

**CHARLOTTE WITT**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**ADDRESS**

Department of Philosophy	17 Garrison St.
University of New Hampshire	Portland, ME 04102
Durham, NH 03824	
(603) 862-1040	(207) 871-5969

**EDUCATION**

Swarthmore College	B.A. Honors Classics/Philosophy(1975)
Georgetown University	Ph.D. Philosophy (1980)

**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

Visiting Professor, University of Uppsala, Sweden	May, 2001
Chair of Philosophy Department UNH	2000-03
Professor of Philosophy and Humanities UNH	1996-00
Associate Professor of Philosophy and Humanities UNH	1990-96
Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Humanities UNH	1987-90
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Wayne State University	1980-87

**AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS (1991-PRESENT)**

Faculty Scholars Program, UNH (2006)  
Excellence in Research Award, UNH (2005)  
American Council of Learned Studies Fellowship (2003-2004)  
Visiting Fellow, Philosophy Program, School of Advanced Studies, University of London (Fall 2003)  
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Classical Studies, School of Advanced Studies, University of London (1999-2000)  
Humanities Center Fellowship, UNH (1998)  
NEH Fellowship for College Teachers (1993)  
Faculty Scholars Program, UNH (1992)

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Ancient Philosophy, Feminist Theory, Metaphysics

**LANGUAGES**

Ancient Greek, German, Latin

**SELECT ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Chair, Philosophy Department, UNH	2000-03
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Charlotte Witt

Chair, English 401 Review Committee	2002-03
Director, UNH London Program	1999-00
Academic Senate	1988-90
Sidore Lecture Series, UNH	1990

**TEACHING** (at the University of New Hampshire)

**Introductory Level**

Ancient Philosophy  
Feminism and Philosophy  
Interdisciplinary Humanities Courses  
from Classical Greece to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Contemporary Moral Problems

**Advanced Undergraduate**

Philosophy and Literature  
Aristotle Seminar  
Feminist Ethics Seminar  
Metaphysics Seminar  
Plato Seminar

**SCHOLARSHIP**

**Books and Monographs**

*Adoption Matters: Philosophical and Feminist Essays*, co-edited with Sally Haslanger (Cornell University Press, 2005)

*Feminist Reflections on the History of Philosophy*, co-edited with Lilli Alanen. (Kluwer Academic Publishing, 2004)

*Ways of Being: Potentiality and Actuality in Aristotle's Metaphysics* (Cornell University Press, April 2003)

*Ancient Philosophy and Modern Ideology*, co-edited with Mohan Matthen (*Apeiron* special volume, December 2000)

*A Mind of One's Own: Feminist Essays on Reason and Objectivity*, co-edited with Louise Antony. (Westview Press, 1992). Revised and expanded second edition 2001.

*Substance and Essence in Aristotle* (Cornell University Press, 1989; pbk. 1994)

**Articles**

“Feminist Metaphysics” in *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (forthcoming)

“Aristotelian Powers” in *Revitalizing Causality: Realism About Causality in Philosophy and Social Science* ed. Ruth Groff (forthcoming)

“Analogy and Motion in Theta 6” in *Essays in Ancient Greek Philosophy*, Intercollege Press (2005)

“Tragic Error and Agent Responsibility” in *The Annual Proceedings of the Center for Philosophic Exchange*, SUNY Brockport (2005)

Charlotte Witt

“Feminist Interpretations of the Philosophical Canon” *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, vol. 31, no. 2 (Winter, 2006)

“Feminist History of Philosophy” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (11/2000) <http://plato.stanford.edu>; updated 11/2006

“Form and Normativity in Aristotle: A Feminist Perspective” in *Re-Reading the Canon: Feminist Essays on Aristotle* ed. By Cynthia Freeland (Penn State University Press, 1998)

“Teleology in Aristotelian Science and Metaphysics” in *Methodos in Ancient Philosophy* ed. Jyl Gentzler (Oxford University Press 1997)

“The Evolution of Developmental Interpretations of Aristotle” in *New Studies in Aristotle’s Philosophical Development* ed. William Wians (Rowman and Littlefields 1996)

“Powers and Possibilities: Aristotle’s Defense of Potentiality” in *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* ed. by William Wians (1995).

“Recent Work in Aristotle’s Conception of the Mind” *Philosophical Books* vol. 36, no. 2 (April 1995)

“Anti-Essentialism in Feminist Theory” in *Philosophical Topics* Vol. 23 # 2 (Fall 1995 ) Excerpts reprinted in *Metaphysics: The Big Questions* ed. By Peter van Inwagen and Dean W. Zimmerman (Blackwell, 1998)

“The Priority of Actuality in Aristotle” in *The Identity and Unity of Aristotelian Substances* ed. T. Scaltsas, D. Charles, M.L. Gill (Oxford University Press 1994)

“Feminist Metaphysics” in *A Mind of One’s Own: Feminist Essays on Reason and Objectivity* ed. Louise Antony and Charlotte Witt (Westview Press, 1992) Excerpts reprinted in *Metaphysics: The Big Questions* ed. By Peter van Inwagen and Dean W. Zimmerman (Blackwell 1998)

