

Robert A. Ballingall

University of Maine
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APPOINTMENTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018– Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Maine
2017–18 Postdoctoral Fellow, Program on Constitutional Government, Harvard University
2016–17 Allan Bloom Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow for Research in Classical Political Thought, University of Toronto
2013–14 Harry Bikakis Fellow in Ancient Greek Law, American School of Classical Studies at Athens

SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Classical political philosophy, constitutionalism and the rule of law, religion and politics, liberalism and democratic theory, American political thought

EDUCATION

- 2009–16 Ph.D., University of Toronto
2007–09 M.Phil., University of Oxford
2003–07 B.A. (Hons, First Class), University of Alberta

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Reverent City: Plato's Laws and the Politics of Ethical Authority. Under contract to the University of Pennsylvania Press.

Book Chapters & Journal Articles

- Forthcoming. "Platonic Revivalists? The Cases of Simone Weil and Leo Strauss." *Brill's Companion to the Legacy of Greek Political Thought*, eds. David Carter & Rachel Foxley.
2019. "'Working at the Same Time to Animate and to Restrain': Tocqueville on the Problem of Authority." *The European Legacy*, vol. 24, nos. 7-8, pp. 738–54.
2017. "The Platonic Rehabilitation of Tragedy." *Classical Rationalism and the Politics of Europe*, ed. Ann Ward, pp. 75–95.
2016. "Distant Goals: Second-best Imitation in Plato's *Laws*." *History of Political Thought*, vol. 37, no. 1, pp. 1–24.

Book Reviews

2019. Josine Blok, "Citizenship in Classical Athens" (Cambridge, 2017). *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought*, vol. 36, no. 1, pp. 183–87.
2016. "Plato's Theological Entanglements." Review of Gerd Van Riel, "Plato's Gods" (Ashgate, 2013). *Anamnesis*, vol. 5, pp. 140–45.

2014. Ben Jackson & Marc Stears, eds., “Liberalism as Ideology: Essays in Honour of Michael Freeden” (Oxford, 2012). *History of Political Thought*, vol. 35, no. 3, pp. 590–93.
2013. Gregory Recco & Eric Sanday, eds., “Plato’s *Laws*: Force and Truth in Politics” (Indiana, 2013). *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought*, vol. 32, no. 2, pp. 350–53.

Manuscripts Under Review or in Preparation

- “Prosthetic Virtue: Aristotle on the Ambiguity of *Aidôs*.” Article manuscript in preparation.
- “The (Utopian) City in Greek Political Thought.” Invited chapter contribution to *The Blackwell Companion to Cities in the Greco-Roman World*, eds. Andries Zuiderhoek & Miko Flohr.
- “Imitating God: The Problem of Piety in Plato’s *Euthyphro*.” Article manuscript in preparation.
- “The Paradox of Lawfulness in Plato’s *Statesman*” Article manuscript in preparation.

Journalism & Occasional Publications

2018. “Constitutional Monarchy: Anachronism or Missed Opportunity?” *Portland Press Herald*, 19 May.
- 2012–13. Letters from Grad School Column, *U of T Magazine*.
2012. “Why August Twenty-fifth? The *Secwepemc* Memorial to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and its Historical Significance.” *Kamloops Daily News*, 25 Aug.
2012. “An Unresolved Problem with the ‘Developmental’ Concept of Power in C. B. Macpherson.” *Journal of Intellectual History & Political Thought*, vol. 1, pp. 136–74.
2011. “Is There a Case for Limiting Democratic Openness?” *Public Policy & Governance Review*, vol. 2, pp. 52–62. First runner-up for the 2011 Sylvia Ostry Prize in Public Policy.
2010. “Love’s Tragedy in J. M. Coetzee.” *The Owl*, vol. 16, pp. 14–16.

TEACHING

University of Maine

- POS 201: Introduction to Political Theory (avg. student rating: 4.4/5)
- POS 301: Classical Political Thought (avg. student rating: 4.8/5)
- POS 303: Early Modern Political Thought
- POS 383: American Constitutional Law (avg. student rating: 4.6/5)

Harvard University

- GOV 1051: The Classical Quest for Justice (Teaching Fellow)

University of Toronto

- POL 200/B72: Introduction to Political Theory
- POL 355: Topics in Classical Political Thought: Classical Constitutionalism
- POL B30: Law, Justice, and Rights (Teaching Assistant)
- POL 320: Modern Political Thought (Teaching Assistant)

