

Heather Pangle Wilford

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Yale University, Department of Political Science, Lecturer	2023–
Yale University, Department of Political Science, Postdoctoral Fellow & Lecturer	2020–2023
United States Naval Academy, Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership, Resident Fellow	2019–2020
Harvard University, Government Department, Visiting Scholar	2018–2019
Boston College, Political Science Department, Lecturer	2018–2019
Carleton College, Political Science Department, Visiting Instructor	Spring 2018
Middlebury College, Political Science Department, Visiting Instructor	Winter 2017

EDUCATION

Boston College, Ph.D., Political Science.	2011–2018
<i>Major Field:</i> Political Theory. <i>Minor Fields:</i> American Politics, Comparative Politics.	
<i>Dissertation:</i> “Alexis de Tocqueville and J.S. Mill on Liberty and Empire.”	
<i>Committee:</i> Christopher Kelly, Robert C. Bartlett, Nasser Behnegar, R. Shep Melnick	
Middlebury College, B.A. <i>Summa cum laude</i> , Political Science.	2006–2010

RESEARCH AREAS

Areas of Specialization: modern political philosophy (especially French and British); liberalism; nationalism; empire; democratic theory

Areas of Competence: Ancient political philosophy; American political thought and development; theories of international relations; ethics

PUBLICATIONS

- “Tocqueville and the Empire of Commerce in America.” Co-authored with Paul Wilford. *American Political Thought* 14 no. 4 (Fall 2024): 449–481.
- “The Varieties of Nationalism and their Implications for the Liberal World Order.” *Society* 60 no. 4 (Aug. 2023): 483–491.
- “Two Cheers for Liberalism,” review of Francis Fukuyama, *Liberalism and its Discontents*. Co-authored with Paul Wilford. *City Journal* (Online) Aug. 26, 2022.

“Like a God on Earth: Popular Sovereignty in Tocqueville’s *Democracy in America*.” In *People Power: popular sovereignty from Machiavelli to modernity*, ed. Robert G. Ingram and Christopher Barker (Manchester University Press, 2022): 160–181.

“Liberalism and Nationalism.” *National Affairs* No. 41 (Fall 2019): 142–158.

“Rousseau and Julie von Bondeli on the Moral Sense,” co-authored with Christopher Kelly. *The Adam Smith Review* Vol. 11 (Dec., 2018): 7–20.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“National Solidarity as the Ballast of Liberalism.” Co-authored with Paul Wilford. Invited submission at *Ethics and International Affairs*. *With editors*.

“Alexis de Tocqueville and J.S. Mill on Sustainable Democracy.”

Book manuscript in preparation: “The Conditions of Liberty: Alexis de Tocqueville on Freedom and Empire in the Democratic Age.”

TEACHING

Yale University

Directed Studies: Historical and Political Thought I (Hebrew Bible to Aquinas)

Directed Studies: Historical and Political Thought II (Machiavelli to Arendt)

Individualism and Community: Tocqueville and J.S. Mill

Liberty, Equality, and Citizenship

Might and Right Among Nations

The Politics of Human Flourishing: Ancient Political Philosophy

Hudson Political Studies Program

Plato’s *Republic* (Summer 2021)

Boston College

The Political Philosophy of Alexis de Tocqueville and J.S. Mill

Liberalism and Its Critics

Rights in Conflict (Sophomore Seminar in American Politics)

Carleton College

Political Philosophy

Liberalism and Its Critics

Middlebury College

Introduction to Political Philosophy

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Fellow, Elm Institute 2023–2024

Fellow, Barry Center on the University and Intellectual Life, Morningside Institute 2021–2023

Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University. 2017–2018

McMeekin Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies. 2016–2017, 2017–2018

Graduate Fellow, Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, Boston College.	2014–2015, 2017–2018
Political Science Department Dissertation Fellowship, Boston College.	2016–2017
Bradley Fellow, Boston College.	2013–2017
Supported Scholar, Ernest Fortin Memorial Foundation.	Summers 2012–2017
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Presidential Fellowship, Boston College.	2011–2016
Ph.D. Scholarship, Institute for Humane Studies.	2015–2016
Julian E. and Melba Jarrett Prize, Middlebury College. <i>For the study of political philosophy, constitutional law and American government.</i>	2010

CONFERENCES, COLLOQUIA, AND INVITED LECTURES

Paper Presentation, “America’s Commercial Empire.” Ethics and Empire: The Modern Period, Colloquium at Christ Church College, Oxford University. June 30–July 1, 2022.

