

# ALEXANDER S. KIRSHNER

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## APPOINTMENTS

### **Duke University—Department of Political Science**

- Associate Professor, 2019-
- Assistant Professor, 2012-2019
- Senior Fellow, Kenan Institute for Ethics

### **New York University, Abu Dhabi—Division of Social Science**

- Global Postdoctoral Fellow, 2011-2012

## EDUCATION

### **Yale University**

- PhD, Political Science (Political Theory), May 2011
- Dissertation: A Theory of Militant Democracy: The Ethics of Combatting Political Extremism
- Dissertation Awarded Department and University Distinction
- Committee: Ian Shapiro (Chair), Bruce Ackerman, Bryan Garsten, Susan Stokes

**Cambridge University** -- M.Phil, Political Thought and Intellectual History, 2002

**Yale University** -- B.A., History, 1999

## HONORS, AWARDS & GRANTS

- French American Cultural Exchange—Thomas Jefferson Grant—with Genevieve Rousseliere—funding for two conferences on challenges to democracy, 2018 (\$20,000)
- Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow, University Center for Human Values, Princeton, 2015-16 (\$50,000)
- ACLS/Mellon New Faculty Fellowship (declined), 2012 (\$56,500)
- Dissertation Nominated for Leo Strauss Award in political philosophy, 2011
- Dissertation awarded University Distinction, Yale University, 2011
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship, New York University, 2011-2012

- Pre-Doctoral Fellow, Program in Ethics, Politics and Economics, Yale University, 2009-2011
- Leylan Prize Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Yale University, 2008-2009
- Enders Graduate Research Grant, Yale University, Summer 2008
- “Young Trans-Atlantic Leader” awarded by the German Marshall Fund, 2007
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Language Grant, Summer 2007
- Foreign Language Areas Studies Intensive Language Grant (German), Summer 2007
- Leitner Fellowship for International Political Economy, Yale University, Summer 2006
- Macmillan Center for International Studies Pre-Dissertation Grant, Yale University, 2006

## BOOKS

*Legitimate Opposition*

Under Contract/Reviews Completed — Yale University Press

*A Theory of Militant Democracy: The Ethics of Combating Political Extremism.*  
New Haven: Yale University Press (2014)

Book Symposium: *Perspectives on Politics* (2015)

Reviews: *Political Theory* (2016); *Journal of Politics* (2015); *Redescriptions* (2016), *Choice* (2015);  
*Australian Journal of Political Science* (2015); *Newsletter of the ECPR Standing Group on  
Extremism and Democracy* (2015)

Translations: Turkish

## ARTICLES and BOOK CHAPTERS

“Militant Democracy Defended”

*Militant Democracy and its Critics*—Anthoula Malkopoulou, Alexander Kirshner eds.--Edinburgh  
University Press (Forthcoming 2019)

[“Non-ideal Democratic Authority: The Case of Undemocratic Elections”](#)

*Politics, Philosophy and Economics* (2018)

[“Compromise and Representative Government: A Skeptical Perspective”](#)

*NOMOS: Compromise*—Jack Knight, Editor—New York, NYU Press—(2018)

[“Legitimate Opposition, Ostracism, and the Law of Democracy in Ancient Athens”](#)

*Journal of Politics* 78/4, (2016)

[“Proceduralism and Popular Threats to Democracy”](#)

*Journal of Political Philosophy*, 18/4, (2010).

## INVITED PUBLICATIONS

["Does Donald Trump Pose a Special Threat to Democracy? Probably Not."](#)

Part of a Critical Exchange in *Contemporary Political Theory* (2018)

["Review: Democracy Disfigured: Opinion, Truth, and the People by Nadia Urbinati"](#)

*Political Science Quarterly* (2015)

## EDITED BOOKS

*Militant Democracy and its Critics*, Co-editor with Anthoula Malkopoulou (Uppsala).

—Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press (Forthcoming, 2019)

*Political Representation*. Co-editor with Ian Shapiro, Susan Stokes and Elisabeth Wood. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, (2010)

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

"A Democracy Without Opposition: Sieyès, Condorcet and the First French Republic"

"Two cheers for our no good, very bad, elitist democracies"

*NOMOS: Democratic Failure*—Melissa Schwartzberg and Daniel Viehoff, Editors—New York, NYU Press, (2020)

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS and MEETINGS

- Legal Responses to Extremist Parties  
University of Michigan Law School, The Role of Law in Combatting Extremism Conference (2018)
- Populism and Opposition  
Columbia University/CIDE-Mexico City, Democracy at the Crossroads Conference (2018)
- Participant in symposium on Democratic Failure  
American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy Annual Meeting (NOMOS)(2018)
- Populism and Opposition  
Northwestern (2018)
- A Democracy Without Opposition: Sieyès, Condorcet and the First French Republic  
Dartmouth—Political Economy Project (2017)
- The Value of Legitimate Opposition  
North Carolina State University, Political Science Workshop (2017)
- The Moral Authority of Non-Democratic Elections  
NYU Abu Dhabi, Political Science Workshop (2017)
- The Moral Authority of Non-Democratic Elections  
Berkeley Workshop in Moral, Political and Legal Theory (2016)

