**Alessandro Topa**

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**Position:** Associate Professor and Chair

**Department:** Department of Philosophy

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**Brief Biography**

Alessandro Topa obtained both his MA (L*ógos and Praxis. The Structure of Practical Knowledge in Plato’s Early Dialogues,* 1998) and PhD (*Since Thought Needs a Body. The Problem of a Metaphysical Deduction of the Categories in Kant and Peirce,* 2006) from the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Germany, where he studied philosophy, communication research and comparative literature. In 2023 he completed his Habilitation (*Living Reason*. *The Normative Foundations of Peirce’s Semiotic Logic,* 2023) and obtained his *venia legendi* in philosophy from the Otto-Friedrich University in Bamberg, Germany. Topa joined the Department of Philosophy at The American University in Cairo (AUC) in September 2009, acting as the graduate program director from 2015 to 2019 and as the Chair of the Department since 2023. He is a member of the Kant-Society, the German Society for Philosophy and the German Society for Semiotics.

**Research Interest**

* Categoriology
* Social and Political Philosophy
* Semeiotics and Semeiotic Logic
* Theories of Action, Normativity and Rationality
* Classical Greek, German and American Philosophy

**Education**

* MA, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn (1998)
* PhD, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn (2006)
* Habilitation, Otto-Friedrich University Bamberg (2023)

**Publications**

***Monographs***

Topa, A. (2007): *Die Genese der Peirce’schen Semiotik. Teil I: Das Kategorienproblem* (1857-1865),

Königshausen & Neumann, Würzburg.

Topa, A. (2024): *Lebendige Vernunft. Die normativen Grundlagen der Peirce’schen Logik*, Königshausen & Neumann, Würzburg.

***Book Chapters***

Topa, A. (2013): “«A Circle of Categories of which Kant’s form an Arc» Zur diagrammatischen Form

des topischen Zusammenhangs in der frühen Peirce’schen Kategorienspekulation”, in: Engel, F., Queisner, M. & Viola, T. (Eds.): *Das Bildnerische Denken: Charles S. Peirce*, Akademie-Verlag, Berlin, pp. 189-218.

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Topa, A. (2022): “On a Rhetorical Ground of Human Togetherness: Plurality and Mediality in Arendt

and Peirce”, in: *Hannah Arendt: Challenges of Plurality*, Robaszkiewicz, M. & Matzner, T. (Eds.), pp. 37-55.

***Papers***

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Mode and Category in the Horizon of an Architectonic Hermeneutic of Being”, in: *Journal Phänomenologie* 44/2015, pp. 39-55.

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Critical Addendum to D. Dilworth’s Account of the Provenance of Peirce’s Categories in Schiller”, in: *Cognitio, Revista de Filosofia*, São Paolo, vol. XVIII/2, pp. 326-343.

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Topa, A, (2019): “«In the memory of these concrete living gests»: C.S. Peirce on Science of Review”, in: *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 07/2019, Volume 55 (3).

Topa, A. (2020): “The general secret of rendering signs effective: On the Aristotelian roots of Peirce’s conception of rhetoric as a dynamis, téchne and semeiotic form of the summum bonum”, in: *Cognitio, Revista de Filosofia*, São Paolo, 20/2, pp. 404-428.

Topa, A. (2020): “C.S. Peirce on Dialogical Form”, in: *Transactions of the Charles Sanders Peirce* *Society*, Volume 56 (4).

Topa, A. (2020): “Graphic Instinct: The Account of Rhetorical Action and its Instinctive Roots in

Peirce’s Classification of Practical Sciences”, in: *Cognitio, Revista de Filosofia*, São Paolo, vol. 21/1, pp. 132-151.

Topa, A. (2022): “A Clue to the Genesis of the Normative Sciences: Chronology, Context and Relevance of Peirce’s Classifications of Ends”, in: *Cognitio, Revista de Filosofia*, São Paolo, vol. 23/1, pp. 3-28.

Topa, A. (2023): “The Dialogicality of Peircean Esthetics”, in: *Cognitio, Revista de Filosofia*, São Paolo, vol. 24/1, pp. 3-37.

*Reviews*

Topa, A. (2019): “Francesco Bellucci: Peirce’s Speculative Grammar”, in: *Cognitio, Revista de Filosofia,* São Paolo, vol. 20/1, pp. 180-202.