

Melissa M. Kozma  
*Curriculum Vitae*  
November 19, 2019

UW-Eau Claire - Barron County  
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**EMPLOYMENT**

2011 – Present	Senior Lecturer, Philosophy and Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire – Barron County
2006 - 2011	Associate Lecturer, Philosophy and Women’s Studies University of Wisconsin – Barron County
1997- 2005	Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago

**EDUCATION**

2010	Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago
1999	M.A., Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago
1993	B.A., English, Columbia College Chicago

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Feminist Philosophy, Feminist Ethics, Ethics, Feminist Political Theory, Social and Political Philosophy

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

Philosophy of Race, Existentialism

## **PUBLICATIONS**

2017 “For the Love of the Feminist Killjoy: Solving Philosophy’s ~~Woman~~ White Male Problem”, co-authored with Jeanine Weekes Schroer (University of Minnesota - Duluth), in *Surviving Sexism in Academia: Strategies for Feminist Leadership*, Kirsti Cole and Holly Hassel, editors, Routledge Press.

2014 “Purposeful Nonsense, Intersectionality, and the Mission to Save Black Babies”, co-authored with Jeanine Weekes Schroer (University of Minnesota - Duluth), in *Why Race and Gender Still Matter: An Intersectional Approach*. Gotswami, O’Donovan, and Yount, editors, Pickering and Chatto.

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

### **Invited Talks**

2014 Participant in roundtable discussion of the book *Why Race and Gender Still Matter: An Intersectional Approach* at the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Conference, October 23 – 25 (New Orleans, LA)

### **Presentations**

2019 Co-facilitator, Difficult Dialogue: “‘White Feminism’ and ‘Grace’”, the Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, “The Future of Feminist Ethics: Intersectionality, Epistemology, and Grace”, October 4 (Clearwater, FL)

2017 Presented on the Society for Analytical Feminism panel “Reconsidering ‘Fragility’: What Can Nonsense Do for You?” at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, March 4 (Kansas City, MO)

2015 “Precarious Positions: Integrity Privilege and ‘Being Seen’”, presented at the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, November 14 (Milwaukee, WI)

2015 “The Integrity Privilege: The Hows and Whys of Who Gets To Be A Social Justice Hero”, co-authored with Jeanine Weeks Schroer, presented on a Society for Analytical Feminism panel at the American Philosophical Association (Central Division) Conference, February 18 – 21 (St. Louis, MO)

2014 “‘I Choose My Choice’: Rhetorical Weapon or Legitimate Feminist Critique?”, presented at the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, November 14 (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

2012 “Dangerous Discourse: Stereotype Threat and the Phenomenology of Social Oppression”, co-authored with Jeanine Weekes Schroer, Society for Analytical Feminism Conference, October 5 (Nashville, TN)

2012 “Nonsense as Discourse: The Continuing Importance of Critical Race and Feminist Analysis”, co-authored with Jeanine Weekes Schroer, ESWIP Spring Conference on Women in Philosophy, April 28 (Baltimore, MD)

2010 “Why Marriage?” presented on the panel “A Feminist Reading of Gay Marriage: Three Ways”, at the Midwest Society for Women in Philosophy conference, University of Wisconsin - Madison, October 22-24 (Madison, WI)

2009 “Worrying Over Women’s Status Under Oppression”, presented at the Eastern Society for Women in Philosophy conference, “Feminism at the Crossroads”, John Carroll University, March 28 (Cleveland, OH)

### **Panels Chaired**

2017 Symposium: “Alternative Epistemologies”  
Speakers: Andrea Pitts (University of North Carolina, Charlotte)  
                  Gaile Pohlhaus, Jr. (Miami University)  
                  Kristie Dotson (Michigan State University)  
American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, March 1 (Kansas City, MO)

2014 Paper: “Public Equality and Democratic Legitimacy”  
Speaker: Amanda Greene (Stanford University)  
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, April 16 (San Diego, CA)

2013 Paper: “Not Yet Holy: Kant on Striving for Virtue”  
Speaker: Mavis Biss (Loyola University Maryland)  
Commentator: Krista Karbowski Thomason (Mount Holyoke College)  
American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, February 21 (New Orleans, LA)

2012 Paper: “Against the Equal Consideration of Interests”  
Speaker: Christopher S. King (Vanderbilt University)  
Commentator: Ryan P. Mott (Marquette University)  
American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, February 16 (Chicago, IL)

## **DISSERTATION**

2010 *Personal Autonomy, Oppression, and The Just Society: An Externalist Account*

### **Abstract**

In the recent literature on personal autonomy, especially the literature informed by feminist concerns, the intricacies of the relationship between oppression and personal autonomy remain a topic of debate. While it may be obvious that oppression diminishes autonomy in some cases, close examination calls into question exactly how this is accomplished. One common proposal suggests that, while we must be aware of external factors, in most contemporary cases, it is the internalization of oppression that threatens personal autonomy. While I agree that this is a concern, I suggest that a preoccupation with internalized oppression, and with the internal aspects of personal autonomy in general, obscures the fact that oppression may impair autonomy regardless of its degree of internalization. We must also look outside of the agent—outside of her desires, beliefs, or values; beyond her process of critical reflection, sense of self-worth, or level of normative competence—to properly evaluate the autonomy of her decisions. I propose an externalist account of oppression’s diminishment of personal autonomy. I argue that personal autonomy is so closely linked to the social and political circumstances in which it is exercised that those circumstances may diminish autonomy regardless of the psychology, competencies, or skills of the agent—and conclude that full personal autonomy requires a just society.

