

Gregory Conti

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POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Politics, Princeton University: 2018-
Laurance S. Rockefeller University Preceptor, 2022-

Research Fellow, Jesus College, University of Cambridge: 2016-18

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Ph.D., Government, 2016; A.M., Government, 2012
Dissertation: “The Politics of Diversity in Nineteenth-Century Britain”

The University of Chicago, B.A., English Literature, 2009.

BOOKS

Monograph:

Parliament the Mirror of the Nation: Representation, Deliberation, and Democracy in Victorian Britain,
Cambridge University Press (Ideas in Context series), 2019.

Edited Volume:

Albert Venn Dicey: Writings on Democracy and the Referendum, Cambridge University Press (Texts in the
History of Political Thought series), 2023.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Charles Dupont-White: An Idiosyncratic Nineteenth-Century Theorist on Speech, State, and John
Stuart Mill,” *Global Intellectual History*, forthcoming.

“James Fitzjames Stephen’s Other Enemies: Catholicism and Positivism in *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity*
and Beyond,” *History of European Ideas*, vol. 47, no. 7 (2021): 1109-49.

“L’âme générale d’une assemblée’: A Neglected Parliamentarian and the Restoration Theory of
Representation,” *Global Intellectual History*, vol. 6, no. 6 (2021): 826-859.

“John Stuart Mill and Modern Liberalism: A Study in Contrasts,” *Constellations: An International Journal*
of Critical and Democratic Theory, vol. 28, no. 3 (2021): 379-402.

“How to Read James Fitzjames Stephen: Technocracy and Pluralism in a Misunderstood Victorian,”

American Political Science Review, vol. 115, no. 3 (2021): 1034-1047.

“Inegalitarian Inclusivity: A Reading of JS Mill’s Mature Theory of Representation and Electoral Institutions in Context,” *History of Political Thought*, vol. 42, no. 1 (2021): 98-130.

“Ostrogorski Before and After: Three Critical Views of Parties and Elites,” *Constellations: An International Journal of Critical and Democratic Theory*, vol. 27, no. 2 (2020): 169-84.

“Democracy Confronts Diversity: Descriptive Representation in Victorian Britain,” *Political Theory*, vol. 47, no. 2 (2019): 230-57.

“Representative Institutions and the Question of Lefortian Democracy,” *The Tocqueville Review/La revue Tocqueville*, vol. 39, no. 2 (2018): 135-63.

“The Other Side of Representation: The History and Theory of Representative Government in Pierre Rosanvallon,” *Constellations: An International Journal of Critical and Democratic Theory*, vol. 23, no. 4 (2016): 548-62. Co-authored with Will Selinger.

“Jean Barbeyrac, Supererogation, and the Search for a Safe Religion,” *Modern Intellectual History*, vol. 13, no. 1 (2016): 1-31.

“James Fitzjames Stephen, John Stuart Mill, and the Victorian Theory of Toleration,” *History of European Ideas*, vol. 42, no. 3 (2016): 364-98.

“What’s Not in *On Liberty*: The Pacific Theory of Free Discussion in the Early Nineteenth Century,” *Journal of British Studies*, vol. 55, no. 1 (2016): 57-75.

“The Receptions of Élie Halévy’s *Formation du Radicalisme Philosophique* in England and France,” *Modern Intellectual History*, vol. 12, no. 1 (2015): 197-218. Co-authored with Cheryl Welch.

“Reappraising Walter Bagehot’s Liberalism: Discussion, Public Opinion, and the Meaning of Parliamentary Government,” *History of European Ideas*, vol. 41, no. 2 (2015): 264-91. Co-authored with Will Selinger.

“Lockean Toleration and the Victim’s Perspective,” *European Journal of Political Theory*, vol. 14, no. 1 (2015): 76-97.

“Hume’s Low Road to Toleration,” *History of Political Thought*, vol. 36, no. 1 (2015): 165-91.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

“Introduction,” to *Albert Venn Dicey: Writings on Democracy and the Referendum*, ed. Conti (Cambridge University Press, 2023): viii-l.

“On the Nadir of Natural Rights Theory in Nineteenth-Century Britain,” *The Cambridge History of Rights*, vol. 4, eds. Dan Edelstein and Jennifer Pitts (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)

“The Structure of Anti-Democratic Thought in Nineteenth-Century Britain,” *The Cambridge History of*

Democracy, vol. 3, eds. Christopher Meckstroth and Samuel Moyn (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)

“Plural Voting and Popular Government in Victorian Britain,” in *People Power: Popular Sovereignty from Machiavelli to Modernity*, eds. Chris Barker and Robert Ingram (Manchester University Press, 2022): 182-203.

