

Melissa Schwartzberg

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Employment

Columbia University

Associate Professor (without tenure), Department of Political Science, 2006-present
Associate Member, Department of Classics, 2009-present

The George Washington University

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2002-2006

Education

New York University

Ph.D., Politics, 2002

Dissertation: *Law, Legal Change, and Entrenchment* (Bernard Manin, chair)

Fields: Political Theory, Comparative Politics

Washington University in St. Louis,

A.B., Political Science and Classics, 1996, *magna cum laude*

Publications

Books:

Counting the Many: Supermajority Rule and Its Alternatives. Under contract, Cambridge University Press.

Democracy and Legal Change. New York: Cambridge University Press (Cambridge Studies in the Theory of Democracy), 2007.

- Subject of a commissioned critical exchange (with Corey Brettschneider) in *Perspectives on Politics* 6: 361-365 (2008).

Articles:

“Shouts, Murmurs, and Votes: Acclamation and Aggregation in Ancient Greece.” *Journal of Political Philosophy*. Forthcoming.

“The Arbitrariness of Supermajority Rules.” *Social Science Information* [special issue on collective decision-making rules]. Forthcoming.

“Institutions and Majority Rule in Online Communities.” With Henry Farrell. *Ethics and International Affairs*. Winter 2009, 22:4, 357-368.

“Voting the General Will: Rousseau on Decision Rules.” *Political Theory*. June 2008, 36:3, 403-423.

- Chinese translation and reprint in press (Cui Zhiyuan and Wang Shaoguang, eds.).

“Jeremy Bentham on Fallibility and Infallibility.” *Journal of the History of Ideas*. October 2007, 68:4, 563-585.

“Vox Populi, Vox Dei, Vox Sagittae.” With Forrest Maltzman and Lee Sigelman. *PS: Political Science and Politics*. April 2006, 39:2, 297-301.

“Athenian Democracy and Legal Change,” *American Political Science Review*, May 2004, 98:2, 311-325.

“Rousseau on Fundamental Law,” *Political Studies*, June 2003, vol. 51, 387-403.

- Reprint: *Rousseau and Law*, Thom Brooks, ed. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2005.

Other Writings:

“Ratification Rules and the New (and Old) Constitutional Convention.” Contribution to symposium on Sanford Levinson’s *Our Undemocratic Constitution*. *The Good Society*, 18:1, 46-51 (2009).

Book review of *Democratic Rights* (Princeton, 2007), by Corey Brettschneider, as part of commissioned critical exchange. *Perspectives on Politics* 6: 361-365 (2008).

“English Bill of Rights.” *Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties* (4 vols), Paul Finkelman, ed. New York: Routledge, 2006.

Working Papers:

“Democracy, Judgment, and Juries.”

“Voting and Judgment in Assemblies and Juries in Classical Athens.”

Invited Presentations

Session on my work on ancient institutions. Greek and Roman Constitutionalism course (A. Lanni/A. Vermeule), Harvard Law School, January 6, 2010.

TBD. Political Theory Workshop, University of North Carolina, February 25, 2010.

TBD. Political Theory Workshop, Stanford University, April 9, 2010.

“Democracy, Judgment, and Juries.” Political Philosophy Colloquium, Princeton University, March 12, 2009.

“Shouts, Murmurs, and Votes: Aggregation and Acclamation in the Ancient World.”

- Political Philosophy Workshop, Brown University, March 19, 2009.
- Colloquium in Public Law, Princeton University, April 29, 2008.
- Department of Classics, Columbia University, November 20, 2007.
- Political Theory Workshop, Yale University, November 15, 2007.
- Political Theory Workshop, New York University, November 2, 2007.

“John Stuart Mill.” Guest speaker at Contemporary Civilization Core Lecture Series, March 3, 2009.

