

Lynn Elizabeth Uzzell

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EDUCATION

PhD in politics, University of Dallas (Institute of Philosophical Studies), 2008. Concentration on the American Founding, as well as Aristotelian rhetoric, ethics, and politics.

M.A. in politics, University of Dallas, 1999.

B.A. in speech communications with an emphasis in classical rhetoric, Black Hills State University (SD), 1994, *summa cum laude*.

Dissertation Topic

Because Men are not Angels: The Understanding of Human Nature Informing the United States Constitution. The dissertation is a rhetorical analysis of the debates in the Constitutional Convention; it explores how the Framers understood the challenges posed by man's problematic nature, and the political solutions they offered to meet those challenges.

Leo Paul S. de Alvarez, advisor
Richard Dougherty, second reader
Thomas West, third reader

ACADEMIC INTERESTS

The Framing of the Constitution and Bill of Rights ♦ Political Thought of James Madison
♦ The American Founding ♦ American Political Thought ♦ American Slavery ♦ Political
Philosophy ♦ Classical Rhetoric

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2021 to present: Visiting Assistant Professor of Politics at Washington and Lee University.

2019 to present: Founding director and co-instructor of the [Summer Civics Institute for Virginia Teachers](#), through the Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the University of Virginia. Responsible for organizing the curriculum and program, outreach to the teacher-

participants, and teaching a third of the seminars. Currently working to develop a graduate class for teachers.

2016 to 2021: adjunct lecturer at the University of Virginia.

2017 to 2018: adjunct lecturer at the University of Richmond.

2014 to 2016: Adjunct faculty at James Madison University, superintending and co-teaching graduate-level courses.

2012-2015: Scholar in Residence at the Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier (duties included research, developing online course content, helping to organize and teach seminars, and lecturing).

Spring, 2012: Adjunct professor in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond.

2010-11: Veritas Fund Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the John Marshall Center for the Study of Statesmanship in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond.

2008 to 2010: Post-Doctorate Fellow for the Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the University of Virginia and adjunct in their Department of Politics.

2001-2002: Adjunct in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) at Baylor University.

CURRENT AND FORTHCOMING RESEARCH PROJECTS

"The Deep South's Constitutional Con," forthcoming in *St. Mary's Law Journal*, Vol. 53 (spring/summer), 2022.

"'Father of the Constitution'? Can James Madison Pass the Paternity Test?," a chapter for the book, *Madison's Constitution*, ed. by Howard Schweber and Eric T. Kasper, date TBD.

"The American Congress as Institutionalized Prudence," a conference paper intended for inclusion in an edited volume titled, *The Power of Common Sense: Explorations in Philosophy, Ethics, and Politics*, ed. by Adam Seagrave and David Tucker. Currently a book proposal being considered by Oxford University Press.

Current book project: *James Madison and the Lost Pinckney Plan: A Constitutional Con and Cover-up*. This book will tell the story of the plan of government Charles Pinckney submitted to the Constitutional Convention: its subsequent disappearance; Pinckney's later fabrication of a pseudo-plan; his two attempts at "fraudulent originalism" during the Missouri Compromise debates; Madison's posthumous cover-up in 1840; a manuscript that was mistakenly identified as the Lost Plan in 1903; and 200 years of often flawed and erroneous attempts to recover the Lost Plan and tell its story.

Nearly complete book manuscript, put on hold: *Madison's Word on Trial: Appraising the Records of the Constitutional Convention*. A book offering the first comprehensive appraisal of the available records chronicling the making of the Constitution.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"A New Investigation into Madison's Notes of the Convention: Solving the Mystery of His June 6 Speech," *American Political Thought*, 6, no. 4 (Fall 2017): 517-549.

Co-author (with Holt Merchant) of book-length content for an online course (an "e-textbook"), "Slavery and the Constitution," for the Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier, released in 2016-2017 academic year.

Author of book-length content for an online course (an "e-textbook"), "The Creation of the Constitution," for the Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier, released in 2015.

Author of book-length written content for an online course (an "e-textbook"), with Stuart Harris, "The Bill of Rights," for the Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier, 2012.

NON-PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"[Madison's Offering at Clio's Altar](#)," part of a special symposium on the life and thought of James Madison, in *Starting Points Journal* (Nov. 10, 2021).

"[It's Time to Acknowledge Anti-White Racism](#)," in *Real Clear Politics* (September 12, 2021)

"[Three Words to Defeat CRT: 'I Am Non-Racial.'](#)" in *Real Clear Politics* (August 13, 2021).

"[Madison's Five Lessons for Overcoming Polarization](#)," in *Real Clear Politics (1776 Series)*, (March 18, 2021).

