

# John McMahon

\*current as of December 2020\*

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## EDUCATION

- 2016      **Ph.D., The Graduate Center, City University of New York**  
Political Science  
Major Field: Political Theory (With Distinction)  
Minor Field: International Relations (With Distinction)  
Women's Studies Certificate  
Dissertation: Feeling Political: Affect, Emotion, and Ethics in Western Political Theory
- 2010      **M.A., Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver**  
International Studies
- 2010      **B.A., University of Denver**  
International Studies; Russian  
Phi Beta Kappa

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-present      **Assistant Professor, SUNY Plattsburgh**  
Department of Political Science
- 2016-2018      **Visiting Assistant Professor, Beloit College**  
Department of Political Science  
Affiliate Faculty, Law & Justice Program

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-reviewed journal articles

- Forthcoming      **McMahon, J.** "Sonia Sotomayor's Legal Phenomenology, Racial Policing, and the Limits of Law," accepted at *Polity*
- Crandall, E., Brown, R. and **McMahon, J.** "Magicians of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Utopia, Work, and Domination in Silicon Valley," accepted at *Theory & Event*
- 2019      **McMahon, J.** "Producing Political Knowledge: Students as Podcasters in the Political Science Classroom," *Journal of Political Science Education*, DOI: 10.1080/15512169.2019.1640121

- Schiller, A. and **McMahon, J.** “Alexa, Alert Me When the Revolution Comes: Gender, Affect, and Labor the Age of Home-Based Artificial Intelligence,” *New Political Science* 41 (2), 173-191
- 2018 **McMahon, J.** “The ‘Enigma of Biopolitics’: Antiracism, Modernity, and Roberto Esposito’s Biopolitics,” *Political Theory* 46 (5), 749-771
- McMahon, J.** “Vital Forces: Marx and the Tension of Capitalist Affect,” *Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association* 7 (1), doi: 10.25158/L7.1.4
- 2017 Jen, J.T. and **McMahon, J.** “Timely Politics: A Political Theory of Messianic, Evangelical, and Queer Temporalities.” *Theory & Event* 20 (4), 923-949
- 2016 **McMahon, J.** “Emotional Orientations: Simone de Beauvoir and Sara Ahmed on Subjectivity and the Emotional Phenomenology of Gender.” *philoSOPHIA: A Journal of Continental Feminism* 6 (2), 215-240
- 2015 **McMahon, J.** “Behavioral Economics as Neoliberalism: Producing and Governing ‘Homo Economicus.’” *Contemporary Political Theory* 14 (2), 137-158

### Chapters in edited volumes

- Forthcoming Issar, S., Brown, R., and **McMahon, J.** “Rosa Luxemburg and the Primitive Accumulation of Whiteness.” In *Creolizing Rosa Luxemburg*, ed. Drucilla Cornell and Jane Anna Gordon, Rowman & Littlefield
- 2020 Beatty, J., Hartnett, T., Kimok, D., and **McMahon, J.** “‘And Still We Rise’: Open Pedagogy and Black History at a Rural Comprehensive State College.” In *Open Pedagogy: Faculty, Library, and Student Collaborations*, ed. Alexis Clifton and Kimberly Davies Hoffman, Rebus Publishers/Milne Library

### Invited book reviews

- 2018 **McMahon, J.** “The Pedagogy of Feminist Theory.” Symposium on *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theory*, ed. Lisa Disch and Mary Hawkesworth (2016), *Politics & Gender* 14 (2) e10, 13-17

## TEACHING AND PEDAGOGY

### Courses taught

#### SUNY Plattsburgh, Plattsburgh, NY

- Introduction to Political Thought
- Political Ideals and Ideologies
- African-American Political Thought
- Feminist Political Thought
- Justice and Politics
- Global Political Thought
- Seminar in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Political Thought
- Honors Seminar: Why Do We Work?: The Politics of Work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

US National Politics (Fall 2018)

Beloit College, Beloit, WI

Introduction to Political Thinking (Fall 2016; Fall 2017, Spring 2018)  
 US Federal Government and Politics (Fall 2016; Spring 2017)  
 Modern Political Theory (Spring 2017)  
 US Constitutional Law (Spring 2017)  
 US Political Thought (Fall 2017)  
 Classical Justice (Spring 2018)  
 Senior Capstone Research Seminar in Political Theory and Public Law (Spring 2018)

Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY

Historical Introduction to American Government (Fall 2012, Spring 2013)  
 Women and Gender in Western Political Thought (semesterly, Fall 2012 – Spring 2014)  
 Modern Political Thought (Fall 2013)  
 Political Thought Since 1900 (Spring 2014)

**Pedagogy development**

- 2019-20 Co-Organizer, “Anti-Oppression Work at a PWI” Dialogue Project, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, SUNY Plattsburgh
- 2019 Curator and Contributor, “And Still We Rise: Celebrating Plattsburgh’s (Re)Discovery of Iconic Black Visitors.” Exhibit at Feinberg Library, SUNY Plattsburgh ([tinyurl.com/plattsburghrise](http://tinyurl.com/plattsburghrise))
- 2018 Participant, “Diversifying Political Theory 101” workshop, Association for Political Theory Annual Conference
- 2017-18 Participant, Mellon Foundation Pedagogy Series, Beloit College Office of Academic Diversity and Inclusiveness
- 2017 Facilitator, Beloit Summer Institute, Beloit College Office of Academic Diversity and Inclusiveness
- Participant, Advising Workshop Retreat, Beloit College
- 2014-16 Coordinator, Teaching Political Science seminar, The Graduate Center, CUNY
- 2014-15 Writing Across the Curriculum Fellow, Hunter College, CUNY  
 Faculty development; research on Writing Across the Curriculum pedagogy; writing workshops and tutoring for Political Science students

**PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP**

2014-present **Co-Host, Always Already Podcast**

Podcast featuring discussions of books and articles in political theory and critical theory and interviews with academics and activists

- 2016 “Do Government Incentives Make Us Bad Citizens?” *Boston Review*, July 19
- 2015 “Training for Neoliberalism.” *Boston Review*, July 15

## FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016 Fellow, Committee for the Study of Religion, The Graduate Center, CUNY
- 2013-16 Fellow, Center for Global Ethics and Politics, The Graduate Center, CUNY
- 2012-13 Mellon Fellow, Mellon Seminar Series on “Democratic Citizenship and the Recognition of Cultural Differences,” The Graduate Center, CUNY

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

### Paper presentations (selected)

- 2020 “Guns, Affect, and White Solidarity,” Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, November 7-14 (co-authored)
- 2019 “Tarrying with Whiteness: ‘All Lives Matter,’ White Fragility, and Phenomenologies of Whiteness in an Antiracist World,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 29-September 1
- 2018 “Bad Faith Universality: Race, Anti-politics and the Theoretical Structure of ‘All Lives Matter,’” Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, October 18-20 and Northeastern Political Science Association Annual meeting, November 8-10
- “The Primitive Accumulation of Whiteness: Catalyzing Racial Capitalism,” Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, October 18-20 (co-authored)
- “Cyborgs, Vampires, Giants: Work, Gender, and Silicon Valley’s Neoliberal Dreams,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, March 29-31 (co-authored)
- 2017 “Alexa, Affect, and Alienation: The Feminine Mystique in the Age of Home-Based Artificial Intelligence,” Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, October 12-14 (co-authored)
- “Civil Death, Social Death: Thinking Afro-pessimism with Sonia Sotomayor,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 31–September 3
- “Get a (Democratic) Life: Politicizing Work within Democratic Theory,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 13-15 (co-authored)

- “Producing Political Knowledge: Students as Bloggers, Students as Podcasters in the Political Science Classroom,” American Political Science Association Teaching & Learning Conference, February 10-12
- 2016 “Race and Biopolitics: A Black Feminist Critique,” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, November 10-12
- “Materialist Feminism, Social Reproduction, and Affective Capacity,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, March 24-26
- 2015 “Feeling as Method? Affective Encounters with the Political Theory Canon,” Association for Political Theory Conference, October 22-24
- “Political Theory of the Flesh? Affect, the Canon, and an Ethics of Embodiment,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 3-6
- “Critiques of Chrononormativity: Queer, Evangelical, and Messianic Temporalities,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 3-6 (co-authored)
- “Marx, the Tension of Capitalist Affect, and the Future Communal Body,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2-4, and Open Embodiments, Somatechnics Research Network, April 15-18
- 2014 “‘Vital Forces’: Marx and the Tension of Capitalist Affect,” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, November 13-15
- “Affect Theory and the Dynamic Hobbesian Body,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 28-31
- 2013 “Emotional Orientations: Emotions, Gender, and Transformation in De Beauvoir’s *The Second Sex*,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, November 7-10 and Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Conference, November 14-16
- “Depoliticization, Essentialization, or Transformation? UN Women’s Representations of Men and Masculinity,” International Studies Association Annual Convention, April 3-6
- 2012 “Behavioral Economics as Apparatus: Producing and Governing ‘Homo Economicus,’” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Conference, November 15-17

