

Catherine A. Borck

Director of Academic Affairs
School of Civic Leadership
University of Texas at Austin

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Academic Appointments

Director of Academic Affairs, School of Civic Leadership, University of Texas at Austin, 2025-
Associate Professor of Instruction, School of Civic Leadership, University of Texas at Austin, 2025-
Assistant Director for Academic Programs, School of Civic Leadership, University of Texas at Austin, 2024-2025
Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of North Texas, 2018-2024
Assistant Professor, Department of Politics and Government, University of Hartford, 2011-2018
Visiting Instructor, Wake Forest University, Department of Political Science, 2009-2011
Visiting Instructor, Furman University, Department of Political Science, 2008-2009

Education

Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, Department of Political Science, January 2010
Fields: Political Theory, American Politics
Dissertation: *Becoming Friends in Speech and Deed: Socratic Friendship in the Dialogues of Plato*
M.A., University of Notre Dame, Department of Political Science, 2001
B.A., Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, GA., with honors, 1999

Teaching Experience

University of Texas

CIV/GOV 312P—Constitutional Principles: Core Texts

University of North Texas

PSCI 2305 – US Political Behavior and Policy (online)
PSCI 2306 – US and Texas Constitutions and Institutions (online)
PSCI 2315 – Honors US Political Behavior and Policy
PSCI 2316 – Honors US and Texas Constitutions and Institutions
PSCI 3310 – Political Theory: Quest for Justice
PSCI 3320 – Political Theory: The State and Its Critics
PSCI 4310 – American Political Thought
PSCI 4330 – Topics in Political Theory (Feminist Political Thought)
PSCI 4360 – International Ethics
HNRS 1100 – The Good Society
UCRS 3000 – Legal Studies Survey

University of Hartford

Power and Politics in America
Politics
Ancient and Medieval Political Theory
Early Modern Political Theory

Late Modern Political Theory
American Political Theory
First Year Seminar Utopian and Dystopian Visions
Quest for Justice

Wake Forest University and Furman University

Introduction to American Government
Introduction to Political Theory
Classical Political Thought
American Political Thought
Modern Political Thought
Introduction to Political Theory
First Year Writing Seminar Exploring Politics through Literature

Publications

Book Manuscript

“Socratic Friendship: The Politics of Human Relations” (draft manuscript)

Socratic Friendship investigates friendship as a central and enduring concern of political philosophy and, indeed, political life. The manuscript shows that Plato provides a vital and resonant account of friendship from the perspective of befriending rather than hostility—contrary to the fashions of post-modern political theory—through a reading of argument, character, and drama in several of the Socratic dialogues.

Articles

“Educating a Socratic Citizen: On Plato’s *Menexenus*” (in preparation)
“Freedom and Community in Plato’s *Lysis*” (in preparation)

Book Review

“Review of Aristotle on the Nature of Community by Adrien M. Trott.” *Review of Politics* 77.

Selected Presentations and Lectures

“Teaching Critical Thinking through Reflective Writing in Political Science,” Panelist, APSA Teaching and Learning Conference, February 2018
“Character and Continuity in the Platonic Dialogues,” Panelist, Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, November 2013
“Brave Fathers and Wise Sons: Kinship, Courage and Wisdom in Plato’s *Menexenus* and *Lysis*” Panelist, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2013
“Love and Friendship: The Platonic Sources of Postmodern Politics,” Humanities Fellow Lecture, University of Hartford, January 2013
“The Sociable Tyrant: Alcibiades in the *Alcibiades I*, *Alcibiades II* and the *Symposium*” Panelist, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2012
“The Politics of Friendship: A Platonic Response to Schmitt and Derrida,” Panelist, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2, 2011
“The Friendship of Socrates and Alcibiades: Thumos, Eros, and Philia in Plato’s *Alcibiades Major*” Panelist, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, presented April 12, 2006 and as a panelist at the “Symposium of the Liberal Arts,” Oglethorpe University, April 18

“The Harmony of Political Virtue and the Muse: Poetry in Plato's *Laws*”

Panelist, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 21, 2006

“Enemies and Friends in Plato's *Gorgias*”

Panelist, Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 8-10, 2004

“The Political Implications of Thomistic Friendship”

Panelist, Society of Christian Philosophers Conference “Jewish and Christian Resources for Social and Political Philosophy,” March 2000

Grants, Fellowships and Awards

Outstanding Service Award, Department of Political Science at UNT, 2022

Jack Miller Center, 2022-2023, \$17,000, for student scholarships, colloquia, and lecture series.

Jack Miller Center Summer Institute Grant, 2022, 2023, \$27,000 annually

To support a week-long summer seminar for high school teachers in the American Civic Tradition

Jack Miller Center, 2021-2022, \$10,000, for student scholarships, colloquia, and lecture series

Apgar Foundation grant, 2021-22, \$10,000, for student scholarships, colloquia, and lecture series

Critical Thinking Fellow, University of Hartford, 2017-2018

Education Technology Grant, University of Hartford, 2016-2017

Humanities Fellow, University of Hartford, 2012-2013

Graduate Teaching Fellowship, co-sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Graduate School and the College of Arts and Letters, 2006-2007

H. B. Earhart Dissertation Fellowship 2002-2003, Spring 2005, 2007-2008

University of Notre Dame Graduate School Phillip Moore Dissertation Fellowship, Fall 2004

Professional Development

“Reacting to the Past: Democracy in Ancient Greece,” NYU Faculty Resource Network Winter Seminar, Athens, Greece, January 13-17, 2014

“Flipping the Classroom” Workshop Series, University of Hartford, Fall 2013

Jack Miller Center Summer Institute, Pasadena, CA, Summer 2011

“Effective and Exciting Teaching in the Social Sciences,” University of Notre Dame, Summer 2004

Academic Service and Activities

Advisor, Peace Studies Minor and Certificate Program, UNT 2021-present

Co-Director, Constitutionalism and Democracy Forum, UNT 2021-present

Convener, Political Thought reading group, 2021-present

Program Coordinator, Constitution Day, UNT, 2019-present

Student Grants and Awards Committee, Political Science, UNT, 2021-present

Martin Colloquium Committee, Political Science, UNT, 2020-present

Faculty Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science, UNT, 2020-present

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Political Science, UNT, 2018-21

Faculty Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha, University of Hartford, 2012-2018

Curriculum Committee, University of Hartford, 2012-2018

Northeastern Political Science Association, Section chair, Ancient and Medieval Political Theory, Conference, November 2014