

Curriculum Vitae

LAURA J. SNYDER

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Department of Philosophy
St. John's University
Jamaica, NY 11439

Areas of Specialization

History and Philosophy of Science, History of Philosophy, J.S. Mill

Additional Research Interests

Epistemology, Political Philosophy, History and Philosophy of the Social Sciences

Further Teaching Competence

Distance-Learning (online classes), Metaphysics, Ancient Philosophy, Introductory Logic (Formal and Informal), Introduction to Philosophy

Academic Position

Associate Professor of Philosophy, St. John's University
September 2003 – present

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, St. John's University
September 1996 – August 2003
(On leave 1997-98; 2001-2002)

Visiting Positions

Visiting Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh
Department of History and Philosophy of Science
Fall semester 2006

Redfield Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Chicago
Philosophy Department
Committee on the Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science
September 2001-June 2002

Visiting Scholar, Cambridge University
Department of History and Philosophy of Science
Easter Term 1999

Mellon Fellow in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania
Department of Philosophy
September 1997 - May 1998

Professional Positions

International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science (HOPOS)

Editor of *HOPOS*, new journal to begin publication 2009

Vice-President/President Elect, 2007-2009

Member of Steering Committee, 2003-present

Member of Biennial Conference Program Committee, 2003-2004

Editor, special section of *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* on aliens in science and fiction, in press

Organizer, Second German-American Frontiers of the Humanities Conference

Sponsored by the American Philosophical Society and Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, held in Hamburg, 20-23 October 2005

Distance-Learning Mentor, St. John's University, Summer 2007-present

Having taught a number of online classes, I now serve as mentor to professors teaching online for the first time

Education

Johns Hopkins University

Ph.D., Philosophy, 1996

M.A. Philosophy, 1992

Certificate, Center for History and Philosophy of Science, 1991

Brandeis University

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Philosophy, 1987

B.A., *summa cum laude*, History of Western Thought, 1987

Publications

Books

Reforming Philosophy: A Victorian Debate on Science and Society, 386pp. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, August 2006)

Reviews: John North, "Master Classes," *Times Literary Supplement*, 20 October 2006, pp. 4-5

Elihu Gerson, *Historical Studies in the Physical Sciences*, 37 (April 2007): 490-91

Michael Ruse, *Journal of British Studies* 46 (July 2007): 710-12

Scientific Methods: Conceptual and Historical Problems (co-editor), (Malabar, FL: Krieger Press, 1994)

Articles

Forthcoming (in press or written and accepted for publication)

- “Freedom from Necessity: “The Influence of J.S. Mill’s Politics on his Concept of Causation,” forthcoming in P. Machamer and G. Wolters (eds.), *Thinking About Causes: Past and Present* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press) [in press].
- “‘The Whole Box of Tools’: William Whewell and the Logic of Induction,” John Woods and Dov Gabbay (eds.), *The Handbook of the History of Logic*, vol. VIII, pp. 165-230 (Dordrecht: Kluwer Press) [in press].
- “‘Lord only of the Ruffians and Fiends?’ William Whewell and the Plurality of Worlds Debate,” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* [in press].
- “Aliens in Science and Fiction: Introduction,” (with Thomas Weber), *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* [in press].
- “The Role of Hypotheses in 19th Century British Philosophy of Science,” forthcoming in M. Heidelberger and G. Schieman, eds., *The Role of the Hypothetical in the Natural Sciences* (Berlin: de Gruyter Press).
- “William Whewell,” forthcoming in M. Ruse (ed.) *The Harvard Companion to Evolution* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press).
- “Reforming Philosophy: che cosa la Filosofia della scienza puo’ apprendere dalla sua storia[What Philosophy of Science Learns from its History],” forthcoming in *Bollettino della Societa’ Filosofica Italiana*.

