

Denise Schaeffer, Ph.D.

Professor of Political Science
College of the Holy Cross

Academic Appointments

2013-present	Professor, Department of Political Science, College of the Holy Cross
2002-2013	Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, College of the Holy Cross
1996-2002	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, College of the Holy Cross
1995-1996	Instructor, Department of Political Science, College of the Holy Cross
1994-1995	Visiting Instructor, Department of Politics, Oglethorpe University
1993-1994	Adjunct Instructor, Department of Political Science, Fordham University

Administrative Appointments

2017-2021	Director of Strategic Initiatives, College of the Holy Cross
2016-2017	Special Adviser to the President for the <i>Vocare</i> Initiative, College of the Holy Cross
2014-2016	Associate Dean of the Faculty, College of the Holy Cross
2010-2014	Director, Montserrat (First Year Experience), College of the Holy Cross
2006-2009	Chair, Department of Political Science, College of the Holy Cross

Education

Ph.D. Fordham University
M.A. Fordham University
B.A. Sarah Lawrence College

Awards and Fellowships

2014	Mary Louise Marfuggi Award for Outstanding Scholarship, College of the Holy Cross
Summer 2008	Summer Faculty Fellowship, College of the Holy Cross
Spring 2006	Faculty Research Fellowship, College of the Holy Cross
2004	Arthur J. O'Leary Faculty Recognition Award, College of the Holy Cross
1999	National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship
Summer 1996	The Lynde and Harry and Bradley Foundation Research Fellowship
1991-95	Presidential Scholarship, Fordham University

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Edited Volumes

Politics, Literature, and Film in Conversation: Essays in Honor of Mary P. Nichols, Contributing Co-Editor
(Lexington Books, 2021)

Writing the Poetic Soul of Philosophy: Essays in Honor of Michael Davis, Contributing Editor (St. Augustine's Press, 2019)

Rousseau on Education, Freedom and Judgment (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2014; paperback 2016)

Socratic Philosophy and Its Others, Contributing Co-Editor (Lexington Books, 2013; paperback 2015)

Plato's Euthydemus (with Gregory McBrayer and Mary P. Nichols), Introduction and Interpretive Essay
(Focus Publishing, 2010)

Articles and Chapters

- "Travel as Philosophic Education in *Emile*," in *Natural Man, Citizen, Philosopher: The Political Philosophy of Jean-Jacques Rousseau*, ed. Will R. Jordan (Mercer University Press, 2025): 143-163.
- "Irony and the Individual in Kierkegaard's *Fear and Trembling*," in *Author Meets Critics: Ann Ward's The Socratic Individual*, *The Political Science Reviewer* 46/2 (2022): 278-282.
- "Rousseau on the Promise and Perils of Democracy," in *Democracy and the History of Political Thought*, ed. Patrick Cain, Stephen Patrick Sims, and Stephen A Block, eds. (Lexington Books, 2021): 233-246.
- "History, Tragedy and Rebellion in Camus' Adaptation of Faulkner's *Requiem for a Nun*," in *Politics, Literature, and Film in Conversation: Essays in Honor of Mary P. Nichols*, ed. Matthew D. Dinan, Paul E. Kirkland, Denise Schaeffer and Natalie Fuehrer Taylor (Lexington Books, 2021): 159-173.
- "Rousseau on the Theory and Practice of Theatrical Imitation," in *Writing the Poetic Soul of Philosophy: Essays in Honor of Michael Davis*, ed. Denise Schaeffer (St. Augustine's Press, 2019): 383-394.
- "Rhetoric and Moral Motivation," in *The Rousseauian Mind*, ed. Christopher Kelly and Eve Grace (Routledge, 2019): 267-277.
- "Both False and True: Love, Death and Poetry in *Love's Labour's Lost*," (with Mary P. Nichols) in *The Soul of Statesmanship: Shakespeare on Nature, Virtue, and Political Wisdom*, ed. Khalil Habib and Joseph Hebert (Lexington Books, 2018): 59-78.
- "Some Thoughts on Strauss on Rousseau," *Idealistic Studies* 44:2-3 (Summer/Fall 2014): 235-248.
- "Philosophy, Rhetoric, and the Question of Harmony in Plato's *Phaedrus*," in *Socratic Philosophy and Its Others*, ed. Christopher Dustin and Denise Schaeffer (Lexington Books, 2013): 239-264.
- "Rethinking Rousseau on Nationalism and Political Identity," *LITTERA Edebiyat Yazıları* 31 (December 2012): 179-186.
- "Attending to Time and Place in Rousseau's Legislative Art," *The Review of Politics* 74/3 (Summer 2012): 421-441.
- "Realism, Rhetoric and the Possibility of Reform in Rousseau's *Considerations on the Government of Poland*," *Polity* 42/3 (July 2010): 377-397.
- "Looks Matter: Beholding Justice in the *Republic*" (with Christopher A. Dustin), *The Review of Politics* 68/3 (Summer 2006): 449-473.
- Review Article: "Platonic Entanglements" (with Mary P. Nichols), *Polity* 35/2 (Spring 2003): 459-477.
- "The Utility of Ink: Rousseau and *Robinson Crusoe*," *The Review of Politics* 64/1 (Winter 2002): 121-149.
- "Reconsidering Feminism and Liberalism: The Case of Catharine MacKinnon." *American Political Science Review* 95/3 (September 2001): 699-708. Reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* Volume 181, ed. Janet Witalec (Thomson Gale Publishers, 2004): 215-226.
- "The Paradox of Distance and Proximity: Nietzsche's Woman as Friend," in *Nature, Woman and the Art of Politics*, ed. Eduardo A. Velasquez (Rowman and Littlefield, 2000): 313-328.
- "Wisdom and Wonder in Aristotle's *Metaphysics A*:1-2," *The Review of Metaphysics* 52/2 (March 1999):

