Williams. Albany: SUNY Press.

Journal Issues Edited

- 2024 *Politica Común* special issue, “Deconstruction Contra Fascist Mythologies.” Co-edited with James Martell. Forthcoming.
- 2023 *CR: The New Centennial Review* special issue (23.1), “Derrida’s *Specters of Marx* at 30.”
- 2015 *CR: The New Centennial Review* special issue (15.3), “Literature and the Limit.”
- 2012 *theory@buffalo* special issue (16), “*Plastique: The Dynamics of Catherine Malabou.*”
- 2011 *theory@buffalo* special issue (15), “Animal. Machine. Sovereign.” Co-edited with Javier Burdman.

Journal Articles Authored

- 2024 “Outside and Outside: Plastic Passages – of Philosophy and Literature.” *philoSOPHIA*. Forthcoming.
- 2024 “Potabilities: Post-Violence Literature and its Limits.” *Política Común*. Forthcoming.
- 2022 “On the Catastrophe of Sartre’s Faulknerian Boredom.” *College Literature* 49, no. 2, pp. 257-286.
- 2020 “Derrida and the Censorship of Literature.” *CR: The New Centennial Review* 20, no. 1, pp. 1-22.
- 2018 “First Violence: Marc Crépon’s Faith in Literature (‘if there is any’).” *CR: The New Centennial Review* 18, no. 1, pp. 47-70.
- 2015 “How Faulkner Means Everything He Says: An Essay on James Baldwin’s Politics of Intentionality.” *CR: The New Centennial Review* 15, no. 3, pp. 49-64.
- 2013 “Plasticity, in Retrospect: Changing the Future of the Humanities.” *Diacritics* 41, no. 1, pp. 6-25.

Book Chapters Authored

- 2024 “Neuroliterature and the Example.” *Homo Mimeticus III: The Metamorphoses of Mimesis with Catherine Malabou*, ed. Nidesh Lawtoo and Willow Verkek. Leuven: Leuven University Press. Forthcoming.
- 2021 “The Life of the Tattoo: Subcutaneous Surveillances and the Economy of Stigmatization.” *Tattooed Bodies: Theorizing Body Inscription Across Disciplines and Cultures*, ed. James Martell and Erik Larsen. Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 193-218.

Articles Translated

- 2020 “The Invention of Singularity in School” by Marc Crépon. Translated with D.J.S. Cross. *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy* 24, no. 2, pp. 467-483.
- 2019 “Precarity: The Condition of Labor and Employment.” Translated with D.J.S. Cross. *Diacritics: A Review of Contemporary Criticism* 47, no. 1, pp. 80-95.
- 2015 “Men and Animals” by Marc Crépon. Translated with D.J.S. Cross. *theory@buffalo* 18, pp. 23-47.
- 2012 “Darwin and the Social Destiny of Natural Selection” by Catherine Malabou. Translated with Lena Taub. *theory@buffalo* 16, pp. 145-157.

Reviews Authored

- 2023 Review of *Pleasure Erased: The Clitoris Unthought* by Catherine Malabou (Polity, 2022). *The Comparatist*. Forthcoming, pp. 470-472.
- 2020 Review of *This Life: Secular Faith and Spiritual Freedom* by Martin Hägglund (Pantheon, 2019). *Critical Inquiry* 46, no. 4, pp. 940-942.
- 2019 “Following Catherine Malabou.” Review of *Plastic Materialities: Politics, Legality, and Metamorphosis in the Work of Catherine Malabou* by Brenna Bhandar and Jonathan Goldberg-Hiller, eds. (Duke University Press, 2015). *Boundary 2* online.
- 2015 “Joyce Matters for Derrida.” Review of *Derrida and Joyce: Texts and Context* by Andrew Mitchell and Sam Slote, eds. (SUNY Press, 2013). *theory@buffalo* 18, pp. 117-121.

Other Publications

- 2024 “Introduction: Deconstruction Contra Fascist Mythologies.” Co-authored with James Martell. *Política Común*. Forthcoming.

- 2022 “The Example of Plasticity.” (Interview with Catherine Malabou.) In *Plasticity: The Promise of Explosion* by Catherine Malabou, ed. Tyler M. Williams. Edinburgh University Press, pp. 309-319.
- 2012 “How Are You Yourself? Answering to Derrida, Heidegger, and the Real.” (Interview with Catherine Malabou.) *theory@buffalo* 16, pp. 1-22.
- 2011 “Introduction: animal. machine. sovereign.” (Co-authored with Javier Burdman.) *theory@buffalo* 15, pp. 1-6.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Formations: Early Writings, 1986-2003 by Catherine Malabou.

An authorized collection of fifteen previously untranslated essays by French philosopher Catherine Malabou, all of which either predate, coincide with, or immediately follow her first articulations of her signature concept of “plasticity.” All essays are edited and translated by Tyler M. Williams and D.J.S. Cross. Preface by Catherine Malabou. Introduction by Adrian Johnston. Under contract with Fordham University Press since March 2023. Anticipated delivery: 4/2024.

The Literature of Plasticity.