“Before – and Beyond – *On Liberty*: Samuel Bailey and the Nineteenth-Century Theory of Free Speech,” in *Freedom of Speech, 1500-1850*, eds. Alex Barber, Robert Ingram, Jason Peacey (Manchester University Press, 2020): 211-35.

“Democracy and the Press in Rosanvallon’s Historiography,” in *Pierre Rosanvallon’s Political Thought: Interdisciplinary Approaches*, eds. Oliver Flügel-Martinsen, Franziska Martinsen, Stephen Sawyer, Daniel Schulz (Columbia University Press, 2019), 133-57.

REVIEW ESSAYS

“The English Utilitarians, Some Recent Reconsiderations,” *Review of Politics*, forthcoming.

“In What Senses Should We See John Stuart Mill as a Socialist?,” *History of European Ideas*, forthcoming.

“A Response to the Roundtable: Politics, History, and JS Mill in *Parliament the Mirror of the Nation*,” in *History of European Ideas*, forthcoming.

“Some Quasi-Methodological Reflections,” in *Tocqueville Review* Roundtable “Parliamentary Thinking,” 4 Aug. 2021 <<https://tocqueville21.com/Blog/focus/parliamentary-thinking>>.

“James Fitzjames Stephen and the Landscape of Victorian Political Thought,” *Modern Intellectual History*, vol. 18, no. 1 (2021): 261-74.

“Response,” in H-Diplo Roundtable XXI-49, 3 July 2020 <<https://hdiplo.org/to/RT21-49>>: 21-9.

“The Lost History of Political Liberalism,” *History of European Ideas*, vol. 46, no. 3 (2020): 341-54. Co-authored with Will Selinger.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

Books

Liberal Disaffection and the Rise of Democracy: The Political Thought of Albert Venn Dicey

(as editor) *John Stuart Mill: Writings on Representative Government and Parliamentary Reform*, Hackett Publishing, under contract

Articles and Chapters

“John Stuart Mill’s Views on the Working Class: A Reconstruction and Contextual Study”

“Was There a Liberal Theory of Progress in the Nineteenth Century? A Sketch”

“Fake News and Democratic Authority: The Caesarist Case against Free Speech in the French Second Empire”

“Albert Venn Dicey on Democracy and the Historical Trajectory of the British Constitution” (for *Constitutionalism and Political Thought*)

OTHER EDITORIAL WORK

Edition of Sungho Kimlee, “Rousseau on Multiplying Partial Associations,” *History of European Ideas*, forthcoming. Co-edited with Will Selinger.

Translation of Claude Lefort, “Democracy and Representation” (“Démocratie et représentation”), in *The Constructivist Turn in Political Representation*, eds. Lisa Disch, Mathijs van de Sande, Nadia Urbinati (Edinburgh Univ Press, 2019): 104-17.

Translation of Bernard Manin, “Political Deliberation and the Adversarial Principle” (“Délibération politique et principe du contradictoire”), *Daedalus*, vol. 146, no. 3 (2017): 39-50.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“The Structure of Anti-Democratic Thought in Nineteenth-Century Britain”

- History of Political Thought Speaker Series, University of Oklahoma, Nov. 3, 2022
- Transformations of Democracy Workshop, Stanford University, May 27, 2022

“What Can We Say about Equality from a Thousand Feet Up?”

- Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, commentary on Darrin McMahon, Apr. 8, 2022

“Albert Venn Dicey on Democracy and the Referendum”

- Political Theory Workshop, Yale University, Oct. 25, 2022
- APSA Annual Meeting, Montréal, Sept. 15, 2022
- History of Political Thought Workshop, Stanford University, May 26, 2022
- Political Theory Workshop, New York University, Feb. 11, 2022

“Current Free Speech Controversies: Interview with Nadine Strossen”

- Initiative on Freedom of Thought, Inquiry, and Discussion, Princeton University, Oct. 6, 2022

“Max Weber on the Ideologically Neutral University”

- Mercer House Speakers Series, Princeton, NJ Oct. 8, 2021
- James Madison Program, Princeton University, Nov. 2/Nov. 9, 2021 (two-part symposium)

“What Might Be Wrong with Electoral Individualism?”

- Center for the Study of Political Thought, Conference on Democratic Representation, Cornell University, May 15, 2021

“Parties before the Party System”

- Symposium on Max Skjönsberg’s *Persistence of Party*, University of Liverpool, April 28, 2021

“Why Not Write the History of Liberalism before ‘Liberalism?’”

