

CURRICULUM VITAE

MICHAEL UHALL

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political theory
Environmental politics
History of political thought
Biopolitics
New materialism

CONTACT

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FACULTY REFERENCES

Samantha Frost, Professor
University of Illinois
Department of Political Science
frost@illinois.edu

Robert Pahre, Professor
University of Illinois
Department of Political Science
pahre@illinois.edu

Bruce Rosenstock, Professor
University of Illinois
Department of Religion
brsnstck@illinois.edu

Benjamin Miller, Assistant Professor
University of Illinois
Department of Political Science
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, May 2020

Dissertation: "On the Political Uses of Creative Darkness:
Freedom, Subjectivity, and Normativity"
(Kathleen Burkholder Prize)

Committee: Samantha Frost (chair), Robert Pahre, Bruce
Rosenstock, Benjamin Miller

M.A., Philosophy

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, May 2013

B.A., Philosophy (*cum laude*)

University of Georgia, December 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

- "The end of the affair with life: political theory and the corpse." *Critical Horizons* 20:4 (2019): 350-65.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14409917.2019.1672274>
- "Creaturely conditions: acknowledgement and animality in Kafka, Cavell, and Uexküll." *Configurations* 24:1 (Spring 2016): 1-24.
<http://doi.org/10.1353/con.2016.0005>

Book chapters

- "The dark laboratory called the soil: Latour and Leopold on cosmopolitics and crisis" in Untitled volume on Bruno Latour, eds. Jay Foster and Peter Gratton (under contract).
- "What do we lose when we become posthuman?" in *The Future Is Unwritten: Representations of Political Resistance and Emancipation in Science Fiction*, eds. Judith Grant and Sean Parson (under contract).

Reviews

- "Refiguring Schelling's naturalism: a review essay." *Configurations* (forthcoming).
- "From biocult to bioculture: the case of Ludwig Klages." *Configurations* 27:1 (2019): 117-20.
- "Transformations in the terrain of science fiction." *Extrapolations* 59:3 (2018): 319-21.
- "Poiesis and Enchantment in Topological Matter: A review." *Configurations* 25:4 (2017): 563-566.

In progress or under revision

- “Companion ecologies: a new theory of the subject.”
- “New materialism as noir materialism.”
- “Bleeding together: Caitlin Hackett and companion ecologies.”
- “Thinking like an apocalypse: climate change and object use.”
- “Molotov's cowboy hat: the epistolary friendship of Alexandre Kojève and Carl Schmitt.”

PRESENTATIONS

Selected conference papers

- “Morbid opportunism: on ecopessimism, ends, and exits.” Western Political Science Association (April 18, 2019).
- “Strange new forests: nine strategic recommendations for the age of extinction.” Western Political Science Association (March 30, 2018).
- “Gray sky thinking: decahexis as a mode of futural projection.” 31st Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference (November 11, 2017).
- “Savage anomalies: Aldo Leopold, companion ecologies, Herakut.” Western Political Science Association (April 14, 2017).
- “The politics of creative darkness: Schelling and the ecological crisis.” North American Schelling Society 5: Crisis and Critique (February 21-25, 2017). Accepted.
- “The roots of creative darkness: Blackwood, Milner, Schelling.” 30th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference (November 3, 2016).
- “Anthropocene futures, object use, and post-apocalyptic forms of life.” Western Political Science Association (March 25, 2016).
- “Conserving Area X: cosmopolitics and landscape in the Southern Reach.” 29th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference (November 13, 2015).
- “The end of the affair with life: corpses as figures of loss and vitality.” Western Political Science Association (April 3, 2015).
- “Singular creatures: animality, the Anthropocene, and encounters with unbearability.” Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference (February 20, 2015).
- “Rethinking politics in the face of the corpse.” Northwestern Graduate Student Conference in Political Theory (November 7, 2014).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses as Instructor

- PS199: Introduction to Environmental Political Theory
- PS101: Introduction to American Politics (online)
- PS224: Politics of the National Parks (x2 with multimedia e-Text)
- PS241: Comparative Politics in Developing Nations (online)

Courses as Graduate Teaching Assistant

- AAS100: Introduction to Asian American Studies (x2, hybrid)
- PHIL101: Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL105: Introduction to Ethics
- PHIL412: Classical Modern Philosophers
- PHIL441: Existential Philosophy
- PS100: Introduction to Political Science (x2)
- PS270: Introduction to Political Theory (x5)
- PS302: The United States Constitution
- PS356: International Political Economy

Pedagogy development

- Invited attendee at the University for Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Center for Writing Studies “Writing across the Curriculum” seminar (August 2015).
- Recipient of the Graduate Teacher Certificate from the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (April 2015).
- Participant in numerous Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning workshops (Spring 2015): “Classroom Management,” “Running Effective Discussions,” “Helping Undergrads Read & Discuss Social Science Articles,” “Creating an Intriguing Course,” “Collecting and Using Informal Early Feedback.”

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Kathleen Burkholder Prize for Best Dissertation (2020).
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students (Fall 2014, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020).
- IPRH-Andrew W. Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Bio-Humanities, 2017-2018.
- Constantine W. Curris Award, 2014, 2015, 2017.
- Loren H. Plunkett Award, 2015.
- George T. Yu Travel Grant, 2016.
- Nicholson Graduate Student Fellowship for the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University, 2012.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- UIUC Political Science Graduate Student Association Mentor for Incoming Ph.D. Students (2018-2020).
- Research assistant for Dr. Samantha Frost (2013-2015, 2017-2018).
- Organizer for “Crafting Functional Ecopessimisms” panel at Western Political Science Association (2018).
- Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities chair for “Reading Feyerabend Closely” sponsored discussion group (2017-2018).
- Referee and reviewer for various academic journals (2013-present).
- Chair and organizer for “Collective Manifestations: Thinking Futures beyond the Dark Mountain” panel at the 31st Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference (2017).
- Invited chair for “New Materialisms” panel at Western Political Science Association (2017).
- Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities chair for “The Complete *Homo Sacer*” sponsored discussion group (2016-2017).
- Chair for “Weird Evolutions: Nature, Creativity, Vitality” panel at 30th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference (2016).
- Principal organizer for the New Materialisms Research Unit (2014-2015).
- UIUC Graduate Philosophy Organization Graduate Relations Committee Member, 2011-2012.

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Political Science Association
- Association for Political Theory
- International Political Science Association
- North American Schelling Society
- Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts
- Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Affiliate
- Western Political Science Association