

Aaron Alexander Zubia

Curriculum Vitae

Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education, University of Florida

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023- University of Florida: Assistant Professor of Humanities
Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education
- 2020-23 Furman University: Postdoctoral Fellow, The Tocqueville Program
Department of Politics and International Affairs
- 2019-20 Princeton University: Thomas W. Smith Postdoctoral Research Associate
James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions,
Department of Politics

EDUCATION

- 2019 Columbia University: Ph.D., Political Science
Dissertation Title: "The Making of Liberal Mythology: David Hume,
Epicureanism, and the New Political Science"
Dissertation Advisor: Nadia Urbinati
- 2017 Columbia University, M.Phil., Political Science
- 2016 Columbia University, M.A., Political Science
- 2012 Princeton Theological Seminary, M.Div.
- 2009 University of Texas at El Paso, B.B.A. in Marketing
Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

Book

The Political Thought of David Hume: The Origins of Liberalism and the Modern Political Imagination, University of Notre Dame Press, 2024

Reviewed in: [Times Literary Supplement](#), [Law & Liberty](#), [Perspectives on Political Science](#), [Choice](#)

Journal Articles

- 2024 “The Development of Public Conscience: Hume’s Third Way Between Hobbes and Locke,” *Political Theory* OnlineFirst
- 2022 “Hume’s Transformation of Academic Skepticism,” *Hume Studies* 47, no. 2
Winner of the first Annual *Hume Studies* Essay Prize
- 2020 “Hume, Epicureanism, and Contractarianism,” *Hume Studies* 46, no. 1
- 2020 “The Centrality of Convention in Hume’s Moral and Political Philosophy,”
Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy 47, no. 1

Manuscripts under Review

- “Beyond Hume: Recovering the Broader Scottish Enlightenment Background of Madison’s Thought” (R&R)
- “Instinctual Conservatism, Radical Philosophy: The Case of Hume on Marriage”

Works in Progress

- “Liberalism in Hume’s *History of England*”

Book Reviews

- 2024 “Review: From Moral Theology to Moral Philosophy: Cicero and Visions of Humanity from Locke to Hume,” *Hume Studies* 49, no. 2
- 2021 “Review: Taking Comedy Seriously: Stand-Up’s Dissident Potential in Mass Culture,”
Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy, 47:2

Other Publications

- 2024 “Hume and Rousseau on Liberty,” *Online Library of Liberty*
- 2024 “Towards a Politics of Truth,” *Law & Liberty*
- 2024 “Lessons from the Most Anxious Philosopher,” *Public Discourse*
- 2024 “Saving Ourselves from Party Rage,” *Law & Liberty*
- 2023 “A Gospel of Egalitarianism,” *Law & Liberty*
- 2022 “Following the Founders,” *NR*
- 2022 “‘A Commonwealth of Hope’ Review: The Uplifting St. Augustine,” *WSJ*
- 2022 “Liberalism’s Recovery of Religion,” *Law & Liberty*

- 2022 “The Limits of Moderation,” *First Things*
- 2021 “‘The Saint and the Atheist’ Review: The Wrong Side of Truth,” *WSJ*
- 2021 “The Founders’ Guide to ‘Knock Down, Drag Out’ Fighting,” *WSJ*
- 2020 “Woke Progressivism Comes for David Hume,” *NRO*
- 2020 “Universities Abandon Reason for a False Idea of ‘Empowerment’,” *WSJ*
- 2020 “Black Lives Matter is not the same as ‘black lives matter’,” *Washington Examiner*
- 2020 “Comedy for Believers: Hannah Gadsby’s Woke Comedy Gospel,” *NR*
- 2018 “Jefferson’s ‘Master Epicurus’ and the Nature of the American Regime,”
Public Discourse

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

- 2025 “Hume and Epicurus on Marriage and Family”
APA-Eastern, New York, NY, Jan. 8-11
- 2024 “Book Panel: *The Political Thought of David Hume*”
ISI American Politics and Government Summit, Wilmington, DE, Nov. 7-9
- 2023 “Politics, More Art than Science: Recovering the Non-Humean James Madison”
PPE Society Seventh Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Nov. 2-4
- 2023 “The Role of Authority in Hume’s Moral Sense Theory”
International Workshop on Hume’s Moral Philosophy (Virtual), Sept. 12
- 2023 “Politics, More Art than Science: Recovering the Non-Humean James Madison”
APSA, Los Angeles, CA, Aug. 31-Sept. 3 (Appearance cancelled due to weather)
- 2023 “Conservatizing Liberalism”
American Philosophical Association (APA)-Central, Denver, CO, Feb. 22-25
- 2021 “From Skepticism to Empiricism: Hume and the Reduction of Politics to a Science”
Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA), Boston, MA, Nov. 11-13
- 2021 “How the Federalists Won the Struggle for the Constitution”
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), New Orleans, LA, Jan. 6-9
- 2020 “David Hume’s Modern Epicurean Political Theory”
American Political Science Association (APSA), San Francisco, CA, Sep. 10-13
- 2020 “The Priority of Justice in Hume’s Moral Psychology”
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), San Juan, PR, Jan. 9-11