Current Projects

- “Hempel and the Paradoxes of Confirmation,” invited chapter, John Woods and Dov Gabbay (eds.), *The Handbook of the History of Logic*, vol. X (Dordrecht: Kluwer Press).
- “Gothic Science: Architecture as a Source for Victorian Scientists”
- “Hypothesis Fingo? Herschel and the Myth of Hypothetical Science in 19th Century Britain”
- “Bold Leaps: Guesses or Inferences? Analogical Reasoning in Science”
- Book Project: A philosophical, historical and social study of Victorian science, aimed at a general audience

Published

- “Confirmation for a Modest Realism,” *Philosophy of Science* 72 (December 2005): 839-49.
- “Consilience, Confirmation, and Realism,” in P. Achinstein (ed.) *Scientific Evidence: Philosophical Theories and Applications* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005), pp. 129-48.
- “Sherlock Holmes, Scientific Detective,” *Endeavour* 28 (September 2004): 104-107.
- “‘Gegen alle vernunftbegabten Bewohner anderer Welten’: William Whewell und die Debatte um die

Vielzahl der Welten,” in T. Weber (ed.) *Science & Fiction II: Leben auf anderen Sternen* (Munich: Fischer Verlag, 2004), pp. 89-112.

“Whewell and the Scientists: Science and Philosophy of Science in 19th Century Britain,” in M. Heidelberger and F. Stadler, (eds.) *History of Philosophy of Science: New Trends and Perspectives*, (Dordrecht: Kluwer Press, 2002), pp. 81-94.

“William Whewell,” Stanford University Online Encyclopedia of Philosophy, December 2000; enlarged and updated edition, January 2004 (<http://plato.stanford.edu>).

“Renovating the *Novum Organum*: Bacon, Whewell and Induction,” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 30A:4, December 1999, pp. 531-557.

“Is Evidence Historical?” M. Curd and J. Cover (eds.), *Philosophy of Science: The Central Issues* (W.W. Norton, 1998), pp. 460-80.

“Discoverers’ Induction,” *Philosophy of Science* 64 (December 1997): 580-604.

“The Mill-Whewell Debate: Much Ado About Induction,” *Perspectives on Science* 5 (Summer 1997): 159-198.

“It’s *All* Necessarily So: William Whewell on Scientific Truth,” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 25 (1994): 785-807.

“Is Evidence Historical?” in P. Achinstein and L. Snyder (eds.), *Scientific Methods: Conceptual and Historical Problems* (Krieger Press, 1994), pp. 95-117.

Fellowships, Honors and Awards

Visiting Senior Scholar, Institute for Advanced Studies, University of Bologna, Spring 2005

Sabbatical Fellowship, American Philosophical Society, 2004-2005

Summer Research Stipend, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2001

Fulbright Scholars Award, 1998-99

Elected Life Member, Clare Hall, Cambridge University, October 1999

Visiting Fellow, Clare Hall, Cambridge University, May – August 1999

Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, 1997-98

Fellowship for College Teachers, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1997 (declined)

Javits Graduate Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education, 1988-92

Phi Beta Kappa, 1987

Highest Honors awarded in both Philosophy and History of Western Thought for senior thesis on Rousseau and Kant, Brandeis, 1987

Brandeis Top Humanities Scholar, 1986

Invited Conference Presentations

Keynote Speaker, Conference on “Induction: Historical and Contemporary Approaches,” to be held at University of Ghent, Belgium, July 2008 (organizer: Steffen Ducheyne)

“Creationism in the Classroom: A Brief History,” Session on Science and Religion at Bos’Art: International Festival of Philosophy, Literature, Art and Film, Bosa, Sardinia, August 2007.

