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# MICHAEL PORTAL

PhD Student  
Department of Philosophy  
Texas A&M University  
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## EDUCATION

- In Progress                      PhD    Philosophy, Texas A&M University (USA)
- In Progress                      MA    History, Texas A&M University
- 2018                                MA    French Studies, American College of the Mediterranean (France)
- Thesis: “Des Grottes aux camps : une non-histoire du rire juif”  
(English: “From the Caves to the Camps: A Non-History of Jewish Laughter”)  
Director: Dr. Michel Lantelme  
Committee: Dr. Muriel Cros, Dr. Noëlle Mathis, Aurore Guitry
- 2017                                B.A.   Philosophy, Policy Studies Rice University (USA)  
    Honors in Philosophy, Rice University Philosophy Department
- Thesis: “Martin Heidegger’s Critique of Technology and Modern Education”  
Director: Dr. Steven Crowell  
*Cum Laude*

## LANGUAGES

French (High proficiency) (5+ years of study)  
Spanish (Elementary)

## PUBLICATIONS

Ryan Sun and Michael Portal. “Roundabout Technology and the Energy Economy.” *Rice University Journal of Public Policy* 1, no. 1 (Spring 2018). 50-63.

## PRESENTATIONS

“Learning by Getting Lost: A Return to Hypertext Pedagogy and Heidegger’s *Holzwege*,” Society for Philosophy and Technology 2019: Technology and Power. College Station, Texas. 20 – 22 May 2019. (Submitted)

“The Survivor's Dance: Idiom and Transmission in *Geschlecht III*,” On Heidegger’s National Humanism: A Symposium on Derrida’s Lost *Geschlecht III*. College Station, Texas. 14 – 15 February 2019. (Invited)

## PRESENTATIONS, CONTINUED

“Noise Beyond Music: Re-reading Drott on the Sound of May 1968 in Two Films by Nilsson and Simonsson,” International Symposium of Cinema and Philosophy: Critical May 68. Lisbon, Portugal. 30 – 31 May 2018. (Submitted)

“Revisiting Hobbesian natural law: between normativity, materialism, and politics,” Warwick Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Thought 2018. Coventry, United Kingdom. 17 February 2018. (Submitted)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019, Teaching Assistant: “PHIL/ENGR 482: Ethics and Engineering” (two sections) at Texas A&M University (Dr. Glen Miller and Dr. Martin Peterson)

Fall 2017 – Spring 2018, Teaching Assistant: “PHIL/POL 312: Ethics in Society” at Institut Américain Universitaire (David Coombes)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2015 – 2017 Research Assistant to Dr. Daniel Cohen: *Philosemitism in Post-Holocaust Europe* (provided research support for book project)

2015 Archival Research, Alliance Israélite Universelle, Paris, France. Grant support provided by the Desirée & Max Blankfeld Fellowship and the Rice University Jewish Studies Department. Project: “What makes Jewish philosophy *Jewish*?: Studying Levinas.”

## AWARDS

Travel and Conference Grants, Institut Américain Universitaire

- International Symposium of Cinema and Philosophy: Critical May 68
- Warwick Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Thought 2018

Desirée & Max Blankfeld Fellowship, Rice University Jewish Studies Department

Konstantin Kolenda Fellowship, Rice University Philosophy Department

Jean and Environ Kirkpatrick Prize in Political Science, Institut Américain Universitaire

Judith L. Rice International Relations & Global Studies Scholarship, Institut Américain Universitaire

## SERVICE

2019 – Assistant Editor, *Arendt Studies: A Journal for Research on the Life, Work, and Legacy of Hannah Arendt*

2019 – Speech and Debate Consultant, Texas A&M University Speech and Debate Team

2018 – Academic Visitor, Rice University (Outside researcher and assistant for HUMA 310: Advanced Forensics Practicum)  
Sponsor: Dr. David Worth (Rice University)