

RICHARD AVRAMENKO

Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2019 - present **Professor**
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2013 - 2019 **Associate Professor**
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2005 - 2013 **Assistant Professor**
Department of Political Science/Integrated Liberal Studies University of
Wisconsin-Madison

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- 2014 - present **Director**
Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2015 - present **Editor-in-Chief**
The Political Science Reviewer
- 2015 - 2020 **Chairperson**
Integrated Liberal Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Georgetown University (2005)**
Washington, DC
Department of Government
- M.A., Carleton University (1997)**
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Department of Political Science

B.A., University of Calgary (1994)
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Department of Political Science

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- *Aristocratic Souls in Democratic Times*. Co-Edited with Ethan Alexander-Davey (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2018)
- *Dostoevsky's Political Philosophy*. Co-Edited with Lee Trepanier (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2013)
- *Courage: The Politics of Life and Limb* (University of Notre Dame Press, October, 2011)
 - ForeWord Review's Book of the Year Award, Bronze medal, in the Political Science category
 - Subject of Roundtable Discussion, MPSA 2013
 - Reviewed in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, *VoegelinView*, *Perspectives on Politics*
 - Featured in *The Montreal Review*
- *Friendship and Politics: Essays in Political Thought*. Co-Edited with John von Heyking (University of Notre Dame Press, May 2008)

Articles:

- "The Politics of Suicide: *Miasma* and *Katharmos* in Plato's Political Thought" (under review, with Philip Bunn)
- "Disciplining the Rich: Tocqueville on Philanthropy and Privilege" (with Brianne Wolf, *Review of Politics*, vol. 83:3, 2021)
- "When Toleration Becomes a Vice: Naming Aristotle's Third Unnamed Virtue" (with Michael Promisel, *American Journal of Political Science*, vol. 62:4, 2018)
- "Sportsmanship and Politics: Xenophon on *Ponos* and Democratic Competition" (with Thomas Bunting, *Perspectives on Political Science*, vol. 47:3, 2018)
- "The Gnostic and the *Spoudaios*: Voegelin, Aristotle and the Science of the Soul" (*Political Science Reviewer*, vol. 41:1, 2017)
- "The Grammar of Indifference: Tocqueville and the Language of Democracy" (*Political Theory*, vol. 45:4, 2017)
- "Book Symposium: Jeffrey E. Green's *The Eyes of the People: Democracy in an Age of Spectatorship*" (*Democratic Theory*, vol. 2:1 (pp. 85-99), Summer 2015)
- "Symposium: Edited by Richard Avramenko and Melissa Schwartzberg: Jeffrey E. Green's *The Eyes of the People: Democracy in an Age of Spectatorship*" (*Political Theory*, vol. 42:2, 2014)
- "Democratic Dystopia: Tocqueville and the American Penitentiary System" (with Robert Gingrich, *Polity*, vol. 46:1, 2013)
- "Subprime Virtues: The Moral Dimensions of American Housing and Mortgage Policy" (with Richard Boyd, *Perspectives on Politics*, vol. 11:1, March 2013)
- "Tocqueville and the Religion of Democracy" (*Perspectives on Political Science*, vol. 41:3, July 2012)
- "The Road to Perplexity: The Temporal-Ontological Presence of Nowness in Martin Heidegger's *Being and Time*" (*International Political Anthropology*, November 2009)

- “Of Firemen, Sophists, and Hunter-Philosophers: Citizenship and Courage in Plato’s *Laches*” (*Polis*, vol. 24:2, Fall 2007)
- “The Wound and Salve of Time: Augustine’s Politics of Human Happiness” (*Review of Metaphysics*, 60:4, June 2007)
- “Bedeviled by Boredom: A Voegelinian Reading of Dostoevsky’s *Possessed*” (*Humanitas*, vol. XVII, nos. 1&2, 2004)

Book Chapters:

- “Fugitive Aristocracy: Tocqueville’s Search for the Remnants of the *Ancien Régime*” (forthcoming, in *The Cambridge Companion to Tocqueville’s Democracy in America*. Cambridge University Press, 2022)
- “Tocqueville on the Present State and Probable Future of Quebec” (with Noah Stengl, forthcoming in *Canadian Political Thought*, McGill-Queens University Press, 2021)
- “Looking Down Tocqueville’s Nose: On the Problem of Aristocratic Etiquette in Democratic Times” (with Noah Stengl, in *Aristocratic Souls in Democratic Times*, Lexington Book, 2018)
- “Of Homesteaders and Orangemen: An Archeology of Western Canadian Political Identity” (in *Hunting and Weaving: Essays on Empirical Political Thought*, St. Augustine Press, 2013)
- “Dostoevsky’s Heroines: or, on the Compassion of the Russian Woman” (with Jingcai Ying in *Dostoevsky’s Political Thought*, Lexington Books, 2013)
- “Freedom from Freedom: on the Metaphysics of Liberty in Dostoevsky’s *Crime and Punishment*” (in *Dostoevsky’s Political Thought*, Lexington Books, 2013)
- “Zarathustra and his Asinine Friends: Nietzsche on Post-modern, Post-liberal Friendship” (in *Friendship and Politics: Essays in Political Thought*, University of Notre Dame Press, 2008)

