

CONNOR MAXWELL EWING

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APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science Fellow, Trinity College Cross-Appointment (non-budgetary), Faculty of Law Affiliated Faculty, Centre for the Study of the United States	2021-present
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY Visiting Fellow, James Madison Program Department of Politics	2025-2026
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI Kinder Institute Assistant Professor of Constitutional Democracy Department of Political Science	2020-2021
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science Associate, Trinity College	2018-2020
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA Postdoctoral Research Associate and Lecturer Program on Constitutionalism & Democracy	2016-2018

EDUCATION

PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN (GOVERNMENT) Fields: Public Law, American Politics Dissertation: “The Politics of Sovereignty: Federalism in American Political Development”	2016
A.M., UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO (SOCIAL SCIENCES) Thesis: “Federative Conflict: An Inquiry into the Role of Conflict in the American Constitutional Order”	2011
B.A., UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON Majors: Political Science, Philosophy	2008

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American Politics: American political thought; American political and constitutional development; federalism; political institutions

Public Law: constitutional theory, law, and development; rights jurisprudence; comparative constitutional law and design

BOOKS

Rediscovering the Founders’ Constitution: The Political Foundations of American Union (under contract, Yale University Press)

Beyond Checks and Balances: The Political Purpose of the Separation of Powers. University of Pennsylvania Press. Forthcoming, 2026. (co-edited with Benjamin Kleinerman and Charles Zug)

REFEREED
PUBLICATIONS

- “Constitutional Hypocrisy.” *Polity*. Forthcoming. (with Thomas R. Bell)
- “Not so with different Governments’: Separation of Powers, Federalism, and the Limits of Constitutional Conflict.” In *Beyond Checks and Balances*, eds. Connor Ewing, Benjamin Kleinerman, and Charles Zug. University of Pennsylvania Press. Forthcoming, 2026.
- “Publius’ Proleptic Constitution.” *American Political Science Review* 118(3): 1131-1144. 2024.
- “Dignity Disputed.” *Journal of Law & Courts* 11(2): 370-388. 2023.
- “The Past, Present, and Future of Constitutional Identity.” In *Deciphering the Genome of Constitutionalism: The Foundations and Future of Constitutional Identity*, eds. Ran Hirschl and Yaniv Roznai. New York: Cambridge University Press. 2024.
- “With Dignity and Justice for All: The Jurisprudence of ‘Equal Dignity’ and the Partial Convergence of Liberty and Equality in American Constitutional Law.” *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 16(3): 753-775, 2018.
- “The Promises and Pathologies of Presidential Federalism.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 48(3): 552-569. 2018. (with Nicholas F. Jacobs)

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

- “The Structural Articulation of ‘Equal Dignity.’” In *Probing Human Dignity: Exploring Thresholds from an Interdisciplinary Perspective*, edited by Stephanie Arel, Vanessa Hellmann, and Levi Cooper. New York: Springer. 2025.
- “From Predicate to Object: Constitutionalizing Sovereignty in the American Order.” In *America Then and Now: Citizenship and Constitutionalism in American Politics*, eds. Steven Pittz and Joseph Postell. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press 2022.
- Review of *The Lost Soul of the American Presidency: The Decline into Demagoguery and the Prospects for Renewal*, by Stephen F. Knott. *Review of Politics* 82(4): 645-647 2020.
- “The Problem of Rule-Following in American Political Thought.” In *Exploring the Political Economy and Social Philosophy of James M. Buchanan*, eds. P. Aligica, C. Coyne, and S. Haeffele. London: Rowman & Littlefield International. 2018.
- “Structure and Relationship in American Federalism: Foundations, Consequences, and ‘Basic Principles’ Revisited.” 51 *Tulsa Law Review* 689. 2016.

IN PREPARATION

- “Trapped by Time? The Democratic Dilemmas of the Dead Hand”
- “Post-Liberal Foundings: Repudiation, Restoration, Reinterpretation”

POPULAR
PUBLICATIONS

- “From Ideological Origins to Interbellum Constitution,” review of *The Interbellum Constitution: Union, Commerce, and Slavery* by Alison L. LaCroix, BALKINIZATION, Aug. 4, 2024.

“The Unsettling Voice of Clarence Thomas,” review of *The Enigma of Clarence Thomas* by Corey Robin, *The New Rambler*, Jan. 22, 2019.

“What happened to the State of the Union address? Originally, it helped the president and Congress deliberate,” THE MONKEY CAGE at *The Washington Post*, Jan. 30, 2018. (with Charles Zug)

“In the House but Not of the House?” LAW AND LIBERTY, Oct. 8, 2015.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

“Trapped by Time: The Democratic Dilemmas of the Dead Hand.”

- Northeast Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. November 2025.
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC. September 2025.
- Henry Salvatori Center for the Study of Individual Freedom in the Modern World, Claremont College. February 2025.
- University of British Columbia, Okanagan. October 2024. (*invited lecture*)

“Rediscovering the Founders’ Constitution.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. September 2024.

“The Dead Hand of the Past: Heavier with Time?” Toronto Political Development Workshop. Toronto, ON. May 2024.

“What is Constitutional Crisis? Or: A unified theory of constitutional crisis.” American Constitutionalism in Crisis? 2024 Bissell-Heyd Symposium. Toronto, ON. May 2024.

“Rediscovering the Founders’ Constitution: Power, Authority, and Political Development in the Ratification Debates.”

- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2024.
- University of Texas Emerging Scholars Conference in Public Law. February 2024.