- 2020 “Hume on Faction and the Necessity of Enlightenment”
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), San Juan, PR, Jan. 9-11
- 2019 “Hume on Faction and the Liberal Strategy of Enlightenment”
Association for Political Theory (APT), Irvine, CA, Oct. 24-26
- 2019 “Hobbes and Mandeville on the Liberal Government of the Passions”
4th Braga Colloquium in the History of Moral and Political Philosophy, Jan. 29-30
- 2017 “David Hume’s Neo-Epicurean Political Theory”
Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA), Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 9-11

Discussant

- 2022 Author Meets Critics: *A Philosopher’s Economist: Hume and the Rise of Capitalism*
PPE Society Sixth Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, Nov. 3-5
- 2021 “Liberalism’s Consequences, Liberalism’s Critics” Panel
Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA), Boston, MA, Nov. 11-13
- 2020 “Faith, Hope, and Progress?” Panel
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), San Juan, PR, Jan. 9-11
- 2018 “Ancient Roots” Panel
Unions and Federations Conference, Columbia University, April 27-28

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 “The Development of Public Conscience”
Institute for Historical Research, University of London, March 12
- 2025 “Hume and the Origins of Liberalism”
Canterbury Institute, Oxford, UK, March 11
- 2024 “David Hume and the Ideas that Shaped America”
America’s Town Hall: Live at the National Constitution Center (Zoom), Jan. 29
- 2021 “Can You Separate Morality and Politics? Hume’s Politics of Humanity”
The Morningside Institute, New York, NY, April 5
- 2020 “Hume on Faction and the Necessity of Enlightenment”
The Invisible Hand Seminar, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, Feb. 22
- 2019 “Hobbes and Mandeville on the Liberal Government of the Passions”
The King’s College, New York, NY, April 8

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 University of Florida, IDS 2935: What Is America For?
- 2024 University of Florida, IDS 2935: Freedom and Equality
- 2024 University of Florida, IDH 2930: Dostoevsky's Devils
- 2023 Furman University, POL 415: Metaphysics and Politics
- 2021-23 Furman University, POL 375: The Revolutionary Spirit and the Human Future
- 2021 Furman University, POL 273: American Political Thought
- 2020-22 Furman University, POL 103: Introduction to Political Thought

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2024 Participant, Reason Magazine/Liberty Fund Colloquium, Washington, DC
- 2022 Participant, Institute for Humane Studies/Liberty Fund Colloquium, Washington, DC
- 2021-22 Philosophy Instructor, Austin Institute Summer Seminar, Austin, TX
- 2021 Participant, Jack Miller Center Summer Institute, Douglassville, GA
- 2020 Co-Leader, JMP Undergraduate Reading Group, Princeton University
- 2018 Assistant Convener, Unions and Federations Conference, Columbia University
- 2018 Participant, Thomistic Seminar, Witherspoon Institute, Princeton, NJ
- 2016-18 Rapporteur, University Seminar on Social and Political Thought, Columbia University
- 2016-17 Co-Convener, Political Theory Student Workshop, Columbia University

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2022 First Annual *Hume Studies* Essay Prize
- 2022 Philadelphia Society Future of Freedom Fellowship
- 2021 Runner-Up, Jack Miller Center, Excellence in Civic Education Award
- 2021 Institute for Humane Studies, Hayek Fund for Scholars
- 2019 Institute for Humane Studies, Hayek Fund for Scholars
- 2017-18 Columbia University, Schiff Fellowship
- 2015-18 Columbia University, GSAS Teaching Fellowship

2014-15 Columbia University, GSAS Diversity Fellowship

2014-15 Columbia University, GSAS Dean's Fellowship

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2019 Hume Society

2019 Southern Political Science Association

2019 American Philosophical Association

2018 American Political Science Association

2018 Association for Political Theory

2017 Northeastern Political Science Association

RESEARCH INTERESTS

History of political thought; Scottish Enlightenment; American political thought; political liberalism; politics and religion; metaphysics and moral anthropology

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

2015 Latin Proficiency Exam

REFERENCES

Benjamin Storey
Senior Fellow in Social, Cultural, and Constitutional Studies
American Enterprise Institute (AEI)
Research Professor at Furman University
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Jenna Silber Storey
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