

NASS 2025 Conference Schedule

Day 1 – Friday, September 26

8:00-8:30am Registration and Coffee

Location: Abraham Campus Center Lobby

8:30-10:15am Sessions A1-A3

Session A1: Ethics of Decolonization in Sartre and Fanon (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator:

- From Shame to Liberation: Sartre, Fanon, and the Ethics of Decolonization – Andrea De Alexandris
- Sartre and Fanon on the “Categorical Imperative” – Michelle L. Meeks
- Racial Wounds, Poetic Cures: Sartre and Fanon on the Ethics of Unity – Thomas Payre (*zoom*)

Session A2: Existential Freedom and Responsibility (Landis Academic Center 104)

Moderator:

- Sartrean Thought Conveys a Reciprocal Freedom and Responsibility – Pujarini Das (*zoom*)
- Freedom as an Existential Task – Lizzie Robinson
- “Becoming” (Meta)physical: Sartre and Whitehead on Ontology and Freedom – Dane Sawyer

Session A3: Existential Freedom and Responsibility (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator:

- “Feel the Beat of the Rhythm”: A Reflection on Lewis Gordon’s Moving/Movement-Inducing Thought – Desireé R. Melonas
- Shifting Genealogies: On Gordon and Generations – Dana Francisco Miranda
- Critiques of Dialectical Reason: Lewis Gordon’s Philosophy of Science – Thomas Meagher

10:30-12:00pm Keynote Address: Professor Lewis Gordon – Quay Davis EBR

12:00-1:15pm Lunch Break

1:15-3:00pm Sessions B1 & B2

Session B1: Decolonial Praxis and Political Agency (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator:

- Actionality as Decolonial Praxis: Fanon’s Dialectical Reconfiguration of Agency Between Trauma and Liberation – Jessica L. Davis
- Disciplinary Decadence, Pluralism, and the Problem of Universal Humanism – Joshua Harrington
- Ubuntu as Decolonial Ethic: Sartre, Fanon, and Freedom in Contemporary Times – Trevor Makhetha (*zoom*)

Session B2: Continental Crossroads: Adorno, Camus, and Husserl (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator:

- Husserl and Sartre on Passive Synthesis and Systemic Oppression – Juan Pablo Barrero
- Regressive Listening as Bad Faith: A Sartrean Reading of Adorno's Critique of Jazz – Varun Chandrasekhar
- Albert Camus, The Impatient Nostalgist in North America – Peter Jones

3:15-5:00pm Sessions C1 & C2

Session C1: Fanon, Race, and Lived Experience (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator: Tom Meagher

- Rethinking Racial Alienation with Frantz Fanon and Paulette Nardal – Rosa O'Connor Acevedo
- Frantz Fanon's Black Skin, White Masks as the Fulfilment of Jean-Paul Sartre's Phenomenology of Whiteness – Jintao Liang
- Black Nihilism and Colonial Racial Capitalism: A Fanonian Perspective – Orlando Hawkins

Session C2: Consciousness and Authenticity: Sartrean Explorations (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator:

- The Authenticity Dilemma of Social Capital: An Analytic Approach to Sartre – Maurits Bekkers
- La Constitution idéale du pour-soi comme être irréalisable – Vinicius Xavier Hoste
- On Sartre's Concept of Intentionality: A Critique of the Ontological Proof – James Sares

5:15-6:45pm Sessions D1 & D2

Session D1: Historical Memory and Liberation Movements (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator:

- Fanon's Memory of Marxism – Ethan Linehan (*zoom*)
- Against the Longue Durée of Colonialism: Protraction & the National Liberation Struggle – Jon Joey Telebrico
- Frantz Fanon: Architect of the Algerian War of Independence – Imene Larbi Youcef (*zoom*)

Session D2: Existentialism and the Environment (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator: Beth Butterfield

- Otherwise Than Elsewhere: Sketch of a Sartrean Political Geology – Matthew C. Ally (*zoom*)
- An Ecological Reading of Sartre's Critique of Epistemic Innocence – Damon Boria
- Reconsidering Resource Scarcity: A Sartrean Perspective – Leonid Libenzon (*zoom*)

6:45-8:00pm Reception (with tributes to Tom Flynn and Joe Catalano)

Location: ACC Ballrooms

- Introduction: Beth Butterfield
- Tributes:
 - Matthew Aly
 - T Storm Heter
 - David Detmer
 - Matthew Eshleman

Day 2 – Saturday, September 27

8:00-9:00am Business Meeting with bagels and coffee (everyone is welcome!)

