



**Shelbi Nahwilet Meissner**  
**PhD Student**

## Contact Information

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## Areas of Specialization

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American Indian and Indigenous Philosophy, Feminist Epistemology, Philosophy of Language

## Areas of Competence

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Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Race, Non-Western Epistemologies

## Interdisciplinary Areas of Competence

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Indigenous language reclamation, Indigenous feminisms, Indigenous research methodologies, Indigenous pedagogies, Indigenous issues in health care policy, data sovereignty, critical race studies

## Education

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PhD – Philosophy, Expected (May 2019);  
Graduate Affiliation with American Indian & Indigenous Studies, Michigan State University,  
East Lansing, Michigan.

B.A.s - Philosophy, English, Supplemental: Linguistics.  
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico (May 2014)

## Academic & Professional Positions

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**Research Assistant**, Department of Philosophy, Michigan State University (2018-2019)

**Adjunct Professor**, Native American Studies, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College (SCTC), (2017-present).

**Graduate Assistant**, American Indian & Indigenous Studies (AIIS), MSU (2016-2017).

**Engaged Philosophy Internship Program (EPIP) Intern**, Avellaka, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, La Jolla Indian Reservation, La Jolla Amago, CA (Summer 2017)

**Luiseno Language Instructor**, La Jolla Generations Summer Program, La Jolla Indian Reservation, La Jolla Amago, CA (Summer 2017)

**Teaching Assistant**, Luiseno Language, Traditional Knowledge Culture Camp, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians, Pechanga Indian Reservation, Temecula, CA (Summer 2017)

**Administrative Officer**, Indigenous Graduate Student Collective (IGSC), Michigan State University, (2016- present)

**Mentor**, Indigenous Youth Empowerment Program (IYEP), Lansing Unified School District, Lansing, MI (2014-present)

**Graduate Assistant**, Philosophy In An Inclusive Key Summer Institute (PIKSI), Rock Ethics Institute, Penn State University, State College, Pennsylvania, (Summer 2016)

**Teaching Assistant**, Department of Philosophy, Michigan State University, (2014-2016)

## Publications

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### Peer-Reviewed Journals

Meissner, Shelbi Nahwilet. (2018). **"The Moral Fabric of Linguicide: Un-weaving Trauma Narratives and Dependency Relationships in Indigenous Language Reclamation,"** *Journal of Global Ethics*, In Press.

### Invited Book Chapters

Meissner, Shelbi Nahwilet. (Forthcoming, 2019). **"Language Revitalization and Reclamation,"** *Routledge Handbook of Social and Political Philosophy of Language*, eds. Rachel Sterken and Justin Khoo.

Meissner, Shelbi Nahwilet and Kyle Powys Whyte. (2018). **"Theorizing Indigeneity, Gender, and Settler Colonialism,"** *Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Race*, eds. Paul C. Taylor, Linda Martín Alcoff, Luvell Anderson, 152-167.

### Poetry

Meissner, Shelbi Nahwilet. (Fall 2017). **"Téelamal Chamkwīnamu Pokwáan// Words, which are little prayers, for our life-giving roots,"** *News From Native California*.

Meissner, Shelbi Nahwilet. (Summer, 2017). **"Great, Great Grandmothertongue,"** *News From Native California*

### Tribally Published Books and Curricula

Wendy Schlater, Shelbi Nahwilet Meissner, Jim Martinez, Annie Burton, and La Jolla Indian Education Staff. (Fall 2017). ***The Children's Luiseno Language Workbook***, La Jolla Band Of Luiseno Indians, tribally published.

### Book Reviews

Meissner, Shelbi Nahwilet. (Spring 2017). "Book Review: Therapeutic Nations: Healing In an Age of Indigenous Human Rights by Dian Million," APA Committee on the Status of Indigenous Philosophy Newsletter,

## Presentations

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**“'Iaxwalxwash potamáay súnqaan 'áawq // to be between the blind snake's teeth': Language Reclamation Between The Fangs Of A (Simulated) Dilemma,”** American Philosophical Association: Eastern Division, (Forthcoming, January 2019), New York City, New York, USA.

**“Complications in Tracking Folk Racial Categories in Public Health Research: American Indian Identities,”** 26<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of The Philosophy of Science Association, (Forthcoming, November 2018), Seattle, Washington, USA.

**“Indigenous Survivance and Resistance: 'atáaxum pomtéela//Luiseño Language Reclamation,”** Cultural Rhetorics Conference, (November 2018), East Lansing, Michigan, USA.

**“Teaching Philosophy in TCUs: Challenges, Strategies, and Violent Canons,”** 5<sup>th</sup> Annual TCU Faculty Research Convening, (July 2018), Denver, Colorado, USA.

**“Túkmal Tóonavqal//Weaving Baskets: An 'atáaxum//Luiseño Research Methodology for Language Reclamation,”** Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, (May 2018), Los Angeles, California, USA.

Jared L. Talley and Shelbi Nahwilet Meissner, **“How do we know nature?”** The Fate Of The Earth Symposium, (March 2018), Michigan State University, East Lansing//Nkwejong, MI, USA.

**“Me-search Ethics: Acknowledging the Land, Our Identities, and Power in Our Scholarship,”** 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Conference Responsibility and Engaged Philosophy, (March 2018), Michigan State University, East Lansing//Nkwejong, Michigan, USA.

**“Centering Luiseño Youth: A Luiseño Feminist Methodology For Language Reclamation,”** American Indian Studies Association 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, (February 2018), Tempe, Arizona.

**“Complications in Tracking Folk Racial Categories in Public Health Research: American Indian Identities,”** American Philosophical Association Eastern Division, (January 2018), Savannah, Georgia.