### **Committee**

David Hilbert, Director, Professor of Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago

Anne Eaton, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago

Anthony S. Laden, Professor and Chair of Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago

Charles W. Mills, John Evans Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Northwestern University

Anita Superson, Professor of Philosophy and Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Kentucky

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire – Barron County

Ethical Reasoning

Fall 2019

Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Fall 2019

Feminism and Philosophy

Fall 2019

Women and Politics

Fall 2019

### University of Wisconsin – Barron County

Introduction to Women's Studies (Social Sciences)

Spring 2019, Fall 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2013,  
Fall 2010, Fall 2009

Women's Voices (Humanities)

Spring 2018, Spring 2016, Spring 2014, Fall 2011

Feminist Philosophy (cross-listed, Philosophy and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies)

Spring 2019, Fall 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2013, Spring 2012, Spring 2011, Spring 2010

Sex, Power, and Public Policy (cross-listed, Political Science and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies)

Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Fall 2012

Women in Popular Culture (carries the Ethnic Studies designation)

Fall 2018, Fall 2016

Introduction to Philosophy

Fall 2018, Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Fall 2012, Fall 2011, Fall 2010, Fall 2009,  
Spring 2008

Human Nature, Religion, and Society (via video, to advanced high school students)

Fall 2007

Business Ethics (cross-listed, Philosophy and Business)

Spring 2018, Spring 2016, Spring 2014, Spring 2012

First-Year Seminar (co-taught)

Fall 2007

## **University of Wisconsin Colleges Online**

### Feminist Philosophy (content creator and lead instructor)

Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Summer 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013, Summer 2013, Summer 2012, Spring 2012, Fall 2011, Summer 2011, Spring 2011, Fall 2010, Summer 2010, Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Summer 2009, Fall 2008, Summer 2008, Fall 2007

### Introduction to Women's Studies (lead instructor)

Summer 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Summer 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Spring 2012, Spring 2011, Fall 2010, Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Spring 2009

### Philosophy and Racism (carries the Ethnic Studies designation)

Fall 2015, Fall 2013, Fall 2012, Fall 2011

### Technology, Values, and Society (Philosophy)

Spring 2015

### Elementary Logic

Fall 2006

## **University of Wisconsin Flexible Option (UW – Milwaukee)**

### Introduction to Women's Studies (Social Sciences)

2014 – present

### Women's Voices (Humanities)

2015 – present

## **University of Illinois at Chicago**

### Courses Taught (instructor of record):

Sex Roles: Moral and Political Issues (cross-listed, Philosophy and Gender and Women's Studies)

Introduction to Philosophy

Introduction to Ethics

### Courses Assisted:

Introduction to Logic

Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy

Introduction to Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy

## **AWARDS**

2019 UW System, Outstanding Contributor Award for Access

2018 UW – Barron County, Distinguished Service Award

## **SERVICE**

### **Department**

2018 Member, Curriculum and Assessment Committee, UW Colleges Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program

2014 - 2016 Member, Curriculum and Assessment Committee, UW Colleges Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program

2013 - 2018 Member, Ad-Hoc Online Teaching Committee, UW Colleges Philosophy Department

### **Campus and UW Colleges**

Spring 2018 Chair, Professional Development Committee, Instructional and Non-Instructional Academic Staff

Fall 2016 Chair, Professional Development Committee, Instructional and Non-Instructional Academic Staff

2013 - 2018 UW Colleges Senate Liaison, Instructional and Non-Instructional Academic Staff

2013 - 2016 Member, Campus Steering Committee

2013 - 2015 Coordinator, Instructional and Non-Instructional Academic Staff

2012 - 2014 Member, Ad-Hoc Campus Childcare Committee

### **UW University System**

2018 Shared Governance Rapid Action Taskforce, UW-Eau Claire and UW-Barron County

### **Profession**

2018-19 Program Committee, Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST) 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference: “The Future of Feminist Ethics: Intersectionality, Epistemology, and Grace”, October 2019

## **Extracurricular Campus and Community Involvement**

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| 2012 – Present | Co-organizer, UW - Barron County Feminist Film Series.<br>These events are free and open to the public and include discussion of the film. Currently co-organized with our campus librarian. |
| 2010 – Present | Co-organizer, GSW Student Poster Project campus exhibitions  |
| 2015 - Present | Member, Rice Lake Public Library Board of Trustees   |
| 2012 - Present | Vice President, Friends of the Rice Lake Public Library  |
| 2007 - 2012    | Member, Board of the Friends of the Rice Lake Public Library   |

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

National Women's Studies Association  
Society for Analytical Feminism  
American Philosophical Association  
Association for Feminist Ethics and  
Social Theory

## **REFERENCES**

Dr. Holly Hassel, Professor, English, North Dakota State University

Dr. Amy Reddinger, Dean of Arts and Sciences, Bay College

Dr. Anita Superson, Professor, Philosophy and Gender and Women's Studies,  
University of Kentucky