641-656.

“Art and Liberalism in Hitchcock’s *Rear Window*” (with Mary P. Nichols), *Perspectives on Political Science* 28/3 (1999): 125-129.

“Reconsidering the Role of Sophie in Rousseau’s *Emile*,” *Polity* 30/4 (June 1998): 607-626.

Book Reviews

Review of Paul Franco, *Rousseau, Nietzsche, and the Image of the Human* (University of Chicago Press, 2021), in *The Review of Politics* 86/1 (Winter 2024): 149-151.

Review of Lisa Pace Vetter, *America’s Founding Feminists* (New York University Press, 2018), in *The Review of Politics* 81/1 (January 2019): 168-170.

Review of John Warner, *Rousseau and the Problem of Human Relations* (Penn State University Press, 2016), in *The Review of Politics* 79 (Fall 2017): 723-726.

Review of Michael Davis, *The Autobiography of Philosophy: Rousseau’s The Reveries of the Solitary Walker* (Rowman & Littlefield, 1998), *The Review of Metaphysics*, 53/3 (June 2000): 923-924.

Review of Christopher Rocco, *Tragedy and Enlightenment: Athenian Political Thought and the Dilemmas of Modernity* (Univ. of California Press, 1997), *American Political Science Review* 91/4 (December 1997): 950-951.

Book Note, Robert Wokler, ed., *Rousseau and Liberty*, (Manchester University Press, 1995), *Political Studies*, 45/1 (Winter 1997): 213.

Review of Wendy Brown, *States Of Injury: Power and Freedom in Late Modernity* (Princeton University Press, 1995), *The Review of Politics*, 58/4 (Fall 1996): 847-849.

Review of Judith A. Swanson, *The Public and the Private in Aristotle’s Political Philosophy* (Cornell University Press, 1992), *Ancient Philosophy*, 14 (1994): 418-422.

Selected Conferences, Invited Lectures, and Colloquia

“Temporality, Abstraction and Rebellion in Camus,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, PR, January 2025.

“Time, Language, and Rebellion Against Abstraction in *The Plague*,” paper presented at the Albert Camus Society Conference, London UK, November 2024.

“Hope and Tragedy in Camus’s *The Misunderstanding*,” paper presented at the Albert Camus Society Conference, Krakow, Poland, November 2023.

“Travel as Education Toward Philosophy and Citizenship in Rousseau’s *Emile*,” invited presentation at the A.V. Elliott Conference on Great Books and Ideas, Mercer University, Macon GA, April 2023.

Discussion Leader, Conference on “The Moral Foundations of Modern Democracy,” Baylor University, April 2023.

Discussant, Rousseau Association Virtual Conversations Series, Emma Planinc’s “Painting Political Philosophy: On Reading Rousseau as an Artist,” December 2022.

“Camus versus de Beauvoir on Ambiguity and the Absurd,” paper presented at the Albert Camus Society 2022 Conference, London UK, October 2022.

Conference Director, “Education, Freedom, and Responsibility in Rousseau’s *Emile*,” Liberty Fund, (virtual), April 2021.

“Tragedy, Rebellion, and Poetic Expression in Camus’ *Requiem Pour Une Nonne*,” paper presented at the Albert Camus Society UK/USA (virtual) Conference, October 2020.

Invited Speaker, Global Pre-Modern First-Year Seminar Symposium, Amherst College, Feb. 2019.

Invited Participant, Liberty Fund Colloquium, “Three Generations of Black Narrative in America,” Savannah, GA, February 2019.

“Rousseau on the Tacit Dimension of Democratic Education,” Lecture at Sarah Lawrence College, December 2017.

“The Enduring Relevance of Camus’ *The Rebel*,” paper presented at the 10th annual Albert Camus Society Conference, Krakow, Poland, November 2017.

Chair, Roundtable on “Rousseau’s Lesser Known Works on Women,” annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 2015.

“Elevation and Corruption: The Dual Character of Imitation in Rousseau and Smith,” paper presented at the joint meeting of the International Adam Smith Society and the Rousseau Association, at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK, July 2015.

Invited Participant, Liberty Fund Colloquium, “The Scottish Enlightenment on Educating for Liberty,” Boulder, CO, April 2015.

Chair and Discussant, panel on “Rousseau on Ethics, Politics, and Science,” Northeastern Political Science Association annual meeting, Boston, MA, November 2014.

“*Politikē*, Self-Sufficiency, and Freedom in Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Ancient Greek Philosophy, New York, NY, October 2013.

Invited participant, Liberty Fund Colloquium, “Liberty and Skepticism in Cicero and Montaigne,” Montreal, Canada, June 2013.

“Patriotism, Judgment, and the Question of Citizenship in Rousseau’s Political Thought,” Lecture at Baylor University, March 2013.

“Reconsidering Rousseau on Nationalism,” paper presented at the international *Rousseau and Turkey* Colloquium, Istanbul, May 2012.

“Experience, Reflection and the Tacit Dimension of a Liberal Arts Education,” Richard Rodino Lecture on the Aims of the Liberal Arts, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, April 2012.

“Rousseau’s Republican Education in *Considerations on the Government of Poland*,” paper presented at the Biennial Colloquium of the Rousseau Association, Bristol, UK, July 2011.

Organizer and Chair, panel on “Uncommon Commonalities in Reading a Core Text: Euripides’ *Bacchae* across Disciplines,” Association of Core Texts and Courses, New Haven, CT, April 2011.

“Reconsidering the Philosophical Import of Plato’s *Laws*,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, New York, NY, October 2010.

“Rousseau on Judgment,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Philosophical Association, New York, NY, December 2009.

“Philosophy, Beauty, and Psychic Harmony in Plato’s *Phaedrus*,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, New York, NY, October 2009.

Invited participant, Liberty Fund Colloquium, “Liberty and Obligation in Roman Stoicism,” Pasadena, CA, September 2009.

“Kundera and the Question of Authenticity in Post-modernity,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Association for Philosophy and Literature, London, June 2009.

Roundtable presenter, “Author Meets Critics” panel on Ronna Burger’s, *Aristotle’s Dialogue With Socrates*, annual meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Philadelphia, December 2008.

“Core Texts and the Disciplines,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Core Texts and Courses, Plymouth, MA, April 2008.

“Absolute Beginners: Considerations on the Possibility of a Socratic Modernity,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, November 2006.

“Socrates and the Sophists in Plato’s *Euthydemus*,” (with Mary P. Nichols), paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 2006.

“Kierkegaard on Philosophy and Faith.” Lecture at Washington and Lee University, May 2006.

“Passion and Critical Reflection in Rousseau’s *Emile*.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the New York State Political Science Association, New York, NY, April 2006.

“Philosophy and Citizenship in Plato’s *Laws*.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, November 2004.

“Fable as Method in Rousseau’s *Emile*.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, September 2004.

Invited Lecture, “Rousseau’s Duplicity,” Sarah Yates Exley Memorial Lecture Series, Sarah Lawrence College, March 2004.

“Piety, Politics, and Plato’s Second-Best Regime.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portland, ME, May 2002.

“Moral and Intellectual Virtue in Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*,” Lecture at Sarah Lawrence College, October 1997.