

# Nicolás Garrera-Tolbert, Ph.D.

CAPES-CNPq Post-Doctoral Researcher

Department of Philosophy ▪ Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná  
Rua Imaculada Conceição, 1155 ▪ Escola de Educação e Humanidades ▪ Prado Velho  
Curitiba 80215-901 ▪ Brazil ▪ E-mail: nicolasgarrera@gmail.com

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- DAAD Post-Doctoral Fellow. *Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität Bonn*, Bonn, Germany. Research Project: “The New Faces of Realism. An Investigation on Post-Transcendental Realist Ontologies in Phenomenology, Metaphysics, and Speculative Realism.” (2015-2016)
- CAPES-CNPq Post-Doctoral Fellow. *Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Paraná* (PUCPR), Curitiba, Brazil. Research Project: “Ethics, Aesthetics, and Politics of Testimony. A Historical and Systematic Investigation.” (2014-2015)

## EDUCATION

University of Memphis (United States) • 2014 • Ph.D. in Philosophy

- *Dissertation*: “Ethics as Experience. Elements for a Comprehensive Philosophical Ethics”. *Co-directors*: Thomas Nenon (University of Memphis) and László Tengelyi (Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany). *Readers*: Remy Debes (University of Memphis), Mary Beth Mader (University of Memphis), Sarah Clark Miller (Penn State).

Université Toulouse - Jean-Jaurès (France) • 2012 • Master in French and German Philosophy

- *Dissertation*: “Méthode phénoménologique, affectivité et éthique chez Henry et Levinas” (“Phenomenological Method, Affectivity, and Ethics in Henry and Levinas”). *Director*: László Tengelyi (*Bergische Universität Wuppertal*). *Reader*: Inga Römer (*Bergische Universität Wuppertal*).

University of Memphis • 2009 • MA in Philosophy

Universidad Nacional de Rosario (Argentina) • 2005 • Licensure in Philosophy

- *Dissertation*: “La relación entre Filosofía y Teología en la obra de Levinas.” *Summa cum laude*. *Director*: Rubén Vasconi (Universidad Nacional de Rosario)

## RESEARCH

### Areas of Specialization

Ethics, Phenomenology, 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Continental Philosophy

### Areas of Competence

Biomedical Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Existentialism, Philosophy of Religion

## PUBLICATIONS

### Editorial Work

- *Interpretationes. Studia philosophica europeana*, Vol.6, No.1, September 2015: *Contingence et facticité dans la phénoménologie, l'idéalisme allemand, et le réalisme spéculatif / Kontingenç und Faktizität in der Phänomenologie, dem Deutschen Idealismus, und dem Spekulative Realismus / Contingency and Facticity in Phenomenology, German Idealism, and Speculative Realism*. Co-edited with Masumi Nagasaka and Georgy Chernavin. Karlova University Press. Prague.

### Articles (Selection)

- “Ethics and Contingency. On Ethical Experience and its Expression as Testimony,” in *Interpretationes. Studia philosophica europeana*, Vol.6, No.1, September 2015: 217-232.
- “The Transcendental Structure of Testimony,” in *Horizons. Studies in Phenomenology*, Vol.4, No.1, June 2015: 125-141.
- “Ética y testimonio. Ideas para una fenomenología integral del *ethos*” (“Ethics and Testimony. Ideas for a Comprehensive Phenomenology of the *ethos*”), in *Investigaciones fenomenológicas. Revista de la Sociedad Española de Fenomenología*, volumen monográfico 4/II (2013): “Razón y vida,” 291-315.
- “La experiencia ética como evento y fuente de normatividad” (“Ethical experience as Event and Source of Normativity”) in *Cuadernos Filosóficos (Segunda Época)*, No.IX, December 2012: 11-23.

