

Adam J. Dahl

Department of Political Science
University of Massachusetts Amherst
536 Thompson Hall, 200 Hicks Way
Amherst, MA 01003

Tele: 413-545-2438
Email: adah1@umass.edu
<https://adamdahl.wordpress.com/>

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Minnesota, 2014

Subfields: Political Theory and American Politics

Dissertation: “Empire of the People: The Ideology of Democratic Empire in the Antebellum United States”

M.A. in Political Science (with Distinction), Purdue University, 2008

Subfields: Political Theory and Public Policy

B.S. in Political Science and Public Policy (Honors), University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 2005

Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Political Science, 2021-Present

Assistant Professor, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Political Science, 2017-2021

Assistant Professor, Sewanee: The University of the South, Politics, 2015-2017

Lecturer, University of Minnesota, Political Science, 2014-2015

Publications

Book

Empire of the People: Settler Colonialism and the Foundations of Modern Democratic Thought
(University Press of Kansas, 2018)

- Reviewed in *CHOICE*, *American Political Thought*, *Review of Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Theory & Event*, *Transmotion*, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *Early American Literature*, *Native American and Indigenous Studies*, *H-Net Reviews*, *Journal of American History*, and *Perspectives on Politics*

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois, the United Nations, and the Politics of Space and Scale,” *Modern Intellectual History*, Accepted for publication

“Beyond the Anglo-World: Settler Colonialism and Democracy in the Americas,” *Polity*, Accepted for publication

“Unusual Returns: Transnational Whiteness and the Dividends of Empire,” *Constellations*, [Forthcoming](#)

“Oppression and Racial Slavery: Abolitionist Challenges to Neo-Republicanism,” *Contemporary Political Theory*, 20, 1 (June 2021), 272-295

- “Creolizing Natural Liberty: Transnational Obligation in the Thought of Ottobah Cugoano,” *Journal of Politics*, 82, 3 (July 2020), 908-920
- “Narrating Historical Injustice: Political Responsibility and the Politics of Memory” (w/ David Temin), *Political Research Quarterly*, 70, 4 (Dec. 2017), 905-917
- “The Black American Jacobins: Revolution, Radical Abolition, and the Transnational Turn,” *Perspectives on Politics*, 15, 3 (Sept. 2017), 643-646
- “Black Disembodiment in the Age of Ferguson,” *New Political Science*, 39, 3 (Sept. 2017), 319-332
- “Commercial Conquest: Empire and Property in the Early U.S. Republic,” *American Political Thought*, 5, 3 (Summer 2016), 421-445
- “Nullifying Settler Democracy: William Apress and the Paradox of Settler Sovereignty,” *Polity*, 48, 2 (April 2016), 279-304
- “Neoliberalism for the Common Good? Public Value Governance and the Downsizing of Democracy” (w/ Joe Soss), *Public Administration Review*, 74, 4 (July 2014), 496-504

Book Chapters and Symposium Articles

- “Self-Determination Between World and Nation,” Symposium on Adom Getachew’s *Worldmaking After Empire* (Princeton), *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*, 40, 3 (Dec. 2020), 613-621
- “Neoliberalism for the Common Good? Public Value Governance and the Downsizing of Democracy” (w/ Joe Soss), in *Triumph of Managerialism? New Technologies of Government and Their Implications for Value*, eds. Anna Yeatman and Bogdan Costea (Rowman and Littlefield, 2018) (reprint of 2014 PAR article)

Book Reviews and Other Writings

- “We Must Defund Militarization from the Local Police to the Pentagon,” [Truthout](#) (June 26, 2020)
- Review of Nolan Bennett, *The Claims of Experience: Autobiography and American Democracy* (Oxford University Press, 2019), *Political Theory*, 48, 4 (Aug. 2020), 533-538
- Review of Carli Conklin, *The Pursuit of Happiness in the Founding Era: An Intellectual History* (University of Missouri Press, 2019), *Political Science Quarterly*, 135, 2 (Summer 2020), 346-347
- “Beyond Settler Futurism: Schotten’s *Queer Terror*,” *Theory & Event*, 23, 2 (April 2020), 487-489
- Review of Duncan Bell (ed.), *Empire, Race, and Global Justice* (Cambridge University Press, 2019), *Perspectives on Politics*, 17, 4 (Dec. 2019), 1150-1151
- Review of Jonathan Israel, *The Expanding Blaze: How the American Revolution Ignited the World, 1775-1848* (Princeton University Press, 2018), *American Political Thought*, 8, 2 (Spring 2019), 299-302
- “Elizabeth Warren, Settler Colonialism, and the Limits of Democratic Citizenship,” University Press of Kansas [Blog](#) (October 19, 2018)

