

## MICHAEL UHALL

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political theory  
 Environmental political theory  
 Biopolitics  
 Political ecology  
 History of political thought

## CONTACT

## E-MAIL:

[uhall2@illinois.edu](mailto:uhall2@illinois.edu)

## MAILING ADDRESS:

420 David Kinley Hall MC-713  
 1407 W Gregory Drive  
 Urbana, IL 61801

## WEBSITE:

<http://www.michaeluhall.com>

## FACULTY REFERENCES

Samantha Frost, Professor  
 University of Illinois  
 Department of Political Science  
[frost@illinois.edu](mailto:frost@illinois.edu)

Robert Pahre, Professor  
 University of Illinois  
 Department of Political Science  
[pahre@illinois.edu](mailto:pahre@illinois.edu)

Bruce Rosenstock, Professor  
 University of Illinois  
 Department of Religion  
[brsnstck@illinois.edu](mailto:brsnstck@illinois.edu)

Benjamin Miller, Assistant Professor  
 University of Illinois  
 Department of Political Science  
[bm50@illinois.edu](mailto:bm50@illinois.edu)

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D., Political Science**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2019.

*Dissertation*: "On the Political Uses of Creative Darkness: Freedom, Subjectivity, and Normativity."

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

**M.A., Philosophy**

University of Georgia, 2009.

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

University of Georgia, 2009.

## PUBLICATIONS

## Refereed journal articles

- "The end of the affair with life: political theory and the corpse." *Critical Horizons* (forthcoming).
- "Creaturely conditions: acknowledgement and animality in Kafka, Cavell, and Uexküll." *Configurations* 24:1 (Spring 2016): 1-24.

## Refereed book contributions

- "Cosmopolitics and crisis: Latour and Leopold on ecology and politics" 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." *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.

## Web publications (reviewed by editors)

- "Astronoetic cinema." *Vault of Culture* (2019).
- "Salvaging the feral." *Kritik* (September, 2018).
- "From extinction: nine strategies for a left-hand exit." *Environmental Critique* (June 2018).
- "Living with biopolitical nightmares." *Kritik* (October 2017).
- "The roots of creative darkness." *Environmental Critique* (April 2017).
- "Foucault and the necropolitics of reproduction." *Kritik* (October 2016).

## PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

---

### Web publications (reviewed by editors)

- "Cosmopolitics and Area X." *Environmental Critique* (February 2016).

### 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: on Alexandre Kojève and Carl Schmitt as interlocutors."

## PRESENTATIONS

---

### 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." 31th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference: "Out of Time." 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: "Creativity." 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: "After Biopolitics." 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." MIGC15: UNBEARABLE (Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference). February 20, 2015.
- "Rethinking politics in the face of the corpse." Northwestern Graduate Student Conference in Political Theory: "History, Tradition, Revision." November 7, 2014.
- "Each valley exalted: ambivalent messianism in Benjamin's historiography." 2011 Loyola University Chicago Graduate Student Conference: "Freedom, Action, Politics." September 10, 2011.
- "Speak, memory: Walter Benjamin's philosophy of history." 1st Annual Classic City Conference. April 9, 2011.
- "Haunted by truth: Donald Davidson and the project of overextension." 3rd Annual Meeting of the Southeast Philosophy Congress at Clayton State University, 2010.
- "A principle objection: H. P. Grice and the failure of cooperation." 2nd Annual Meeting of the Southeast Philosophy Congress at Clayton State University, 2009.
- "'Talking wolves' in sheep's clothing: Biletzki, Hobbes, and the primacy of rhetoric." 1st Annual Meeting of the Southeast Philosophy Congress at Clayton State University, 2008.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

### Courses as Independent Instructor

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

### Courses as Teaching Assistant

- AAS100: Introduction to Asian American Studies
- 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)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

---

- PS302: The United States Constitution
- PS356: International Political Economy

### Teaching development

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, Fall 2014, Fall 2018, Spring 2019.
- Invited attendee at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Center for Writing Studies "Writing across the Curriculum" seminar, August 20-21, 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.
- Attendee at 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").
- Attendee at the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning sponsored Graduate Academy for College Teaching, August 2011.

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

---

- 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

---

- Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities organizer for "Reza Negarestani's *Intelligence and Spirit*" sponsored discussion group (2019).
- UIUC Political Science Graduate Student Association Mentor for Incoming Ph.D. Students, 2018-2019.
- Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities organizer for "Reading Feyerabend Closely" sponsored discussion group (2017-2018).
- Referee and reviewer for *Configurations*, *Extrapolations*, and *Orbis Littarum*.
- Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities organizer for "The Complete Homo Sacer" sponsored discussion group (2016-2017).
- Organizer for New Materialisms Research Unit, 2014-2015.
- Website administrator/designer for New Materialisms Research Unit, 2014-2015.
- Research assistant for Dr. Samantha Frost. 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018.
- UIUC Graduate Philosophy Organization Library Officer, 2012.
- UIUC Graduate Philosophy Organization Graduate Relations Committee Member, 2011-2012.
- Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities co-organizer for "Early Lacan: Seminars and Commentary" sponsored discussion group (Fall 2011).

### Conference service

- Organizer for "Crafting Functional Ecopessimisms" panel at Western Political Science Association. 2018.
- Chair and organizer for "Collective Manifestations: Thinking Futures beyond the Dark Mountain" panel at 31th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference: "Out of Time." 2017.
- Invited chair for "New Materialisms" panel at Western Political Science Association. 2017.
- Chair and organizer for "Weird Evolutions: Nature, Creativity, Vitality" panel at 30th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference: "Creativity." 2016.
- Moderator for the fourth session of the New Materialisms Research Unit I: "Life, death, politics, and the planet." 2014.

## MEMBERSHIPS

---

- American Political Science Association
- Association for Political Theory

## MEMBERSHIPS (CONTINUED)

---

- 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

## LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATIONS

---

### Languages (for translation)

- French (intermediate)
- German (intermediate)
- Italian (intermediate)
- Spanish (advanced)

### Translations

- Michelangelo Antonioni, *Tecnicamente dolce* (1966/1976)
- Alexandre Kojève, *Introduction à la Lecture de Hegel* (1933-1939/1980, excerpts)
- Ludwig Klages, "Mensch und Erde" (1913, in progress)
- Ludwig Klages, *Rhythmen und Runen* (1944, excerpts)
- Fabián Ludueña Romandini, *La comunidad de los espectros, I: Antropotecnia* (2010, in progress)
- F. W. J. Schelling, Personal correspondence (1809)
- F. W. J. Schelling, *Von der Weltseele* (1806, excerpts)