

# CATHERINE FULLARTON

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Doctoral Candidate – Philosophy | Emory University | cfullar@emory.edu

**AOS:** Ethics, Philosophy of Emotions, Bioethics

**AOC:** 20<sup>th</sup> Century Continental (esp. Phenomenology and Existentialism), Ancient Philosophy

## EDUCATION

2015-      PhD – Philosophy, Emory University (Atlanta, GA) (Currently ABD)  
*Entered Candidacy:* August 2019; *Expected Completion:* Spring 2021  
Dissertation Director: Prof. Marta Jimenez

Dissertation Title: *Expertise, Ethical Perception & Empathy in Aristotle, Merleau-Ponty and Medical Ethics*

### Dissertation Abstract:

In his ethical works, Aristotle describes the practically wise person (the *phronimos*) as an expert in moral attention and action. I am interested in how this account might inform more ethical empathic relations with others – especially in the context of patient-physician relationships. On the basis of Aristotle’s description of the *phronimos*, I offer an account of empathy as emotional attentiveness informed by a kind of expertise similar to what we acquire in learning a practical skill. Cultivating expertise in empathy involves developing habits of attention that enable us to recognize others’ emotional gestures and cues. Crucially, this development requires meaningful relationships with others, an awareness of the limits of our own perspectives, and an openness to learning from and being corrected by others. I elucidate these relational dimensions in terms of Aristotle’s discussions of perfect friendship, Maurice Merleau-Ponty’s claims about intersubjectivity, and insights about relationality from feminist care ethics. Ultimately, I argue that reconsidering empathy as a form of relational expertise shifts how we think about the diagnostic process, and supports a more engaged model of patient-physician relationships.

2010-13    MA – Philosophy, Ryerson University (Toronto, ON)  
*Major Research Paper:* “The Phenomenology of Pain as an Intersubjective Experience.”  
Passed with Distinction.  
Supervisor: Dr. Kym Maclaren

2005-10    BA Hon. – Contemporary Studies & History, Univ. of King’s College (Halifax, NS)  
*Honors Thesis:* “Ethics of Deconstruction.”  
Supervisor: Dr. Daniel Brandes

## AWARDS

- 2020 Mellon Public Writing Fellowship, \$23,250
- 2019 Honorable Mention – Best Submission by a Graduate Student, *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*
- 2015 Doctoral Fellowship – *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)*, \$20,000 per annum (4 years)
- 2012 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, *Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)*, \$15,000
- 2011 Ryerson Graduate Award, *Ryerson University*, \$1000
- 2010 Ryerson Graduate Award, *Ryerson University*, \$1000
- 2010 Ryerson Graduate Scholarship, *Ryerson University*, \$7000
- 2010 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canadian Graduate Scholarship, *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)*, \$17,500

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Grief, Phantoms, and Re-Membering Loss,” Forthcoming in the *Journal of Speculative Philosophy* 34.3 (2020).

### Book Reviews

Review of *Plant-Thinking: A Philosophy of Vegetal Life*, by Michael Marder. *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* 53:4 (December 2014): 775-777. Print.

Review of *Understanding Criminal Justice: A Critical Introduction*, by Azrini Wahidin and Nicola Carr. *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* 53:2 (June 2014): 373-387. Print.

Review of *The Ethics of Species: An Introduction*, by Ronald L. Sandler. *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* 52:4 (December 2013): 822-824. Print.

### Translation Work

with Ursula Goldenbaum. Translation of Antonio Lamarra. “Genetic Context and Initial Reception of Leibniz’s *Monadologie*. Leibniz, Wolff and the Doctrine of Pre-established Harmony.” *Leibniz Review*. Forthcoming in *The Leibniz Review* 29 (2019), 185-200.

with Elena Bartolini. Translation of Claudia Baracchi. *Friendship*. (In progress)

## PRESENTATIONS

### Conference Presentations (Refereed)

“Grief, Phantoms, and Re-membering Loss,” 58<sup>th</sup> meeting of the *Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2019.

“Empathy, Perspective, Parallax,” *International Merleau-Ponty Circle*, New York City, NY, September 2019.

“Living with Ghosts: Being Haunted as a Structure of Experience,” *International Association for the Philosophy of Death & Dying*, Uppsala, Sweden, August 2018.

“Emotional Work in Progress: Empathy as an Interpersonal (Self-)Hermeneutic,” *Canadian Hermeneutic Institute*, Toronto, Canada, June 2016.

“Pain as an Intersubjective Experience.” *Canadian Hermeneutic Institute*, Toronto, Canada, June 2013.

### Presentations at Scholarly Seminars & Workshops

- “Co-Perception and Shared Worlds in Aristotelian Virtue Friendships,” *Collegium Phaenomenologicum Participants’ Conference*, Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Città di Castello, Italy, July 2018.
- “Merleau-Ponty on Emotional Healing as *Taking Time*.” *Concordia-Ryerson Joint Graduate Workshop on Intimacy*, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, 2013.
- “Nature as Absolute Other: The Experience of the Sublime and Radical Alterity.” *Concordia Ryerson Joint Graduate Workshop on Merleau-Ponty*, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, 2012.
- “On the Possibility of Animal Suicide.” *Concordia-Ryerson Joint Graduate Workshop on Animality*, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, 2011.

