

EMMANUEL CUISINIER

Ph.D Student in Philosophy
Université de Montréal
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Areas of Specialization: Phenomenology (esp. Merleau-Ponty), Philosophy of Perception, Moral Philosophy & Moral Psychology, Philosophy of Heroism, Philosophy of Love, Philosophy of Trauma

Areas of Competence: Continental Philosophy, Critical Theory, Ethics, Epistemology & Metaphysics, Kant, Ancient Greek Philosophy, History of Philosophy

EDUCATION

Doctorate in Philosophy 2022 – Present
Université de Montréal
Supervisor : Prof. Maxime Doyon
Thesis Project: Merleau-Ponty and Moral Perception

Visiting Graduate Student Fall 2023
McGill University

Master of Arts in Philosophy 2020 – 2022
Concordia University
Supervisor: Prof. David Morris
Master Research Paper Title: “Spontaneous Heroism and the Intersubjective Nature of Sacrificial Selflessness in Merleau-Ponty”
Examiner: Prof. Matthias Fritsch

Bachelor of Arts 2016 – 2020
Double Major in Philosophy & English Literature
Concordia University, Montreal

Diploma of College Studies 2013 – 2015
Marianopolis College, Westmount

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Philosophy Instructor (Part-Time) Fall 2024
Institut de tourisme et d’hôtellerie du Québec (ITHQ), CEGEP Curriculum

- 340-101-MQ – Philosophie et rationalité (*Introduction to Philosophy*)
- 340-102-MQ – L’être humain (*Philosophical Conceptions of Being Human*)

Graduate Research Fellow 2023 – 2024
Groupe de Recherche sur la Normativité (GRIN)

- Teaching Assistant** 2022 – Now
 Université de Montréal
- PHI2990 Fundamentals & Practical Issues in Ethics (x2)
 - PHI1880 From Presocratics to Plato
 - PHI2960 Chinese Philosophy
 - PHI2180 Philosophy of Language
- Learning Assistant** 2022 – Now
 Collège Brébeuf
- PHI1000 Introduction to Philosophy
 - PHI2000 Individual & Social Issues
 - PHI3000 Political Issues in Philosophy
- Research Assistant** Winter 2023
 Spontaneity & Normativity in Perception – Prof. Maxime Doyon
- Teaching Assistant** 2020 – 2022
 Concordia University
- PHIL-235 Biomedical Ethics (x2)
 - PHIL-263 Introduction to Epistemology
 - PHIL-210 Critical Thinking (x2)
 - PHIL-261 Aristotle & Hellenistic Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

ACADEMIC

Cuisinier, E., Fortin, S. E., eds. *From Beginnings to Ends*. Gnosis: Graduate Journal of Philosophy. Vol. 20. Fall 2022. Print.

Cuisinier, E., Faingold, L., and Wenzel, E., eds. *Pensées Canadiennes*. Vol 18. Montreal: McGill University. Fall 2021.

ESSAYS

Cuisinier, E. “What Is Trauma? Sketch of a Phenomenological Description” *Oxford Public Philosophy*. Vol. 3. January 2023. <https://www.oxfordpublicphilosophy.com/turn-three/orientation/cuisinier>

Nounours, E. “Speaking About Death.” *The Sophia Review*, Vol. 1, 2018, pp.16-21.

INTERVIEWS

MisirHiralall, Sabrina D. 2021. “APA Member Interview: Emmanuel Cuisinier.” Blog of the APA. September 24, 2021. <https://blog.apaonline.org/2021/09/24/apa-member-interview-emmanuel-cuisinier/>.

OPINION ARTICLES

Cuisinier, E. "Our Romantic Heart Needs To be Known." *The Concordian* [Montreal, QC], 18 February 2020, <http://theconcordian.com/2020/02/thinkpiece-our-romantic-heart-needs-to-be-known/>

Cuisinier, E. "The right to learn comes before the right to free speech." *The Concordian*. 29 August 2017, p. 15. <http://theconcordian.com/2017/08/the-right-to-learn-comes-before-the-right-to-free-speech/>

POETRY

Cuisinier, E. "July in June." *The Initial Journal*, Vol. 1, August 2020.

Nounours, E. "The Story of Cake" & "For My Editor", *Burning Magazine*, Vol. 1. 2019.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (R = Refereed; I = Invited)

"Perception, Heroism, and The Problem of Perception" (R) January 2025
American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting
New York City, USA

"Perception, Heroism, and The Problem of Perception" (R) September 2024
Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy
Rochester, NY, USA

"Perception, Heroism, and The Problem of Perception" (R) June 2024
Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture, FHSS Congress
McGill University

"A Phenomenological Approach to Romantic Love in Contexts of Mental Health" Apr 2023
APA Pacific Meeting, Society for Philosophy of Sex and Love Session
San Francisco, USA

"Spontaneous Heroism in Merleau-Ponty's *Phenomenology*" (I) June 2023
Merleau-Ponty & Expression Workshop
Concordia University

"Challenges and Contentions to Romantic Love in Spinoza's *Ethics*" March 2021
Kent State Philosophy Graduate Conference
Kent State University, Ohio, USA

"Taking Over Subjectivity: The Intersubjective Nature of Being Heroic in Merleau-Ponty"
Philopolis Montreal Jan. 2021
Université du Québec à Montréal

“The Place of Romantic Love as Robust Concern Theory in Spinoza’s *Ethics*” Nov. 2018
 The Steven Humphrey Undergraduate Philosophy Colloquium (Refereed by faculty)
 University of Louisville, Kentucky, USA

“Counter Arguments to Social-Constructionist and Materialist Theories of Love” Mar.2018
 Liberal Arts College Students Academic Conference,
 Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

“Fundamentals in Philosophy of Love.” February 2018
 Philopolis Montreal
 Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

“Ethics in Love : The Case of Spinoza’s Ethics” February 2017
 McGill University, Montreal, Canada

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Guest Editor Spring – Fall 2024
 Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review

Editor 2023 – 2024
 Oxford Public Philosophy

Co-Editor-in-Chief 2021 – 2022
 Gnosis: Graduate Journal of Philosophy – Concordia University

Reviewer March 2021
 Concordia Graduate Philosophy Conference

Reviewer Feb. 2021
 Gnosis – Concordia University

Editor 2020 – 2021
 Gnosis – Concordia University

Editor-In-Chief 2019 – 2020
 Pensées Canadiennes – McGill University

Conference Organizer 2017 – 2018
 Philopolis, Montreal, Canada

Editor 2017
 Pensées Canadiennes – McGill University

AWARDS, BURSARIES & SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate Merit Award, Canadian Congress of Humanities and Social Science (\$500)	2024
Bourse du Groupe de Recherche sur la Normativité (\$2000)	2023 – 2024
Université de Montréal Doctoral Bursary (\$6000)	2022 – 2026
Concordia Split Merit Scholarship FAS (\$5000)	2020 – 2021
Kai Nielsen Bursary (\$1000)	2020 – 2021
Carolyn and Richard Renaud Bursary (\$5000)	2016 – 2018
Marguerite Bourgeoys Bursary (\$1100)	2014

MEMBERSHIPS

International Merleau-Ponty Circle
 American Philosophical Association
 Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy
 Society for Philosophy of Sex and Love

LANGUAGES

French (native), English (fluent), German (A1.1 intermediate), Ancient Greek (translation)

SUMMARY OF MASTER’S RESEARCH PROJECT

“This paper argues that there are cases of selfless sacrifice, which I call spontaneous heroism, during which the hero is entirely motivated by moral significations that are perceptually provided to them on a pre-judicative level by the event they are experiencing. Spontaneous heroism is not a result of psychological conditioning or rational deliberation but the hero’s pre-judicative and bodily relation to perceptual motives and significations that engender the course of action that leads them to save others in danger. My argument both draws and contributes to scholarship and interpretation of Maurice Merleau-Ponty’s texts on heroism and freedom in relation to perception. Most scholars have interpreted his references to heroism in relation to his political thought, but in ways that neglect his interest in the primacy of perception, which informs and leads him to discuss heroic experiences. I push back against this neglect in the literature in order to investigate sacrifice and heroism on the level of perception. I explain that moral significations can be obtained pre-judicatively if we understand the perception as being affective, linked to Merleau-Ponty’s concept of the body-schema as intersubjective, and involved with his own understanding of pre-judicative experience which he calls the pre-personal. The way in which I expose these phenomenological concepts to describe modern cases of spontaneous heroism leads back to freedom as a central issue for heroism in Merleau-Ponty’s work. Overall, my work further supports other research that has been going on to explain the phenomenon of moral orientation in recent years.”

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