

Contemporary Humanism

International PhD Program & Research Network

Kamila Drapało

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Advisors

Stefano Biancu (LUMSA University - Rome), Robyn Horner (Australian Catholic University)

Dissertation

The Art of Imagining: Martha Nussbaum Between Vulnerability and Autonomy

The thesis, drawing on the works of Martha C. Nussbaum, seeks to reconceptualize the notion of vulnerability in its inexorable relation to autonomy. But rather than merely countering the philosophical tradition's longstanding valorization of self-sufficiency and autonomy by emphasizing vulnerability as an ontological condition of human existence, it demonstrates that vulnerability actually marks an essential condition for exercising genuine human freedom.

Imagination plays a central role in this argument. By showing that imagination is, above all, a creative faculty, the thesis posits imagination as what binds vulnerability (as an expression of our openness to and solidarity with others) and autonomy (as the creative capacity to act in the face of obstacles and in the service of justice).

Research interests / Fields of expertise

The notion of imagination and embodiment in cultural studies and philosophical anthropology.

Personal web page

<https://kulturoznawstwo.uwb.edu.pl/instytut/pracownicy/dr-kamila-drapalo-20.html>

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