- The Self-Limiting Theory of Militant Democracy  
Princeton, University Center for Human Values—Meeting on Militant Democracy (2016)
- Democracy, Autocracy, and the Value of Political Competitiveness  
Princeton, University Center for Human Values--LSR Fellows' Presentation (2016)
- Invited Speaker—Symposium on Samuel Issacharoffs' *Fragile Democracy*  
Yale Law School (2015)
- Opposition, Ostracism, and the Law of Democracy in Ancient Athens  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Political Theory Workshop (2014)
- Opposition, Ostracism, and the Law of Democracy in Ancient Athens  
Duke University, Political Theory Workshop 2014
- Antidemocrats and the Right to Participate  
New School for Social Research (2014)
- Antidemocrats and the Right to Participate  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Ethics, Law and Politics Seminar (2014)
- A Theory of Militant Democracy  
CIDE-Mexico City (2014)
- The Moral Authority of Non-Democratic Elections  
University of North Carolina, Carolina Seminar—Democracy in the Age of Global Capital (2014)
- A Theory of Militant Democracy  
Franklin Humanities Center, Duke University (2013)

## Conference Participation—Papers and Roundtables

- A Democracy Without Opposition: Sieyès, Condorcet and the First French Republic  
American Political Science Association (2018)
- A Democracy Without Opposition: Sieyès, Condorcet and the First French Republic  
Association of Political Theory (2017)
- Roundtable Participant—Political Ethics and Political Action in the age of Trump  
American Political Science Association (2017)
- The Moral Authority of Non-Democratic Elections  
American Political Science Association (2016)
- Roundtable Organizer and Participant—Lotteries and the Transformation of Democratic Theory  
American Political Science Association (2016)
- The Moral Authority of Non-Democratic Elections  
Midwest Political Science Association (2016)
- The Moral Authority of Non-Democratic Elections  
Manchester Centre for Political Theory (2016)
- Opposition, Ostracism, and the Law of Democracy in Ancient Athens  
European Consortium for Political Research (2015)

- Opposition, Ostracism, and the Law of Democracy in Ancient Athens  
Association of Political Theory (2015)
- The Ethics of Voting (in Non-Democratic Elections)  
American Political Science Association (2014)
- Antidemocrats and the Right to Participate  
Association of Political Theory (2013)
- Religious Parties, Credible Commitment and Electoral Competition in Egypt and Tunisia  
with M. Chacon  
Midwest Political Science Association (2013-presented by Chacon)
- Religious Parties, Credible Commitment and Electoral Competition in Egypt and Tunisia  
with M. Chacon  
American Political Science Association (2012)
- Tilting the Playing Field Toward Democracy: Political Regulation and Democracy's Defense  
American Political Science Association (2010)
- Tilting the Playing Field Toward Democracy: Political Regulation and Democracy's Defense  
New England Political Science Association (2010)
- Proceduralism and Popular Threats to Democracy  
Midwest Political Science Association (2009)

## TEACHING

- Undergraduate Lectures:
  - Introduction to Political Philosophy (60+ students) (Duke)
  - The Ethics of Violence and War (60+ students) (Duke)
- Graduate Seminars:
  - Democracy and Constitutionalism (Duke)
  - Dissent, Disobedience, and Revolution (Duke)
- Undergraduate Seminars:
  - Democracy and the Politics of Opposition (Yale)
- Doctoral Committee: Isak Tranvik, Antong Liu, Lucy Britt (UNC)
- Master's Committees: Jake Charles, Scott Bennett, Lyndsey Haas

## DEPARTMENTAL and UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Political Theory Field Chair: 2018-2019
- Political Theory Search Committee: 2016-2017

- Undergraduate Affairs Committee: 2012-2013, 2013-2014
- Graduate Affairs Committee: 2014-2015, 2016-2017
- Coordinator, Political Theory Workshop: Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019
- Interviewer for A.B. Duke Fellowships: 2016; 2018

## FIELD SERVICE

- Reviewer:  
*American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, European Journal of Political Theory, Global Constitutionalism, Journal of Politics, Law and Humanities, Perspectives on Politics, Political Studies, Politics Philosophy and Economics, Polity*
- Member:  
American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Association of Political Theory, American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy
- Mentor—Association for Political Theory’s grad-faculty mentorship program
- Award Committees: Best Article Award—Midwest Political Science Association Meeting (2015)