Law & Liberty book review, "[Founding Rivals, Founding Friends](#)," reviewing Lynne Cheney's *Virginia Dynasty: Four Presidents and the Creation of the American Nation*, for *Law & Liberty* (Feb. 3, 2021).

"Writing *Federalist* 10 for an Antifederalist Audience," in, *From Reflection and Choice: The Political Philosophy of the Federalist Papers and the Ratification Debate*, edited by Will R. Jordan, (Macon, GA: Mercer University Press), 2020.

"[Restoration Versus Rupture: How Did the Founders Understand History?](#)" book review of Trevor Colbourn's *The Lamp of Experience: Whig History and the Intellectual Origins of the American Revolution* for *Law & Liberty* (October 29, 2019).

“[Honor, Sacred and Profane](#),” book review of Craig Bruce Smith’s *American Honor: The Creation of the Nation’s Ideals during the Revolutionary Era*, for *Law & Liberty* (February 4, 2019).

“[The Polylingual Constitution](#),” article for *Law & Liberty* (June 20, 2018).

“A Pox on Both Your Houses, [Part I: Anti-Historical Originalists](#)” (May 16, 2018), and “[Part II: Anti-Originalist Historians](#)” (May 17, 2018), articles for *Law & Liberty*.

“[Madison’s Notes: At Last, a New and Improved Look](#),” article for *Law & Liberty*, (March 8, 2018).

“[Historical Records and Historical Narratives about the Constitutional Convention](#),” article for *Starting Points Journal* (Nov. 13, 2017).

“[James Madison and the ‘Acrobatic History’ of the Ninth Amendment](#),” in *Washington Times* special supplement, “Celebrating Freedom: The 225th Anniversary of the U.S. Bill of Rights,” December 13, 2016.

“The Right to Revolution,” an entry in *The Encyclopedia of American Governance*, Stephen Schechter, et al, eds. (Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA), 2016.

Published a monthly blog for Montpelier in 2015, “A View from James Madison’s Library,” making analogies between contemporary political controversies and those in which Madison participated during his political career.

“Courting Public Opinion: James Madison’s Strategy for Resisting Federal Usurpations,” a chapter in *What Would Madison Do? The Father of the Constitution Meets Modern American Politics*, edited by Benjamin Wittes and Pietro Nivola (Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press), 2015.

Wrote supplementary content for Montpelier’s Pocket Constitution (Introduction, “Biographies of a Few Prominent Framers,” and “Constitutional Conversations: The American Founders Explain America’s Constitution”), 2013.

“Locke’s Latent Sovereign,” a chapter in *Executive Power in Theory and Practice*, Hugh Liebert, et al, eds. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan), 2012.

Contributed to and edited content for an online course, “Introduction to the Constitution,” for the Center for the Constitution at James Madison’s Montpelier, 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE COURSES)

Courses taught at the Washington and Lee, 2021: “American National Government” (the introductory course for politics majors) “Creating the U.S. Constitution” (a course that requires students to study the debates in the Federal Convention of 1787, which framed the U.S. Constitution, and then requires students to recreate the Constitutional Convention in a role-playing game); and “Rhetoric in the Structure of American Politics” (a course that examined classical rhetorical theory and explored how these principles have been adopted, adapted, and employed within America’s constitutional framework).

Courses taught at the University of Virginia, 2008 to 2010 and 2016-2021: “The American Political Tradition” (a course which explored the principal institutions, ideas, and ideals that have shaped the American regime); “Rhetoric in the Structure of American Politics”; and “Creating the U.S. Constitution.”

Courses taught at the University of Richmond, 2012 and 2017-18: “Leadership and the Humanities” (an exploration of the role of rhetoric and leadership in ancient Greece, primarily focusing on Aristotle’s *Rhetoric* and Thucydides’ *History of the Peloponnesian War*); Modern Political Theory (from Hobbes through Solzhenitsyn); and American Political Theory.

Graduate courses taught for James Madison University through the Center for the Constitution at James Madison’s Montpelier, 2014-2016: “James Madison’s Influence on American Politics,” 2015-2016; “American Political Institutions: The Congress, Presidency, and Judiciary,” 2014-2015; and “Individual Rights: Securing and Expanding Rights throughout America’s History,” 2014-2015.

Courses taught in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) at Baylor University, 2001-2003: sections of “Social World” I and II, survey courses in political philosophy, economics, and social science that spanned works from Plato to Max Weber.

CIVICS SEMINARS (PRIMARILY FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS) & CONFERENCES

Taught from one-third to one-half of the sessions at week-long seminars, “American Political Tradition,” for the annual [Summer Civics Institute for Virginia Teachers](#) at the University of Virginia, 2019 through 2021.

Led a scholars’ conference on “James Madison’s Political Thought” at the John Marshall International Center for the Study of Statesmanship, University of Richmond, May 16-18, 2019.