“On the Generation and Corruption of Aristotle’s Thought” *Apeiron*\_Vol. 24, No. 2 (June 1991)

“Dialectic, Motion and Perception: *De Anima* Book I” in *Essays on Aristotle’s De Anima* ed. A. Rorty and M. Nussbaum (Oxford University Press: 1991)

“Aristotelian Essentialism Revisited” *Journal of the History of Philosophy* Vol. XXVII 2 (1989)

Charlotte Witt

“Hylomorphism in Aristotle” *Apeiron* Vol. XXII, 4, (December 1989)  
“Form, Reproduction and Inherited Characteristics in Aristotle’s *Generation of Animals*”  
*Phronesis* Vol. XXX 1 (1985)

### **Reviews and Miscellaneous Publications**

Review of *Space, Time, Matter, and Form: Essays on Aristotle's Physics* by David Bostock in *Rhizai*. Vol. IV No. 1 (June 2007).

Review of *Aristotle's Theory of Substance* by Michael Wedin in *The Philosophical Review* , Vol. 111, No. 1 (January 2002)

Review of Aristotle on Meaning and Essence by David Charles in *The Philosophical Quarterly* (forthcoming)

Review of *Sex and Social Justice* by Martha Nussbaum in *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* Vol. 571 (September 2000)

Review of *Reason and Emotion* by John Cooper in *Ethics* Vol. 110, No. 4 (July 2000)

Review of *Substantial Knowledge* by C.D.C. Reeve in *Philosophy in Review* Vol. 20, No. 6 (December 2000)

Review of *Aristotle's Theory of Perception* by Stephen Everson *Philosophical Books* Vol. 40: 1 (1999)

Review of *Aristotelian Investigations* by G.E. R. Lloyd *Philosophical Review* vol. 197, no. 4 (October 1998)

“Pornography: Love It Or Leave It” Review Essay, *National Women's Studies Association Journal* (1997)

Review of *Substance among Other Categories* by Joshua Hoffman and Gary S. Rosenkrantz *The Philosophical Review* (1997)

Review of Aristotle's *Theory of Material Substance: Heat and Pneuma, Form and Soul* by Gad Freudenthal, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 35:1 (January 1997)

Review of *Substances and Universals in Aristotle's Metaphysics* by Theodore Scaltsas *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (April 1996)

“Working on the Margins: Feminist Theory and Philosophy” *Metaphilosophy* Vol. 27 nos. 1&2 (January/April 1996)

Charlotte Witt

“Charlton on the Uses of Actuality” *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* Vol. 5, eds. John Cleary and Daniel Shartin (1990)

Review of Aristotle’s Classification of Animals by Pierre Pellegrin, *Philosophical Review* Vol. XCVIII 4 (1989)

Review of *Aristotle* by J.D.G. Evans *Teaching Philosophy* 11:3 (1988)

Review of Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics* by Francis H. Eterovich, *Ancient Philosophy* 5.

Review of *Aristotle* by Jonathan Barnes *Ancient Philosophy* 3 (1983)

### **Papers Read to Professional Groups (1991-PRESENT)**

“Humans, Persons and Social Individuals”

- Philosophy Department, Dartmouth College (5/07)
- Colloquium, Philosophy Department, UNH (4/07)

“Two Notions of Essence”

- WOGAP, MIT Philosophy Department (3/07)

“What Adoption Can Teach Us About Children’s Rights”

- McDowell Conference on Philosophy and Social Policy, American University (11/06)

“Aristotle’s *Metaphysics*: The Unity of the Central Books”

- A Symposium in Honor of Aryeh Kosman, Haverford College (11/06)
- Workshop on Aristotle’s *Metaphysics*, University of Lisbon (6/06)

“Gender Essentialism and Social Individuals”

- American Council of Learned Societies Annual Meeting (5/05)

“Irwin on Neo-Aristotelian Interpretations of the *Nicomachean Ethics*”

- Northern New England Philosophical Association (10/02)

“Substantial Knowledge by C.D.C Reeve”

- Author Meets Critics Session, American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meetings, (4/02)

“Power and Potentiality in Aristotle”

- Philosophy Department, SUNY Brockport (4/05)
- Institute for Classical Studies, University of London (12/03)
- Philosophy Department, University of Sheffield (10/03)
- Philosophy Department, University of Uppsala, Sweden (5/01)

Charlotte Witt

- Philosophy Department, Tufts University (4/01)
- Philosophy Department, University of Illinois (1/01)
- Philosophy Department, University of British Columbia (9/00)
- Northern Ancient Philosophy Association, Leeds, England (4/00)
- “B” Club, Cambridge University, England (5/00)
- Philosophy Department, Edinburgh University (5/00)

“The Unity and Identity of Aristotelian Substances”

- Department of Philosophy, University of Helsinki, Finland (10/98)

“Form, Normativity and Gender in Aristotle: A Feminist Perspective”