- Symposium on Arthur Ghins’s *Public Opinion vs. Popular Sovereignty*, Brown University, April 16, 2021

“Auguste Comte and the Technocracy of the Right”

- Zephyr Institute, Palo Alto, CA, May 23, 2022
- Symposium on the French Right, Abigail Adams Institute, Cambridge, MA, Mar. 27, 2021

“On the Nadir of Natural Rights Theory in Victorian Britain”

- Workshop on the History of Rights, the University of Chicago, Mar. 19, 2021

Symposia on *Parliament the Mirror of the Nation*

- New Books Network <newbooksnetwork.com>, Oct. 3, 2022
- Centre for Political Thought, Cambridge University, Jan. 28, 2021 (discussants: Tejas Parasher, Mira Siegelberg). In conjunction with Will Selinger’s *Parliamentarism*.
- Political Theory Speaker Series, Georgetown University, Nov. 13, 2020. In conjunction with Will Selinger’s *Parliamentarism*.
- Institute of Intellectual History <<https://intellectualhistory.net>>, May 21, 2020
- Whitney Humanities Program and the Center for the Study of Representative Institutions, Yale University, Feb. 21, 2020 (discussants: Isaac Nakhimovsky, Giulia Oskian, Noah Rosenblum). In conjunction with Will Selinger’s *Parliamentarism*.
- UCHV & Politics Dept., Princeton University, Oct. 4, 2019 (discussants: Richard Bourke, Bryan Garsten, Bernard Manin, Helena Rosenblatt)
- APSA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Aug 29, 2019 (as “Author Meets Critics” Panel; discussants: Giulia Oskian, Jennifer Pitts, Lucia Rubinelli, Shannon Stimson)

“How to Think about Mill’s *On Liberty* Like an Historian of Political Thought”

- Stanford University Business School, 23 Feb. 2023
- Contemporary Civilization Course Colloquium, Columbia University, Feb. 18, 2020

“L’âme générale d’une assemblée’: Pierre-François Flaugergues’s Political Theory”

- Political Theory Workshop, Columbia University, Oct. 15, 2019
- Visitors’ Seminar, Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali (LUISS), Rome, June

27, 2019

- Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts, University of Chicago, May 13, 2019
- Workshop on Liberalism in the History of Political Thought, University of Cambridge, Jan. 23, 2019

“Fichte’s Dilemmas and the Politics of the Suspension Period”

- Manuscript Workshop on Stefan Eich’s *Currency of Politics*, Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts, Princeton University, April. 5, 2019

“Lessons on Publishing in Political Theory”

- Half-Baked Workshop Series, Politics Department, Princeton University, Mar. 28, 2019

“Plural Voting and Popular Sovereignty in Victorian Britain”

- Conference on Popular Sovereignty and Populism, Ohio University, Mar. 15-16, 2019

“Fake News in Nineteenth-Century France”

- Conference on Free Speech in Troubled Times, Princeton-Humboldt Universität, Berlin, June 14-15, 2019
- Mercer House Speakers Series, Princeton, NJ, Nov. 30, 2018
- Human Values Form, Princeton University, Oct. 15, 2018

“Ostrogorski Before and After: Three Moments in Anti-Partyism and ‘Elite Theory’”

- Political Theory Research Seminar, Princeton University, Sept. 25, 2018
- APSA Annual Meeting, Boston, Aug. 30, 2018
- Conference on Elites and Democracy in Modern Political Thought, CRASSH, University of Cambridge, Dec. 7, 2017 (as “Three Moments in Thinking about Parties and Elites”)

“James Fitzjames Stephen and the ‘-Isms’ of Victorian Political Thought”

- Conference on the History of Political Thought in the Age of Ideologies, Queen Mary University of London, May 31-June 1, 2018

“Before *On Liberty*: Samuel Bailey and the Nineteenth-Century Theory of Free Speech”

- Political Thought Seminar, Oxford University, Oct. 13, 2017
- Princeton-Universitat Pompeu Fabra Political Theory Conference, Barcelona, Nov. 2-3, 2017
- Conference on Freedom of Speech, 1550-1850, Ohio University, April 7-8, 2017

“What Is Democracy? A Few Different Ideas”

- POLIS Sutton Trust Summer School, University of Cambridge, Aug. 16, 2017

“Did the Nineteenth Century Believe that Parliaments Had Minds and Wills of Their Own?”

