

Seongjoon Ahn

319 David Kinley Hall, 1407 W. Gregory Dr. Urbana, IL, 61801 || ahn43@illinois.edu

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Ph.D. in Political Science, Aug 2019 - Present

Subfield: American Politics, Political Theory

The University of Chicago

MA in the Social Sciences (MAPSS), Aug 2018

Concentration: Political Theory (Advisor: Matthew Landauer)

Korea University

MA in Political Science and International Relations, Aug 2017

Concentration: Political Theory (Advisor: Nam-Kook Kim)

BA in Political Science and International Relations, Feb 2015

The London School of Economics and Political Science

General Course in Government, Oct 2011 – Feb 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Ahn, Seongjoon and Kim, Nam-Kook. 2019. "Popularizing Grief: Tragedies and Tragic Events in Ancient Athens". *The Korean Review of Political Thought*. 25 (2): 9-38.

Editorial Contributions

- Baradat. Leon P., *Political Ideologies: Their Origins and Impact*, 12th ed. (Korean Translation), Myung In Publishers, Seoul, 2017 (Copy Editor)

WORK IN PROGRESS

Bound by Exposure: Assessing How Exposure to Uncivil Political News Affects Elite Approval

Through randomized survey experiments, this study reveals that the more one is exposed to uncivil political news, the more one is likely to endorse political elites' use of contentious rhetorical styles such as populist appearances, references to conspiracy theory, and defamation as legitimate parts of democratic politics.

Democracy in Demise or Design? An Alternative Perspective on Perceptions of Democracy

With both voter turnout and grassroots movements peaking, worries over the decline of democracy warrant reconsideration. I argue that democracy is not in decline. Instead, I argue that the pessimistic sentiment is the result of conflicting perceptions of democracy. I seek to create a novel typology and measurement of democratic perceptions based on recent normative discussions of democratic theory to show that perceptions of democracy are deeply polarized in the American society.

The Myth of Imperial Presidency: Executive Unilateral Action in South Korea

Though the South Korean public's worry over democratic regression has mostly waned its worries over an overly strong, imperial, executive remains salient. This study undertakes a qualitative examination of South Korean presidents' use of unilateral action. I conclude that the South Korean presidency is far from being imperial; it is strongly dependent on the support of the legislature.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- “The Vulnerable and the Compassionate: A Populist Turn to Grief”
2018 May, University of Chicago MAPSS Academic Conference: Understanding Movements at their Extremes
- “Deliberating Among Impartial Spectators: Rhetoric, Emotion, and Deliberative Democracy in Adam Smith”
2017 April, 2017 Western Political Science Association, Vancouver: The Affects of Democracy
- “Differences in Unison: Democratic Deficit in the EU and the ASEAN”
2016 June, 2016 EU Studies Association Asia Pacific, Hong Kong: Postgraduate Student Workshop
- “Dining Together at the Church of Antioch: Post-Crucifixion Christian Perspective on Tolerance Discourses in Modern Secular Politics”
2016 April, 2016 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago: Selves and Souls in the Modern State

SELECT GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Dean S. Dorman Scholarship (\$500 Research Funding) (2020)
University of Chicago Summer Language Scholarship (For Ancient Greek Studies) (2018)
University of Chicago Social Sciences Scholarship (\$27,918) (2017)
European Union Studies Association Asia Pacific Conference Travel Grant (2016)
Korea University International Conference Travel Grant (2016)
Korea University Brain Korea 21 Grant (2015)
Korea University School of Political Science and Economics Undergraduate Scholarship (2014)

SELECT AWARDS

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Teachers Ranked as Excellent [PS 270 - TA] (2020)*
Korea University Best Graduate Dissertation Proposal (2016)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign LAS Edmund J. James Scholar (2010)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATES

Instructor

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- PS100: Introduction to Political Science (Fall 2020)

Teaching Assistant

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- PS270: Introduction to Political Theory (Fall 2019)*

Korea University

- POL778: On Multiculturalism (2015 Fall)
- POL238: Law and Political Thought (2015 Fall)

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL SERVICES

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Political Science Department

Grievance Representative of the Political Science Graduate Student Association, 2020-2021

METHODS TRAINING AND SKILLS

Quantitative Methods Training

QPA I – Quantitative Political Analysis with R
QPA II – Statistical Inference for the Linear Model
QPA III – Spatial Econometrics/Causal Inference

Qualitative Methods Training

On Interviews, Surveys, and Focus Groups
Interpretive Methods in Political Theory
Perspectives in Social Science Analysis

Technical Skills

R, GeoDa, QGIS,
L^AT_EX, Markdown, GitHub, MS Office
Adobe Creative, Video & Sound Editing

Language Skills

English (Fluent)
Korean (Fluent)
Chinese (Intermediate)
Ancient Greek (Basic Reading)

SELECT NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

Korean-English Translator and Copy Editor, Korea Institute for National Unification, Freelancer (2020 -)
Editor & Graphic Designer, [Woorigachi](#) (Online Social Science Publishing Venue), Online (2016 -)
English Editor, Blue House (The Office of the President of the Republic of Korea), Seoul, Korea (2013)
Public Diplomacy Intern, Korea Foundation, Seoul, Korea (2012)
Government Affairs Intern, GlaxoSmithKline, Seoul, Korea (2011)
Intern (Shadowing), The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, Seoul, Korea (2010)