“The Dynamics of Political Power in the Ratification Debates.” Northeast Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. November 2023.

“Political Development, the Constitution, and the Future of American Politics.” Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy Democracy Symposium. Toronto, ON. October 2022.

“Constitutional Hypocrisy and the Ethics of Constitutional Citizenship.” Constitution Day Lecture. Virginia Tech University. September 2022. (*invited lecture*)

“Dignity Disputed: Gay Marriage, Fundamental Rights, and American Constitutionalism.” de Nicola Center Fall Conference. South Bend, IN. November 2021.

“The Proleptic Constitution: *The Federalist* and Constitutional Development.”

- Lincoln Symposium on American Political Thought. Portland, OR. October 2021. (*invited paper*)
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. (*accepted; COVID interrupted*)

“Hypocrisy: The Homage Partisanship Pays the Constitution” (with Thomas Bell).

- Shawnee Trail Conference. Columbia, MO/virtual. April 2021.
 - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA/virtual. September 2020.
- “Conjuring Union: Capacity and Attachment in the Constitutional Convention.”
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA/virtual. September 2020.
 - American Political Thought Workshop, Salvatori Center. Claremont, CA/virtual. July 2020.
- “The Judicial Construction of Federalism.”
- Toronto Political Development Workshop. Toronto, ON. October 2019.
 - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. September 2018.
- “Dignity and America’s Multiple Constitutional Traditions.”
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. August 2019.
 - Law & Society Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. June 2019.
- “The Political Architecture of the Compound Republic.” Ashbrook Center at Ashland University. Ashland, OH. March 2019. (*invited colloquium*)
- “The Structural Articulation of ‘Equal Dignity.’” Intercontinental Academia, University-Based Institutes for Advanced Study. Johannesburg, South Africa. January 2019.
- “Not so with different Governments: Separation of Powers, Federalism, and the Limits of Constitutional Conflict.” Lincoln Symposium in American Political Thought. Philadelphia, PA. August 2018. (*invited paper*)
- “From Predicate to Object: Constitutionalizing Sovereignty in the American Order.”
- Shawnee Trail Regional Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism. Colorado Springs, CO. April 2018.
 - Lincoln Symposium in American Political Thought. Philadelphia, PA. August 2017. (*invited paper*)
- “*Federalist* 39 as a (Messy) Model of Constitutional Development.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. April 2017.
- “Discourse vs. Institutions: A Response to Pamela Brandwein” University of Texas Graduate Conference in Public Law. Austin, TX. October, 2016. (*invited*)

TEACHING & ADVISING

University of Toronto & Trinity College

- Constitutional Democracy: The Theory & Design of Modern Government (Winter 2023-2025)
- Ethics and Society: Human Dignity (Fall 2018-2019, 2021-2024)
- American Political Development (Winter 2019-2020, 2022-2025)
- Civil Liberties in the United States (Fall 2018-2019, 2022-2024)
- Political Economy and Social Inequality (Fall 2018-Winter 2019, Fall 2019-Winter 2020)
- Independent studies: Education & Equality: Foundational Theories (Fall 2022); Populism & the American Presidency (Summer 2022); The Media in American Political Thought & Development (Fall 2019)

- *Advising*: Department of Political Science senior thesis programme (2); Trinity College senior thesis programme (1); Community Research Programme in Ethics (CRPE), capstone course for Ethics, Society & Law programme (1); Trinity College President's Scholar (1); Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Scholars Programme (1)

University of Missouri

- Sex, Drugs, & Sovereignty: American Federalism (Spring 2021)
- American Government (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

University of Virginia

- The American Political Tradition (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
- Constitutional Democracy: The Theory & Design of Modern Government (Spring 2018)
- Faculty advisor for Political Philosophy, Policy & Law program's fourth-year research seminar

HONOURS & AWARDS

- Bissell-Heyd Fellow, Centre for the Study of the United States; 2023-2024 (\$25,000)
- SSHRC Exchange Grant (Trinity College); 2019, 2020, 2022-2024 (\$600 CAD)
- Intercontinental Academia on Human Dignity, University-Based Institutes for Advanced Study; 2015-2016, 2019
- Bradley Research Fellowship, 2016 (\$8,000)
- University of Texas Summer Research Fellowship, 2016 (\$6,500)
- Macdonald Summer Fellowship, 2015 (\$5,500)
- Jack Miller Center Summer Institute, 2015
- University of Texas Professional Development Grant; 2014, 2015, 2016 (\$300-\$400)
- University of Texas Tuition Grant, Spring 2015 (\$3,500)
- Macdonald Dissertation Fellowship, 2014-2015 (\$8,500)
- Macdonald Fellowship, University of Texas, 2012-2013 (\$25,000)
- University of Chicago Tuition Scholarship, 2010-2011 (\$16,000)

SERVICE

- American Political Thought organized section co-chair, American Political Science Association 2026 Annual Meeting
- Reviewer: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Publius*, *American Political Thought*, *International Journal of Constitutional Law*, *Political Science Reviewer*, *Journal of Ethics & Social Philosophy*
- Co-editor, *The New Rambler Review* (2019-present)
- Organizer, Shawnee Trail Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism (2019, 2020)
- Co-founder and co-organizer, University of Texas Graduate Conference in Public Law (2014)
- Co-founder and co-chair, University of Texas Public Law Lunch (Fall 2012-Spring 2014; Spring 2016)
- Member of the American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, and Law & Society Association