### Articles Accepted for Publication

- “L'éthique de la vie de Michel Henry. Normativité et affectivité dans la phénoménologie matérielle” (“Michel Henry's Ethics. Normativity and Affectivity in Material Phenomenology”) in *Analecta Hermeneutica. Journal of the International Institut for Hermeneutics*, No.6, December 2015.
- “Fenomenología de la diferencia ética. Sobre el método en ética fundamental con particular referencia al problema del lenguaje en Kierkegaard” (“Phenomenology of Ethical Difference. On Method in Fundamental Ethics with Reference to the Problem of Language in Kierkegaard”) in *Acta Fenomenológica Mexicana. Revista de investigación filosófica y científica*, Vol.1, No.1, November 2015. Co-authored with Lucas Lazzaretti.

### Book Chapters Accepted for Publication

- “Éthique, contingence, témoignages. Pour une conception événementielle de l'expérience éthique, avec Emmanuel Levinas” (“Ethics, Contingency, Testimonies. Towards an eventful account of Ethical Experience, with Emmanuel Levinas”) in Danielle Cohen-Levinas & Alexander Schnell (eds.), *Autrement qu'être ou au delà de l'essence : une lecture phénoménologique*, Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 2016.

### Translations (Selection)

#### a. From English to Spanish

- Remy Debes's “Hume's Later Ethics,” in *Cuadernos Filosóficos (Segunda Época)*, No.8 (2011), pp.129-141.

#### b. From French to Spanish

- Marc Richir's “Vie et mort en phénoménologie” in *Nombres. Revista de Filosofía*, No.27, Año 23, November 2013, pp.7-46.
- Alexander Schnell's “Homo imaginans. Pour une nouvelle anthropologie phénoménologique” in *Eikasía. Revista de Filosofía*, No.46 (November 2012), pp.109-122.

### CONFERENCE PAPERS (Selection), Invited (I) and Refereed (R)

- “From Ontology to Ethics –and Back. Some reflections on §§54–60 of Heidegger's *Sein und Zeit*.” PhD Alumni 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference. Department of Philosophy. University of Memphis. Memphis. May 2015. (I)
- “Why Testimony Matters to Ethics. An Invitation to the Philosophy of Testimony.” Department of Philosophy. Universidad de Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires. April 2015. (I)
- “Testimony and Moral Consciousness. On the Object of Testimony in Heidegger, Ricoeur and Levinas.” Society for Ricoeur Studies Fall Conference. Loyola University. New Orleans. October 2014. (R)

- “Ethics and Contingency. On the Impossibility of Ethical Theories.” 53<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP). New Orleans. October 2014. (R)
- “Primauté de l’éthique et statut éthique de la subjectivité” (“Primacy of Ethics and Ethical Status of Subjectivity”). Colloque international sur *Autrement qu’être ou au-delà de l’essence* de Levinas. École Normale Supérieure. Paris, France. December 2012. (I)
- “Ethical Experience as Event and Source of Normativity.” 51<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP). Rochester, NY. November 2012. (R)
- “Testimony as a Fundamental Ethical Concept.” Research in Progress Series. Philosophy Department. University of Memphis. November 2012. (I)
- “El testimonio como concepto ético fundamental” (“Testimony as a Fundamental Ethical Concept”). College of Psychoanalysis. Rosario, Argentina. August 2012. (I)
- “Éthique, témoignage et contingence. Moments fondamentaux dans l’analyse phénoménologique de l’*ethos*” (“Ethics, Testimony and Contingency. Fundamental Moments in the Phenomenological Analysis of the *Ethos*”). Contingence et facticité dans la phénoménologie/Kontingenz und Faktizität in der Phänomenologie. Bergische Universität Wuppertal. May 2012.
- “De la singularité de la vie. Portée et limitations de la phénoménologie matérielle de Michel Henry” (“On the Singularity of Life. Scope and Limitations of Michel Henry’s Material Phenomenology”). Journée d’étude en commémoration des 20 années du journal philosophique “Alter”. Institut catholique de Paris. February 2012. (R)
- “Ethics and Contingency: On the Idea of Transcendental Phenomenology in the Light of a Phenomenology of Testimony.” IV Conferencia Mundial de Fenomenología: Razón y vida. La responsabilidad de la filosofía. Organization of Phenomenological Organizations (OPO)/Latin-American Circle of Phenomenology (CLAFEN). Universidad de Segovia, Spain. September 2011. (R)
- “On the Phenomenological Status of the Transcendental Body. A Reading of Michel Henry’s ‘Incarnation. Une philosophie de la chair.’” Leiblichkeit und Sozialität im Kontext der philosophischen Anthropologie. Akademie věd České republiky (The Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic). Prague, May 2011. (I)
- “L’expérience éthique d’autrui : réflexions à partir de Henry et Levinas” (“Thinking about Ethical Experience with Henry and Levinas”). Journée d’étude sur l’intersubjectivité. Univerzita Karlova v Praze. Prague. December 2010.
- “La pérdida de mundo. Sobre el silencio y ‘la cosa’ de la poesía” (“Losing the World. On Silence and the ‘Thing’ of Poetry”). XIII Congreso Nacional de Filosofía. Asociación Filosófica Argentina. Universidad Nacional de Rosario. November 2005. (R)
- “De la ambigüedad del sentido: finitud e ‘il y a’ en E. Levinas” (“On the Ambiguity of Meaning: ‘Il y a’ and Finitude in E. Levinas”). Coloquio Internacional: “Convocación y presencia. Levinas a diez años de su muerte.” Universidad de Chile. Santiago de Chile, Chile. October 2005. (R)
- “...je suis témoignage...”. Levinas y el problema de una ética testimonial” (“...je suis témoignage...”. Levinas and the problem of a testimonial ethics”). Simposio: “Emmanuel Levinas: Ética, Metafísica y Judaísmo.” Facultad de Filosofía y Letras. Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. September 2005. (R)

- “Muerte, lenguaje y negatividad en ‘El espacio literario’ de M. Blanchot” (“Death, language and negativity in M. Blanchot’s ‘The Space of Literature’). IV Congreso Internacional de Teoría y Crítica Literaria. Universidad Nacional de Rosario. August 2004. (R)

**As commentator**

- “On the Formal Structure of Ethical Experience: Levinas’ Reading of Descartes’s Infinity.” A commentary on D. Craig’s “On Doorways.” 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy Graduate Student Conference. University of Memphis. February 2010.
- “Heidegger and Strauss on Religious and Philosophical Life.” A commentary on D. Katch’s “The Tension between Reason and Revelation. Attempting to Understand Leo Strauss’s Critique of Martin Heidegger.” 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy Graduate Student Conference. University of Memphis. February 2009.
- “Life, Anonymity, and Singularity.” A commentary on M. Sentesy’s ‘Uniqueness and Disclosure.’” 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy Graduate Student Conference. University of Memphis. February 2008.

**FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS**

- Postdoctoral Scholarship. German Academic Exchange Service (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD*). Project: “The New Faces of Realism. An Investigation on Post-Transcendental Realist Ontologies in Phenomenology, Metaphysics, and Speculative Realism.” Markus Gabriel, supervisor. 10.2015-02.2017
- Postdoctoral Scholarship. National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (*Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior, CAPES*). Brazil. Project: “Ethics, Aesthetics, and Politics of Testimony.” Zeljko Loparic, supervisor. 11.2014-10.2015.
- Doctoral Assistantship. Department of Philosophy. University of Memphis. 08.2006–08.2011 & 08.2012-05.2013.
- Travel Funds. University of Memphis. 08.2008/11.2008/08.2009/11.2012.
- Third International Summer School in German Philosophy: “The Ontological Turn in Contemporary Philosophy,” organized by Markus Gabriel. Invited professors: Slavoj Zizek, Graham Harman, Iain Hamilton Grant, Ray Brassier, and Martin Hägglund. July 2012. Bergische Universität Bonn. Germany. 07.02.2012-07.13.2012.
- Erasmus Mundus Master Scholarship: “French and German Philosophy in the European Context.” European Commission. European Union. 08.2010-08.2012.
- Doctoral Fellowship. Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET). Argentina. Project: “Phenomenon and Revelation. A Critical Examination of the ‘Theological Problem’ in Levinas.” Angel Garrido-Maturano, director; Roberto Walton, co-director. 04.2005–04.2007/04.2007–08.2008.

**LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), German (good), Portuguese (good), Italian (reading knowledge).

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**a. As Principal Instructor**

**At St. Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic)**

- “The Ethics of Testimony” (Graduate Seminar) .....Fall 2015

**At the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná (Curitiba, Brazil)**

- “The Phenomenon of Life. Ethical and Ontological Perspectives” (Graduate Seminar) .....Spring 2015

**At the National University of Rosario (Argentina)**

- “El testimonio. Perspectivas éticas, estéticas y políticas” (Intensive Graduate Seminar) .....Spring 2015

**Regular courses at the University of Memphis**

- “Biomedical Ethics” (Phil3514/Online) .....Spring 2013
- “Environmental Ethics” (Phil3515) .....Fall 2012
- “Human & Divine” (Philosophy of Religion) (Phil3701) .....Spring 2010
- “Values and the Modern World” (Intro to Ethics) (Phil1102).....Spring & Summer 2009/Fall 2009
- “Fundamental Issues” (Intro to Philosophy) (Phil1101) .....Spring 2008

**Leader of Reading Groups for Undergraduates at the University of Memphis**

- “Philosophy and Phenomenology of Religion” .....Spring 2008
- “Heidegger’s *Being and Time*” .....Fall 2007

**b. As Teaching Assistant**

**At the University of Memphis**

- “Biomedical Ethics” (Phil3514).....Spring 2007
- “Existentialism” (Phil3451).....Fall 2007
- “Human & Divine” (Phil3701) .....Spring 2006
- “Values and the Modern World” (Phil1102).....Fall 2006

**At the Universidad Nacional de Rosario (Argentina)**

- “Antropología Filosófica” (“Philosophical Anthropology”) .....Fall & Spring 2005
- “Hermenéutica” (“Hermeneutics”).....Fall & Spring 2004

**MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL AND HONOR SOCIETIES**

- American Philosophical Association (APA)
- Círculo Latinoamericano de Fenomenología (CLAFEN)
- International Association for Environmental Philosophy (IAEP)
- International Society for Environmental Ethics (ISEE)
- North American Levinas Society (NALS)
- Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)

**EXTERNAL REVIEWER**

- *Phenomenology and Mind*
- *Journal of Aesthetics and Phenomenology*

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES: ORGANIZER OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS (Selection)**

- “Contingenz und Faktizität in die Phänomenologie/Contingence et facticité dans la phénoménologie” (“Contingence and Facticity in Phenomenology”). Bergische Universität Wuppertal. May 2012.
- “Le monde de la vie : approches phénoménologiques, herméneutiques et des philosophies de la vie” (“The Life-World: Phenomenological and Hermeneutical Approaches, and the perspective of the Philosophies of Life”). Université de Toulouse II–Le Mirail. January 2011.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Philosophy Conference: “Contemporary Philosophers Reading the Moderns.” University of Memphis. February 2010.

## REFERENCES

- Dr. Thomas Nenon, Professor of Philosophy. University of Memphis. E-mail: [tnenon@memphis.edu](mailto:tnenon@memphis.edu)
- Dr. Alexander Schnell, Maître de Conférences HDR de Philosophie à l'Université Paris-Sorbonne. E-mail: [alex.schnell@gmail.com](mailto:alex.schnell@gmail.com)
- Dr. Jean Leclercq, Professor of Philosophy. Université Catholique de Louvain. E-mail: [jean.leclercq@uclouvain.be](mailto:jean.leclercq@uclouvain.be)
- Dr. Sarah Clark Miller, Associate Professor of Philosophy/Associate Director of the Rock Ethics Institute. Penn State University. E-mail: [scm24@psu.edu](mailto:scm24@psu.edu)
- Dr. Mary Beth Mader, Professor of Philosophy. University of Memphis. E-mail: [mmader@memphis.edu](mailto:mmader@memphis.edu)