

ROBERT K. ADCOCK

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professorial Lecturer, American University. School of International Service, 2015-
Assistant Professor, George Washington University. Department of Political Science. 2007-2015.
Visiting Lecturer, Stanford University. Department of Political Science. 2004-2006.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley. Department of Political Science. May 2007.
Fields: Political theory, public law (with distinction), research methods
M.A., University of California, Berkeley. Department of Political Science. May 1998.
B.A., Summa Cum Laude, University of Minnesota. Department of Political Science. June 1996.
B.S., University of Minnesota. Department of Chemistry. June 1996.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Politics of knowledge; history of the social sciences; history of liberalism; philosophy of science and social science; qualitative and interpretive research methods.

PUBLICATIONS

I. Books

Adcock, Robert. 2014. *Liberalism and the Emergence of American Political Science: A Transatlantic Tale*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Reviews: *Perspectives on Politics* 13 (2): 500-02; *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 51 (3): 335-36; *New Political Science* 37 (3): 438-40.

Award: 2015 Award for Concept Analysis in Political Science, International Political Science Association's Committee on Concepts & Methods award for best work in concept analysis published in 2012-2014

Adcock, Robert, Mark Bevir, and Shannon Stimson, eds. 2007. *Modern Political Science: Anglo-American Exchanges since 1870*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Reviews: *Modern Intellectual History* 5 (2): 399-410; *The European Legacy* 15 (4): 511-12.

II. Articles and Chapters (* = refereed journal or refereed edited volume)

*Adcock, Robert. 2014. "A Disciplinary History of Disciplinary Histories: The Case of Political Science." In *A Historiography of the Modern Social Sciences*, eds. Roger E. Backhouse and Philippe Fontaine. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 211-36.

Adcock, Robert. 2013. "Generalization in Comparative and Historical Social Science: The Difference that Interpretivism Makes." In *Interpretation and Method: Empirical Research Methods and the Interpretive Turn*, 2nd edition, eds. Dvora Yanow and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea. Armonk, NY: ME Sharpe, 80-96. Reprinted with minor revisions from 2006 first edition of this volume.

- *Adcock, Robert and Mark Vail. 2012. "Beyond Pluralism? Corporatism, Globalization, and the Dilemmas of Democratic Governance." In *Modern Pluralism: Anglo-American Debates since 1880*, ed. Mark Bevir. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 214-46.
- *Adcock, Robert and Mark Bevir. 2010. "Political Science." In *The History of the Social Sciences since 1945*, eds. Roger E. Backhouse and Philippe Fontaine. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 71-101.
- *Adcock, Robert. 2009. "Making Making Social Science Matter Matter to Us." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 21 (1): 97-112.
- *Adcock, Robert. 2007. "Who's Afraid of Determinism? The Ambivalence of Macro-Historical Inquiry." *Journal of the Philosophy of History* 1 (3): 346-64.
- *Adcock, Robert, Mark Bevir, and Shannon Stimson. 2007. "Historicizing the New Institutionalism(s)." In *Modern Political Science*, eds. Adcock, Bevir and Stimson, 259-89.
- *Adcock, Robert and Mark Bevir. 2007. "The Remaking of Political Theory" In *Modern Political Science*, eds. Adcock, Bevir and Stimson 281-33.
- *Adcock, Robert. 2007. "Interpreting Behavioralism" In *Modern Political Science*, eds. Adcock, Bevir and Stimson 180-208.
- *Adcock, Robert, Mark Bevir, and Shannon Stimson. 2007. "The History of Political Science: How? What? Why?" In *Modern Political Science*, eds. Adcock, Bevir and Stimson 1-17.
- Adcock, Robert. 2006. "The Emigration of the 'Comparative Method': Transatlantic Exchange and the Birth of American Political Science." *European Political Science* 5: 124-36.
- *Adcock, Robert and Mark Bevir. 2005. "The History of Political Science." *Political Studies Review* 3 (January): 1-16.
- *Adcock, Robert. 2003. "The Emergence of Political Science as a Discipline: History and the Study of Politics in America, 1875-1910." *History of Political Thought* 24 (3): 459-86.
- *Adcock, Robert and David Collier. 2001. "Measurement Validity: A Shared Standard for Qualitative and Quantitative Research." *American Political Science Review* 95 (3): 529-46.
- Adcock, Robert. 2000. "Knowledge and Politics in Plato's Early Dialogues." *Critical Sense* 8 (1): 83-115.
- Collier, David and Robert Adcock. 1999. "Democracy and Dichotomies: A Pragmatic Approach to Choices about Concepts." *Annual Review of Political Science* 2: 537-65.

