

SUSAN WEST
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Delaware State University

EDUCATION

Ph.D. The Committee on Social Thought, Philosophy, The University of Chicago, 2005
Dissertation: “Nietzsche’s ‘fantastic commentary’: On The Problem of Self-Knowledge.”

M.A. Philosophy, The Graduate Faculty of The New School For Social Research, 1992
Thesis: “The Principle of Non-Contradiction in Aristotle’s *Metaphysics*: The Appeal to Experience.”

B.F.A. in Painting, The Cooper Union For The Advancement of Science and Art, 1976

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Nietzsche, Freud and the Philosophy of Depth-Psychology, Ancient Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

History of Continental Philosophy, Aesthetics, Ethics, Formal and Informal Logic

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Delaware State University, Dover, DE: Assistant Professor, fall 2007–spring 2011; Associate Professor, fall 2011-present. Courses taught: *Introduction to Philosophy*, *Critical Thinking*, *History of Ancient Philosophy*, *History of Modern Philosophy*, *Human Nature*. Teaching Honors and College Advance Courses.

Saint Xavier University, Chicago, Il: Assistant Professorial Lecturer (full time). Fall 2005-spring 2007. Courses taught: *The Examined Life*, *Ethics*, *Aesthetics*, *Human Nature*

Teaching experience, while ABD:

Phoenix College, Phoenix, AZ: Adjunct. Fall 1999-Spring 2002

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ: Adjunct. Fall 1999 - Spring 2000

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI: Lecturer. Spring 1999

Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI: Seminar leader, studio critic, and co-chair and lecturer of Critical Studies. Academic years 1994-1998

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

Chapter, “Realizing Gratitude,” in the book *Sobering Wisdom: Philosophical Explorations of Twelve Step Spirituality*, University of Virginia Press, December 2014.

Review of five recent books on Ancient Philosophy in the peer-review journal *Teaching Philosophy*. Spring 2012.

Award winning paper, “When Nietzsche’s Texts ‘disappear under the interpretation’—Grasping Nietzsche’s Embodied Philosophy.” *Continental Philosophy Between Past And Future: Selected Studies in Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy*, Volume 34, in the peer-reviewed journal *Philosophy Today*, Volume 53. Fall 2009.

PHILOSOPHICAL CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

Paper: "Nietzsche's 'Stammering Translation' of 'So-Called 'Experience' in D. W. Winnicott's 'Transitional Space'." Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture, 2010 Canadian Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Montreal, Canada. June 2010

Panel moderator: "Philosophy and Psychology," at the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy 48th Annual Conference, Arlington, VA. October 2009

Paper: "When Nietzsche's Texts 'disappear under the interpretation'—Grasping Nietzsche's Embodied Philosophy." 47th Annual Conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy. Pittsburg, PA. October 2008

Presenting work in progress to The College Roundtable, Delaware State University, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences:

"On the Importance of 'All the Little Things'." April 2011

"Nietzsche's 'Stammering Translation'," April 2010

"Nietzsche on 'the foundation of the affects'," November 2009

"When Nietzsche's Texts 'disappear under the interpretation'," April 2008

Paper: "Philosophy as a Therapeutic Practice in Body and Its Psyche," at the American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2007

Commentator: "Values of Dangerous Sport," at The Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN. February, 2007

Lecture: "On Nietzsche's Service to Humanity: From the Scholar to the 'Genuine Philosopher'," Deep Springs College, Deep Springs, California. February 2007

Lecture: "Toward Understanding Nietzsche On Justice," to the Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series, St. Xavier University, Chicago. Spring 2006

Seminar: "Architecture, Surrealism, and The Uncanny," Iowa State University, Ames, IA. Fall 1996

Co-Chair and Lecturer of the Critical Studies Program: 5 papers on "Psychoanalysis for Artists: Liminality and Creativity," Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Fall 1997

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCES

Panel presenter, "Project Advance at Delaware State University: Teaching Competing Narratives of the Civil Rights Movement to First Generation University Students at an HBCU," at the American Association of Colleges and Universities Conference, *Arts and Humanities: Towards a Flourishing State*. November 2011.

National Summer Institute on Learning Communities, at The Washington Center at Evergreen College, Olympia, WA. June 2011

Collegiate Learning Assessment Workshop, creating the "Performance Task" for student learning assessment. Delaware State University, Dover, DE. March 2011

National Learning Communities Conference, Bay City, MI: attendance in conjunction with joining the Project Advance program. November 2010

SERVICE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member of the Board of the Delaware Humanities Forum (DHF), Spring 2012-present. The Delaware Humanities Forum is the state arm of the National Endowment of the Humanities, responsible for bringing national humanities programs to Delawareans, and re-granting NEH funds to non-profit humanities groups for public programming. The Board meets four times a year.

