

## Candice K. Travis, Ph.D. Candidate

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Department of Political Science  
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### EDUCATION

Ph.D. **University of Massachusetts Amherst**, Amherst MA  
Political Science (expected May 2022)  
Examination fields: History of Political Thought; Contemporary Social and  
Political Theory

Dissertation: *The Violence of Nostalgia: Conspiracy Theorism, White  
Nationalism, and Restoring American Exceptionalism*  
Committee: Roberto Alejandro (chair); Thomas Dumm (outside member,  
Amherst College); Justin Gross; Jesse Rhodes

M.A. **Lehigh University**, Bethlehem PA  
Political Science (2015)

Master's Thesis: *Recovering 'The Feeling of Existence'*  
Advisor: Richard Matthews, Political Science

B.A. **Lehigh University**, Bethlehem PA  
Philosophy (departmental honors) and Political Science (2014)  
*Summa cum laude*

Undergraduate Thesis: *Liberal Consent: Charade or Freedom?*  
Advisor: Robin Dillon, Philosophy

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Critical theory, democratic theory, American political thought, history of  
political thought, existential philosophy, nations/nationalism, race/ethnicity,  
political violence and extremism, philosophy of education, critical pedagogy

### ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

Travis, Candice. (2021). "Nostalgia, Hypermasculinity, & The American Far  
Right: What ever happened to being Proud of Your Boy?" *Theory & Event*.

### INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

*Conspiracy Theory & American Democracy* December 2021  
Guest lecture for American Government and Legal Studies  
Worcester State University, Worcester MA

*Feminism as Self-Transcendental Ideology* April 2018  
Guest lecture for Introduction to Political Ideology  
Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA

**CONFERENCE PAPERS**

- The Violence of Nostalgia: Right-Wing Politics & White Nationalism*  
Western Political Science Association  
Portland, OR March 2022
- Problematizing Political Nostalgia: Conspiracy Theory & White Nationalism*  
American Political Science Association  
Seattle, WA September 2021
- For Mad People Only: Imagination and Irrationality in Political Science*  
(co-author: Sean D. Harris, Temple University)  
Northeastern Political Science Association  
Philadelphia, PA November 2019
- For Mad People Only: The Importance of Suspending Reason through the Study of Literature in Politics*  
(co-author: Sean D. Harris, Temple University)  
Western Political Science Association  
San Diego, CA April 2019
- Narrative as Mirror: Finding Meaning in Loss*  
Western Political Science Association  
San Diego, CA April 2019
- Literature and Political Theory: Accessing a World Beyond Reason*  
(co-author: Sean D. Harris, Temple University)  
American Political Science Association  
Boston, MA September 2018
- Modernity and the Critique of Authenticity as Nationalist Nostalgia*  
Western Political Science Association  
San Francisco, CA March 2018

**FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

- Amherst Program in Critical Theory Fellowship March 2016 – Present
- Dept. of Political Science Research and Writing Grant Summer 2020
- Dept. of Political Science Research and Writing Grant Summer 2019
- Dept. of Political Science Conference Grant Fall 2018
- Dept. of Political Science Research and Writing Grant Summer 2018
- Dept. of Political Science Conference Grant Spring 2018
- Dept. of Political Science Research and Writing Grant Summer 2017

**HONORS**

- Distinguished Teaching Award Finalist, UMass February 2018
- Haynes Prize Winner, Lehigh University Spring 2014
- Presidential Scholar, Lehigh University Spring 2014
- Williams Scholar, Lehigh University Spring 2012 & Spring 2013

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

**Co-Instructor**, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA  
*First Year Seminar Teaching Assistant Course* Fall 2021

- Focus on student development theory and classroom pedagogy.

**Instructor**, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA  
*First Year Seminar: SBS Pathways* Fall 2021

- Introduction to making the most of the college experience.

**Instructor**, Residential Academic Programs  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA  
*First Year Seminar: Connect to SBS* Fall 2021

- Residential oriented introduction to Social/Behavioral Sciences.

**Instructor**, Department of Political Science  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA  
*Conspiracy Theory & the American Imagination* Summer 2021

- Analysis of the role of conspiracy in American politics.

*Interpretation & Analysis* Spring 2021

- Writing intensive & methods requirement for Political Science majors.

*First Year Seminar: Power and Politics in the University* Fall 2019 & 2020

- Introduction to college, pedagogy, politics, and individuality.

*Modern Political Thought* Spring 2019

- Focus on the production of an ‘Other’ in modern thinking.

**Teaching Assistant**, Political Science Sept 2015 – May 2020  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA

*Introduction to Political Theory*  
*American Politics through Film*  
*American Political Thought*

**Teaching Assistant**, Political Science Aug 2014 – May 2015  
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

*American Political Thought*  
*Introduction to Political Ideology*

**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE**

**First Year Seminar Project Assistant** Fall 2021  
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

- Developed FYS curricula, supervised and trained instructors, curated resources, and provided pedagogical support and collaboration.

**Coordinator**, Political Theory Workshops 2017 – 2018  
Department of Political Science  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Conference Organizer**, “Violent Times, Violent Spaces” 2016 – 2017  
Political Science Graduate Student Association  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**SERVICE**

**Representative**, Graduate Studies Committee 2018 – 2019  
Political Science Graduate Student Association  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Co-Chair** 2016 – 2017  
Political Science Graduate Student Association  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATIONS**

American Political Science Association  
Western Political Science Association  
Association for Political Theory  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Honor Society)