A monograph that articulates the centrality of “literature” to plasticity’s materialist critique of teleology. This book presents literature as the name of an encounter—as a metamorphic oscillation between “inside” and “outside,” an ordinary mimesis—rather than as a prefabricated identity or symbolic logic. Readings of Derrida, Foucault, Blanchot, and Heidegger accompany literary readings of Kafka, Duras, Bernhard, and Anzaldúa. Foreword by Catherine Malabou.

The Faulkner Complex: On the Survival of Ruined Traditions.

This book elaborates a logic of inheritance in William Faulkner that, in turn, questions the stability of the “Faulkner” tradition itself. Showing that any tradition remains structurally dependent on the threat of the inheritor, this book develops a concept of tradition’s generation as fundamentally mutable, wherein the perfect inheritance completely transforms the tradition in the act of inheritance. With readings of James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, and Édouard Glissant, this book extends a metaphysical critique of tradition to a political critique of traditionalist revanchism in the face of social justice and racial equality.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

- 2023 “Neuroliterature: An Example.” *Metamorphoses of Mimesis: Plasticity, Subjectivity, and Transformation with Catherine Malabou*. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium. February 23-24.
- 2022 “Thirst: A Critique of Post-Violence Literature.” Texas A&M University. Department of Global Languages & Cultures. December 6.
- 2022 “On the Generation of Catherine Malabou’s *Plasticity: The Promise of Explosion*.” University of California, Irvine. Department of Comparative Literature. June 2.
- 2022 “Thinking on Our Feet: Crisis, Consent, and Proportional Footsteps in Namita Goswami’s *Subjects that Matter: Philosophy, Feminism, and Postcolonial Theory*.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association; Special Session book panel. Baltimore, MD. January 7.
- 2021 “Pardon the Cliché.” *The Times of Pardon/Forgiveness: Theoretical Approaches, Practical Considerations*. University of California, Riverside. Department of Hispanic Studies. December 9-10.

- 2021 “Teetering on the Brink: On What Can and Cannot be Given.” *Derrida’s “Given Time” in Three Times: 1978-79, 1991, 2021*. Texas A&M University. College Station, TX. November 11-12.
- 2021 “Inheriting Faulkner Today.” Lyon College. Batesville, AR. September 17.
- 2020 “Pandemic Plato: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Teaching *Republic*.” CUNY Hostos. August 27.
- 2019 “Surviving Survival: On the Aspiration of Post-Violence Literature.” Critical Concepts International Working Group. Mexico City, Mexico. July 23-26.

Conference Presentations

- 2024 “The Indifferent and the Transcendental.” American Comparative Literature Association. Montreal, Quebec, Canada. March 14-17.
- 2023 “Plastic Passages: Between Philosophy and Literature, for example.” American Comparative Literature Association. Chicago, IL. March 16-19.
- 2022 “Reading Exclusion: Destructive Plasticity and Social Exclusion.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association. Los Angeles, CA. November 11-13.
- 2022 “Indifferences: Social Emergency as Coded Text.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association. Albuquerque, NM. October 13-15.
- 2022 “Belonging: James Baldwin on Love, Literature, and the Possibility of Protest.” Midwest Conference on Literature, Language, and Media. Online. April 8.
- 2021 “Outside: A Language that Saves.” American Comparative Literature Association. Online. April 9-11.
- 2020 “Literature, the Idiom, and the Totalitarian Fable.” American Comparative Literature Association. Chicago, IL. March 19-22 [event canceled due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2019 “Derrida, Democracy, and Literature: Strange Institutions.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association. El Paso, TX. October 10-12.
- 2019 “Is there Post-Violence Literature?” American Comparative Literature Association. Washington, DC. March 7-10.
- 2017 “Literary Violence and the Secrecy of Belonging.” American Comparative Literature Association. Utrecht, Netherlands. July 6-9.
- 2015 “James Baldwin and the Writer’s Vocation.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. November 13-16.
- 2015 “On Tradition and Ruin: The Southerner in the Peloponnesian War.” Northeast Modern Language Association. Toronto, Canada. April 30-May 2.
- 2014 “Heirs, Faithfully Unfaithful.” American Comparative Literature Association. New York, NY. March 20-23.
- 2013 “The Time of Trauma in Faulkner’s Matter and Memory.” American Comparative Literature Association. Toronto, Canada. April 4-7.
- 2012 “Faulkner’s Politics of Dust: Literature at What Point?” *Faulkner and West Point at Fifty*. United State Military Academy. West Point, NY. April 19-20.
- 2010 “God Is Not Your Friend: Intimacy and Omniscience in Derrida’s Critique of Sovereignty.” *Intimacy: Technologies of Feeling and Fantasy*. University of Texas. Austin, TX. October 10.

- 2009 “Plasticity and Rigidity at Heidegger’s Poetic/Mechanical Border.” *Machines and Machinations*. Cornell University. Ithaca, NY. September.

Other Presentations

- 2018 “Monstrous Intimacy in *Frankenstein: An Oedipal Fantasy*.” Midwestern State University. Hosted by the Moffett Library Books2Film series. October 30.
- 2018 “The Confederacy and Other Ruins: On the Catastrophe of Tradition.” Midwestern State University. Hosted by the MSU Philosophy Club. April 17.