“Thinking through ancient texts in today’s classroom.” Guest speaker at “The Origins of Political Values in Ancient Greece and Their Continuation into Modern Political Thought,” Faculty Resource Network Summer Seminar, Center for Ancient Studies, New York University, June 11-15, 2007.

“Against Entrenchment.”

- Institute for Constitutional Studies, March 24, 2006.
- Georgetown University Law Center Colloquium on Constitutional Law and Theory, February 14, 2006.

“Voting the General Will: Rousseau’s Use of Supermajority Rules.” Riker Seminar, University of Rochester, February 3, 2006.

“Political Theory and the Conceivable Future.” Guest speaker, Political Science Honors Convocation, Washington University in St. Louis, April 29, 2004.

“Infallibility in Bentham’s Political and Legal Thought.”

- University of Virginia Political Theory Colloquium, Feb. 13, 2004.
- NYU Political Theory Colloquium, Nov. 13, 2003.

“The Political Theory of Jean-Jacques Rousseau.” Invited talk, Catholic University, Nov. 12, 2003.

Conference Presentations

“Voting and Judgment in Assemblies and Juries in Classical Athens.” American Society for Legal History, Dallas, TX, Nov. 14, 2009.

“Supermajority Rules, Arbitrariness, and Democratic Legitimacy.” American Political Science Association 2009 Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, September 3-6, 2009.

“Democracy, Judgment, and Juries.” Conference on Majority Decision, Collège de France, May 13-14, 2009.

Discussant, “The Expanding Domains of Representative Claims.” Conference, Beyond Elections: The Democratic Legitimacy of New Forms of Representation. University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, December 5, 2008.

“Norms, Minorities and Collective Choice in Wikipedia and Daily Kos.” With Henry Farrell. American Political Science Association 2008 Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, August 28-31, 2008.

“Decision Rules and Our New Constitutional Convention.” American Political Science Association 2008 Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, August 28-31, 2008.

“Shouts, Murmurs, and Votes: Aggregation and Acclamation in the Ancient World.”

- Association for Political Theory, University of Western Ontario, October 11-14, 2007.
- American Political Science Association 103rd Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Chicago, IL, August 30-September 2, 2007. (As “Democratic Judgment and Risk in the Ancient World.”)
- Conference on the Greek *Polis* and the Invention of Democracy, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, October 6-8, 2006.

“Minority (Group) Rights in the Modern Liberal Democratic State: A Roundtable Discussion.” Invited plenary session participant. Association for Political Theory, University of Western Ontario, October 11-14, 2007.

“Voting the General Will: Rousseau and the Origin of Epistemic Majorities,” American Political Science Association 101st Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005; Association for Political Theory, October 21-23, 2005.

“Jeremy Bentham on Fallibility and Infallibility”

- John Stuart Mill Bicentennial Conference, London, England, April 5-7, 2006. (Presented as “Bentham and J.S. Mill on Infallibility”)
- American Political Science Association 100th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Chicago, IL, September 2-5, 2004. (Presented as “Bentham on Fallibilism and Legal Change”)
- “Utilitarianism, Human Rights, and Globalization 2003,” the 7th International Conference of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies, Lisbon, Portugal, April 10-13, 2003. (Presented as “Bentham on Legal Change”)

“Fallibilism and the American Founding,” Summer 2005 Seminar on Slavery and the Constitution, Institute for Constitutional Studies, The George Washington University Law School, June 13-24, 2005.

“The Logic and Legitimacy of Hereditary Succession.” Co-authored with Jennifer Gandhi. Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, April 15-18, 2004.

“Rights, Revision, and Democracy.” Paper presented at the American Political Science Association 98th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Boston, MA, August 26-September 1, 2002.

“Exploring Legal Change: The Athenian Case.” Paper presented at the Northeast Political Science Association 2000 Annual Meeting, Albany, NY, November 9-11, 2000.

“The Particular Problems of Absolute Entrenchment.” Paper presented at the American Political Science Association 96th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Washington, DC, August 31-September 3, 2000.