- Reconsidering the Canon: Feminist Work on the History of Philosophy Conference, Uppsala University (10/99)
- Department of Philosophy, Goteburg, Sweden (10/98)
- International Conference on Aristotle and Contemporary Science, Thessaloniki, Greece (9/97)

“Powers and Possibilities: Aristotle’s Defense of Potentiality”

- Philosophy Department, Georgetown University (3/96)
- Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, Brown University (3/95)

“Teleology in Aristotelian Science and Metaphysics”

- Philosophy Dept. University of Pennsylvania (11/93)
- Boston Colloquium for the Philosophy of Science (2/94)
- Methodos: A Conference on Ancient Scientific and Philosophical Method, Amherst College (4/94)
- Queens University, Ontario, Canada (10/94)

“Tragic Error and Agent Responsibility in Aristotle”

- Philosophy Department, Simon Frazer University (12/05)
- Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, SUNY Binghamton (10/93)
- Philosophy Dept., Haverford College (11/93)
- Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, Brown University (3/95)

“The Evolution of Developmental Interpretations of Aristotle”

- Boston University (1/92)

Charlotte Witt

“The Priority of Actuality in Aristotle”

- Philosophy Program Colloquium, School of Advanced Studies, University of London, (12/03)
- Philosophy Department, Wesleyan Univ. (11/91)
- Los Angeles Ancient Philosophy Colloquium (12/91)

“Gender and Essence”

- Women and Theory Conference, Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy, University of British Columbia (10/00)

“Essentialism, Evolution and Gender”

- Invited paper, APA Symposium on Essentialism and Feminism, (4/01)
- Philosophy Club, Birkbeck College, London (12/99)
- *Debating Essentialism Conference*, University of California, Riverside (4/99)

“Feminist Reflections on Plato and Aristotle”

- APA Symposium on Feminism and Ancient Philosophy, Washington D.C (12/98)

“Objectivity and Values: Aristotle’s Surprising Contribution to Feminism”

- Helsinki School of Economics, Helsinki, Finland (10/98)

“How Feminism is Re-writing the Philosophical Canon”

- Department of Philosophy, Uppsala University, Sweden (10/98)
- The Alfred P. Stiernotte Lecture in Philosophy, Quinnipiac College (10/96)  
Printed and distributed by Quinnipiac College.

“Working on the Margins: Feminist Theory and Philosophy”

- Roundtable on Feminism and Philosophy in the Mid-1990s: Taking Stock (sponsored by the Society for Philosophy and Public Affairs and Pacific SWIP) (3/95)

“A Mind of One’s Own: Feminist Reflections on Metaphysics”

- Society for Analytic Feminism, American Philosophical Association (12/93)

“Feminist Metaphysics”

- Philosophy Department, McGill University (10/91)

**Work in Progress**

Charlotte Witt

*Gender Essentialism and Social Individuals*

I address several key issues in feminist philosophy. I defend metaphysical inquiry as relevant to feminist theorizing and, more narrowly, as crucial for thinking about gender. I consider, and reject, several feminist and non-feminist criticisms of essentialism in general, and gender essentialism in particular. On the positive side, I develop an Aristotelian, or explanatory, theory of individual gender essentialism, which I argue is useful for feminist thinking about justice and equality. I also defend gender as a classificatory concept, which can be usefully correlated with other properties in devising social and political change. *Gender Essentialism and Social Individuals* makes a substantive contribution to Women's Studies, feminist theory, and social and political philosophy. Its exploration of the basis for the explanatory utility of the social category of gender will also be of value for the philosophy of the social sciences.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Grant Reviewer: Fulbright Grants to Scandanavia (2006) Research Council of Norway (2005) Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University (2005) Academy of Finland (2004) Center of Excellence in Ancient Philosophy, Research Council of Norway (2001), National Humanities Center (1994-98, 2004) and Killam Research Fellowships for the Canada Council (1993, 1994)

Member of the Advisory Committee to the Program Committee of the American Philosophical Association for Ancient Philosophy (1996-1999)  
Member of the Committee on Teaching of the American Philosophical Association (1993-1996)  
Member of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association and the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy

Book manuscript reviewer: Parmenides Press, Springer, Westview Press, Cornell University Press, Oxford University Press  
*Reviewer for Archiv fur der Geschichte der philosophie, Ancient Philosophy, Philosophical Review, Hypatia, National Women's Studies Journal, Ethics*  
Outside evaluator for the Philosophy Department of Worcester State College, Worcester, Mass. (4/94)

Tenure review for the Philosophy Department at Cornell University and McGill University, Tufts University, Loyola University of Chicago

**REFERENCES**

Professor Martha Nussbaum  
The Law School  
University of Chicago  
1111 E. 60<sup>th</sup> St.  
Chicago IL 60637

Professor Willem deVries  
Department of Philosophy  
University of New Hampshire  
Durham, NH 03824

Charlotte Witt

David Charles  
Oriental College  
Oxford University  
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England

Professor Sally Haslanger  
Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, E 39-245  
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