

Sarah Beth V. Kitch

Curriculum Vitae

sb.kitch@utexas.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University, 2014

M.A. Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University, 2013

B.A. Department of Communication, Southeastern Louisiana University, 2008
Summa Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025-Present Associate Professor of Instruction and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, School of Civic Leadership, University of Texas at Austin

2024-2025 Lecturer and Director, Academic Programs Office, School of Civic Leadership, University of Texas at Austin

2022-2024 Associate Director, Civitas Institute, University of Texas at Austin

2021-2022 History Teacher, St. Agnes Academy (Houston, TX)

2020-Present Senior Fellow, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri

2018-2020 Assistant Professor, Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs and Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri

2017-2018 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Northern Illinois University

2016-2017 Thomas W. Smith Postdoctoral Research Associate in Religion and Public Life, Department of Politics, Princeton University

2014-2016 Instructor, Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

2023 "From Impatience to Compassion: Educating from Restlessness to Responsibility," in *Liberal Education in a Free Society*, eds. Justin Dyer and Constantine Vassiliou, *University of Missouri Press*

- 2016 "The Immovable Foundations of the Infinite and Immortal: Tocqueville's Philosophical Anthropology," *American Journal of Political Science*, 947-957 (doi: 10.1111/ajps.12269)
- 2015 "The Roots of John Adams's Political Science," *Journal of Church and State*, 284-206 (doi: 10.1093/jcs/csv004)

Under Review

Article: "The Shattering Prophetic Voice: Revisiting Criticisms of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Light of the Prophetic Tradition." Revise and resubmit at a leading field journal

In Preparation

Article: "Can I Say Why Humans Matter?: Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and the Prophetic Voice."

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2019 Distinguished Faculty Award, MU Kappa Alpha Theta
- 2019 Truman School Faculty Teaching Award, Truman School of Public Affairs, University of Missouri
- 2018 Appointed Affiliated Faculty, LSU Ethics Institute
- 2017 2016 Best Female Political Scientist Paper, Northeastern Political Science Association
- 2015 Frank Grace Memorial Fellowship
- 2014 H.B. Earhart Fellowship
- 2014 Frank Grace Memorial Fellowship
- 2014 Eric Voegelin Scholars Award, Louisiana State University
- 2014 Sidney Richards Moore Fellowship in Political Philosophy
- 2013 H.B. Earhart Fellowship
- 2012 H.B. Earhart Fellowship
- 2012 Sidney Richards Moore Fellowship in Political Philosophy
- 2012 Louisiana Taylor Opportunity Program for Students Honors Award
- 2011 H.B. Earhart Fellowship

- 2011 Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Award
- 2011 Louisiana Taylor Opportunity Program for Students Honors Award
- 2010 H.B. Earhart Fellowship
- 2010 Eric Voegelin Scholars Award, Louisiana State University
- 2010 Louisiana Taylor Opportunity Program for Students Honors Award
- 2009 Eric Voegelin Scholars Award, Louisiana State University
- 2009 Louisiana Taylor Opportunity Program for Students Honors Award

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Papers

- 2024 "Thinking about Limits: The Beginning of Responsible Action," Shawnee Trail Conference, Austin, TX, November 1
- 2023 "From Impatience to Compassion: Educating from Restlessness to Responsibility," Honors Conference on Liberal Education, Houston, TX, February 23-25
- 2022 "Impatient: What Does Americans' Aversion to Suffering Mean for Democracy?" Shawnee Trail Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism, Waco, TX, April 29
- 2020 "Against Moderation: Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel on Care and Democratic Citizenship," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 16-19. Canceled: Covid-19 Pandemic
- 2019 "Measuring Policy to Persons: Applications of the Prophetic Voice in American Public Affairs," Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, November 7-9
- 2019 "The Capacity to be Free: Abraham Joshua Heschel on Human Being and Social Action," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 4-7
- 2017 Discussant, "The Political Sermons of the Revolutionary Era," American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 1-September 3
- 2016 "Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Prophetic Voice," Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 10-12. Selected for NPSA's award for Best Female Political Scientist Paper.
- 2015 "The Dignity of Human Personality: Martin Luther King, Jr. on Human Nature," American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 3-6

- 2015 Chair, “#EricVogelin, or Voegelin in the 21st Century,” Order and Liberty: A Conference in Honor of Ellis Sandoz, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, May 1-2
- 2015 “Poetic Imagination, Moral Meaning, and Politics,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 16-19
- 2013 “The Immovable Foundations of the Infinite and Immortal: Tocqueville’s Philosophical Anthropology,” American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, August 29-September 1
- 2013 Co-author, “Neither Brute nor Angel: Tocqueville on Religion’s Role in Sustaining Liberty in Democracy,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 11-14
- 2013 “The Immovable Foundations of the Infinite and Immortal: Tocqueville on Religious Beings and their Liberty,” Louisiana Political Science Association, Natchitoches, LA, March 2
- 2012 “Limits of American Exceptionalism: America’s Purpose and Liberty’s Progress in the Political Thought of John Adams,” Eric Voegelin Society, Baton Rouge, LA, October 20. Accepted for American Political Science Association, August 30-September 1 (canceled: Hurricane Isaac)
- 2012 “Industry, Initiative, and Independence: Tocqueville on Liberty and the Taste for Material Well-Being,” Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, January 12-14
- 2011 “Conflicted Within and Without: Necessity, Tragedy, and Duty in Augustine’s *City of God*,” Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 17-19

POPULAR WRITING

- 2023 “Birth and Human Freedom: A Review of Jennifer Banks’ *Natality*,” *Law and Liberty*, October 5. Available at: <https://lawliberty.org/book-review/meditations-on-birth/>
- 2019 “The Pursuit of Thoughtfulness,” *Starting Points*, [August 26](https://startingpointsjournal.com/pursuit-of-thoughtfulness-kitch/). Available at: <https://startingpointsjournal.com/pursuit-of-thoughtfulness-kitch/>
- 2019 “Shame and Politics: Karol Wojtyła’s Phenomenology of Care,” *Starting Points*, [April 30](https://startingpointsjournal.com/shame-and-politics-kitch/). Available at <https://startingpointsjournal.com/shame-and-politics-kitch/>
- 2018 “Beauty and Politics,” *Law and Liberty*, [October 5](https://lawliberty.org/beauty-and-politics/). Available at <https://lawliberty.org/beauty-and-politics/>

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 “‘Teach Us to Count Our Days’: Preparing Your Student for Life Beyond Your Home, August 5
- 2025 “Thinking and Responsibility: The Apology of Socrates,” Integrated Humanities Program, Valor School, January 30
- 2023 “‘The Power Opposed to Death’: Reflections on Women in Relationship to Men,” University Catholic Center, Austin, TX, November 11
- 2019 “Ethics and Democracy: Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel on Children and Youth,” Kinder Institute Freshman Interest Group, University of Missouri, October 29
- 2019 Organizer and panelist, “Should I Go to Graduate School?: A Panel Conversation,” Kinder Institute, University of Missouri, October 21
- 2019 “Approaching the Job Markets,” (Re)Building American Identities, University of Missouri, April 27
- 2018 “Citizenship and Action: Ethical Sensitivity and Campus Drinking Culture,” Kinder Institute Freshman Interest Group, University of Missouri, October 23
- 2018 “Approaching the Job Markets,” Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University, October 5
- 2018 “Beauty and Politics,” Kinder Institute Society of Fellows, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, August 9
- 2018 “‘We Are Made Out of Dust’: Writing on Politics,” Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, March 13
- 2017 “MLK in America Today,” Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, November 30

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin

Constitutional Principles: Core Texts (Fall 2023, Fall 2025)

University of Missouri

Intellectual World of the American Founders (Fall 2018, Fall 2019)

Public Service and Democracy graduate seminar (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2021)

Ethics & Leadership graduate seminar (Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2022)

Food: Justice and Celebration in the Ethics of What We Eat (Fall 2019)

Race and the American Story (Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)
Women's Narratives in African-American Political Thought (Spring 2020)
Independent study: Ethical Theories of Universal Basic Income (Spring 2020)
Independent study: Ethical Approaches to Law (Spring 2020)

Ashland University

Race and Equality graduate seminar for high school teachers (July 2019, July 2020, Spring 2021, July 2021)
Great American Texts: Abraham Joshua Heschel and *The Prophets* (Fall 2020)
Religious Liberty in America graduate seminar for high school teachers (July 2018)

University of Houston

Introduction to Political Theory (two sections, Spring 2021)
Introduction to American Government (Spring 2021)

Northern Illinois University

Democracy in America (Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
American Political Thought (Fall 2017)
Religion and the Constitution (Fall 2017)
African American Political Thought (Spring 2018)
Political Theology graduate seminar (Spring 2018)

Louisiana State University

Introduction to Political Theory (Fall 2012, Fall 2014, Spring 2016)
Introduction to American Politics: American Political Development (Spring 2015)
Introduction to American Politics: Vision in Literature and Thought (Fall 2015)
American Political Thought (Spring 2016)
Martin Luther King, Jr. and Civil Rights (Fall 2015)
Political Theology (Spring 2015)
Special Topics in Comparative Politics: Totalitarianism (Fall 2014)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023 Organizer & participant, Civic Education Symposium, Civitas Institute, University of Texas at Austin, November 4

- 2019 Participant, Political Theology Network Conference, New York, October 17-19
- 2019 Participant (via Zoom), Dialogue on Race: Original Series, hosted by Dialogue on Race Louisiana, Baton Rouge, LA, September 12-October 17
- 2019 Participant, "Teaching Black History," seminar by Center for Black Studies, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, July 26-27
- 2019 Participant, "The Past, Present, and Especially the Future of Graduate School in the United States," seminar by Dr. Leonard Cassuto, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, March 21
- 2019 Participant, "Advising Advisors: Preparing Your PhDs for the Job Market," workshop by Dr. Karen Kelsky, *The Professor Is In*, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, February 20
- 2018 Participant in the LSU Ethics Institute's Teaching Ethics Workshop, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, June 11-14
- 2014 Teacher training with Cecil L. Eubanks, Alumni Professor, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
- 2013 Pedagogy workshop for graduate students, Cecil L. Eubanks, Alumni Professor, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
- 2012 Teacher training with Cecil L. Eubanks, Alumni Professor, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Review

American Political Science Review

American Political Thought

American Journal of Political Science

To Profession

Member at Large, Politics, Literature, and Film section, American Political Science Association, 2015-2016

To Departments

University of Texas at Austin

Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Selected committees

University of Missouri

Kinder Institute Ad Hoc Committee on Visiting Scholars, Spring 2020
Kinder Institute Society of Fellows Selection Committee, Spring 2020
Kinder Institute Search Committee, Fall 2019
Truman School MPA Committee, Fall 2018-present (subcommittees: Admissions, Competency Assessment)
Kinder Institute Postdoctoral Selection Committee, Summer 2019
Peace Studies Director Search Committee, Summer 2019
Kinder Institute Junior Faculty Committee, Fall 2018
KIRC Collegiate Fellow Selection Committee, Spring 2019
Faculty Mentor, Truman School of Public Affairs

Louisiana State University

Senior Thesis Reader, 2015

As Committee Member

Committee Member, Aaron Kushner, Doctoral Candidate, MU, 2019-2020

As Advisor

Thesis Advisor, Avery Matthews, Polymathic Scholars Program, UT Austin

Capstone Advisor, Anne Walker, Ashland University, *The Quest for Civil Rights in Virginia: Core Documents*, 2021

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Political Science Association, 2012-present

Southern Political Science Association, 2012-present

Midwest Political Science Association, 2013-present

Northeastern Political Science Association, 2011-present

Political Theology Network, 2019-present

Louisiana Political Science Associate, 2013-2015

REFERENCES

Justin B. Dyer
Rex W. Tillerson Endowed Dean's Chair
and Jack G. Taylor Regents Professorship,
School of Civic Leadership
University of Texas at Austin
dyer@utexas.edu

Cecil L. Eubanks (teaching reference)
Alumni Professor *Emeritus*
Dept. of Political Science
Louisiana State University
(225) 578-1944
poeubk@lsu.edu

Jenna Storey
Senior Fellow
American Enterprise Institute
(202) 604-2181
Jenna.Storey@aei.org

Carli Conklin
Associate Professor
Law and Kinder Institute on
Constitutional Democracy
University of Missouri
(573) 882-2533
conklinc@missouri.edu