

Academic Appointments

Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania, United States

SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow

September 2024 – present

Supervisor: Distinguished Prof. John Gastil

Education

University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, **2024**

Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science (Major: Political Theory, Minor: Public Policy)

Committee: Prof. Margaret Kohn (Chair), Prof. Melissa Williams, and Prof. Courtney Jung

York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, **2017**

Master in Environmental Studies, Planning (Specialization: Social and Political Theory in Planning)

Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University), Toronto, Ontario, Canada, **2015**

Master of Arts, Philosophy

Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, **2013**

Honours Bachelor of Arts with Distinction, Philosophy (Specialization: Ethics and Public Affairs, Minor in Political Science)

Awards

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award University of Toronto Scarborough	2023-24
SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship to Honour Nelson Mandela, University of Toronto	2019-2022
Graduate Admissions Award, Doctoral, University of Toronto	2017-2018
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Doctoral, York University (Political Science)	Declined
SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Master's Scholarship, York University	2016-2017
York Graduate Scholarship, York University	2015-2016
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Toronto Metropolitan University	2014-2015
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Toronto Metropolitan University	2013-2014

Peer-Reviewed Academic Publications

“Elections for Direction, Sortition for Judgment: A New Model of Bicameral Democracy” (*Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*) (**Accepted Oct 2nd, 2025**)

‘Participation beyond the assembly: Mary Parker Follett’s democratic theory’, *Contemporary Political Theory*, 24(3) (Supporting author with Etienne Cardin-Trudeau, Margeret Kohn, and Madalyn Kay) (2025)

‘Phenomenology, Habit, and Environmental Inaction’, *Ethics, Policy & Environment*, 25(2) (with Mulvihill, P.) (2022)

‘The moral limits of autonomous democracy for planning theory: A critique of Purcell’, *Planning Theory*, 18(1) (2019)

‘The Eclipse of Environmental Discourse’, *Human Geography*, 11(3), (with Mulvihill, P.) (2018)

Invited Academic Publications

“Design Principles for Promoting Deliberative Democracy Online”, *Contemporary Political Theory* (On Forestal’s Thinking Democracy in a Digital Age), 24, 517–544, (Lead author with John Gastil) (2025)

‘The Social Empowerment of Equal Chances: Sortition as a Democratic Bridge Between Liberalism and Socialism’, in M. McManus (ed.) *Liberalism and Socialism: Mortal Enemies or Embittered Kin?* (2021). Palgrave

‘Introduction: Liberalism and its Discontents’, in McManus, M., *A Critical Legal Examination of Liberalism and Liberal Rights* (2020). Palgrave

“Chantal Mouffe” in Sardoc, M (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity*, Springer (Under Review)

“William Connolly” in Sardoc, M (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity*, Springer (Under Review)

Works Under Review or in Progress

“A Realist Theory of Participatory Democracy: Insights from Grounded Normative Theory” (Lead author with Margaret Kohn, Etienne Cardin-Trudeau, and Madalyn Hay) (**Under Review**)

“Defending Mutual Understanding as a Democratic Ideal: A Response to Advocates of Deference, Political Emotion, and Strategic Withdrawal” (**Under Review**)

“Democratic Deliberation and the Ideological Turing Test” (Lead Author with John Gastil and Justin Savoie) (In Preparation, **IRB approved, survey in testing**)

“Phenomenology and the Limits of Democratic Subjectivity” (In Preparation)

Academic Presentations

“Defending Mutual Understanding in Democracy: A Response to Advocates of Deference, Political Emotion, and Strategic Withdrawal” – Canadian Political Science Association 2025 – June 2025

“Democracy, Phenomenology, and Deference” – Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture Conference 2025 – June 2025

“Addressing Inclusion and Self-Rule in Sortition: Creating an Elected Agenda-Setting Body” – Association of Political Theory Meeting 2024 – November 2024

“The Ideological Turing Test and Democratic Deliberation: On Excluding Bad Faith Deliberators” – Western Political Science Association Conference 2024 – March 2024

“On Excluding Bad Faith Political Deliberators: A Defense” - Atlantic Provinces Political Science Association Annual Conference 2023 – Oct 2023

“The Banality of Emancipation: Phenomenology and Possibilities for Radical Democratic Transformation” – Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture Conference 2023 – May 2023
(*Congress Graduate Merit Award Recipient*)

“Disagreement and Conflict in Radical Democracy: Toward an Optimal Radical Democratic Attitude” – Canadian Political Science Association 2023 – May 2023

“Radical Democratic Civic Virtue as Anti-Habituality: A Consensus of Dissensus” - American Political Science Association 2022 – Sept 2022

