

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

- Conditional acceptance* “Nudges, Regulations, and Liberty,” (with Keith Dowding) *British Journal of Political Science*
- Online first* “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

- 2021 "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* "Rousseau on Voting and Electoral Laws" in *The Cambridge Companion to Rousseau's Social Contract*
- 2021 "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

“Problems in Modern Democratic Theory” (Fall 2021)
"Introduction to Politics, Philosophy, and Economics,"
Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2021
"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 also 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)

- 2021 **Adam Smith on Political Judgement: Revisiting the Politics of the *Wealth of Nations***
International Adam Smith Society via Zoom
- 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
American 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 - 2021 Convener for the Bachelor of PPE and PPE Honours Program, ANU
2017 - 2019 Judge for Regional and National Highschool Ethics Bowl (2 years)
2015 - 2017 Co-Founder of Duke Graduate Conference in Political Theory (3 years)
2015 - 2017 Co-Founder of 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 *Synthese*; *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)