Location: Quay Davis EBR

9:00-10:45am Sessions E1-E3

Session E1: Violence, Colonialism, and Decolonial Resistance (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator: Jon Joey Telebrico

- Demystifying Violence in Fanon's Wretched of the Earth – Kylie Erfanie (*zoom*)
- Violence on Frantz Fanon: Existentialism and Decolonization – Fabian Danilo Rojas Pineda (*zoom*)
- Colonialism, Legitimation and Violence – Timur Cengiz Uçan (*zoom*)

Session E2: Struggle and the Common Object (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator:

- Radio and Affective Attunement in Fanon and Sartre – Jerome Clarke
- Racist Ideas as Petrified Action: Sartre, Fanon, and the 'Absurdity' of the Colonial System – Tyrique Mack-Georges
- Thinking the New Humanity: Sartre and Fanon at the Limits of Dialectical Reason – Judith Aloise Chavarria

Session E3: "Teaching Existentialism and Existentialist Teaching: A Pedagogy Workshop Experience" with Beth Butterfield (Landis Academic Center 104)

Description: Come as you are and join us for a fun and relaxed interactive workshop. Through a variety of activities and conversation, we'll explore how the themes/values of existentialism influence our own individual sense of identity and purpose as teachers, what a particularly "existentialist" approach to teaching might include, and the joys and challenges of teaching a topic like existentialism. This is an opportunity for self-reflection regarding your own practices and values, as well as a chance to swap ideas and to find inspiration in hearing from others. It's also a chance to get to know and make personal connections with other attendees. Note: I am experimenting with designing workshops that are neurodivergent and introvert friendly. All preferences for style of participation are welcome!

11:00-12:45pm Sessions F1-F3

Session F1: Philosophical Lineages and Comparative Existentialism (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator:

- Practico-inert Awareness and Separating from colonial Idealism – Christian Olmeda
- Negritude and Ontological Resistance in Fanon and Senghor – Beata Stawarska
- An Analysis of Mr. Seth Milchick in the Show *Severance* Through Fanon's Philosophy of Language – Annalee Ring

Session F2: Seeing and Being Seen: The Sartrean Look (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator: James Sares

- The Artificial Gaze on Gaza: Sartre and Fanon on Settler Vision and Algorithmic Violence – Farhang Erfani (*zoom*)
- Does Anybody See Me? – Jacob Pelczynski-Kunda
- A Sartrean 'Look' at Fichte's 'Summons' Through a Cartesian Lens – Daniel Wancowicz

Session F3: Ethics and Politics in Contemporary Context (Landis Academic Center 104)

Moderator: Damon Boria

- Sartre, Populism, and the Politics of Migration – Michael Blake
- Sartre, Trump, and the Debate about DEI and Meritocracy – David Detmer
- What is Human Dignity? – Gwendolyn Dolske

12:45-2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00-3:45pm Sessions G1 & G2

Session G1: Existentialism Against Empire (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator:

- A Case for Desegregating Philosophy – Avani Sanghvi
- Foucault and the Colonial Question: A Comparative Analysis of Power, Ontology, and Phenomenology – Warren Scherb
- Francis Jeanson's Critique of 'Divine Right': A Contribution to Anti-Racist and Anti-Imperialist Existential Thought – D.Z. Shaw (*zoom*)

Session G2: Sartre and Analytic Philosophy Book Panel (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator:

- Talia Morag
- Katherine Morris
- Stephen White

4:00-5:45pm Sessions H1 & H2

Session H1: Existentialism and the Shape of Life (Howell Meeting Room)

Moderator:

- *Hope Now* and Disability Justice – Kimberly S. Engels
- Embracing the Useless Life: A Zhuangzian Critique of Existential Guilt – Cade Schafer

- Skillful Coping, Personal Acts, and Life Decisions: Responding to and Creating Significance in Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenology of Perception – Justin White

Session H2: Adrian van den Hoven *Sartre's Theater* Book Panel (Quay Davis EBR)

Moderator:

- David Detmer
- Dennis Gilbert (*zoom*)
- Peter Jones

6:00-7:30pm Conference Dinner

Location: ACC Ballrooms