Trinity College, University of Toronto

- Rolph-Bell Don in Political Science & International Relations

PRESENTATIONS & INVITED LECTURES

- “Classical Constitutionalism and the Virtue of Reverence”
2020, University of Maine, Dept. of Philosophy Colloquium
2017, Koç University, Istanbul, Dept. of International Relations
- ““Working at the Same Time to Animate and to Restrain”: Tocqueville on the Problem of Authority”
2019, CPSA, University of British Columbia
2018, APSA, Boston MA
- “Platonic Revivalists? The Cases of Simone Weil and Leo Strauss”
2018, NPSA, Montréal QC
2017, WPSA, Vancouver BC
- “The Platonic Rehabilitation of Tragedy”
2017, CPSA, Ryerson University
2015, CPSA, University of Ottawa
2014, NPSA, Boston MA
- “The Political Psychology of Reverence in Plato’s *Laws*”
2016, APSA, Philadelphia PA
2016, CPSA, University of Calgary
- “Distant Goals: Second-best Imitation in Plato’s *Laws*”
2014, University of Toronto Political Theory Workshop
2014, CPSA, Brock University
- “Political Authority and the Enigma of Godlikeness in Plato’s *Laws*”
2013, NPSA, Philadelphia PA
2013, CPSA, University of Victoria
- “Macpherson's Developmental Model of Democracy.”
2013, Roundtable on the Political Thought of C. B. Macpherson, University of Toronto
- “Freedom and the Problem of Ethical Authority.”
2013, Invited lecture on the Occasion of the Buddha’s Birthday, Toronto Zen Buddhist Temple
- “An Unresolved Problem in C. B. Macpherson’s Developmental Concept of Power.”
2012, Property, *Dominion*, and Self-ownership: London Graduate Conference in the History of Political Thought
- “Civic Virtue and Political Liberty in Plato’s *Laws*.”
2012, University of Toronto Political Theory Workshop
- “Reverence as a Civic Virtue: Plato’s *Laws* and its Relevance to Liberal Democratic Citizenship.”
2012, Institutions, Narratives and Identities: University of Florida Graduate Workshop
- “Freedom and Shame in Plato’s *Laws*.”
2011, CPSA, Sir Wilfred Laurier University
2010, NPSA, Boston MA
- “A Defense of Human Nature in Aristotelian Practical Science: The Unlikely Example of C. B. Macpherson.”
2010, CPSA, Concordia University
- “Are the Virtues of the Environmentalist Moral Virtues?”
2008, Human Flourishing and Ecological Restoration in the Age of Global Warming, Clemson University
- “Efficiency for What? Re-evaluating Instrumental Goods in Modern Economic Discourse.”
2007, Faculty of Arts Visiting Committee, University of Alberta

SELECTED HONORS, GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2019 Bangor Savings Bank/LoRusso Memorial Faculty Development Award, University of Maine
- 2018 Marie Curie LEaDing Fellowship, Leiden University, declined
- 2017 Program on Constitutional Government Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2016 Allan Bloom Memorial Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Classical Political Thought, University of Toronto
- 2011–15 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, University of Toronto
- 2013 Harry Bikakis Fellowship in Ancient Greek Law, American School of Classical Studies at Athens
- 2013 C. B. Macpherson Dissertation Fellowship, University of Toronto
- 2009 C. B. Macpherson Graduate Admission Award, University of Toronto
- 2007 Canada Graduate Scholarship Program Master’s Scholarship, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), declined
- 2003 Hu Harries Memorial Entrance Leadership Award, University of Alberta
- 2003 Class Valedictorian, École Secondaire John Peterson

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Discussant

- 2019 Conference Panel: “Limits of Political Rationalism: Ancient and Modern,” NEPSA, Portland ME
- 2018 Conference Panel: “Leo Strauss Read from France and Canada,” NPSA, Montréal QC
- 2018 Conference Panel: “Pedagogy & Politics,” APSA, Boston MA
- 2016 Lecture: “Thucydidean Reflections on Democratic Imperialism” by Seth N. Jaffe, University of Toronto Political Theory Workshop
- 2016 Lecture: “Deconstructing the Ancients/Moderns Trope in Historical Reception” by John R. Wallach, Conference for the Study of Political Thought (CSPT) occasional meeting, Toronto ON

Reviewer

- 2019 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend Program
- 2015– Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought

Editor

- 2008–09 Assistant Editor, St. Antony’s International Review

Service to the Department

- 2019–20 Chair of the UMaine Attorney General Internship Committee; member of the UMaine congressional and state internship committees
- 2019 Undergraduate independent study advisor
- 2018–20 Chair of the Bebek and Gratton prize committees; member of the Mawhinney and Nickerson scholarship committees
- 2018–20 Academic advisor for fifteen political science majors

Service to the University

2018–20 Lecturer in the Honors College (HON 111 & 112)

Other Professional Service

2019–20 Political Theory Section Head, New England Political Science Association Annual Conference

2010–11 Graduate Associate Co-chair, Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto

2013 Co-convener & Panel Chair, Centre for Ethics Graduate Conference, University of Toronto

2012–14 Speaker Series Organizer, Graduate Association of Students in Political Science, University of Toronto

2010–11 Dons' Representative, Trinity College Senate, University of Toronto

REFERENCES

Ryan K. Balot

Professor of Political Science and Classics, University of Toronto

Email: Ryan.Balot@utoronto.ca | Tel: 1 (416) 978 3291

Clifford Orwin

Professor of Political Science, Classics, and Jewish Studies, University of Toronto

Email: Clifford.orwin@utoronto.ca | Tel: 1 (416) 926 1300, ext. 3277

Stephen G. Salkever

Mary Katharine Woodworth Professor Emeritus in Political Science, Bryn Mawr College

Email: ssalkeve@brynmawr.edu | Tel: 1 (610) 526 5330

Harvey C. Mansfield

William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Government, Harvard University

Email: hmansfield@gov.harvard.edu | Tel: 1 (617) 495–3333