

# NATALIE HELBERG

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**AOS:** Continental Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy

**AOC:** Philosophy of Literature, Bioethics, Philosophy of Race

**LANGUAGES:** French (reading)

## EDUCATION

- 2022      University of Toronto, PhD Philosophy  
            Committee: Rebecca Comay (supervisor),  
            Robert Gibbs, and Willi Goetschel
- 2013      University of Guelph, MFA Creative Writing  
            Supervisor: Dionne Brand  
            Thesis: Motley O (Hybrid Novel)
- 2009      University of Alberta, BA in Philosophy with First Class Honors  
            Supervisor: Cressida Heyes  
            Thesis: Foucault and the Prozac Body

**PHD THESIS:** Catherine Malabou's Dangerous Supplement

I engage in an in-depth examination of Catherine Malabou's conception of transformation, 'plasticity.' Tracking her thinking on the subject of plasticity through her early work and onward, and situating 'plasticity' with respect to a continental conception of change which preceded it, and which Malabou attempts to displace (Derridean 'autoimmunity'), I argue that Malabou divests herself of the resources she needs to theorize politically salient forms of change. I suggest that if 'plasticity' is to do justice to the emancipatory promise Malabou associates with it, the history Malabou attempts to cast off must be restored to the concept.

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021-2023      Lecturer (LTA), Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montreal

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 “Insubordinate Plasticity: Judith Butler and Catherine Malabou.”  
*Hypatia* 35: 4. 587-606.
- 2009 Accepted: With Cressida J. Heyes and Jaclyn Rohel. “Thinking  
through the Body: Yoga, Philosophy, and Physical Education.”  
*Teaching Philosophy* 32:3. 263-84.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 “Fanon’s New Wounded and New Humanism”  
Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy Annual Conference  
King’s University College at Western University. Refereed.
- 2020 “Reconfiguring Plasticity: Foucaultian Feminism and the Death Drive”  
PhiloSOPHIA: Society for Continental Feminism 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Vanderbilt University. Refereed.
- 2019 “Adustion: A Long Poem”  
Text/Sound/Performance: Making in Canadian Space  
Sponsoring Organizations: Associated Writing Programmes of Ireland,  
Brock University’s Humanities Research Institute, University College  
Dublin’s College of Arts and Humanities, UCD’s School of English,  
Film and Drama, and The Embassy of Canada to Ireland  
University College Dublin. Refereed.
- 2018 “Explosive Plasticity, Insubordination, Deconstruction”  
Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress  
Université du Québec à Montréal. Refereed.
- “Insubordinate Plasticity: Judith Butler and Catherine Malabou”  
Society of Women in Philosophy — Ireland 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
University College Dublin. Refereed.
- 2017 “Violence as Resistance: Autoimmunity and Anorexia”  
Duquesne’s Women in Philosophy Conference  
Duquesne University. Refereed.
- 2012 “Moving beyond Aesthetic-Normalization through Willed-Listening”  
Canadian Creative Writers and Writing Programs Conference  
Humber College. Refereed.

## **AWARDS**

- 2015-2018 Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- 2012-2013 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Master's Scholarship  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

## **TEACHING**

### **Concordia University**

- Winter 2023 From Modern to Postmodern (PHIL 275)  
Course Instructor
- 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Continental Philosophy (PHIL 377)  
Course Instructor
- Critical Thinking (PHIL 210)  
Course Instructor  
\*PHIL 210 is an eConcordia course with pre-established content
- Fall 2022 Problems of Philosophy (PHIL 201)  
Course Instructor
- Philosophy of Language (PHIL 216)  
Course Instructor
- Advanced Topics in Continental Philosophy/Selected  
Topics in Continental Philosophy (PHIL 473/658)
- Summer 2022 Critical Thinking (PHIL 210)  
Course Instructor  
\*PHIL 210 is an eConcordia course with pre-established content
- Winter 2022 Philosophy of Race (PHIL 372)  
Course Instructor
- Existentialism (PHIL 387)  
Course Instructor
- Introduction to Philosophy of Religion (PHIL 266)  
Course Instructor  
\*PHIL 266 is an eConcordia course with pre-established content

Fall 2022                      Philosophy of Feminism (PHIL 371)  
Course Instructor

   20<sup>th</sup>-Century Continental Philosophy (PHIL 377)  
Course Instructor

   Introduction to Philosophy of Religion (PHIL 266)  
Course Instructor

\*PHIL 266 is an eConcordia course with pre-established content

**University of Toronto**

Summer 2021                      Philosophy and Literature (PHL 388)  
Course Instructor

Winter 2021                      Philosophy and Literature (PHL B04)  
Course Instructor

Summer 2020                      Contemporary Continental Philosophy (PHL 322)  
Course Instructor

   Topics in Continental Philosophy (PHL C09)  
Course Instructor

Summer 2018                      Science Fiction and Philosophy (PHL 242)  
Course Instructor

**OTHER ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE**

University of Toronto: Tutorial Leader (TL) and Grader (G)

PHL 101: Introduction to Philosophical Problems (TL: Winter 2021 and Fall 2020)

PHL 113: Persons and Values (TL: Winter 2019)

PHL 217: Introduction to Continental Philosophy (TL: Winter 2020 and Fall 2018)

PHL 271: Law and Morality (TL: Winter 2018)

PHL 281: Bioethics (TL: Summer 2017 and Fall 2016)

PHL B09: Biomedical Ethics (TL: Fall 2020, Fall 2019 and Fall 2017)

PHL B12: Philosophy of Human Sexuality (G: Winter 2016)

PHL 243: Philosophy of Sexuality (G: Winter 2017)

PHL 324: The Continental Tradition (G: Fall 2018)

## REFEREES

- Rebecca Comay                      Philosophy and Comparative Literature  
University of Toronto  
[rebecca.comay@utoronto.ca](mailto:rebecca.comay@utoronto.ca)
- Robert Gibbs                        Philosophy and Department for the Study of Religion  
University of Toronto  
[robert.gibbs@utoronto.ca](mailto:robert.gibbs@utoronto.ca)
- Willi Goetschel                    Philosophy and Department for German Language and Literature  
University of Toronto  
[w.goetschel@utoronto.ca](mailto:w.goetschel@utoronto.ca)
- Owen Ware                          Philosophy  
University of Toronto  
[owen.ware@utoronto.ca](mailto:owen.ware@utoronto.ca)
- Marie-Eve Morin                    Philosophy  
University of Alberta  
[mmorin1@ualberta.ca](mailto:mmorin1@ualberta.ca)