Invited Lecture, Elm Institute, “Liberalism and Nationalism,” November 12, 2021.

Hudson Political Studies Program Alumni Lecture, “Tocqueville on Patriotism, Honor, and ‘the General Good of Humanity,’” May 25, 2021.

Yale Political Theory Workshop, “Tocqueville on America, Democracy, and a New Form of Empire.” March 30, 2021.

Paper Presentation, “The Ambivalent Imperialism of Alexis de Tocqueville.” Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA. November 2019.

Invited Participant, “Tocqueville and the Future of Democracy.” Conference at the Salvatori Center for the Study of Freedom in the Modern World, Claremont McKenna College. October 4–5, 2019.

Abigail Adams Institute Scholars’ Workshop (invited lecture), “The Liberalism of Alexis de Tocqueville and John Stuart Mill,” June 5, 2019.

John Marshall Project Invited Lecture, “Liberalism in Crisis: Imperial Hegemony or Our Last Best Hope?” Boston College, April 17, 2019.

Paper Presentation, “Like a God on Earth: Popular Sovereignty in *Democracy in America*.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2019.

Invited Paper Presentation, “Like a God on Earth: The People as Sovereign.” Popular Sovereignty and Populism, Conference at The George Washington Forum on American Ideas, Politics, and Institutions, Ohio University. March 15–16, 2019.

Paper Presentation, “Tocqueville and Mill on the Democratic Franchise.” American Political Science Association Conference, Boston, MA. August, 2018.

Invited Paper Presentation, “The Conditions and Consequences of the Expanded Franchise: Alexis de Tocqueville and J.S. Mill on the Possibilities for Democracy in Nineteenth Century France and England.” Voting: A History, Conference at The George Washington Forum on American Ideas, Politics, and Institutions, Ohio University. April 13–14, 2018.

- Paper Presentation, “The Liberalism of Alexis de Tocqueville and John Stuart Mill.”
Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA. November 2017.
- Invited Participant, “Democratic Greatness? Tocqueville on American Ambition.” Marshall
Center, University of Richmond. May 11–13, 2017.
- Paper Presentation, “The Pre-requisites of Liberalism and the Problems of Empire in
Tocqueville’s Political Thought.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference,
Chicago, IL. April 2017.
- Paper Presentation, “Tocqueville’s Argument for France’s Empire.” Northeastern Political
Science Association Conference, Boston, MA. November 2016.
- Invited Participant, Jack Miller Center Summer Institute: “Commerce and Character.”
Philadelphia, PA. August 2–12, 2016.
- Paper Presentation, “Alexis de Tocqueville and J.S. Mill on the Aims of Empire.” Midwest
Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2016.
- Invited Participant, Institute for Humane Studies Conference: “Burke and Tocqueville on
Liberty.” Alexandria, VA. October 16–18, 2015.
- Roundtable Participant, “Rousseau’s Lesser Known Works on Women.” American Political
Science Association Conference, San Francisco, CA. September 2015.
- Paper Co-Presentation with Christopher Kelly, “Rousseau and Julie von Bondeli on the Moral
Sense.” Themes From Smith and Rousseau Conference, University of Glasgow, Glasgow,
UK. July 2015.
- Paper Presentation, “Imperial Ambition and the Promise of Happiness in Xenophon’s *Education
of Cyrus*.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2015.
- Paper Presentation, “Empire, Ambition, and Legitimacy in Thucydides and Xenophon.”
Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA. November 2014.
- Paper Presentation, “Rhetoric, Wisdom, and the Philosophic Life: The ‘Digression’ in Plato’s
Theaetetus.” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2013.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Assistant Director, Civic Thought Initiative. Yale University, 2020–
- Senior Thesis Supervisor (3), Yale University, 2020–
- Philo Sherman Bennett Prize Committee, Yale University, 2022, 2023
- Undergraduate Fellows Coordinator, The John Marshall Project. Boston College, 2018–2019