“Explaining Entrenchment.” Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association 58th Annual National Meeting, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, IL, April 27-30, 2000.

Grants and Fellowships

Sterling Currier Fund, “Varieties of Majority Rule Conference,” \$17,500. Co-organizers Samuel Moyn (Columbia) and Bernard Manin (NYU/Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales).

Columbia University Summer Grant Program in the Social Sciences, 2007-2008, \$1500.

University Facilitating Fund Award, George Washington University, 2003-2004 (\$8,752).

Bradley Fellowship, NYU, Department of Politics (one-year fellowship, 2001-2002).

McCracken Fellowship, NYU, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (five-year fellowship, 1996-2001).

Courses Taught

At Columbia University:

- Political Thought – Classical and Medieval (graduate/undergraduate), Fall 2006, Fall 2008.
- Problems in Democratic Theory (undergraduate), Spring 2009.
- Constitutional Theory and History. (With Jon Elster.) Fall 2007.
- Contemporary Civilization, Fall 2006, 2007, 2009; Spring 2007.
- Dissertation Workshop. (With Jeffrey Lax.) Fall 2009.

At The George Washington University:

- Theories of Majority Rule. Undergraduate, Spring 2006.
- Theories of Democracy. Graduate, Fall 2003, Fall 2005; Undergraduate, Fall 2004; Dean’s Seminar for Freshman, Fall 2005.
- Western Political Thought I: Plato to Aquinas. Spring and Fall 2003; Fall 2004; Spring 2006.
- Constitutionalism. Undergraduate, Spring 2005.
- Comparative Constitutionalism. (With Nathan Brown.) Spring 2004.
- Dean’s Seminar for Freshmen: Human Rights. Fall 2002; Spring 2004.
- Rights. Spring 2003.

Professional Service

To the Discipline

Division Chair, Normative Political Theory, American Political Science Association 101st Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005.

Discussant, "Democratic Metaphors," American Political Science Association 102nd Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, August 31-September 3, 2006.

Chair, Roundtable on Ellen Kennedy's *Constitutional Failure: Carl Schmitt in Weimar*, American Political Science Association 101st Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005.

Discussant, "Liberal Democracy: Institutional and Normative Requirements" and "Representation and Liberalism Abroad." Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago, IL, April 7-10, 2005.

Chair, "The International Criminal Court and the Emergence of an International Public Sphere." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association 99th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, August 27-31, 2003.

Discussant, "Visions of Citizenship." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association 95th Annual Meeting and Exhibition, Atlanta, GA, September 2-5, 1999.

Manuscript reviewer, Cambridge University Press, University of Oklahoma Press, Oxford University Press, Yale University Press, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Constellations*, *History of Political Thought*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Studies*, *Political Theory*.

Member, American Political Science Association (Foundations of Political Thought organized section), Association for Political Theory, Conference for the Study of Political Thought, American Society for Legal and Political Philosophy (NOMOS).

To Columbia University

Governing Board, Society of Fellows, 2008-2011.

Chair or co-chair, Columbia Seminar in Political and Social Thought, 2007-.

Chair or co-chair, Columbia Political Theory Workshop, 2007-.

Member, Political Theory Junior Faculty Search Committee, 2009-10.

Co-organizer, "Varieties of Majority Rule" conference, Nov. 7-8, 2008.

Advisory Board, Consortium for Intellectual and Cultural History, 2007-.

Member, American Politics Senior Search Committee, 2007-08.

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2006-07, 2009-10.

To The George Washington University

Advisor, IPOD Upperclass Living and Learning Community, 2005-06.

Member, Chair Search Committee, Department of Political Science, 2005.

Master teacher, Human Rights/Freshman Advising Workshop, The George Washington University, 2003-4. Included invited presentation on “Human Rights in Political Science.”

Junior member, Politics and Values Faculty Search Committee, The George Washington University, 2002-3.

Languages

French and ancient Greek; elementary German, Hebrew, and Latin.

August 2009