



**Phillip M. Pinell**

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Teaching Faculty, Institute for Governance and Civics at Florida State University	2025 - Present
Lecturer, University of Wisconsin—Madison	2022 - 2025

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Political Science   University of Wisconsin—Madison	2025
Dissertation: <i>The Idea of the Nation in Twentieth-Century Spanish Political Thought</i>	
M.A. Political Science   University of Wisconsin—Madison	2022
Fields: Political Theory & American Politics	
B.S. Political Science, B.A. Philosophy   University of Houston, The Honors College	2019
Thesis: <i>Cicero and Roman Civic Education</i>	

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**RESEARCH**

***Peer-Reviewed Articles:***

2025. "Might Makes Rights: A Ciceronian Critique of Pettit's Theory of Liberty," *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek and Roman Political Thought* 42(2), 279-304.
2025. "Tocqueville and Democratic Historical Consciousness," *The European Legacy: Towards New Paradigms* 30(2), 151-168.
2024. "How a People Becomes a People: Memory and Identity in Jefferson's *Notes on the State of Virginia*," *American Political Thought* 13(3), 371-394.
2024. "Nostalgia for Empire? José Ortega y Gasset, Memory, and 'The Spanish Problem'," *The Political Science Reviewer* 48(2), 57-82. Special issue on Latin American Political Thought and Constitutionalism.
2024. "Does Artificial Intelligence Speak Our Language?: A Gadamerian Assessment of Generative Language Models," *Political Research Quarterly* 77(3), 713-728.
2024. "Thinking and Political Considerations: *Gnômé* in the Stoic Political Philosophy of Epictetus," *The Political Science Reviewer* 48(1), 87-112.

***Book Reviews:***

2024. A Review of Catherine Craig's *Memory and Political Art in Plato's Statesman*, Rowman and Littlefield.
2022. A Review of Zenon Culverhouse's *Plato's Hippias Minor: The Play of Ambiguity*, VoegelinView.

***Public-Facing Writing:***

2025. “Gangs United: Violence as Peacemaker in *West Side Story*.” Series on American Literature. Ford Forum.

***Selected Works in Progress:***

(Book manuscript). *The Idea of the Nation in Twentieth-Century Spanish Political Thought*.

(Re&R). “Acting as though the Republic Were Real: *Don Quixote* and the Absurd Task of Civic Education.” Special Issue of *The Political Science Reviewer* on American Civics.

(Under review). “‘Everything Which Is Not Reserved Is Given’: James Wilson, Popular Sovereignty, and the Federalist Doctrine of Plenary State Legislative Power” (with Kirstin Anderson Birkhaug—Hope College)

(Under review). “‘An Enthusiasm for Liberty and for the Dignity of the Human Race’: Tocqueville’s Master and Servant Reconsidered.”

(Under review). “Pascal, Modernity, and the Crisis of Time Consciousness.”

(Under review). “Chasing Leviathans: *Moby-Dick* and the Tragedy of Democracy.”

(Under review). “The Politics of Unbloodied Altars: Liberalism’s Response to Symbolic Violence.”

(In draft). “Contested Pasts, Shared Futures: Ortega y Gasset and the Hermeneutics of National Belonging.”

(In progress). “Whither the Withdrawn?: Civic Thought and the Problem of Political Disaffection.”

(In progress). “The Renewed Pragmatism: On the Role of Statistics and Policy Research in Civics Education.” Submission to special issue of *Laws*: Vol. II of Civic Engagement, Justice, and the Law in a National and International Context.

(In progress). “The Intellectual as Cultural Influencer: Ortega y Gasset and the Civic Responsibilities of University Professors.”

(In progress). “Rescuing the Narrative of Progress: Tocqueville’s Philosophy of History.”

(Early stages). “The Didactic Character of Cervantes’s Embedded Narratives: Reassessing ‘El Curioso Impertinente’ in *Don Quixote*.” Submission to special issue of *Literature* on “The Thinker as Artist & the Artist as Thinker.”

## TEACHING

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### **Institute for Governance and Civics, Florida State University**

- Tocqueville’s *Democracy in America* (Fall 2025)
- Civil Discourse and the American Political Order (Fall 2025)

### **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

#### *Instructor of Record*

- Deception and Politics (Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
- Critical Thinking and Expression: Arguments in Political Rhetoric (Spring 2025, Fall 2022)
  - Honored Instructor Award from UW-Madison Housing, Fall 2022

#### *Teaching Assistant*

- Modern Political, Economic, and Social Thought II (Spring 2022)
- Introduction to Political Theory (Fall 2021)

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

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*IGC representative.* “American History at 250.” Civics Conference with the Jack Miller Center, D.C., September 14-16, 2025.

*Paper presentation.* “Civic Thought and the Problem of Political Disaffection.” Civics Conference at Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society at The Ohio State University. September 2025.