**“An 'atáaxum//Luiseño Research Methodology,”** Annual Graduate Symposium in Indigenous Studies, April 2017, Michigan State University, East Lansing//Nkwejong, Michigan

**“#DecolonizingDigitalFrontiers?: A Constellation of Endorsements, Apprehensions, and Criticisms of Indigenous Language Revitalization on Social Media,”** American Indian Studies Association, February 2017, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

**“Justified Distrust & Indigenous Planning as a Trust-Promoting Commitment for Scientific Communities,”** Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Sciences, Spring 2016, Michigan State University, East Lansing//Nkwejong, Michigan

**“Openness to Closed Conceptual Structures: Accounting For Epistemic Injustice,”** The Tenth International Conference of the Development Ethics Association, Summer 2014, Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica.

**“Is Cohen’s Contextualism ‘Really and Truly’ Correct?”** New Mexico West Texas Philosophical Society, Spring 2013, University of Texas, San Antonio, Texas, USA.

**“Language Tension in Plato’s *Phaedrus* and *Cratylus*,”** New Mexico West Texas Philosophical Society, Spring 2012, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico, USA.

**“Co-referential Names: How to be more successful with women than yourself”** New Mexico State Philosophy Club: Sophia, Fall 2012, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico, USA.

### **Service at Academic Conferences**

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Conference Organizer, “Annual Graduate Symposium in Indigenous Studies,” Michigan State University, Spring 2018, East Lansing, Michigan

Roundtable Facilitator, “Indigenous and Allied Feminism(s) in Action: A Roundtable on the Kahswentha Indigenous Knowledge Initiative,” Feminist Ethics and Applied Social Theory (FEAST), Fall 2017, Clearwater, Florida

Conference Organizer, “Annual Graduate Symposium in Indigenous Studies,” Michigan State University, Spring 2017, East Lansing, Michigan

Conference Co-Organizer, “How Is This Conference Philosophy?” 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Philosophy Conference, Women of Color and Philosophy, Michigan State University, Spring 2017, East Lansing, Michigan

Chair, American Philosophical Association Pacific panel organized by the Committee on the Status of Indigenous Philosophers, Contemporary Indigenous Philosophy, Spring 2016, San Francisco, California

Commentator, on “Denial of Identity and Experience: An Analysis of Epistemic Injustices Towards Trans Persons in Health Care” by Heather Stewart at Michigan State University 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Graduate Student Conference, Spring 2016, Michigan State University, East Lansing//Nkwejong, Michigan

### **Philosophy Journal Editing**

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2012 – 2013 External editor for *Stance: an International Undergraduate Philosophy Journal*

### **Teaching Experience**

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Curriculum Designer, “Native American Philosophy,” Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, (Fall 2018)

Sole Instructor, "Native American Religion and Philosophy," Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, (Fall 2018)  
Sole Instructor, "Native American History," Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, (Spring 2018)  
Sole Instructor, "Globalization," Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, (Spring 2018)  
Sole Instructor, "Native American Resistance Movements," Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, (Fall 2017)  
Graduate TA for Integrated Arts and Humanities: "Literature, Cultures, and Identities: Race & Identity," Michigan State University, (Spring 2016)  
Graduate TA for Integrated Arts and Humanities: "Global Climate Change, Collective Action, & Citizenship" Michigan State University,(Fall 2015)  
Graduate TA for intermediate level bioethics PHL 335: "Ethical Issues in Health Care, Michigan State University," (Spring 2015)  
Graduate TA for Integrated Arts and Humanities IAH 207: "Self, Society, and Technology," Michigan State University,(Fall 2014)  
Teaching Assistant for "Philosophy of Science," New Mexico State University, (2014)  
Teaching Assistant for "Introduction to Philosophy," New Mexico State University, (2010)

### **Awards and Scholarships**

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Sommers Excellence in Teaching Award (2017), awarded by the MSU College of Arts and Letters  
Engaged Philosophy Internship Program (EPIP) (2017), awarded by the MSU philosophy department  
Emma-Shore Thornton Award, Native American Institute, (2016), awarded by the MSU Native American Institute  
Nominated for Sommers Excellence in Teaching Award (2014), awarded by the MSU College of Arts and Letters  
Paul T. Sagal Endowed Philosophy\_Scholarship, (2013), awarded by the NMSU philosophy department  
Mary Powell Ambrose Endowed Memorial Scholarship, (2013), awarded by the NMSU English department  
Robert A. Wichert Endowed Memorial Award for Creative Writing, (2013), awarded by the NMSU English department  
New Mexico State Philosophy Alumni/Faculty Scholarship Recipient, (2012), awarded by the NMSU philosophy department  
Outstanding Undergraduate Award, New Mexico State College of Arts and Sciences (2012)  
Robert A. Wichert Endowed Memorial Award for Creative Writing Poetry Recipient, (2012), awarded by the NMSU English department  
Marion P. Hardman Endowed Memorial Scholarship Recipient, (2012), awarded by the NMSU English department

### **Professional and Community Organization Membership**

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American Philosophical Association (APA); APA Committee on the Status Of Indigenous Philosophers, Indigenous Youth Empowerment Program (IYEP), Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), Graduate Employees Union (GEU); philosophy department steward, social justice committee, elected graduate rep Academic

Environment Committee (AEC) of MSU Philosophy Department, Michigan Indígena/Chicanx  
Community Alliance (MICCA)

## Languages

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English	fluent
Luiseno	advanced
Spanish	reading knowledge
German	reading knowledge
Latin	reading knowledge
Cupeño	learning
Cahuilla	learning
Nahuatl	very basic knowledge