### Commentaries at Conferences

- “Commentary on Parisa Moosavi’s “Aristotelian Neo-Naturalism as Ethical Naturalism.” *American Philosophical Association*, Philadelphia, PA, January 2020.
- “Commentary on Robert English’s ‘Grief, Desire, Loss.’” *American Philosophical Association*, Denver, CO, February 2019.
- “Commentary on David Wood’s ‘The Unthinkable and the Im-possible.’” *Emory University’s Friday Philosophy Forum Speaker Series*, Atlanta, GA, March 2016.

### Other Presentations

- Public Talk: “Grief as a Transformative Experience.” *Death Café* hosted by the University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley, McAllen, TX, April 2019.
- Invited Panelist: “The Ethics of CRISPR: Editing the Human Embryo.” *Emory Biotech Club*, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, September 2017.
- Intrdepartmental Presentation: “Living with Ghosts: Being Haunted as a Structure of Experience.” *Emory University’s Friday Philosophy Forum*, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, November 2017.
- Intrdepartmental Presentation: “Toward an Empathy of Asking.” *Emory University’s Friday Philosophy Forum*, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, November 2016.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### *Instructor of Record*

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| Fall 2019   | PHIL 115: Introduction to Ethics – Emory University       |
| Spring 2018 | PHIL 126: Mind, Brain, Self, Evolution – Emory University |
| Fall 2017   | PHIL 116: Introduction to Bioethics – Emory University    |

### *Co-Teacher*

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| Spring 2017 | PHIL 200: Ancient & Medieval Philosophy – Emory University |
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### *Teaching Assistant (Occasional Lecturer & Grader)*

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| Fall 2016 | PHIL 116: Introduction to Bioethics – Emory University |
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*Graduate Assistant (Tutorial Leader & Grader)*

Spring 2019	GRAD 700: “Progress”: An Interdisciplinary Reflection – Emory University
Fall 2015	ACS 100: Ideas that Shape the World I – Ryerson University
Fall 2014	ACS 100: Ideas that Shape the World I – Ryerson University
Fall 2013	ACS 100: Ideas that Shape the World I – Ryerson University
Fall 2011	PHIL 366: Existentialism and Art and Culture – Ryerson University
Winter 2011	SSH 105: Critical Thinking – Ryerson University

*Graduate Assistant (Grader)*

Winter 2016	PHIL 606: Philosophy of Love and Sex – Ryerson University
Winter 2014	PHIL 606: Philosophy of Love and Sex – Ryerson University
Winter 2013	PHIL 606: Philosophy of Love and Sex – Ryerson University
Winter 2012	PHIL 504: Philosophy of Art – Ryerson University
Fall 2010	PHIL 333: Philosophy of Human Nature – Ryerson University

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & SERVICE**

*Training & Professional Development*

2019	Participant, <i>Workshop on Nicomachean Ethics VIII.1-7</i> (Union College, NY).
2018	Selected Participant, <i>Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind</i> (Center for Subjectivity Research, Copenhagen, Denmark).
2018	Selected Participant, <i>Collegium Phaenomenologicum</i> (Città di Castello, Italy).
2017-8	Participant, Interdisciplinary Research Seminar (CHIIRS) Reading Group in Post- and Decolonial Thought (Emory University, Atlanta, GA).
2016	Selected Participant, <i>Collegium Phaenomenologicum</i> (Città di Castello, Italy).

*Research Assistant*

2014	CACS 800: Cultivating Freedom in the Face of Adversity (Ryerson University, Toronto, ON).
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*Referee & Reviewer*

2014	Reviewer, <i>Dialogue: Canadian Philosophic Review</i>
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*Workshops & Further Study*

2020	Participant, <i>The Paideia Institute</i> , “Greek Reading Course: Aristotle’s <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book II”
2020	Participant, <i>The Paideia Institute</i> , “Greek & Latin: Ancient Pandemics & Plagues”

*Student Organizations & Extra-Curricular Involvement*

2016-20	Webmaster & Poster Designer, <i>Graduate Philosophy Society at Emory</i> , Atlanta, GA.
2017-8	Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty (Emory University, Atlanta, GA)
2016-7	Committee Member, <i>Philosophy Forum Speaker Series Planning Committee</i> (Emory University, Atlanta, GA).

- 2016-7 President, *Friday Philosophy Forum* (Emory University, Atlanta, GA).  
2016 Graduate Volunteer, *Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*, Salt Lake City, UT.  
2015 Graduate Volunteer, *Society for Phenomenological and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)*, Atlanta, GA.  
2010-2 Treasurer, *Philosophy Graduate Student Association*, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada.

*Volunteer Community Work*

- 2013-5 Youth Tutor, *Yonge Street Mission*, Toronto, Canada.

**CERTIFICATES**

- 2014 Professional Development in Teaching Program (Level 1), *Ryerson University's Learning and Teaching Office*  
2014 "University Teaching 101," *Johns Hopkins University* (course offered through *Coursera.org*).

**LANGUAGES**

- French – Fluent  
Italian – Reading proficiency  
Spanish – Reading proficiency  
Ancient Greek – Beginner  
German – Beginner

**REFERENCES**

- Dr. Marta Jimenez, Emory University  
Dr. John T. Lysaker, Emory University  
Dr. Cynthia Willett, Emory University