Manuscripts in Progress

- W.E.B. Du Bois and the Search for World Democracy* (book manuscript)

Conference Participation

Selected Presentations

- “Mastery Becomes Drift: Randolph Bourne’s Tragic Anti-Imperialism.” Accepted for presentation at the American Political Science Association (APSA) annual meeting in Montreal, Canada (Sept. 2022)
- “Transatlantic Fugitivity: Irony, Empire, and Transnational Citizenship.” Presented at the Western Political Science Association (WPSA) annual meeting in Portland, OR (March 2022)
- “Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois’s Democratic Transnationalism.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting (virtual; Sept. 2020)
- “The Wages of Empire: Du Bois, Imperialism, and Transnational Whiteness.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting in Washington, DC (Sept. 2019); and the Association for Political Theory (APT) annual meeting in Irvine, CA (Oct. 2019)
- “Weaponizing History: Abolitionist Challenges to Neo-Republicanism.” Presented at the Caribbean Philosophical Association (CPA) annual meeting, Providence, RI (June 2019)
- “From Black Power to Black Lives Matter: Land, Colonialism, and Solidarity.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting in Boston, MA (Sept. 2018)
- “One Federated Whole: Randolph Bourne, Jose Marti, and the Limits of Transnational Citizenship.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in San Francisco, CA (March 2018)
- “Creolizing Natural Liberty: Ottobah Cugoano on Slavery and Property.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting in San Francisco, CA (Sept. 2017); and at the Association for Political Theory annual meeting in Ann Arbor, MI (Oct. 2017)
- “Decolonizing Democratic Theory: Indigenous Peoplehood and Non-Sovereign Democracy.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in Vancouver, Canada (April 2017)
- “Narrating Historical Injustice: Political Responsibility and the Politics of Memory.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA (Sept. 2016), w/ David Temin
- “Black Disembodiment in the Age of Ferguson.” Presented at *Why all the Fuss about the Body? Local and Globalized Bodies*, Sewanee: The University of the South (April 2016)
- “Narrative, Political Responsibility, and Historical Injustice.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in San Diego, CA (March 2016), w/ David Temin
- “The Terror of Tyrants: Revolutionary Violence and Radical Abolitionism.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting in San Francisco, CA (Aug. 2015)
- “The Tocquevillean Moment: Settler Colonialism and the Democratic Social State.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV (April 2015)
- “Nullifying the Settler Polity: William Apess and the Paradox of Settler Sovereignty.” Presented at the APSA annual meeting in Washington, DC (Aug. 2014)
- “A True Picture of America: Frederick Douglass on Democracy and Empire.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in Seattle, WA (April 2014)
- “Commercial Conquest: Empire and Property in the Early U.S. Republic.” Presented at the SSHA annual meeting in Chicago, IL (Nov. 2013)
- “Antinomies of a Founding: Constituting the U.S. Imperial Republic.” Presented at the MPSA annual meeting in Chicago, IL (April 2013)
- “Tocqueville, Cultural Racism, and *Herrenvolk* Democracy.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in Portland, OR (March 2012)
- “Envisioning Democracy: Manifest Destiny and Political Culture in American

Development, 1828 – 1871.” Presented at IQMR; Syracuse, NY (June 2011)
“Mikhail Bakhtin and the Republic of Imagination.” Presented at the WPSA annual meeting in San Francisco, CA (March 2010)

Panel and Workshop Participation

Discussant, “Abolition and Futurity,” APSA annual meeting (virtual; Sept. 2021)
Chair, “From Marx and Luxemburg to Du Bois and Laroui: Radical Alternatives.” Association for Political Theory annual meeting in Irvine, CA (Oct. 2019)
Chair, Author Meets Critic, Angelica Bernal’s “Beyond Origins: Rethinking Founding in a Time of Constitutional Democracy.” APSA annual meeting in Boston, MA (Sept. 2018).
Chair, “Politics of Land and Decolonization,” WPSA meeting in San Francisco (March 2018)
Discussant, “Indigenous Peoples and the Legacy of Empire,” WPSA meeting in San Francisco, CA (March 2018)
Discussant, “Resistance, Mobilization, and Solidarity,” Association for Political Theory meeting in Ann Arbor, MI (Oct. 2017)
Participant, “Decolonizing Political Theory,” Association for Political Theory meeting in Ann Arbor, MI (Oct. 2017)
Chair and Discussant, “Colonization, Resistance, and Law,” WPSA meeting in Vancouver, BC (April 2017)
Panel Organizer, “Rethinking Historical Injustice,” APSA meeting in Philadelphia, PA (Sept. 2016)
Discussant, “Latin American Political Thought and Comparative Political Theory,” WPSA meeting in San Diego, CA (April 2016)
Discussant, “Contemporary Abolitionism,” WPSA meeting in Las Vegas, NV (April 2015)
Panel Organizer, “Theory and Practice of Empire and Colonialism,” Social Science History Association meeting in Chicago, IL (Nov. 2013)