Books in progress:

- *Canadian Political Thought* (in progress, with Lee Trepanier)
- *Subprime Virtues: The Moral Lessons of the Financial Crisis* (in progress)
- *The Crush of Democracy: Alexis de Tocqueville and the Democratic Mind* (under contract, Notre Dame University Press)

Articles and chapters in progress:

- “Hermits, Heroes, and Demagogues: Dostoevsky’s Repudiation of the Rational Actor Model” (in progress, for *Critics of Enlightenment Rationalism*, ed. Kenneth MacIntyre and Eugene Callahan)
- “Wither the Contented? Tocqueville and the Fate of the Unambitious in Democratic Times” (in progress, with Benjamin Rolsma)
- “From Homeownership to Affordable Housing: Fannie Mae and the Tranching of the American Dream” (in progress, with Richard Boyd)
- “Tocqueville and the Time of Democracy” (in progress)
- “Placing the Political: Tocqueville and the Spatiality of Democracy” (in progress)
- “The Science of Dogma: Tocqueville and the Methods of Political Theory” (in progress)
- *Kata, Forme, or Procedure? Alexis de Tocqueville and Bruce Lee on Democratic Aesthetics*” (in progress, with Jin Jin)

Reviews:

- “Mark Blyth, *Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea*,” VoegelinView (October, 2017)
- Jeffrey Church: Infinite Autonomy: The Divided Individual in the Thought of G.W.F. Hegel and Friedrich Nietzsche, *Perspectives on Politics*, 12:02, 2014
- “Peter A. French: The Virtues of Vengeance,” *The Review of Metaphysics*, vol LVI, no. 4, June 2003
- “John R. Wallach. The Platonic Political Art: A Study of Critical Reason and Democracy,” *The Review of Metaphysics*, vol. LVI, no.3, March 2003

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Paper: “Killing me Softly: Suicide in Plato’s *Laws* and *Phaedo*,” American Political Science Association, August 2018, Boston, MA, August 2018
- Paper: “The Properties of Liberal Virtue,” Association for Political Theory, Ann Arbor, MI, October 2017
- Paper: “The Properties of Liberal Virtue,” American Political Science Association, August 2017, San Francisco, CA, August 2017
- Paper: “When Toleration becomes a Vice: Aristotle on Political Correctness,” Canadian Political Science Association, Calgary AB, June 3, 2016
- Paper: “Democratic Losers: Sportsmanship and the Ethics of Winning and Losing,” Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA, March 26, 2016
- Paper: “Tocqueville and the Shame of Economic Life,” American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 2015
- Paper: “From Homeownership to Affordable Housing: Tranching the American Dream,” WPSA, Las Vegas, NV, April, 2015
- Conference Host and Organizer: Association for Political Theory, Madison, WI, October 2014
- Paper: “Placing the Political: Tocqueville and the Spatiality of Democracy,” Association for Political Theory, Columbia, SC, October 2012.
- Paper: “Stepping Over: Two Kinds of Freedom in F.M. Dostoevsky’s *Crime and Punishment*,” International Political Science Association, Madrid, Spain, July 2012
- Chair and discussant: Roundtable Symposium on Jeffrey Green’s *The Eyes of the People: Democracy in the Age of Spectatorship*, Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2012
- Discussant: Ancient Greek Political Practices, Association for Political Theory, Notre Dame, IN, October 2011
- Paper: “Hermits, Heroes, and Demagogues: Notes from Underground and the Social Sciences,” American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, August 2011
- Paper: “Democratic Catechisms: Tocqueville and the Methods of Political Theory,” Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2011
- Discussant: The Presence of the Past, Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2011
- Paper: “The Grammar of Indifference: Tocqueville and the Language of Democracy” American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, September 2010
- Paper: “Tocqueville and the Language of Democracy” Grace A. Tanner Symposium on Democracy, Rhetoric, and Language, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, January 2010

