

## CURRICULUM VITAE

# MICHAEL UHALL

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political theory  
Environmental political theory  
History of political philosophy  
Biopolitics  
American political thought  
International relations theory

## CONTACT

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## 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

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### 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

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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### Indiana University East (2021-present)

- Adjunct Professor, Political Science

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Journal articles

- "Companion ecologies: a new theory of the subject." *Contemporary Political Theory* (2021).  
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41296-021-00494-w>
- "Bleeding together: Caitlin Hackett and companion ecologies." *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* 37.  
<http://rhizomes.net/issue37/uhall/index.html>
- "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

- "That dark laboratory called the soil: Latour and Leopold on cosmopolitics and crisis" in forthcoming 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.

### Reviews

- "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**

- *How to Think Like an Apocalypse: Political Theory for the Ends of the World* (monograph in progress).
- “New materialism as noir materialism: how the material subject individuates.”
- “Savage anomalies: Aldo Leopold’s cosmopolitics.”
- “Plant, animal, number: an irregular history of political ecology.”
- “Molotov’s cowboy hat: Alexandre Kojève, Carl Schmitt, and the end of history.”
- “Stellar incognita: on the nomos of outer space.”

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Courses as Instructor**

#### *Indiana University East* (2021-present)

- Y105: Introduction to Political Theory (online)
- Y381: Classical Political Philosophy (online)

#### *University of Illinois* (2015-2020)

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

### **Courses as Graduate Teaching Assistant**

#### *University of Illinois* (2011-2020)

- AAS100: Introduction to Asian American Studies (x2, hybrid)
- PHIL101: Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL105: Introduction to Ethics
- PHIL412: Modern Philosophy
- 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 of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Center for Writing Studies “Writing across the Curriculum” seminar (2015).
- Recipient of the Graduate Teacher Certificate from the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2015).
- Participant in numerous Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning workshops (2011-2019).

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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### **Selected conference papers**

- “Existentially weighted time decay: on speculative fragmentation and political immunology.” *Diffractions Collective: Wyrld Patchwork* 5 (November 28, 2020).
- “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).

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- Carl Schmitt International Working Group (2021-present).
- 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 Paul Feyerabend Closely” (2017-2018).
- Referee and reviewer for various academic journals (2013-present).
- Chair/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*” (2016-2017).
- Chair/organizer for “Weird Evolutions: Nature, Creativity, Vitality” panel at 30th Annual Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference (2016).
- Chair of the New Materialisms Research Unit (2014-2015).

## MEMBERSHIPS

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- American Political Science Association
- Association for Political Theory
- Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts
- Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory [Affiliate](#)
- Western Political Science Association