Invited Talks and Workshop Participation

“Settler Colonialism and Cultural Pluralism: The Limits of Transnational Citizenship,” *Transcending Settler Colonialism* Conference, McGill University (May 2022)
“Beyond the Anglo-World: Settler Colonialism and Democracy in the Americas,” University of Florida Political Theory Workshop (virtual; April 2021)
“The Dividends of Empire: Industrial Imperialism and Transnational Whiteness,” Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies (March 2021)
“Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois’s Democratic Transnationalism,” Pioneer Valley Political Theory Workshop (Feb. 2020)
“Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois’s Democratic Transnationalism,” Political Theory Workshop, University of Michigan (Feb. 2020)
“Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois on Human Rights,” *Human Rights in Comparative Perspective*, Wesleyan University (Feb. 2020)
Symposium on W.E.B. Du Bois’s International Writings, Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory, University of Chicago (Nov. 2019)
“Transnational Approaches to Race and Empire: Du Bois at the United Nations,” Approaches and Methods Workshop, UMass Amherst (Oct. 2019)
“Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois’s Democratic Transnationalism,” Crossroads in

the Study of the Americas, Five College Consortium (Oct. 2019)

“Constructing Colonial Peoples: W.E.B. Du Bois’s Democratic Transnationalism,” W.E.B. Du Bois Center, UMass Amherst (Oct. 2019)

“Ottobah Cugoano, Natural Liberty, and the Transatlantic Jeremiad,” *Traveling Ideas: Race, Colonialism, and Empire in the Americas*, UMass Amherst (May 2019)

“The Wages of Empire: Du Bois, Imperialism, and Transnational Whiteness,” University of Connecticut, Political Theory Workshop (Nov. 2018)

Comments on Lore Segal’s “The Reverse Bug,” *The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas: Three Short Story Discussions in Celebration of Ursula Le Guin* (March 2017)

“Colonialism and Cultural Pluralism: Randolph Bourne, Jose Marti, and the Limits of Transnational Citizenship,” Political Theory Workshop, UMass Amherst (Nov. 2017)

“Nullifying Settler Democracy: William Apess and the Paradox of Settler Sovereignty,” University of Memphis, Department of Political Science (Jan. 2017)

Comments on Ta-Nehisi Coates’ *Between the World and Me*, Faculty Retreat, The University of the South (Aug. 2016)

“Nullifying Settler Democracy: William Apess and the Paradox of Settler Sovereignty,” University of Oklahoma, Department of Political Science (Nov. 2014)

Roundtable: “Perspectives on Creating Public Value;” *Creating Public Value in a Multi-Sector, Shared Power World*, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota (Sept. 2012)

Grants, Honors, and Awards

- Decolonial Global Studies Faculty Fellowship, 2022-2024
- Faculty Research Grant / Healy Endowment Grant, 2021-2022, \$11,733
- SBS Faculty Grant, 2021-2022, \$3,500
- Fellowship, “Race and Representation,” Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies, 2020-2021
- Fellowship, Crossroads in the Study of the Americas (CISA), Five College Consortium, 2019-2020
- Fellowship, W.E.B. Du Bois Center, University of Massachusetts, Summer 2019, \$4,000
- TIDE Ambassador Fellowship (Teaching for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity), Center for Teaching Excellence and Faculty Development, University of Massachusetts, 2019-2020
- Visioning Grant, Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies (CLACLS), “Traveling Ideas: Race, Colonialism, and Empire in the Americas” (May 2019; w/ Angelica Bernal), \$7,500
- Massachusetts Society of Professors Research Support Fund (2018, 2019, 2020), \$1,000
- Nominated for APSA Leo Strauss Award for best dissertation in political philosophy (2015); University of Minnesota, Department of Political Science
- Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2013), American Council of Learned Societies and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, \$33,000
- Bridging Funds Award (2013), Graduate School, University of Minnesota, \$1,808
- Summer Fellowships (2009-2013), University of Minnesota, \$27,000
- Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship (2009), University of Minnesota, \$7,000
- Frank Sorauf Fellowship (2008), University of Minnesota, \$7,000
- Pi Sigma Alpha Graduate Instructor of the Year Award (2007), Purdue University

- Inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honors Society (2005)

Teaching Experience and Professional Development

Assistant/Associate Professor (2017 – Present), Political Science, UMass Amherst

POLISCI 203: American Political Thought

POLISCI 272: Democracy and Citizenship

POLISCI 372: Black Political Thought

POLISCI 791: Comparative Political Theory: Race, Civilization, and Empire

POLISCI 797: Politics of Decolonization

POLISCI 797L: Interpretation Seminar

POLISCI 797RE: Race, Empire, and the Struggle for American Democracy

Assistant Professor (2015 – 2017), Politics, Sewanee: The University of the South

POLS 105: Introduction to Political Theory

POLS 304: American Political Thought

POLS 211: Democracy and Citizenship

POLS 373: African American Political Thought

HUMN 210: Marx, Nietzsche, Freud (Humanities Program)

Lecturer (2014 – 2015), Political Science, University of Minnesota

Democracy and Citizenship

Ideas and Ideologies

Teaching Assistant (2009 – 2013), Political Science, University of Minnesota

Ideas and Ideologies

Democracy and Citizenship

Constitutional Law

Graduate Instructor (2007 – 2008), Political Science, Purdue University

Environmental Politics

Advising and Mentoring

Dissertation Chair: Ricardo Vega Leon

Dissertation Committee Member: Samantha Davis, Siddhant Issar, Ben Leiter, Ben Nolan, Maylin Hernandez, Gayathri Hewagama (English)

Comprehensive Examination Chair: Ricardo Vega Leon, Jenna Norosky, Elif Savas

Senior Theses: Greg Fournier

Teacher Training Workshops and Professional Development, University of Minnesota

Certificate in Teaching in Active Learning Classrooms (Spring 2013)

Teaching Enrichment Workshop Series (Summer 2013)

- Teaching Critical Thinking
- Teaching Through Active Lectures

Service to the Profession

- Treasurer, Association for Political Theory (2021-Present)

- Book Review Editor, *Philosophy and Global Affairs* (2020-Present)
- Host and Organizer: Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (November 2020)
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), desk review for UNESCO World Heritage site nomination, “Colonies of Benevolence” (Netherlands and Belgium, April 2019)
- Program Committee Member, Association for Political Theory Annual Meeting (October 2018), Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges
- Mentoring Program, Participant, Association for Political Theory (2017; 2022)
- Manuscript Reviewer: *American Political Thought*; *American Political Science Review*; *Polity*; *Review of Politics*; *Public Administration Review*; *Political Theory*; *New Political Science*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Journal of Politics*; *Settler Colonial Studies*; *Ethnicities*; *Studies in American Political Development*; *Theory & Event*; *Canadian Journal of Political Science*; *Contemporary Political Theory*; *Comparative Political Theory*; *Journal of the History of Philosophy*; *Global Studies Quarterly*; Oxford University Press; Polity Press

Service to the University and Department

- Chair, Department Personnel Committee (2022-2023)
- Co-Convener (w/ Iyko Day), Faculty Seminar on “Race, Indigeneity, and Settler Colonialism in Global Perspective,” Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies, 2021-2022
- Ad hoc reviewer for Faculty Research Grant (Feb. 2022)
- Member, Department Personnel Committee (2021-2022)
- Hiring Committee for Department Financial Manager (April 2021)
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Member, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Spring 2020)
- Graduate School Dissertation Research Grant Review Committee (2018-2021)
- Legal Studies Search Committee Member, Law and Inequality Search (Fall 2019)
- Political Theory Field Clerk (2018-Present)
- Undergraduate Studies Committee (2017-2019); University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Department of Political Science
- First-Year Reading Program, Committee Member (2017), The University of the South
- Writing Across the Curriculum Program, Member of Advisory Board (2017), The University of the South
- Organizer of Faculty Reading Group, Freshman Reading Program – Ta-Nehisi Coates’ *Between the World and Me*, University of the South
- Member of Provost’s Task Force on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (2016-2017), University of the South
- Search Committee Member for Environmental Policy and MENA searches, Politics Department, University of the South (Fall 2015)
- Pi Sigma Alpha Faculty Advisor (2015-2017), The University of the South
- Graduate Student Member, Political Theory Search Committee (2013), Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota

- Vice President of Communications (2011 – 2012), Council of Graduate Students, University of Minnesota

Professional Affiliations

American Political Science Association
Western Political Science Association
Association for Political Theory
Caribbean Philosophical Association