Member of the Executive Committee of the Board of the DHF, Spring 2013-present. The Executive Committee meets at least four times a year.

Chair of the Application Review Committee, DHF, Spring 2013-present. This committee reviews all final drafts of Regular Grants (12-20 applications a year), and makes its recommendations to the DHF board. As chair of this committee I review all first drafts of grants, providing feedback to applicants, as well as reviewing all small Opportunity Grants (20-40 applications a year).

DHF representative to “Humanities on the Hill,” Washington D.C., meeting with Senators and Representative to vote in support of continued funding the National Endowment of the humanities. March 2012, 2013, 2014.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

President, DSU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, Fall 2013-present. As President, my duties entail planning and overseeing the renegotiation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, overseeing disciplinary hearings and grievances, and informal mediation between unit members and the administration.

Learning Communities Program Committee, Spring 2015-present.

Learning Communities Steering Committee, Fall 2011-Spring 2015.

Workshops leader on creating Integrative Assignments for the development of new learning communities campus-wide, Fall 2013 & Spring 2014

Promotion and Tenure workshop: presenting proposed changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement, concerning the policies and procedures for promotion and tenure. April 2014.

Ad hoc Promotion and Tenure Policy and Procedure Committee, Secretary. Spring 2011-2013

Middle States Self-Study Committee, Group 4 researcher and executive brief writer; initial writer of the Student Services chapter. Spring 2010-2012.

Honors Council. Fall 2007-2011, serving as secretary fall 2007-fall 2010.

Honors Secretary Search Committee. Spring 2011

Faculty Senate. Fall 2007-Spring 2010

Participation in Honors Day and Honors Evening Program: moderating panels, sponsoring student papers. Spring 2008-2011

Participation in Honors Convocation. Spring 2008, 2009, 2010

Piloted “Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Rubric” for Critical Thinking classes, spring 2010

Honors Director Search Committee. 2008-2009

Excellence Awards Committee. 2008-2009

Represented the Honors Program on Scholars Appreciation Day. April 2009

Participation in the Delaware Alpha Chi Chapter Induction Ceremony. Spring 2008, 2009

COLLEGE SERVICE

Member of College Advance Learning Community faculty team, Spring 2010-present.

Project Advance/College Advance Program co-coordinator. Spring 2011-Spring 2012

Convener of the College Roundtable, Academic year 2012-2013

College Roundtable Committee. Fall 2009-2012

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences *ad hoc* Committee on Research. Fall 2010-Fall 2013

DSU Open House, representing the Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy, Fall 2010, spring 2010, spring and fall 2009, spring 2008, fall 2007.

Ad Hoc Committee on the Bachelor of Liberal Arts Degree Program. 2008-2009

Ad Hoc Committee on College Learning Outcome Assessment. 2008-2009

Recruitment event at the "Battle of the Bands," representing the Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy. Fall 2007

Department Service

Departmental committees: Assessment Committee; Personnel Committee; Philosophy Curriculum Committee; Long Range Goals Committee. Spring 2007-present

Active recruitment of talented students to undertake a Minor in Philosophy. Fall 2007-present

Represented the Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy in the Majors/Minors Exploration Fair. April 2009 and 2010.

Helped officiate at the Phi Alpha Theta Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference for undergraduates, hosted by DSU. March 2009

Participated in the Induction Ceremony of Sigma Tau, of the Phi Alpha Theta National Honors Society. Spring 2008-2009.

Compiled recommendations regarding changes to the Chairs' "Possible Liberal Education Core Program," for the University's General Education Program. Spring 2008

GRANTS

"Why Do We Make and Partake of Art?" Application to the National Endowment of the Humanities, "Enduring Questions," a grant supporting new undergraduate course development. September 2010. Unfunded.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Best Submission by a Junior Scholar, granted by the Executive Committee of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, 47th Annual Conference, Pittsburg, PA. October 2008

Nomination: Annual Excellence in Teaching Award, St. Xavier University, Chicago. IL. Spring 2006

University of Chicago, full scholarship and stipend: Phoenix, Century, and Unendowed Scholarships. Academic years 1991-1996

The Cooper Union, The A. A. Low Fund Prize for Excellence in Art. Spring 1976

Full scholarship to The Cooper Union For The Advancement of Art and Science. 1972-1976

LANGUAGES

Reading: French and German; fundamental Ancient Greek

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture

The American Philosophical Association

The Nietzsche Society

The North American Nietzsche Society

The American Association of University Professors