

SURRAIYA LUND BALOCH

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INTERESTS	Feminist Philosophy (Feminist Metaphysics) Philosophy of Gender (Nature of Gender and Oppression) Cognitive Philosophy (Decision Theory and Feminism) Philosophy of Science Ethics Political Philosophy	
EDUCATION	Ph.D.	Philosophy (Feminist Philosophy) University of California, Santa Barbara (2023–expected 2028)
	M.Phil.	Feminist Philosophy University of Karachi (2016-expected 2023)-3.50 GPA. <i>Dissertation</i> <i>What Do We Know About Bodies? The Philosophical Analysis of Dichotomy of Sex and Gender With Respect to Freedom.</i>
	<i>Advisor</i>	Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali I consider the relationship between a woman's identity and her freedom. The constructionist school of thought contends that a woman's identity as a woman is socially constructed, whereas the essentialist school of thought contends that a woman's identity is based on her essential property, the property necessary for a woman to be a woman. In this work, I have focused on the essential property of a woman's identity, primarily her material existence. Constructionists make perfect sense when choosing to wear a dress or pantsuit, keeping one's hair short or long, arguing that these attributes of a woman's identity are socially constructed. However, the problem starts when a woman in question is a transwoman or a woman in question chooses to forego her ovaries or abort the child? I propose that the best approach to overcome the disagreement between constructionists and essentialists is to adopt Simone De Beauvoir's phenomenological stance. A woman's identity does not exist in isolation from her surroundings, nor does her environment exist in isolation from her body. They both interact at different tangents of essentialist and constructionist assertions, and a woman should have the right to determine how that interaction occurs based on her own lived experience.
	B.S.	Philosophy, University of Karachi (2012–2015)-3.195 GPA.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS	<i>Philosophy and its Relevance in Today's World</i> [Lecture]. Baloch Students Federation-University of Karachi, in-person, Sept 09, 2022.
FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS	Higher Education Commission, Need-Based Scholarship for Undergraduate Program (2013-2015) Mitsubishi Corporation International Scholarship, Merit Award (2013) Coursera, Financial Aid for the Online Course Certificate in <i>Feminism and Social Justice</i>, (2021) American Philosophical Association, Fund for Assistance to Overseas Philosophers for the Grant of APA Membership (2022)
EMPLOYMENT	Lead Instructor-Department of Philosophy, University of Karachi (In-person and Online courses) Ethics for Non-Muslims (Spring 2020, 2021, 2022, Fall 2020, 2021, 2022) Plato (fall 2020, 2021, 2022) Contemporary Muslim Thought (Fall 2020, 2021, 2022) Greek Philosophy (Spring 2020, 2021, 2022) Medieval Philosophy (Fall 2021) Philosophy of Religion (Spring 2021) Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2020) Lead Instructor-Law Faculty, University of Karachi (In-person course) Logic Reasoning and Critical Thinking (Fall 2022) Lead Instructor-College of Accounting and Management Sciences (In-person and Online Courses) History of Ideas (2019-2022) Logic (Fall 2020, 2021, 2022) Lead Instructor-Department of Philosophy-University of Sindh (all in-person courses) Ethics (Spring 2019) Problem of Philosophy (Spring 2019) History of Philosophy (Spring 2019) Continental Rationalism and British Empiricism-I (Spring 2019) Full-Time Senior Observer of Basic Pay Scale- 09 at Pakistan Meteorological Department Weather Chart Analysis (2013-2016) Data Entry (2016-2019) Administrative Work (2020) Data Entry (2021-2023)
SKILLS	M.S. Word and Excel

GRADUATE COURSEWORK	Research Methodology Hermeneutics, Tradition, and Language Philosophy of Social Science Foucault Philosophy of Mathematics Deleuze Consciousness Studies Contemporary French Philosophy
SERVICE	University of Karachi Undergraduate Mentoring, Project (Essay) Supervisor to Arfa Shafiq Member of the Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Chapter Organizers at the University of California, Santa Barbara
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	Social Ontology Conference at Duke University 22 July-25 July 2024 Title: The Age-Old Question: What is a Woman?