

2023-2024 Eastern Michigan University Philosophy Speaker Series

AN ANALYSIS OF INTENTIONAL AND UNINTENTIONAL GASLIGHTING

Sponsored by the Department of History & Philosophy



**2023-2024 MA
Student Speakers**

**Dylan Wolfe &
Josh Hunt**

Eastern Michigan University

Drawing from Miranda Fricker and Veronica Ivy, we distinguish intentional and unintentional gaslighting based on credibility assessment alignment, utilizing illustrative examples from the 1944 film *Gaslight*. Through scenes between Paula and Gregory, we demonstrate how intentional gaslighting silences victims by eroding their confidence and isolating them from positive epistemic inputs. We argue that intentional gaslighting constitutes testimonial silencing, hindering victims' ability to transmit testimony and engage in epistemic activities. Unintentional gaslighting, by contrast, is a straightforward testimonial injustice, where its perpetrator succumbs to prejudices that influence their credibility assessment of the victim. This analysis sheds light on the complex interplay between gaslighting and social epistemology, deepening our understanding of epistemic injustices.



Thursday, April 18, 2024

5:00-6:30 pm

219 Pray-Harrold Hall