

# ALTHEA RANI SIRCAR

*Curriculum Vitae*

April 29, 2016

UCLA Department of Political Science  
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## EDUCATION

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- June 2016 (expected) Ph.D. candidate in Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)  
Major fields: Political Theory and Race, Ethnicity, and Politics  
Dissertation: "Affective Political Community: Michel Henry and the ontological subject."  
Committee: Joshua Foa Dienstag (chair), Giulia Sissa, Davide Panagia, and John McCumber
- June 2013 C. Phil., Political Science, UCLA
- August 2007 M.A. in Asian Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York  
Concentration in South Asian Studies  
Thesis Committee: Mary Fainsod Katzenstein (chair) and Durba Ghosh
- May 2005 A.B. in Political Science, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina  
Fields: Comparative Politics and International Relations  
Minor in Economics

## PUBLICATIONS

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"Hannah Arendt and Michel Henry." *Philosophy Today*, Special Issue, "In the Present Tense" (solicited for publication, forthcoming 2017.)

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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- 2015-2016 Pauley Fellowship, UCLA (one year)
- 2015 & 2014 Summer Funding, Department of Political Science, UCLA (two summers)
- 2013 Tuition Grant Recipient, School for Criticism and Theory, Cornell University (six weeks)
- 2013 & 2011 Summer Language Training Stipend, Center for European and Eurasian Studies, UCLA
- 2012-13 Regents'/Pauley Fellowship, UCLA (one year)
- 2012 Summer Language Funding, Department of Political Science, UCLA (one summer)
- 2009-10 Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA (one year)
- 2008-09 Chancellor's Prize and Fellowship, UCLA (one year plus two summers)
- 2006-07 International Research Travel Grant, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University (short term for research)
- 2005-07 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowships (two years) for Bengali, Cornell University
- 2004-05 President's Research Fellowship (A.B. Duke Scholarship program, short term for research)
- 2001-05 Angier B. Duke Memorial Scholarship (four years, full-tuition), Duke University

## CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

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- 2016 “Acting as a Body or Acting in Concert?: Michel Henry Contra Hannah Arendt.” Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA, March 24-26, 2016; American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 1-4, 2016 (future participation).
- 2016 Co-chair and Panelist for Roundtable: “Higher Education as a Terrain for Decolonial/Abolitionist Struggles and Resistance.” Western Political Science Association Conference within a Conference on Abolitionist/Decolonial Politics, San Diego, CA, March 24-26, 2016.
- 2016 "Politics of Life: Individual suffering and collective survival." Political Theory Workshop, UCLA, February 26, 2016.
- 2016 Paper discussant for “Political Cultures, Erotic Cultures: Gendered Politics in Ancient Societies.” Conference at UCLA. January 11, 2016.
- 2015 "Politics of Life: Individual suffering and collective survival." American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 4, 2015.
- 2014 “A community of the anguished: interior suffering and political cohesion.” Association for Political Theory, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2014.
- 2014 “Suffering and action: Affective existence under capitalist conditions in Michel Henry’s reading of Marx.” Western Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, April 19, 2014.
- 2013 “The Power of Eros in Political Community: Love’s Ontological Place under Conditions of Plurality.” Association for Political Theory, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, October 12, 2013.
- 2013 “Being and Eros.” American Comparative Literature Association, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada, April 4-7, 2013.
- 2013 “Being a Community: The politics of Michel Henry’s vision of life with others.” Western Political Science Association, Hollywood, CA, March 23, 2013.
- 2012 Wittgenstein among the Disciplines Symposium. Organized with Gizem Arslan. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, April 21, 2012.
- 2012 “Peril and Possibility: Wittgensteinian Political Theory.” Wittgenstein among the Disciplines. Symposium at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, April 21, 2012.
- 2012 “The Flesh of the Other (Animal): Encountering Animals as Saturated Phenomena.” Western Political Science Association, Portland, OR, March 22, 2012.
- 2011 “Ontology and Community after the Death of God?: Jean-Luc Nancy and Jean-Luc Marion on Being-with-Others and the (Un)Certainty of the Divine.” Western Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX, April 21, 2011.
- 2010 “Provincializing Arendt?: Postcolonial temporalities and the concept of history” Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, April 3, 2010.
- 2009 “Strategies of interpretation and resistance in the archive: Indian nationalism and the problem of ‘the source’.” American Comparative Literature Association, Cambridge, MA, March 28, 2009.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### UCLA

- 2013–15 Teaching Fellow for “The History of Modern Thought,” an interdisciplinary general education cluster for first-year students. Profs. C. Kelty, S. Kareem, J.F. Dienstag, P. Stacey, and N. Wise (as TA: Fall 2013; Winter 2014; Fall 2014; Winter 2015)

Spring 2015 Seminar (as instructor): “A Mirror for Power: Revolutionary Voices, Revolutionary Thought from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries.”  
Spring 2014 Seminar (as instructor): “The Political Animal and Its Nonhuman Others: Animals, Cyborgs, and People in the History of Modern Thought”

Winter 2012 & Fall 2010 “Continental Political Thought.” (TA, upper division course) Prof. J.F. Dienstag  
Fall 2011 Political Science 10, “Introduction to Political Theory.” (TA, introductory course) Prof. J.F. Dienstag  
Spring 2012 & 2011 “The Evolution of American Regulatory Institutions.” (TA, upper division course) Prof. S.C. James  
Winter 2011 “Contemporary Political Thought.” (TA, upper division course) Prof. J.F. Dienstag

#### **RESEARCH POSITIONS**

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##### **Cornell University**

2006 Research Assistant to Robert Weiner, Department of Government

##### **Duke University**

Summer 2005 Research Assistant to: Peter Feaver, Christopher Gelpi, and Alexander Downes, Department of Political Science; Katherine Ewing, Department of Cultural Anthropology  
Summer 2004 Research Assistant to Steven Wilkinson, Department of Political Science  
2001-04 Research Assistant to Elizabeth Richardson Vigdor, Sanford Institute of Public Policy

#### **SERVICE**

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*Abolition* (member of journal’s governing collective), 2016-present  
Political Science Graduate Student Association (co-president), Dept. of Political Science, UCLA, 2011-12  
*New German Review* (reviewer), 2010  
Graduate Phenomenology Reading Group, UCLA (organizer), 2008-09

#### **LANGUAGES**

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English (native)  
French (proficient spoken/written at CEFR C1+)  
German (intermediate spoken/written at CEFR B2)  
Bengali (intermediate spoken/written)

#### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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American Political Science Association  
Western Political Science Association  
Association for Political Theory  
American Comparative Literature Association

## REFERENCES

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Joshua Foa Dienstag, Professor of Political Science and Law  
4289 Bunche Hall, Box 951472  
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Phone: 310.267.5410  
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Giulia Sissa, Professor of Political Science and Classics  
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Phone: 310.825.4294  
Email: [sisso@polisci.ucla.edu](mailto:sisso@polisci.ucla.edu)

John McCumber, Distinguished Professor of Germanic Languages  
212 Royce Hall, Box 951539  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1539  
Phone: 310.825.3955  
Email: [mccumber@humnet.ucla.edu](mailto:mccumber@humnet.ucla.edu)

### Teaching Reference

Christopher Kelty, Associate Professor of Information Studies and at Center for Society and Genetics  
1323 Rolfe Hall, Box 957221  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-7221  
Phone: 310.825.5336 (Information Studies); 310.267.4775 (Center for Society and Genetics)  
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