



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM SERIES
2013-2014

October 24

“Pedagogy With/In the Disaster: Thinking with Heidegger and Blanchot”
Nico Jenkins, Lecturer of Philosophy & Ethics, Husson University, and
Preceptor, Honors College, UMaine
4:00 p.m. Levinson Room, The Maples

November 14

“Precarious Life: Butler and Foucault on Biopolitics”
Jana Sawicki, Professor of Philosophy, Williams College
4:00 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial Union

January 23

“An Alternative Paradigm for Ethics”
J. Gray Cox, Professor of Philosophy, The College of the Atlantic
4:00 p.m. Levinson Room, The Maples

February 13

“Mahatma Gandhi’s Philosophical Interpretation of Value”
Doug Allen, Professor of Philosophy, The University of Maine
4:00 p.m. Levinson Room, The Maples

April 3

“Do the Social Sciences Bear on Either the Truth or Falsity of Religious Belief?”
William James and Sigmund Freud”
Robert Segal, Professor of Religious Studies, The University of Aberdeen
4:00 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial Union

April 10

“Taming Leviathan: Toward a Global Alliance for Peace”
Fred Dallmayr, Professor of Philosophy and Political Science,
The University of Notre Dame
4:00 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial Union

The 2013-2014 Philosophy Colloquium Series is partially funded through a grant from Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series. All programs are free and open to the UMaine community and the public. For more information, contact Professor Doug Allen, Department of Philosophy, UMaine, Orono, Maine 04469; phone: 581-3860; email: douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

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Philosophy 2013-2014 Colloquium Series

November 14, 2013, 4:00 p.m.
Bangor Room, Memorial Union
University of Maine



Professor Jana Sawicki

“PRECARIOUS LIFE: Judith Butler and Michel Foucault”

Jana Sawicki is Professor of Philosophy at Williams College, where she served as Chair of Philosophy and of Women’s Studies. She is the author of *Disciplining Foucault: Feminism, Power and the Body* and co-editor of the *Foucault Companion*. She was Professor of Philosophy at the University of Maine 1981-1991. In her lecture on “Precarious Life,” Professor Sawicki addresses three areas in which Judith Butler responds to Michel Foucault’s project on biopolitics: the importance of the concept of normalization in Butler’s account of subjection and resistance, the way she takes up Foucault’s biopolitical in her writings on precarious life, and her turn to the ethical.

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Philosophy 2013-2014 Colloquium Series

January 23, 2014, 4:00 p.m.
Levinson Room, The Maples

Professor J. Gray Cox,
Professor of Philosophy
The College of the Atlantic

“An Alternative Paradigm for Ethics”

In this presentation, Gray Cox will suggest that it would be helpful to reframe the ways we think about and teach ethics in rather fundamental ways. These include: 1) The “Rainbow Rule” rather than Kantian and Utilitarian applications of the Golden Rule; 2) Conflict Resolution rather than Judgment or Phronesis; 3) a Gandhian Satyagraha based meta-ethics rather than purely Rational or purely Naturalistic Grounding of Principles.

Gray Cox received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Vanderbilt University. He is professor of political economics, history, and peace studies at the College of the Atlantic. He is author of *The Will at the Crossroads: A Reconstruction of Kant's Moral Philosophy* and *The Ways of Peace: A Philosophy of Peace as Action*. He has a focus on interdisciplinary projects dealing with human ecological problems in cross-cultural settings, including considerable work in Mexico.

January 23rd, at 12:30, in the Bangor Room
of the Memorial Union at UMaine:

Gray Cox will also give a presentation on "Rogue AI, IBM's 'Smarter Planet', and Other Existential Threats From Artificial Intelligence".