“Political Mobilization and the Phenomenological Roots of Citizen Passivity” – Canadian Political Science Association 2022 – May 2022

“Subjectivity in Participatory and Radical Democracy: A Phenomenological Critique” - University of Chicago Graduate Political Theory Conference – Oct 2022

“Subjectivity in Participatory and Radical Democracy: A Phenomenological Critique” - University of Ottawa Political Studies Conference – Mar 2020

Teaching Experience

Course Instructor

Advanced Topics in Peace, Conflict and Justice – Fall 2024 – University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

Modern Political Thought: Freedom and Equality – Spring 2023 (Co-instructor with Stefan Macleod) - University of Toronto, Department of Political Science

Teaching Assistant - Tutorial Leader

“Politics and Social Justice” - University of Toronto

“Law Justice and Rights” - University of Toronto

“Introduction to Political Theory” - University of Toronto

“Modern Political Theory” - University of Toronto

“Political Theory: Visions of a Just/Good Society” - University of Toronto

“Ideas and Ideologies” - University of Toronto

“Intro to Political Science: The Real World of Politics (Lead TA 2021-2024)” - University of Toronto

“Critical Thinking and Reasoning” - Toronto Metropolitan University

Guest Lectures

“Morality and Cost-Benefit Analysis” (Moral Foundations of Public Policy) – University of Toronto (The Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy)

“John Stuart Mill and Liberty” (Liberal Political Theory) – University of Calgary

“Globalization and Neoliberalism” (Global Urban Politics) – University of Toronto

Grading Assistant

“Race and Privilege from a Global Perspective” – University of Toronto

“Comparative Political Theory” – University of Toronto

“Global Public Policy and Sustainability Development Goals” – University of Toronto

“Politics and the Policy Process” – University of Toronto

“Global Urban Politics” – University of Toronto

“Peace Conflict and Justice” – University of Toronto

“Public Policy in Canada” – University of Toronto

“Moral Foundations of Public Policy” – University of Toronto (The Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy)

Primary Research Experience

2024–Present: Co-Investigator, SSHRC Postdoctoral project with Prof. John Gastil – Survey experimental research testing people’s ability to articulate polarizing political perspectives they do not agree with (passing the “ideological Turing test”).

2022–2024: Research Assistant, SSHRC Project under Prof. Margaret Kohn – Interviewing residents of housing co-ops to investigate democratic processes and solidarity. First author manuscript in preparation

2017: Community Researcher, Jane/Finch Centre – Research on neighborhood development, on the ground engagement with the community.

Professional and Public Engagement

Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC), Member at large (conference organizing, executive committee) May 2023–Present

Academic Edgelords Podcast (podcast that engages with contentious published academic work), Co-Host and Creator May 2023–present

Plastic Pills Podcast (philosophy podcast in top 1% of all podcasts), Co-Host Feb 2020–Present

University of Toronto Political Theory Research Workshop, Convener, website manager Sept 2020–Apr 2022

Ontario Ethics Bowl, Competition Judge Mar 2022

University of Toronto Political Science Graduate School Panel, *Speaker*, invited to speak to undergraduates about graduate school, benefits and drawbacks, my personal experiences Apr 2018

University of Toronto GASPS , Social Convener, Social event coordination for graduate students in Political Science	Sept 2017 - Apr 2018
Ontario Climate Consortium , <i>Report Writer and Volunteer</i> , Helped with setup and facilitation of the 2017 Ontario Climate Symposium, and compiled a 10,000 word post-event proceedings report	May 2017 – Aug 2017
PASAN , <i>Writer</i> , research/writing to assist in the re-launch of <i>Cell Count</i> , a publication focused on harm reduction in Canadian prisons	Oct 2016 – July 2017
Ryerson Philosophy Graduate Students Union , <i>Social Chair</i> , departmental event coordination	Sept 2014 – Apr 2015
Ryerson Graduate Philosophy Conference , <i>Organizing Committee Member</i> , peer review of submitted papers, event coordination	Feb 2014, Feb 2015

Popular Publications

Far-Right Intellectuals Are Offering Workers a Rotten Deal. *Jacobin Magazine* (2021). (with McManus M.) <https://jacobinmag.com/2021/01/benjamin-teitelbaum-war-for-eternity-steve-bannon>

Oppositional Thinking and the Importance of Compassion (2020). *Areo Magazine*: <https://areomagazine.com/2020/08/25/oppositional-thinking-and-the-importance-of-compassion/>

How to Escape the Partisan Mindset and Why You'll Probably Fail. *Areo Magazine*. (with McManus M.) <https://areomagazine.com/2018/09/20/how-to-escape-the-partisan-mindset-and-why-youll-probably-fail/>