

# ALEXANDRA OPREA

School of Politics and IR, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT  
+6146 708 6206 ♦ alexandraroprea@gmail.com ♦ <https://alexandraoprea.com>

## **EMPLOYMENT**

**Lecturer**, School of Politics and International Relations, Australia National University, Canberra, 2019-  
(equivalent to Assistant Professor)

**Research Assistant Professor**, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2017-2019  
Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

## **EDUCATION**

**PhD in Political Science**, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2017  
Primary Field: Political Philosophy  
Secondary Field: Political Economy  
Dissertation: *Children or Citizens: Civic Education in Liberal Political Thought*  
Committee: Ruth Grant (chair), Michael Gillespie, Jack Knight, Jeff Spinner-Halev

**BS in Economics, BA in Political Science**, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2011  
Summa cum Laude; Graduation with Distinction in both fields

**Visiting Student**, London School of Economics, London, UK, 2009-2010

## **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

- 2019 "Pluralism and the General Will: The Roman and Spartan Models in Rousseau's *Social Contract*," *Review of Politics* 81.4 (2019): 573-596
- forthcoming* "Compassion's More Dangerous Allies: Fear, Anxiety, and *Amour-Propre*" *Polity*  
(accepted 13 Dec 2018)
- forthcoming* "Democracy as a Game of Trust: The Limits of Generality Constraints"  
*Homo Oeconomicus* (conditionally accepted 27 Sep 2019, revisions submitted)

## **PAPERS UNDER REVIEW**

"Inadequate for Democracy: How (Not) to Distribute Primary Education"  
(R&R 2 for *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics*)

"Adam Smith on Political Judgement: Revisiting the Politics of the *Wealth of Nations*"

"Counterproductive Altruism: The Other Heavy-Tail" (with Daniel Kokotajlo)

## **BOOK CHAPTERS**

*forthcoming* "Locke on Children's Rights and Obligations," in *The Lockean Mind*  
(Routledge Philosophical Minds series)

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

2018 Charles Griswold, "Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Adam Smith: a Philosophical Encounter," *EH.net*  
(*Economic History Association* official blog)

2011 Branko Milanovic, "The Haves and the Have-Nots: A Brief and Idiosyncratic History of Global Inequality," *Review of Economic and Business Studies* 6, 1(2011): 303-306.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

(available by request)

### Education

"Defending Education: A Democratic Role for Courts in Education Policy"

"The Special Moral Obligations of Teachers and Teachers' Unions"

### Voting and Political Parties

"Partial Politics: The Democratic Roles of Parties and Party Systems"

"Compulsory Voting and the Median Voter Theorem" (with Geoff Brennan)

"Voting by Randomized Committee: The Roman *Comitia Centuriata*" (with Vincent Conitzer)

"Voting in the Roman Republic" (with Michael Munger)

### History of Political Thought

"Contracting without Children: Locke's Invention of the Apolitical Child"

"Institutions of Public Education: Guizot on Teachers' Organizations"

## **GRANTS**

2019 Finalist for Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$70,000)

2019 Research Grant (AUD 8,800)  
Australian National University, School of Politics and International Relations

2017 Duke Education and Research Innovation in China (ERIC) (\$17,100)  
(with Wenqing Zhao, Owen Flanagan, and Daniel Stephens)

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2017 Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University  
2016 Graduate Fellowship, Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University  
2016 Hallowell Research Award, Political Science Department, Duke University  
2015 Dissertation Support Award, Political Science Department, Duke University  
2015 Research Fellowship, Council for European Studies, Duke University  
2014 E. Bayard Halsted Scholarship in Science, History, and Journalism, Duke University  
2013 Fellowship, Earhart Foundation  
2013 James B. Duke Fellowship, Duke University (yearly until 2017)  
2012 University Scholars Graduate Fellowship, Duke University  
2012 Research Fellowship, Council for European Studies, Duke University  
2012 Harvard Presidential Scholarship (declined)  
2012 Princeton Center for Human Values Fellowship (declined)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Primary Instructor**

Australian Nation University, Canberra, Australia

“Ideas in Politics” (Fall 2020)

“PPE Integrated Seminar” (Spring 2020, guest lectures for Spring 2019)

UNC-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

"Introduction to Politics, Philosophy, and Economics,"

Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019

"Capstone Seminar in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics"

Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018(x2), Spring 2019

Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany,

"Polis Politics: The Theory and Practice of Politics in Classical Athens," Summer 2014

"Politics and Economics," Summer 2013

### **Teaching Assistant**

Duke University, Durham, NC

"Prisoner's Dilemma and Distributive Justice," Fall 2016, Spring 2017

(taught simultaneously as "Introduction to Philosophy, Politics and Economics" at UNC-Chapel Hill)