*Invited paper presentation.* “Civic Quixotism.” Jack Miller Center Conference on American Civics. Miami, FL. August 4-6, 2025.

*Paper presentation.* “Miguel de Unamuno and Spain’s Crisis of Identity.” 74th Annual MPSA. April 6, 2024.

*Paper presentation.* “Tocqueville on Democratic Historical Consciousness.” 74th Annual MPSA. April 5, 2024.

*Paper presentation.* “Does A.I. Speak Our Language?: A Gadamerian Assessment of Generative Language Models.” APSA Virtual Research Meeting - Artificial Intelligence: Concerns for Politics and for the Profession. February 8, 2024.

*Invited paper presentation.* “Nostalgia for Empire?: Ortega y Gasset’s Use of Memory during Spain’s Crisis of Identity.” Traditions of Latin American Political Thought and Constitutionalism—a conference within a conference at SPSA, New Orleans, LA. January 13, 2024.

*Paper presentation.* “Disassembling Dogma: The Intellectual Virtue of *Gnomē* in Epictetus’ Stoic Philosophy.” SPSA Conference, St. Pete’s Beach, FL. January 13, 2023.

*Paper presentation.* “Does A.I. Speak Our Language?: A Gadamerian Approach to Generative Language Models.” NPSA Conference. Boston, MA. November 2, 2023.

*Paper presentation.* “Cicero’s History of Roman Legal Rights.” 2022 APSA Conference, Montreal (online). September 16, 2022.

## SERVICE

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### Florida State University

*Liaison for Conscience Liberty Fellows*, Institute for Governance and Civics 2025 - present

### University of Wisconsin—Madison

*Graduate Fellow*, Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy 2021 - 2025

*Advisor*, Tom Sawyer Society 2022 - 2023

### Peer Reviewer

Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Politics, The Political Science Reviewer

### Discussant

- Annette Zimmermann (UW-Madison, Philosophy Department), Chapter 6 in *Democratizing AI Deployment*. UW-Madison Political Theory Workshop. March 7, 2025.
- Adriana Alfaro Altamirano (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México), “The Varieties of Judicial Empathy.” UW-Madison Political Theory Workshop. October 20, 2023.
- John Boersma (UW-Madison), “Adam Smith’s Eulogy for Self-Command.” UW-Madison Political Theory Workshop. April 2023.

- Catherine Zuckert (University of Notre Dame), “Personal Integrity v. Political Efficacy: Montaigne’s Response to Machiavelli.” UW-Madison Political Theory Workshop. October 14, 2022.
- Alan Kahan (CU Boulder), “Liberalism - An Incomplete History.” UW-Madison Political Theory Workshop. October 2021.
- Michelle T. Clarke (Dartmouth), “Curing Virtue: Epicureanism and Erotic Fantasy in Machiavelli’s *Mandragola*.” UW-Madison Political Theory Workshop. April 30, 2021.

*Undergraduate Research Mentor*

2022, 2024 - 2025

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

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2025-2026. Richard M. Weaver Fellowship (\$15,000) (declined)  
 2025. Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy Summer Research Grant (\$7,000), UW-Madison  
 2024. Mildred Potter Hovland Journal Article Prize for “Does Artificial Intelligence Speak Our Language?” (\$750), UW-Madison  
 2024. Humane Studies Fellowship (\$5,000), Institute for Humane Studies  
 2024. UW-Madison University Fellowship (\$25,000)  
 2023. George Washington Statesmanship Fellowship (\$5,000)  
 2022-2023. Scott A. Harris Graduate Fellowship, UW-Madison  
 2021-2024. Bradley Foundation Fellowship (\$6,000 per year)  
 2021. UW Summer Funding Initiative Fellowship (\$1,000)  
 2020-2021. UW-Madison University Fellowship (\$22,000)  
 2018-2019. Röpke-Wojtyła Fellowship (\$2,000), The Catholic University of America  
 2019. Phi Beta Kappa & Phi Kappa Phi

## LANGUAGES

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**Spanish** (advanced), **Latin** (intermediate), **Ancient Greek** (intermediate), **French** (basic)

## REFERENCES

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Richard Avramenko, Professor & Director of SCETL, Arizona State University,  
[avramenko@asu.edu](mailto:avramenko@asu.edu)

Daniel Kapust, Professor and Judith Hicks Stiehm Chair in Political Theory, Political Science & Classical and Near Eastern Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, [djkapust@wisc.edu](mailto:djkapust@wisc.edu)

Michelle Schwarze, Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison,  
[mschwarze@wisc.edu](mailto:mschwarze@wisc.edu)

Joshua Foa Dienstag, Professor, Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison,  
[jdienstag@wisc.edu](mailto:jdienstag@wisc.edu)