- Conference on the History of Thinking about Artificial Intelligence and Agency, Center for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, Mar. 20, 2017

“Interpreting Trump’s Victory”

- Panel on the 2016 Election, Jesus College, University of Cambridge, Jan. 20, 2017

“Democracy Confronts Diversity: Deliberation and Representation in Victorian Britain”

- Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, University of Cambridge, Oct. 17, 2016
- Princeton University Politics Department, Nov. 12, 2015

“Representative Institutions and the Character of Lefortian Theory”

- APSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Sept. 1, 2016

“Victorian Democratic Theory and the Problem of Representation”

- Political Theory Workshop, Harvard University, Sept. 16, 2015
- Fellows Workshop, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, Jan. 29, 2015 (as “Democracy, Diversity, and Contestability: Democracy against the Variety of Suffrages”)

“John Stuart Mill and the Pacific Theory of Toleration”

- APSA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Sept. 3, 2015
- Sciences Po Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Paris, June 19, 2014 (as “What’s Not in *On Liberty*: A Forgotten Nineteenth-Century Argument for Freedom of Discussion”)

“Diversity without Democracy: The Theory of the Variety of Suffrages”

- Fellows Workshop, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, Apr. 2, 2015

“James Fitzjames Stephen and the Victorian Theory of Toleration”

- Political Theory Workshop, Harvard University, Feb. 11, 2015

“Walter Bagehot, Liberalism, and Parliamentary Government”

- Center for European Studies Workshop, Harvard University, Nov. 14, 2014. Presentation with Will Selinger

“Jean Barbeyrac, Supererogation, and the Search for a Safe Religion”

- Political Theory Workshop, Harvard University, Sept. 10, 2014

“Lockean Toleration and the Victim’s Perspective”

- Political Theory Workshop, Harvard University, Feb. 26, 2014

“Hume’s Low Road to Toleration”

- Political Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, Jan. 15, 2014

- MPSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 12, 2013
- Princeton Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Princeton University, April 5, 2013

“What Exactly Mill and Tocqueville Thought about Diversity of Opinion”

- NEPSA Annual Meeting, Portland, ME, May 3, 2013

“Diversity of Opinion: A History”

- Political Theory Workshop, Harvard University, Nov. 14, 2012

Selected Invited Colloquium Participation

- Workshop on Liberty, the State, and Pluralism, Liberty Fund, Indianapolis, May 18-20, 2023
- Manuscript Workshop on my *Liberal Disaffection and the Rise of Democracy: The Political Thought of Albert Venn Dicey*, Politics Department, Princeton University, May 12, 2023
- “Institutional Rights and Obligations” panel leader, Princeton Principles of Academic Freedom Symposium, Princeton University Mar. 17-18, 2023
- Manuscript Workshop on Hugo Drochon’s *Elites and Dynamic Democracy*, History of Political Thought Project, Princeton University, Dec. 9, 2022
- “Liberalism and Its Critics” Colloquium, IHS, Washington D.C., Apr 8-10, 2022
- Manuscript Workshop on Jacob Eisler’s *Election Law and the Crisis of Mass Democracy*, Southampton University Law School, July 11, 2019

TEACHING

Princeton University

The French Revolution: Politics, Philosophy, Culture. Summer 2022. Special undergraduate interdisciplinary summer course in Paris. Co-taught with Flora Champy.

This course also received special funding from the James Madison Program, the Politics department, the French & Italian department, and the Rockefeller Center for Human Values, and received several grants for innovation in teaching.

Graduate Research Seminar in Political Theory. Convener, 2021-22. Yearlong symposium for discussion of works in progress.

John Stuart Mill’s Politics: Ideas and Context. Spring 2021. Seminar for graduate students and advanced undergraduates.

Political Theory of the French Revolution. Spring 2020, Spring 2022. Seminar for graduate students and advanced undergraduates.

Representation and Representative Institutions in Political Theory. Fall 2019, Fall 2021. Seminar for junior concentrators in Politics, in preparation for their required research projects.

Alexis de Tocqueville and John Stuart Mill: Liberalism, Democracy, Revolution, Empire. Spring 2019. Seminar for graduate students and advanced undergraduates.

Modern Political Theory. Fall 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2022. Survey lecture course for undergraduates.

Special graduate reading courses: *Progress and Civilization in Nineteenth-Century Political Theory* (Spring 2019); *Max Weber on Politics and Social Science* (Fall 2021); *Modern Political Theory* (Spring 2022)

University of Cambridge

B.A. Tutorial in Politics, Supervisor, Easter 2017.

MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History, Supervisor for MPhil Paper, Lent 2017; Examiner for MPhil Papers, Michelmas 2017-Lent 2018

SELECTED AFFILIATIONS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Laurance S. Rockefeller University Preceptorship, Princeton Univ. three-year honorific fellowship for assistant professors, 2022-25

Award jointly from University Center for Human Values and the School of Public and International Affairs for Law-Related Programmatic Activities at Princeton University, Spring 2023

Visiting Scholar, New York University, Political Science Department, 2021-22

Grant, 250th Anniversary Fund for Innovation in Undergraduate Education, Magic Project, Learning Across Borders Fund, to plan and carry out a new course on the French Revolution to be held in Paris (joint with Flora Champy)

Member, New York-Area History of Political Thought Group

Fellow, Remarque Institute, New York University, Spring 2021 [postponed], Fall 2022

Visiting Fellow, Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, University of London, Summer/Fall 2020

Research Grants, University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University, 2019, 2020, 2022

Research Grant, Institute for Humane Studies, for research assistance and conference travel, 2022, 2020, 2017

Associated Faculty, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, 2018-

Charles Sumner Dissertation Prize, Harvard University 2016

Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University, 2015-16

Graduate Seed Grant, Center for American Political Studies, 2015 Harvard University

Graduate Fellow, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, 2014-15

Recipient of the Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Spring 2013 and Spring

2014

Graduate Student Affiliate, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University, 2013-6

GSAS Summer Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (grant for travel and language acquisition), Harvard University, 2012

Jens Aubry Westengard Scholarship (grant for travel and language acquisition), Harvard University, 2012

GSAS Summer School Tuition Fellowship, Harvard University, 2011

Judith Nisse Shklar Fellow in the Government Department, Harvard University, 2010-2011

Napier Wilt Prize for Outstanding Thesis in English Literature, University of Chicago, 2009

Honors from the College, University of Chicago, 2009

Honors from the Department of English Literature, 2009

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Chicago, 2008 (early induction)

National Merit Scholarship, 2005

Robert Byrd Scholarship, 2005

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION

Co-Organizer: “History & Theory” Symposium, American University in Paris, July 7-8

Organizer: “How to Read Rousseau,” discussion between Flora Champy and Michael Sonenscher, for the Project in the History of Political Thought, Princeton University, May 2, 2023

Organizer: book launch and panel discussion on my edition, *Albert Venn Dicey’s Writings on Democracy and the Referendum*, UCHV, Princeton University, April 14, 2023

Organizer and Chair: “On Marcel Gauchet’s *Robespierre*,” for the Project in the History of Political Thought, Princeton University, Apr. 15, 2022

Faculty sponsor: “Socialism and Democracy,” for the Project in the History of Political Thought, Princeton University, Mar. 25-6, 2022

Organizer and Chair: “Thomas Paine on the French Revolution: History and Theory,” for the Project in the History of Political Thought, Princeton University, Feb. 28, 2020

Organizer: “Caesarism: Historical and Normative Perspectives,” for the Project in the History of Political Thought, Princeton University, Nov. 15-16, 2019

Organizer and Chair: “Thomas Paine and the Terror: Exploring a Discovery,” for the APSA Annual Meeting, Boston, Sept. 1, 2018

Co-Organizer: “Elites and Democracy in Modern Political Thought” for CRASSH, University of Cambridge, Dec. 7, 2017

Organizer and Chair: “Modern French Liberalism,” for the APSA Annual Meeting, Sept. 1, 2016

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer:

Journals: American Political Science Review, European Journal of Political Theory (multiple times), Eighteenth-Century Studies, Global Intellectual History, History of European Ideas (multiple times), History of Political Thought, Journal of the History of Economic Thought, Journal of the History of Ideas, Journal of Politics (multiple times), Modern Intellectual History (multiple times), Perspectives on Politics, Political Studies (multiple times), Review of Politics
Book Manuscripts: Cambridge UP, Harvard UP, Norton, Oxford UP

University Committee on the Course of Study, Princeton University, 2022-

Member, Chair’s Advisory Committee, Politics Department, Princeton University, 2019-20

Political Theory Subfield Coordinator, Politics Department, Princeton University, 2019-20

Member, Senior Thesis Prize Committee, Politics Department, Princeton University, Spring 2020

Graduate Committee and Admissions Committee, Representative for Political Theory, Politics Department, Princeton University, 2019-20

Member, Executive Committee of the James Madison Program, Princeton University, 2019-

Senior Thesis Poster Session Committee, Politics Department, Princeton University, Spring 2019

Faculty Fellow of First College, Princeton University, 2019-22
...of Forbes College, 22-

Member of the Jesus College Council and College Trustee, 2017-18

Departmental Writing Assistant, Harvard Government Dept., Spring 2013

LANGUAGES

French (fluent), *Italian* (advanced), *Spanish* (conversational), *Latin* (basic reading knowledge), *German* (rudimentary)