- Paper: “The Fullness of Time: Tocqueville and the Democratic Moment” American Political Science Association, Toronto, Canada, September 2009
- Paper: “The Gnostic and the Spoudaios: Voegelin, Aristotle, and the art of Pneumopathology” American Political Science Association, Toronto, Canada, September 2009
- Paper: “The Time of Democracy: Tocqueville and the Fourth Dimension” Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2009
- Discussant: Reading Political Theory Against the Grain, Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2009
- Discussant: *Spectatorship and Audience Democracy*, American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, September, 2008
- Chair and Discussant: *Socrates as Paradigm and Political Thinker*, Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2008
- Discussant: Immigration, Multiculturalism, and Internal Nationalism, American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2007
- Paper: “Underground Hermits, Heroes, and Demagogues: The Rational Actor Model in Dostoevsky’s Notes from Underground” The Fifth International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Paris, July 2007
- Discussant: Postmodernity and Antiquity, Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2007
- Panel Organizer: *Tocqueville and the Religions of Democracy*, American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 2006
- Paper: “Tocqueville on the Necessary (but not sufficient) Religion of Democracy” American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 2006
- Paper: “Nietzsche and the Greek Idea of Immortality.” American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 2006

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER FOR:

- *American Political Science Review*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Polis: The British Journal of Ancient Political Thought*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Review of Politics*, *Journal of Politics*, *History of Political Thought*, *Political Science Reviewer*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, Catholic University Press, University of Notre Dame Press, Yale University Press, University of Kentucky Press, University of Chicago Press, Cambridge University Press, Princeton University Press, Lexington Books.

AWARDS AND INVITED LECTURES

- 2015-18 University Housing Honored Instructor
- 2013-2016 Howe-Bascom Professorship (\$11,000/year)
- 2012 University Housing Honored Instructor (Spring)
- 2012 Distinguished Honors Faculty Award
- 2012 University of Wisconsin Graduate School Fall Competition
- 2011 Earhart Foundation Fellowship (\$15,500)
- 2011 Meikeljohn-Powell Course Development Grant (\$5000)
- 2010 University of Wisconsin-Madison William H. Kiekhofers Distinguished Teaching Award (\$5000)

- January 2010, Invited Participant, Grace A. Tanner Symposium on Democracy, Rhetoric, and Language, Southern Utah University
- Fall 2009, Resident Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin
- Summer 2009, Lehrman Summer Institute for American Studies, Princeton University
- Summer 2009, University of Wisconsin Graduate School Fall Competition
- Summer 2008, Hilldale Undergraduate/Faculty Research Fellowship (with Rocio Sanchez-Moyano)
- Honors Summer Sophomore Research Apprenticeship Grant (with Devra Cohen)
- 2006 Vilas Junior Faculty Research Grant (\$12,500)
- 2004-5 Bradley Post-doctoral Fellowship
- Invited Lecture: “Tocqueville, Equality, and the American Democratic Tradition” for the 2004 U.S. Middle East Partnership Initiative (Georgetown University and U.S. State Department), July 2004
- 2003-2004 Jill Hopper Memorial Fellowship, Department of Government, Georgetown University
- 2004 Junior Visiting Fellow, Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen/Institute for the Human Sciences, Vienna, Austria (declined)
- 2003-4 Graduate Political Theory Paper of the Year, Department of Government, Georgetown University: “Zarathustra and his Asinine Friends: A Study of Post-modern, Post-liberal Friendship”
- 2002-3 Graduate Public Policy Paper of the Year, Department of Government, Georgetown University: “Pro-Social Attitude in Boot Camps: An Assessment of the Impact of Race and Institutional Factors”
- 2001-2 Graduate Political Theory Paper of the Year, Department of Government, Georgetown University: “From Inauthenticity to Perplexity: The Temporal-Ontological Presence of Nowness in Martin Heidegger's *Being and Time*”
- Invited Lecture: “Tocqueville and the American Intellectual Tradition,” for the Hong Kong Exchange Initiative, Georgetown University, June 2004
- Invited Lecture: “Nietzsche and 20th Century Morality,” for the *New Scholarship Lecture Series*, Modern Languages Department, Catholic University of America, April 2002
- Distinction, Political Theory Comprehensive Exam, Department of Government, Georgetown University, January 2000

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (UW)

Undergraduate:

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heidegger • Elements of Political Thought • The Romance of War • Politics and Literature • Tocqueville's <i>Democracy in America</i> • Philosophical Issues of Political Economy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient and Medieval Western Political Thought • Western Culture: History of Political, Social, and Economic Thought I • Western Culture: History of Political, Social, and Economic Thought II • Community, Society, Economy • Food, Friendship, and Community |
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Graduate Seminars:

- Nietzsche
- Heidegger
- Plato's *Laws*
- Methods of Political Theory
- Tocqueville

REFERENCES:

Professor Joshua Mitchell
Department of Government
Georgetown University

Professor Aurelian Craiutu
Department of Political Science
Indiana University

Professor Daniel Kapust
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison