

# Bryan Garsten

Professor of Political Science  
Professor of Humanities  
Yale University

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**Academic Employment** Professor of Political Science, Yale University (2009-)  
Professor of Humanities, Yale University (2014-)  
Associate Professor of Political Science, Yale University (2008-2009)  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yale University (2004-2008)  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Williams College (2003-2004)

**Education** Harvard University  
Ph.D. in Government, November 2003  
Cambridge University  
M.Phil in Political Thought and Intellectual History, June 1997  
Harvard College  
A.B. *summa cum laude* in Government and Philosophy, June 1996

**Books** *The Heart of a Heartless World: Liberal religion and modern liberty*, in progress and under contract with Harvard University Press  
*Rousseau, The Enlightenment, and Their Legacies*, by Robert Wokler, edited by Bryan Garsten and with an introduction by Christopher Brooke (Princeton University Press, 2012)  
*Saving Persuasion: A defense of rhetoric and judgment* (Harvard University Press, 2006)  
First Book Prize from Foundations of Political Theory section of the American Political Science Association; Thomas J. Wilson Prize from Harvard University Press; Winthrop Award for Excellence in Political Science

**Articles & Chapters** "From popular sovereignty to civil society in post-revolutionary France," for *Popular Sovereignty* [title uncertain], ed. Quentin Skinner and Richard Burke (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).  
"Rousseau and Rameau," for *Thinking With Rousseau: From Machiavelli to Schmitt*, ed. Helena Rosenblatt and Paul Schweigert (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)  
"'Always watching ourselves': Benjamin Constant on the distinctive character of our modern enthusiasms," *The Oxford Handbook of Rhetoric and Political Theory* (Oxford University Press, 2015).  
"Benjamin Constant's liberalism and the political theology of the general will," for *The General Will: The Evolution of a Concept*, ed. James Farr and David Lay Williams (Cambridge University Press, 2015).  
"The 'spirit of independence' in Benjamin Constant's thoughts on a free press," for *Censorship Moments: Reading Texts in the History of Censorship and Freedom of Expression*, ed. Geoff Kemp (Bloomsbury Academic, 2015).  
"The difficult work of liberal civility" (with Teresa Bejan) for *Civility, Legality and Justice in America*, ed. Austin Sarat (Cambridge University Press, 2014).  
"Rhetoric and human separateness in Aristotle," *Polis* vol. 30, no. 2 (2013): 210-227.

- “Deliberating and acting together,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Aristotle’s Politics*, ed. Marguerite Deslauriers and Pierre Destrée (Cambridge University Press, 2013), 324-349.
- “Liberalism and the rhetorical vision of politics,” *The Journal of the History of Ideas*, vol. 73, no. 1 (January 2012): 83-94.
- “Religion and the case against ancient liberty: Benjamin Constant’s other lectures,” *Political Theory* 38.1 (February 2010). Translated into German and republished as “Religion als politisches Argument. Benjamin Constants vergessene Vorlesungen über die Geschichte der Religion,” *Republikanischer Liberalismus: Benjamin Constants Staatsverständnis*, ed. Oliver Lembcke and Florian Weber (Nomos, 2013).
- “Representative Government and Popular Sovereignty,” in *Representation and Popular Rule*, ed. Ian Shapiro, Susan Stokes, Elisabeth Wood (Cambridge University Press, 2010).
- “Religion and Representation in Hobbes’s *Leviathan*,” in Hobbes, *Leviathan and Behemoth*, ed. Ian Shapiro (Yale University Press, 2010).
- “Constant on the religious spirit of liberalism,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Constant*, ed. Helena Rosenblatt (Cambridge University Press, 2009).
- “The Elusiveness of Arendtian Judgment,” *Social Research* 74:3 (Winter 2008).
- “Seeing ‘not differently, but further than the parties,’” in *The Arts of Rule*, ed. Sharon Krause and Mary Ann McGrail (Lexington Books, 2008).

**Review Essays  
and Book  
Reviews**

- “The rhetoric revival in political theory,” *Annual Review of Political Science* 14 (2011): 159-80.
- “Looking for an honest man,” review essay of Martin Jay, *The Virtues of Mendacity* and David Runciman, *Political Hypocrisy in Modern Intellectual History* 8.3 (2011): 697-708.
- “Liberalism’s bad conscience,” review exchange on Lucas Swaine, *The Liberal Conscience*, in *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, vol. 14, no. 4 (September 2011): 509-512.
- “Review of Michael S. Kochin, *Five Chapters on Rhetoric: Character, Action, Things, Nothing and Art*,” *Iyyun: The Jerusalem Philosophical Quarterly* (January 2010): 85-90.
- “Behind the nostalgia for ancient liberty,” review essay of Giovanni Paoletti, *Benjamin Constant et les anciens: politique, religion, histoire*, in *The European Journal of Political Theory* 8.3 (July 2009).
- “Review of Jon Parkin, *Taming the Leviathan: The Reception of the Political and Religious Ideas of Thomas Hobbes in England 1640-1700* and Rhodri Lewis, *Language, Mind and Nature: Artificial Languages in England from Bacon to Locke*,” *Perspectives on Politics* (September 2008).
- “The Idea of an Un-Rhetorical Presidency,” comment on Jeffrey Tulis, *The Rhetorical Presidency*, in *Critical Review* 19 (2007): 325-334.
- “Review of Kari Palonen, *Quentin Skinner: History, Politics, Rhetoric*,” *Ethics* 117 (April 2007).

**Select  
Academic  
Service &  
Activities**

Co-Chair, International Conference for the Study of Political Thought, 2011-  
Acting Chair, Humanities Program, Yale University, 2012-13  
Fellow, National Forum on the Future of Liberal Education, 2009-2011  
University Advisory Council, Yale National Initiative to Strengthen Teaching in the Public  
Schools, 2011-  
Ethics, Politics & Economics Advisory Committee, Yale University, 2009-  
Executive Committee, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2012-2015  
Executive Committee, Humanities Program, Yale University, 2009-  
Mellon Humanities Grant Steering Committee, Yale University, 2012-2014

Editorial Board, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, 2011-  
Member, Board of Advisors for the "American Political Thought" Related Group of the  
American Political Science Association, 2009-  
Board member, New England Political Science Association, 2005-2007  
Referee: *American Political Science Review*, *Political Theory*, *Review of Politics*, *American  
Philosophical Society*, *Journal of Politics*, *European Journal of Political Theory*, *Philosophy  
& Rhetoric*, Cambridge University Press, Harvard University Press, Princeton University  
Press, Rowman & Littlefield Press, Yale University Press

Co-chair, Consultative Committee, Yale-NUS College, 2013-2016  
Co-chair, Curriculum Committee, Yale-NUS College, 2012-13  
Lead author, *A new community of learning*, the curricular vision behind the new college  
Social Sciences Hiring Committee, Yale-NUS College, Singapore, 2011-2012

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, Yale University, 2011  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Ethics, Politics & Economics, Yale Univ., 2008-9  
Steering Committee, Political Science Department, Yale University, 2010-2014  
Executive Committee, Graduate School, Yale University, 2010-11  
Co-coordinator, Macmillan Initiative on Religion, Politics and Society, 2007-

Henry Fellowship Selection Committee, 2014  
Seminar Leader, Yale National Initiative to Strengthen Teaching in Public Schools, 2010-2012  
Griswold Award Committee, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2005-2007  
Coordinator, Yale Political Theory Workshop, 2005-2007, 2012-13  
Omnibus Political Science Junior Search Committee, Yale University, 2004-2005

**Fellowships &  
Visiting  
Professorships**

J-Y Pillay Distinguished Visiting Professor, Yale-NUS College, March 2014  
Professeur invité, *L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales*, Paris, June 2008, June 2011  
Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2010-2012  
Columbia University Institute of Scholars, Reid Hall, Paris, 2008  
Junior Faculty Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2004-2005  
Edward M. Chase Prize, Harvard Department of Government, June 2004  
Mellon Summer Seminar Fellow, Harvard Department of History, Summer 2002  
Graduate Fellowship in Ethics, Harvard University, 2000-2001  
Earhart Foundation Scholar, 1998-1999  
Louis Hartz Scholar, Harvard University, 1997-1998  
Eben Fiske Scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, UK, 1996-1997

## Awards

Poorvu Family Award for Interdisciplinary Teaching, 2008  
Winthrop Award for Excellence in Political Science, 2008  
First Book Prize, Foundations of Political Theory section, APSA, 2007  
Hilles Publication Award, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2006  
Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize of the Harvard University Press, 2005  
Best Faculty Paper, New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2005  
Harvard National Scholar, 1997-2000  
Newbold Rhineland Landon Memorial Scholarship, Harvard College, 1996  
Philo Sherman Bennett Prize, Harvard Department of Government, 1996  
Phi Beta Kappa, Harvard College, 1996

## Lectures & Presentations

“The Lost Art of Public Listening”  
Public Lecture, Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen, September 2014

“Being Represented”  
Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago, May 2014

“Rethinking the politics of Adam Smith and Karl Marx”  
Lecture to Thomas More Society, Yale Political Union, April 18, 2014

“Music, Cultural Development and the Demotion of Politics in Rousseau”  
Keynote Address, Princeton Graduate Conference in Political Theory, April 11, 2014

“Who Represents Us?: The Puzzle of American Government”  
Lecture to New Haven Teacher’s Institute, April 8, 2014

“J. S. Mill on Individuality and Liberty” and “Rethinking Solitude”  
Lectures at Yale-NUS College, Singapore, March 11, 13, 2014

“Liberalism and Democracy: Recent Work by Bryan Garsten and Nadia Urbinati”  
Queen Mary Symposium in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Queen Mary College, University of London, January 10, 2014

“Edmund Burke and Conservatism”  
Comments for “Burke, Paine and the Age of Revolution” conference, November 1, 2013

“The Difficult Work of Liberal Civility” (with Teresa Bejan)  
Paper for “Civility, Legality and the Limits of Justice” conference at the University of Alabama Law School, September 27, 2013

“Anger and Trust”  
Keynote Lecture for “Rhetoric, Between the Theory and Practice of Politics,” University of Minho, Braga, Portugal, June 21, 2013

“Being Represented”  
University of California at Berkeley, Political Theory Colloquium, April 18, 2014

“On Solitude”  
Directed Studies Colloquium, Yale University, February 2, 2013

“Aristotle’s account of oligarchy – a comment on Eugene Garver”  
Northeastern Political Science Association roundtable, November 2012

“Rousseau and Rameau”  
Conference on “Rousseau and the Great Thinkers,” Hunter College, November 2012

“Being Represented”  
Stanford Political Theory Workshop, March 2012

“Aristotle on Deliberating and Acting Together”  
Yale Political Theory Workshop, February 2012

“What is College For?”  
Convocation Address for the Argument & Inquiry Convocation, Carleton College, September 2011

