

ALEXANDRA OPREA

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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, UNC Chapel Hill, July 2021-

Lecturer, School of Politics and International Relations, Australia National University, Canberra, 2019-2021
(equivalent to Assistant Professor)

Research Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, UNC 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

ARTICLES

- forthcoming* "Adam Smith on Political Judgment: Revisiting the Political Theory of *Wealth of Nations*,"
Journal of Politics
- 2020 "Counterproductive Altruism: The Other Heavy-Tail" (with Daniel Kokotajlo)
Philosophical Perspectives 34 (Dec 2020): 134-163 (invited contribution)
- 2020 "Inadequate for Democracy: How (Not) to Distribute Education" *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* 19.4 (Nov 2020): 343-365.
- 2020 "Compassion's More Dangerous Allies: Fear, Anxiety, and *Amour-Propre*" *Polity* 52.2
(April 2020): 189-220.
- 2019 "Democracy as a Game of Trust: The Limits of Generality Constraints"
Homo Oeconomicus 36 (Dec 2019): 227-248.
- 2019 "Pluralism and the General Will: The Roman and Spartan Models in Rousseau's *Social Contract*," *Review of Politics* 81.4 (Sep 2019): 573-596.

COMMENTARIES AND SHORT ARTICLES

- forthcoming* "François Fénelon: Modern Philosopher or Conservative Theologian?" *European Journal of Political Theory* (part of a book symposium for Ryan Hanley)
- 2020 "Pluralism in political philosophy: a commentary on Dowding and Walsh," *Australian Journal of Political Science* (online first)

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.

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, Fall 2021)
- “PPE Honors Research Methods” (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)
- “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)

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

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| political philosophy | public choice |
| democratic theory | political economy |

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

- 2021 **Free Speech, Tolerance, and the Mission of the University**
Political Theory in/and/as Political Science, McGill via Zoom
- 2021 **Free Speech, Tolerance, and the Mission of the University**
Wollstonecraft on Education: A Non-Ideal Account of Cultivating Virtue
Midwestern Political Science Association, via Zoom

- 2020 **Adam Smith on Political Judgement: Revisiting the Politics of the *Wealth of Nations***
Fenelon "Moderate and Modern": Hanley's Revisionist Account of François Fénelon
 American Political Science Association, via Zoom
- 2020 **Voting in the Roman Republic: An Epistemic Reading of Rousseau's *Social Contract***
Partial Politics: The Democratic Roles of Parties and Party Systems
 Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Conference, New Orleans, LA
- 2020 **Defending Education**
 4th Australasian Political Theory and Political Philosophy, Melbourne, Australia
- 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)

- 2021 **To Nudge or To Manipulate? Conditions for Non-Manipulative Nudging**
(co-authored paper with Keith Dowding)
Australian National University, School of Politics and IR
- 2020 **Defending Education: A Democratic Role for Courts in Education Policy**
University of Arizona, Freedom Centre
Australian National University, School of Politics and IR
University of Canberra, Centre for Deliberative Democracy & Global Governance
- 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)

- 2020 **Funny Money and Political Authority in China**
Australian National University, Canberra, Australia
- 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

- 2020 Convener for the Bachelor of PPE and PPE Honours Program
- 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*; *Politics, Philosophy, & Economics*; *Homo Oeconomicus*; *Cambridge University Press*

LANGUAGES

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