Co-taught, with Sue Leeson, “We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution,” a 3-day seminar focusing on the foundations of the Constitution and the origins of political parties for Alaskan “We the People” teachers in Anchorage, Alaska, February 18-20, 2016.

Taught “The Creation of the Constitution,” a 3-day seminar at Montpelier’s Center for the Constitution; it traced how different parts of the Constitution developed during the debates at the federal Convention of 1787. Taught solo, October 11-13, 2013, and co-taught, with Howard Lubert, July 22-24, 2015.

Taught, “James Madison and the Bill of Rights,” a 3-day seminar at Montpelier’s Center for the Constitution; it explored the intellectual origins, historical creation, and subsequent interpretation of the Bill of Rights. Taught solo, October 19-21, 2012, and co-taught, with Sue Leeson, March 7-9, 2014 and March 13-15, 2015.

Co-taught “Slavery and the Constitution,” a 3-day seminar at Montpelier’s Center for the Constitution; it examined the myriad ways that the institution of slavery influenced the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution influenced the institution of slavery. Co-taught, with Holt Merchant, November 14-16, 2014.

Co-taught, with Sue Leeson, “Congress: Failed, Fractured, or Muddling Along,” a 3-day seminar for “We the People” teachers in Fairbanks, Alaska, April 10-12, 2014.

Taught “The Foundational Principles of the American Constitution,” a 3-day seminar at Montpelier’s Center for the Constitution that explored the intellectual foundations of America’s constitutional system of government. Taught solo March 8-10, 2013 and November 11-13, 2011, and co-taught, with James Ceaser, October 29-31, 2010.

RECENT LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Gave a presentation, “The Founders’ Vision of Civic Education,” for a panel discussion at an event titled, “Civic Education: Liberalism and the Role of Virtue,” hosted by The National Association of Scholars in partnership with the Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization at the University of Colorado Boulder on November 17, 2021.

Participated in roundtable panel discussion (virtual), “1619 and the State of American History,” September 10, 2020, at annual conference of the American Political Science Association (virtual).

Presented a paper, “The American Congress as Institutionalized Prudence,” at a conference on “Science, Common Sense, and Prudence,” co-sponsored by the Center for Political Thought and Leadership at Arizona State University and the Peoria Project, December 5-7, 2019.

Keynote address, “James Madison: ‘Father of the Constitution’?” for the John Marshall International Center for the Study of Statesmanship, University of Richmond, May 16, 2019.

“Madison on Slavery and Representation,” for the Tocqueville Forum at Washington and Lee University, March 22, 2019.

Presented paper, “Is it Possible to Assassinate a Character which Succumbed to Suicide?: The Case of Charles Pinckney and James Madison,” at the second annual conference of the Lab for Character Assassination and Reputation Politics (CARP) at George Mason University, March 15-17, 2019.

Participated in roundtable panel discussion, “Madison’s Notes of the Convention: Trusted Historical Source or Fake News?” at annual conference of the American Political Science Association in Boston, September 1, 2018.

Presented paper, “Writing *Federalist* No. 10 for an Antifederalist Audience,” for the A.V. Elliott Conference on Great Books and Ideas, “Federalists and Anti-Federalists,” sponsored by the McDonald Center for America’s Founding Principles at Mercer University, March 26-27, 2018.

Presentation, “Are Madison’s Notes Trustworthy?” part of a Constitution Day panel discussion with Jack Rakove and Jeremy Bailey, “Legacies of Constitutional Interpretation,” at the Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 15, 2017.

Presented paper, “Madison’s Antislavery Constitution,” at a scholars’ conference at Montpelier, “James Madison and the American Constitution,” May 26-27, 2017.

Moderated talk, “Margaret Thatcher and the Leadership Lessons of the Falklands War,” at symposium, “Not for Turning: The Leadership & Legacy of Margaret Thatcher,” sponsored by Jepson School of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond, March 31, 2017.

Presentation, “Recovering Civil Discourse in American Politics: A Template for Hope,” delivered at different times for The Institute for the Public Trust: once to a group of young African American leaders (co-sponsored by the Responsible Leadership Institute); once to a group of aspiring leaders from the Charlotte community; and once to a group of lawyers who aspired to be leaders (in partnership with the North Carolina Bar Association’s Public Service Academy)—on Nov. 3 and March 24 and 28, 2017.

Presentation, “Madison’s Notes on the Constitutional Convention: ‘The Gratification Promised to Future Curiosity,’” delivered in honor of the launch of the Quill Project, Pembroke College, Oxford, October 14, 2016.

Presented paper, “Madison’s Notes of the Constitutional Convention: Historical Records or Historical Fiction?” to a scholars’ conference at Montpelier, “James Madison and the American Constitution,” June 10-12, 2016.