### **Workshops Facilitated**

- 2020 “Anti-Oppression work at a PWI: A Dialogue Project,” Association of American Colleagues & Universities Diversity, Equity, and Student Success Conference, March 19-21 (proposal accepted; conference canceled due to COVID-19)

### **Panels Organized**

- 2018 “Democracy, Domination, and Structures of Exclusion” panel, Northeastern Political Science Association Annual meeting, November 8-10

### **Roundtables Organized**

- 2018 “Teaching White Supremacy: Pedagogical Reflections after Charlottesville,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, March 29-31
- 2017 “Teaching Contentious Issues in the Political Science Classroom: Pedagogical Reflections,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 13-15

### **Roundtable Participation**

- 2017 “Highlights from the Teaching and Learning Conference,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 31–September 3

### **Discussant**

- 2020 “Political Subjects” Panel, CUNY Graduate Center Political Science Graduate Student Conference, December 4
- 2017 “Affect, Democratic Subjectivity, and Solidarity” Panel, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 31–September 3
- “The Affects of Democracy” Panel, Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 13-15
- 2016 “Reflections on History and the Cosmos” Panel, Northeastern Political Science Association, November 10-12

### **Invited Talks**

- 2020 “Gender and Theories of Political Representation,” International Affairs Conference, Star Island, NH, July 25-August 1 (conference canceled due to COVID-19)

### **DEPARTMENTAL AND CAMPUS TALKS**

- 2019 “‘Alexa, Alert Me When the Revolution Comes,’” Gender and Women’s Studies Forum, SUNY Plattsburgh, November 14
- “When All ≠ Everyone: #AllLivesMatter, #BlackLivesMatter, and the Racial Politics of Freedom,” Tuesday Reflections speaker series, SUNY Plattsburgh, March 26
- “When Being Nice Isn't Enough: Race, Privilege, and Structure,”

- Social Justice Teach-In, SUNY Plattsburgh February 27
- 2018 “Sonia Sotomayor, #BlackLivesMatter, and the Fourth Amendment,” Panel on Criminal Justice Reform, Beloit College, March 7
- 2017 “This Is Not Us? Charlottesville and the Early American State,” Charlottesville: Exception or Rule? panel, Beloit College, September 13
- “Student Podcasts,” Instructional Technology Workshop Series on Student Engagement, Beloit College, March 27
- “‘This is What Democracy Looks Like’: Democratic Theory and Protest Politics in the Age of Trump,” Trump’s First 100 Days panel, Beloit College, February 13
- “The Travel Ban, Xenophobia, and the Politics of Fear,” Immigration and Xenophobia Roundtable panel, Beloit College, February 3
- 2016 “Grad School: What Is It Good For?,” Advising Practicum Faculty Panel, Beloit College, October 26
- “Using Class Blogs in the Political Science Classroom,” Political Science Program Professional Development Series: Teaching With Technology, The Graduate Center, CUNY, March 17
- 2015 “Feeling Political: Affect, Emotion, and Ethics in Western Political Theory,” Political Science Colloquium Series, The Graduate Center, October 29

### **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

- 2020-present Member, Board of Directors, Consortium for Undergraduate Law and Justice Programs
- 2019 Member, Program Committee, Association for Political Theory

### **Journal manuscript reviewer**

*Constellations: An International Journal of Critical and Democratic Theory; Contemporary Political Theory; Health, Risk & Society; Human Relations; International Political Sociology; Journal of Political Science Education; Journal of Social Philosophy; Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association; Men and Masculinities; New Political Science; philoSOPHIA: A Journal of Continental Feminism; Political Theory; Political Studies; Political Research Quarterly; Politics & Gender; Polity*

### **DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- 2020 Faculty Mentor, Student B.R.A.V.E. Space Project, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Facilitator, Anti-Racism Affinity Groups, Office of Diversity, Equity and

Inclusion

Member, Middle States Accreditation campus working group  
2019-2020 Member, Student Life Committee  
2018-present Advisor, SUNY Plattsburgh chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Political Science Association  
Association for Political Theory  
Consortium for Undergraduate Law and Justice Programs

**REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**