“Does History Matter?” German-American Frontiers of Humanities, Hamburg, Germany, October 2005

“Freedom from Necessity: The Influence of J.S. Mill’s Politics on his Notion of Causation,” Pittsburgh-Konstanz Colloquium on the Philosophy of Science, Konstanz, Germany, May 2005

“The Plurality of Worlds Debate in 19th century Britain,” Sabbatical Fellows Conference, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, May 2005

“The Role of Hypotheses in 19th Century British Philosophy of Science,” conference on “The Hypothetical in the Natural Sciences,” Tuebingen, Germany, February 2005

“The Interrelation of Science, History of Science, and Philosophy of Science in the Mill-Whewell Debate,” presented at an eleven-person team residency workshop on “The Interpenetration of Science and Philosophy of Science,” held at the Rockefeller Center in Bellagio, Italy, July 1998.

Conference Papers

“Connexion and Unity in William Whewell’s Science of Architecture,” History of Science Society, Vancouver, November 2006

“Hypotheses Fingo? Herschel and the Myth of Hypothetical Science in 19th Century Britain,” Philosophy of Science Association, Vancouver, November 2006

“Freedom from Necessity: The Influence of J.S. Mill’s Politics on his Notion of Causation,” International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science conference, Paris, June 2006.

“Freedom from Necessity: The Influence of J.S. Mill’s Politics on his Notion of Causation,” Mill Bicentennial Conference, University College, London, April 2006.

“Sherlock Holmes, Scientific Detective: Images of Science in 19th century British Detective Fiction,” History of Science Society, Milwaukee, November 2002

“The Science of the ‘Dismal Science’: Debates on Political Economy in 19th century Britain,” International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science, Montreal, June 2002

- “The Science of the ‘Dismal Science’: Politics, Economics and Science in 19th century Britain,” History of Science Society, Denver, November 2001
- “Induction or Intuition? Mill and Whewell on Moral Truth,” International Philosophy Conference, University of Rijeka, Croatia, May 2001
- “Whewell and the Scientists: Science and Philosophy of Science in 19th century Britain,” International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science, Vienna, July 2000
- “Renovating the *Novum Organum*: Bacon, Whewell, and Induction,” History of Philosophy of Science Working Group, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, March 1998
- “William Whewell’s Inductive Philosophy of Science,” History of Science Society, New Orleans, October 1994
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Invited Talks

- “Bold Leaps: Guesses or Inferences? Analogical Reasoning in Science,” Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Minnesota, December 2007
- “Bold Leaps: Guesses or Inferences? Analogical Reasoning in Science,” History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium Series, University of Indiana, November 2007
- “Reforming Philosophy: che cosa la Filosofia della scienza pu`o apprendere della sua storia [what philosophy of science learns from its history],” University of Urbino, Italy, May 2007
- “Herschel and the Myth of Hypothetical Science in the 19th Century,” Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, November 2006
- “Politics and Science in the 19th Century: J.S. Mill,” University of Padua, May 2006
- “Against the Rational Inhabitants of All Other Spheres: Whewell and the Plurality of Worlds Debate,” University of Colorado at Boulder, September 2005
- “Mill on Causation in the Natural and Human Sciences,” University of Bologna, June 2005
- “Kinds, Consilience, and Causality in Whewell’s Philosophy of Science,” Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, April 2003
- “Consilience and Confirmation: Herschel, Mill, Whewell,” Graduate Seminar, University of Minnesota, October 2002
- “The Science of the ‘Dismal Science’: Debates on Political Economy in 19th century Britain,” History of Science Workshop, University of Minnesota, October 2002
- “The Science of the ‘Dismal Science’: Debates on Political Economy in 19th century Britain,” History and Philosophy of Science Workshop, University of Chicago, January 2002
- “Darwin’s *Origin of Species* and its Context,” Columbia University, March 2001
- “By No ‘Promiscuous Jury’ Decided: Science, Morality and Politics in the Mill-Whewell Debate,” University of Bologna, January 2000

“Renovating the *Novum Organum*: Bacon, Whewell, and Induction,” Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University, May 1999

“Renovating the *Novum Organum*: Bacon, Whewell, and Induction,” History and Philosophy of Science Workshop, University of Chicago, November 1998