- “Anger and Trust”  
 The Kenneth Burke Lecture, Pennsylvania State University, April 2011  
 Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, May 2011  
 Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, Fall 2011
- “Rhetoric and Deliberation”  
 Conference on deliberation, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, June 2011
- “Rhétorique, religion et représentation chez Benjamin Constant”  
 Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, June 2011
- Roundtable on *The Responsibility of Reason* by Ralph C. Hancock  
 New England Political Science Association annual meeting, April 2011
- “Liberal Religion and Modern Liberty”  
 Duke Political Theory Workshop, January 2011
- “Being Represented”  
 Keynote lecture, Harvard Graduate Student Conference on Political Thought, November 2010
- “Liberalism and the Rhetorical Vision of Politics”  
 Graduate Center, CUNY, 2009
- “Who Speaks for the People?: A Problem of Democratic Leadership”  
 Public lecture at Louisiana State University, 2009
- “Rhetoric and ‘afterthoughts’ in Benjamin Constant’s political thought”  
 Northwestern University, conference on Rhetoric & Political Theory, 2009  
 Columbia University Political Theory Colloquium, 2010  
 University of Virginia conference on the passions, 2010
- “Representative government and popular sovereignty”  
 Princeton University Political Philosophy Colloquium, 2009
- “Religion and the case against ancient liberty”  
 Yale Political Theory Workshop, 2009
- “Being Represented”  
 American Political Science Association annual meeting, 2008
- “Representation and Religion in Hobbes”  
 Society for Early Modern Philosophy, Yale University, 2008  
 Conference on Civil & Religious Liberty, Yale University, 2008
- “Hypocrites All!”  
 Heymann Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, 2007
- “Is Aristotle’s *Ethics* really about ethics? Comments on Eugene Garver’s book”  
 Northeastern Political Science Association annual meeting, 2007
- “Representative Government and Popular Sovereignty”  
 Brown University Political Philosophy Workshop, 2007
- “Rousseau and liberalism”  
 Association for Political Theory annual meeting, 2007
- “A religion for liberals?: Benjamin Constant’s other lectures”  
 Georgetown Political Theory Colloquium, 2007  
 Cambridge Seminar on Political Thought and Intellectual History, 2007  
 Harvard Political Theory Colloquium, 2007  
 American Political Science Association annual meeting, 2006
- “The Elusiveness of Arendtian Judgment”  
 Columbia University Seminar on Political and Social Thought, 2007  
 American Political Science Association annual meeting, 2007  
 “Crises of Our Republic: Hannah Arendt at 100,” conference at Yale, 2006
- “*The Rhetorical Presidency* and political theory”  
 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, 2007
- “*The Liberal Conscience* and Persuasion”  
 New England Political Science Association annual meeting, 2007

- “Saving Persuasion”  
Northwestern University summer seminar on rhetoric, 2006
- “Religion and the origins of liberalism in Benjamin Constant”  
New England Political Science Association annual meeting, 2006  
– Nominated for best paper award –
- “Defending Rhetoric”  
Political Science Department, Ohio State University, 2006
- “Saving Persuasion”  
Political Science Department, Concordia University, Montreal, 2006
- “Civil Society, Rhetoric and Representation in Benjamin Constant”  
New England Political Science Association annual meeting, 2005
- “The Politics of Persuasion”  
Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2005
- “Rhetoric and Judgment in Aristotle”  
Yale Political Theory Workshop, 2005
- “Judgment and Authority in Kant”  
New England Political Science Association annual meeting, 2004  
-- Winner of the best paper award --
- “Persuasion and Justification, Hobbes to Rawls”  
Harvard Political Theory Colloquium, 2003
- “Rhetoric and Judgment in Aristotle”  
American Political Science Association annual meeting, 2002
- “Hobbes and Humanism”  
Mellon Summer Seminar, Harvard Department of History, 2002
- “Hobbes’s Rhetoric to End Rhetoric”  
New England Political Science Association annual meeting, 2002
- “Rhetoric and Skepticism in Cicero”  
American Political Science Association annual meeting, 2001

## Courses Taught

### Yale University courses:

- Introduction to Political Philosophy (lecture)
- Ancient Political Philosophy (lecture)
- Modern Political Philosophy (lecture)
- Advanced Topics in Ancient Political Philosophy (graduate seminar)
- Advanced Topics in Modern Political Philosophy (graduate seminar)
- Politics and Persuasion (graduate and law schools)
- Democratic Rhetoric: Persuasion, Deliberation and Demagoguery (lecture)
- Aristotle’s Political Thought (grad-undergrad seminar)
- Political Judgment (grad-undergrad seminar)
- Representation (grad-undergrad seminar)
- Problems in Political Theory (graduate seminar)
- Research and Writing (graduate seminar)
- Directed Studies: History and Politics (undergraduate seminar + lecture)

### Williams College courses:

- Ancient Political Philosophy (seminar)
- Modern Political Thought (seminar)
- Introduction to Political Thought (lecture)
- Politics and Persuasion (seminar)