SESSIONS CHAIRED/ORGANIZED

- 2024 “Reading Catherine Malabou’s *Stop Thief!*” American Comparative Literature Association. Montreal, Quebec, Canada. March 14-17.
- 2023 “The Literature of Plasticity.” American Comparative Literature Association. Chicago, IL. March 16-19.
- 2022 “Home and Homelessness in the Ecologies of Daily Life.” Co-chaired with Paula Cucurella. Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association. Los Angeles, CA. November 11-13.
- 2022 “Narratives of Home and Homelessness.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association. Albuquerque, NM. October 13-15.
- 2021 “Beckett & Stasis: Literature for Social Distancing.” Co-organized with Eric Lynch. Midwestern State University French and Humanities programs. April 17.
- 2021 “Deconstruction contra Fascist Mythologies.” Co-chaired with James Martell. American Comparative Literature Association. Online. April 9-11.
- 2020 “Deconstruction, Literature, and Singularity: Against Fascist Mythologies.” Co-chaired with James Martell. American Comparative Literature Association. Chicago, IL. March 19-22 [Event canceled due to Covid-19 pandemic]
- 2019 “Violence: Of the Idiom.” Co-chaired with D.J.S. Cross. American Comparative Literature Association. Washington, DC. March 7-10.
- 2017 “Hospitality and the Test of Violence.” Co-chaired with Namita Goswami. American Comparative Literature Association. Utrecht, Netherlands. July 6-9.
- 2015 “Collaboration and Betrayal.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. November 13-16.
- 2014 “Detouring Tradition’s Capital.” American Comparative Literature Association. New York: NY. March 20-23.
- 2011 “Animal. Machine. Sovereign.” Co-organized with Daniel Haumschild. SUNY Buffalo Department of Comparative Literature. Buffalo, NY. April 15-16.

GRANTS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021 Nomination, North American Society for Social Philosophy Book Award for *The Trial of Hatred*
- 2020 Midwestern State University Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Award for Scholarship
- 2015 Hemingway Grant, awarded by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy for translation of *The Vocation of Writing* by Marc Crépon (SUNY Press, 2018)

- 2014 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, SUNY Buffalo
2013 Mark Diamond Research Grant, SUNY Buffalo Graduate Student Association
2008 Presidential Fellowship, State University of New York at Buffalo (2008-2012)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Manuscript reviewer for *Philosophies*, 2023
Manuscript reviewer for *The Faulkner Journal*, 2022-2023
Manuscript reviewer for *philoSOPHIA: A Journal of Trans Continental Feminism*, 2022
Manuscript reviewer for *The Review of Communication*, 2017-2018
Manuscript reviewer for *Diacritics: A Review of Contemporary Criticism*, 2014-2015
Editorial committee member, *theory@buffalo*, 2008-2015
Editorial committee member, *Umbr(a): A Journal of the Unconscious*, 2008-2009

UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Ongoing Service Initiatives

- Coordinator of the Philosophy Program, 2021-present
Faculty Advisor to the Philosophy Club, 2018-present
Pre-Law Scholarship Committee (member), 2023-present
Faculty Forum Committee (member), 2023-present
Department Marketing and Promotion Committee (co-chair), 2020-present

Former Service Initiatives

- Search Committee, TT-Assistant Professor of English (member), 2021-2022
Department Internship Committee (chair), 2021-2022
Department Internship Committee (member), 2020-2021
Department Scholarship & Awards Selection Committee (member), 2020-2022
College Teaching and Scholarship Faculty Awards Committee (member), 2020-2022
University Faculty Senate (senator), 2019-2020
Metamorphosis: COPLAC Undergraduate Publication Committee (chair), 2018-2022
University Grievance Committee (member), 2018-2020
Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy Travel Committee (member), 2017-2020
Innocence Project pilot committee (chair), 2017-2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Midwestern State University: Philosophy courses

Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy

History of Western Philosophy I: Ancient and Medieval Philosophy

History of Western Philosophy II: Modern and Contemporary Philosophy

Asian Philosophy and Religion

Political Philosophy

Philosophy of Sex, Love, and Friendship

Philosophy of Religion

Special Topics: Madness and Reason

Midwestern State University: Humanities courses

Classics of the Ancient World

Medieval Religious Contexts

Renaissance through Realism

Cultural Modernisms and Postmodernisms

Special Topics: Plato's *Republic*

Special Topics: Genocide and Holocaust Literature

Special Topics in Film: The "World" in Film

Special Topics: Power, Authority, and Identity

Midwestern State University: English courses

Diverse Voices in Literature: Baldwin & Faulkner

Special Topics: African American Art & Literature since 1945

Midwestern State University: Independent Studies supervised

Derrida's *Death Penalty* Seminar

Derrida and Phenomenology

Ancient Greek Tragedies

Platonism and Neoplatonism

Canisius College

Philosophy of Human Rights

Introduction to Philosophy

Western Tradition I (Honors)

Western Tradition II (Honors)

Niagara University

Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy