

NATHAN A. GIES  
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EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University  
Ph.D. in Political Science, August 2015

University of North Texas  
B.A. in Philosophy and Political Science, *cum laude*, August 2008

DISSERTATION

*Candor and Control: The Politics of Truthfulness in an Era of Openness*

Committee: Jane Bennett, Samuel Chambers, Jennifer Culbert, Rochelle Tobias, Christopher Nealon

Does political transformation require truth-tellers, or does a focus on personal truthfulness serve to displace politics? My dissertation reframes this debate by defending a peculiar form of truthfulness: candor. Neither a neutral means for achieving political ends, nor a distraction from politics, candor names a difficult and precarious form of political work. Through readings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Walt Whitman emphasizing the chancy, creative, and co-operative aspects of truth-telling, I distinguish candor from more familiar forms of truthfulness like sincerity and authenticity. I mobilize this account of candor to respond to increasingly prominent inducements to personal and political openness and to intervene in key debates within contemporary feminist and queer theory and politics.

RESEARCH &  
TEACHING  
INTERESTS

Feminist and queer theory; theories of public and private; phenomenology; ancient Greek political thought; law and politics; jurisprudence and constitutional theory

PUBLICATIONS

Review of *In Walt We Trust: How a Queer Socialist Poet Can Save America from Itself* by John Marsh, *New Political Science* 38.1 (2016), 129–131

“Signifying Otherwise: Livability and Language,” in *Butler and Ethics*, ed. Moya Lloyd (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2015), 15–40

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**Primary Instructor**

*Introduction to Ethics*

Towson University, Department of Philosophy, Spring 2015 – Present

*Introduction to Gender Studies*

Loyola University Maryland, Department of Sociology, Fall 2015

*Introducing Intersectionality*

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science, Intersession 2015

*Poetics and Politics of Sex: On Publics and Privates*

Johns Hopkins University, Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Spring 2013

*The Public Life of Personal Narrative*

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science, Fall 2012

OTHER  
ACADEMIC  
EMPLOYMENT &  
EXPERIENCE

**Teaching Assistant**

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science, Fall 2009 – Spring 2014

Courses assisted: *Political Inquiry* (Renee Marlin-Bennett, Fall 2009); *Virtue, Labor, Power: Classics of Political Thought* (Samuel Chambers, Spring 2011); *Nationalism* (Michael Hanchard, Fall 2011); *Authority and Liberty: Classics of Political Thought III* (Jennifer Culbert, Spring 2014)

**Co-Organizer**

*re: active listening: A Conversation on Art, Ecology, and Activism with Meghan Moe Beitiks, Marissa Lee Benedict, and Lindsey French*, a two-day cross-institution workshop with a roundtable at Johns Hopkins and a lunchtime dialogue with students at the Maryland Institute College of Art, Spring 2015 (with Jane Bennett)

**Co-Editor**

Sexualities Desk, *Feedback* (<http://openhumanitiespress.org/feedback/category/sexualities>), Fall 2013 – Present (with Katrin Pahl)

**Research Assistant**

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science, Summer 2011.  
Assisted Samuel Chambers in preparing *The Lessons of Rancière* (Oxford University Press, 2013)

**Graduate Student Liaison**

Johns Hopkins University, Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Fall 2010 – Fall 2012; Spring 2015

**Co-Organizer**

*Dangerous Crossings: Politics at the Limits of the Human*, Graduate Student Conference, Fall 2010 (with Drew Walker, Willy Blomme, Katherine Goktepe, and Tim Hanafin)

**Co-Organizer**

Graduate Student Colloquium, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 2010 – Spring 2011 (with Nicole Hughes)

PRESENTATIONS

“Unknowing Collaborations: Whitman’s Candor,” Western Political Science Association, Spring 2014

“Feminism, Genderism, and Coalition” (invited), *The Gender Agenda*, panel discussion organized by Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance (undergraduate student group) for Transgender Day of Remembrance, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 2013

“Creative Surfaces: Nietzsche’s *Redlichkeit*,” Western Political Science Association, Spring 2013

Response to Elisabeth Anker, John Nelson, Michael Shapiro, and Irmak Yazici, “Politics and the Television Aesthetic,” Western Political Science Association, Spring 2013

Response to Kellan Anfinson (JHU), “Nietzsche: A Strange Beast,” Graduate Student Colloquium, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Spring 2012

“The Ethics of Openness and the Ethos of Candor,” Graduate Student Colloquium, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Spring 2012

Response to Lynne Huffer (Emory), Futures Seminar for the Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 2011

Response to Alex Livingston (SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow), “Stuttering Conviction: William James and the Politic of Principle,” Department Seminar, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 2011

“Concluding Remarks” to *Dangerous Crossings: Politics at the Limits of the Human*, Graduate Student Conference, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 2010.

Response to Lynne Huffer (Emory), “*Mad for Foucault: Rethinking the Foundations of Queer Theory*, A Book-Length Discussion,” Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Johns Hopkins University, Spring 2010

Response to Meghan Helsel (JHU), “Rogues, Leviathans, and the Im-possible Sovereignty of God,” Graduate Student Colloquium, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Winter 2009

Response to Tehseen Noorani (University of Bristol), “Resistance Through Production: Mental Health Organisations in the British Voluntary Sector,” Graduate Student Colloquium, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Winter 2009

“Feminism, Activism, and Religious Tradition,” National Women’s Studies Association, Summer 2007

“The Possibility of Global Community,” North Texas Philosophical Association, Spring 2007

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

James Hart Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, 2014–2015

Dean’s Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, 2012 – 2013

WGS Teaching Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, 2012 – 2013

Rosenbloom Foundation Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, 2012 – 2013

Malcolm H. Lauchheimer Fellow in History of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, 2011 – 2012

John C. Creuzot Scholar in Philosophy, University of North Texas, 2007 – 2008

## LANGUAGES

Ancient Greek (reading knowledge)

## REFERENCES

Jane Bennett  
Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Johns Hopkins University  
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(410) 516-5230

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Jennifer Culbert  
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Romance Languages and Literatures  
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