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Philosophy 2013-2014 Colloquium Series



**February 13, 2014, 4:00 p.m.
Levinson Room, The Maples**

**Professor Doug Allen
Professor of Philosophy
The University of Maine**

"Mahatma Gandhi's Philosophical Interpretation of Value"

Professor Douglas Allen is the author of numerous publications focusing on Mahatma Gandhi, often considered the most admired human being of the twentieth century. Doug Allen's books include *The Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi for the 21st Century* and *Mahatma Gandhi*. His book chapters and journal articles with a Gandhi focus during 2013 and 2014 include "The Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi Today: Nonviolence, the Ego, and the Transformed Life and World," "Peace Education and Mahatma Gandhi," "A Phenomenological Approach to Spirituality and Its Relation to Nonkilling and Nonviolence," "Mahatma Gandhi's Values and Significance: 15 August 1947 and 15 August 2013," "Vedic Roots and Radical Reformulation in Gandhi's Philosophy: Nonviolence, Peace, and Civilizational Harmony," "Mahatma Gandhi's *Ahimsa* and *Swaraj* in 1967 and Today," and "Peacebuilding Challenges in the 21st Century: Gandhian Approaches." During his last sabbatical, he was the recipient of a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship to India to work on "Mahatma Gandhi and Violence, Terrorism, and the Contemporary World." On August 15, 2013, he was invited to deliver the Mahatma Gandhi Lecture on India's Independence Day. Doug Allen is also a peace and justice activist whose commitments have been deeply influenced by Gandhi's philosophy and practice.

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Philosophy 2013–2014 Colloquium Series

April 3, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Professor Robert Segal

Professor of Religious Studies
The University of Aberdeen, Scotland

**“Do the social sciences bear on either the truth or
falsity of religious belief?
William James and Sigmund Freud”**

Robert Segal is Sixth Century Chair in Religious Studies at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, where he has taught since 2006. He writes and teaches on theories of myth and theories of religion. Among the books he has written are *The Poimandres as Myth: Scholarly Theory and Gnostic Meaning* (Mouton de Gruyter, 1986), *Joseph Campbell: An Introduction* (Penguin/New American Library, 1990), *Theorizing about Myth* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1999), and *Myth: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2004; revised ed. in progress). Among the books he has edited are *The Gnostic Jung* (Princeton University Press and Routledge, 1992), *The Myth and Ritual Theory* (Blackwell, 1998), *Jung on Mythology* (Princeton University Press and Routledge, 1998), *Hero Myths* (Blackwell, 2000), *The Blackwell Companion to the Study of Religion* (Blackwell, 2006; second ed. in process), and *30-Second Mythology* (Ivy Press, 2012).

Thursday, April 3, 12:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Professor Robert Segal will also give a lecture on

"Engels's Incoherent Theory of Religion"

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Philosophy 2013–2014 Colloquium Series

2014 Visiting Scholar

April 10, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Professor Fred Dallmayr

Professor of Philosophy and Political Science, The University of Notre Dame

“Taming Leviathan: Toward a Global Alliance for Peace”

FRED DALLMAYR is Packey J. Dee Professor in the departments of philosophy and political science at the University of Notre Dame. He holds a Doctor of Law degree from the University of Munich (1955) and a Ph.D. in political science from Duke University (1960). He has been a visiting professor at Hamburg University in Germany and at the New School for Social Research in New York, and a Fellow at Nuffield College in Oxford. He has been teaching at Notre Dame University since 1978. During 1991-92 he was in India on a Fulbright research grant.

Among his books are: *Between Freiburg And Frankfurt* (1991); *The Other Heidegger* (1993); *Beyond Orientalism: Essays On Cross-Cultural Encounter* (1996); *Alternative Visions: Paths In The Global Village* (1998); *Achieving Our World: Toward a Global and Plural Democracy* (2001); *Dialogue Among Civilizations: Some Exemplary Voices* (2002); *Hegel: Modernity And Politics* (new ed. 2002); *Peace Talks - Who Will Listen* (2004); *Small Wonder: Global Power and Its Discontents* (2005); *In Search of the Good Life: A Pedagogy for Troubled Times* (2007); *The Promise of Democracy: Political Agency and Transformation* (2010); *Integral Pluralism: Beyond Culture Wars* (2010); *Comparative Political Theory: An Introduction* (2010); *Return to Nature? An Ecological Counter-History* (2011); *Contemporary Chinese Political Thought* (with Zhao Tingyang 2012); and *Being In the World: Dialogue and Cosmopolis* (2013).

He is a past president of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP). He is currently the Executive Co-Chair of "World Public Forum Dialogue of Civilizations" (Vienna/Moscow) and a member of the Scientific Committee of "RESET Dialogue on Civilizations" (Rome).

Wednesday, April 9, 12:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Professor Fred Dallmayr will also give a lecture on

“The Owners of the World: Chomskyan Reflections”

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