"Introduction to Political Philosophy," Spring 2016

"American Political Thought" (taught 1/4th of course), Fall 2015

### **Guest Lecturer**

Meredith College, Raleigh, NC

"Liberty in Hobbes and Rousseau" in *Political Ideas Seminar*, Spring 2016

"Legal and Social Equality" in *American Political Systems*, Fall 2015

### **Teaching Interests**

political philosophy

democratic theory

public choice

political economy

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Selected)**

- 2019      **With Great Power comes Great Responsibility:  
The Role of Foundations in Education Policy**  
Taiwanese Political Science Association, Taiwan
- 2019      **Partial Politics: The Democratic Role of Parties and Party Systems**  
Political Organizations and Participation Workshop, ANU, Canberra, Australia
- 2019      **Contracting with(out) Children: The Limits of the Social Contract**  
European Political Science Association, Belfast, Ireland
- 2019      **Games and Simulations in the Political Science Classroom**  
Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA
- 2019      **Children's Rights and Children's Labor in Locke's Educational Writings  
When Markets and Politics Diverge: Education in Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations***  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Conference, New Orleans, LA
- 2019      **Sentimental Education in Troubled Times: Compassion in Mencius and Rousseau**  
4th Braga Colloquium in the History of Moral and Political Philosophy, Portugal  
(paper co-authored with Wenqing Zhao)
- 2018      **Inadequate for Democratic Citizenship  
Voting in the Roman Republic: An Alternative Model for Epistemic Democrats**  
Northeastern Political Science Association, Montreal, Canada
- 2018      **Public Servants or Public Masters: The Contested Role of Public School Teachers**  
American Political Science Association, Boston, MA
- 2018      **Public Teachers and Public Choice**  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Conference, New Orleans, LA
- 2017      **Experts and Educators: The Political Organization of Teachers**  
Association for Political Theory, Ann Arbor, MI

- 2017 **Rome and Sparta: The *Social Contract* as a Tale of Two Cities**  
American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 **The Citizenship of Children: Civic Education Before the Nation State**  
American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA  
Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA
- 2016 **Neither Man nor Citizens: Rousseau's Two Conceptions of Children's Citizenship**  
Association for Political Theory, Columbus, OH  
IHS Fall Research Colloquium, Arlington, VA (2015)
- 2015 **Insight and Hindsight: Burke and Tocqueville on the French Revolution**  
Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL
- 2015 **'May my neighbors' goat perish also': Empathy and Envy in Smith and Rousseau**  
Association for Political Theory, Boulder, CO  
Affect Theory: Memory, Aesthetics and Ethics, Winnipeg, Canada
- 2014 **Development in Rousseau's Political Philosophy**  
Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA  
Colloquium, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany  
Annual Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Princeton, NJ
- 2013 **Choice of Lives: Learning from the Ancient Greeks**  
Colloquium, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany

### **INVITED TALKS (Selected)**

- 2019 **Counterproductive Altruism: The Other Heavy Tail**  
Center for Moral, Political, and Social Theory, ANU
- 2019 **Litigators and Legislators: The Role of Courts in Education Policy**  
Duke Kunshan University, Kunshan, China
- 2019 **The Philosophy of Leadership**  
for Institute for Public Trust at UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2018 **The Roles of the University and the Contributions of Free Speech**  
Civic Ideas Summit, UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2018 **Inadequate for Democracy: How (Not) to Distribute Primary Education**  
Value Theory Workshop, UNC Chapel Hill, NC

- 2018      **Who Should Control the Public Schools?**  
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
- 2018      **The Philosophy of Leadership**  
for Institute for Public Trust at UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2018      **Ethical Leadership**  
for Durham City Hall, Durham, NC
- 2018      **Who Should Control Our Public Schools?**  
Carolina Public Humanities, UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2017      **Compassion's More Dangerous Allies**  
Value Theory Workshop, UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2017      **The Future of Political Theory**  
Duke Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Durham, NC
- 2017      **Does Moral Diversity imply Moral Relativism?**  
University Scholars Symposium, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2017      **Political Humor in an Election Year**  
Center for Global and International Studies, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2016      **Citizenship Lab: Civic Participation of Refugee Youth in Durham**  
Bass Connections, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2016      **A Serious Dose of Laughter about Local and Global Issues**  
Center for International Studies, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2015      **Political Psychology of Inequality**  
Duke Society of Fellows, Duke University, Durham, NC

**INVITED WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIA (Selected)**

- 2019      **Classroom Pedagogy: Fostering Fruitful Classroom Discussion**  
UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2019      **Global Philosophies, Global Universities**  
Duke Kunshan University Center for Comparative Philosophy, Kunshan, China
- 2019      **Reducing Poverty and Restoring the American Dream**  
UNC Chapel Hill, NC
- 2018      **Civil Society, Citizenship, and Self-Governance**

Bradley Foundation, Washington, DC

- 2017      **Backsliding to Authoritarianism (discussant)**  
Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2016      **Science, Values and Democracy**  
Vienna Summer Institute, Vienna, Austria
- 2016      **Statelessness in the Middle East**  
Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2015      **Property, Power and the Rise of Atlantic Institutions**  
Jack Miller Center, Philadelphia, PA
- 2015      **The Computational Turn: Simulation in the Sciences**  
Vienna Summer Institute, Vienna, Austria
- 2014      **Workshop on Frontiers in Contemporary Political Economy (discussant)**  
Duke University, Durham, NC

## **SERVICE**

- 2017 - 2019    Judge for Regional and National Highschool Ethics Bowl (2 years)
- 2015 - 2017    Co-Founder and Director, Duke Graduate Conference in Political Theory (3 years)
- 2015 - 2017    Co-Founder and Director, Duke Humor and Politics Working Group (3 years)
- 2016            Graduate Student Advisory Committee for Duke Political Theory Job Search Committee
- 2016            Duke Bass Connections Student Advisory Council
- 2012 - 2015    Graduate Mentor, Duke University Scholars Program (4 years)

Reviewer for *Political Research Quarterly*, *Review of Politics*, *Cambridge University Press*

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2017            Research Assistant, Professor Thomas Spragens  
3 years, research assistance on book project on politics and economics
- 2012            Research Associate, Sanford Public Policy Institute, Duke University  
1 year, statistical analysis for papers in North Carolina education policy
- 2012            Research Assistant, Professor Michael Gillespie  
1 year, historical analysis on medieval Christianity

## **LANGUAGES**

- Romanian**      Native
- French**            Advanced for Research Purposes (Translation, Reading, not Writing)
- German**            Intermediate

**Ancient Greek** Intermediate for Research Purposes (Translation, Reading, not Writing)