Delivered a presentation, “Madison’s Notes of the Constitutional Convention: Historical Records or Historical Fiction?” to the James Madison Program at Princeton University, May 11, 2016.

Delivered a presentation, “The American Rhetorical Tradition (Or, How to Go into Politics without Losing Your Soul),” a discussion presented to a group of students at the Baylor School, in Chattanooga Tennessee, through a program designed to train future leaders, jointly organized by the Baylor School and the Institute for the Public Trust, May 8, 2016.

Delivered, “Madison’s Notes of the Constitutional Convention: Are they Reliable?” to a small group at Pembroke College, Oxford, sponsored by The Seminar in Constitutional Thought and History, April 20, 2016.

Delivered, “James Madison’s Constitution: In Order to Establish Justice,” a Constitution Day Address for the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University, September 22, 2015.

Delivered Constitution Day Address for the Central Intelligence Agency, “The Constitution: Past, Present and Beyond,” sponsored by the Privacy and Civil Liberties Office, September 17, 2015.

Delivered lecture, “Connecting with the Constitution,” for a program sponsored by Brookings Executive Education (a partnership of Brookings Institution and Washington University in St. Louis) on Motivating People, designed for federal employees, September 9, 2015.

Helped organize conference for scholars who were currently writing on topics related to James Madison, held at Montpelier May 26-27, 2015.

Presented, “The *Real* Reason George Mason was an Antifederalist,” to the Board at Gunston Hall, October 12, 2014.

Presented, “Dolley Madison: Jefferson’s Official Hostess and Unofficial Diplomat,” for University of Virginia Lifetime Learning’s “Jefferson Symposium,” June 20, 2014.

Delivered, “Madison’s Abolitionist Constitution,” to a select group of students and faculty at the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton University, respectively, April 1 and 2, 2014.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Some reading knowledge of French and classical Greek.

HONORS and FELLOWSHIPS

Senior Nonresident Fellow at the Robert A. Fox Leadership Program at the University of Pennsylvania, 2015 and 2016 (two-year appointment).

Veritas Fund Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the John Marshall Center for the Study of Statesmanship in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond, 2010-11.

Post-Doctorate Fellow for the Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the University of Virginia, 2008 to 2010.

Helped organize a Phoenix Institute Oxford Summer Program, the purpose of which was to examine “ideas for renewing culture and for restoring value to transcendent human goods in a

modern-postmodern society through the restoration of philosophical realism and the revival and application of fundamental spiritual and ethical principles,” July and August, 2001.

Olin Fellow, 1999-2000.

Olin Fellow, 1998-1999.

Recipient of the Richard A. Hillman Memorial Fellowship, 1997-1998.

Received a full scholarship to attend the Institute of Political Journalism, a program sponsored by the Fund for American Studies. The summer’s activities included two courses at Georgetown University plus additional lectures and an internship at the Department of Education, Summer, 1992.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND APPEARANCES

Radio interview for *Your Weekly Constitutional*, “Madison’s Notes,” produced August 15, 2018. <https://beta.prx.org/stories/251765>

Interviewed for “Circle of Insight” with Carlos Vazquez, a radio show exploring the psychological insights of the Framers of the Constitution, November 9, 2015. <https://www.spreaker.com/user/8085756/a-chat-about-james-madison-constitution->

Interviewed for *Richmond Times Dispatch’s PolitiFact Virginia* story, “Goodlatte Says U.S. has the Oldest Working National Constitution,” September 22, 2014. <http://www.politifact.com/virginia/statements/2014/sep/22/bob-goodlatte/goodlatte-says-us-has-oldest-working-national-cons/>

Interviewed for an *Economist* article, “Because Men are not Angels: Why James Madison really matters,” April 26, 2014. <http://www.economist.com/news/united-states/21601266-why-james-madison-really-matters-because-men-are-not-angels>

Radio interview for *Your Weekly Constitutional*, “Dolley before She was a Madison,” Aug. 24, 2013. http://ywc.podomatic.com/entry/2013-08-24T07_52_22-07_00

Radio interview for the *Jim Bohannon Show*, an hour-long live discussion on the framing of the Constitution, July 4, 2013.

Appeared in C-SPAN episode on Dolley Madison for their *First Ladies* series, original air date, March 11, 2013. <http://www.c-span.org/person/?lynnuzzell>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

Founding member of the [Academic Freedom Alliance](#).

Member of the James Madison Society, “an international community of scholars whose research contributes significantly to civic education in institutions of higher learning,” through the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University.

APSA member.

Served on the selection committee for the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, 2015 and 2016.

Manuscript reviewer for *American Political Thought*, *Political Science Reviewer*, and *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*.

Volunteer judge for the high school and middle school “We the People” competitions, at various times for Washington, D.C., Finals, Virginia State Finals, and National Finals, since 2011.