III. Newsletter and Encyclopedia Editorial Work and Contributions

- Editor. *Qualitative & Multi-Method Research*, Newsletter of the American Political Science Association Organized Section for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research. Fall 2011 to Fall 2014.
- Adcock, Robert. 2010. "The Voice of Philosophy of Science in the Conversation of QMMR." *Qualitative & Multi-Method Research* 8 (1): 3-5. Introduction to symposium I guest edited on Patrick Thaddeus Jackson, *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations* (New York: Routledge, 2011)
- Editorial Board Member. *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*, ed. Mark Bevir (Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, 2010). Editorial responsibility for eighty entries in empirical and comparative political theory.
- Adcock, Robert. 2010. "Behavioralism" and "Empirical Theory." In *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*, ed. Mark Bevir. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, 112-14, 424.
- Adcock, Robert. 2009. "Making Room for Interpretivism? A Pragmatic Approach." *Qualitative & Multi-Method Research* 7 (1): 3-8.

Adcock, Robert. 2006. "Measurement." In *Encyclopedia of Social Theory*, ed. Austin Harrington, Barbara L. Marshall, and Hans-Peter Muller. London: Routledge, 348-49.

Adcock, Robert. 2003. "What Might it Mean to be an 'Interpretivist'?" *Qualitative Methods* 1 (2): 16-18.

COURSES TAUGHT

George Washington University, Assistant Professor, 2007-2014

Graduate Seminars

Systematic Inquiry and Research Design, taught 8 times

Modern Political Thought and Ideologies, taught 3 times

Liberalism and its Critics, taught once

Undergraduate Courses

Western Political Thought I: Duty, Power, Justice in the Ancient World, lecture course taught 6 times

Western Political Thought II: The Modern Ages, lecture course taught 6 times

Liberalism, Democracy, and Empire, seminar taught 3 times

Woodrow Wilson: Theory and Practice, seminar taught once

Stanford University, Visiting Lecturer, 2004-2006

Graduate Seminar

American Social Science and the "Democratic" Polity, taught once

Undergraduate Lectures

History of Political Thought I: Ancients, taught 2 times

History of Political Thought II: Early Moderns, taught once

Liberalism, Democracy, and Empire, taught once

Children's Citizenship: Justice Across Generations, taught once

University of California, Berkeley

Acting Instructor, Summer 2003. Responsible for course design, lectures, and oversight of TAs

Introduction to Research Methods, taught once

Graduate Student Instructor, 1999-2003. Responsible for discussion sections, office hours, and grading

Introduction to Research Methods, taught twice

Ancient and Medieval Political Thought, taught once

Theories of Justice, taught once

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE & UNDERGRADUATE THESIS ADVISING

Dissertation Committee Member, GWU Political Science Department

Trey Herr. "Weary Giants of Flesh and Steel: Three Articles on the State and the Internet." Prospectus defended March 2015.

Medlir Mema. "Shifting Alliances: States, TANs, and the Making of the Rome Statute." Dissertation defended January 2015.

David Banks. "When Practices Conflict: Domestic Legitimacy, International Society, and the Rejection of Westphalian Diplomacy." Dissertation defended October 2014.

Dina Bishara. "Contesting Authoritarian Institutions: Challenges to State-Corporatism in Egypt." Dissertation defended August 2013.

Joseph O'Mahoney. "Denying the Spoils of War? The Politics of the Nonrecognition of Aggressive Gain." Dissertation defended August 2012.

Undergraduate Senior Thesis Advisor, GWU Political Science Department

Georgios Skandalidis. "Political vs. Radical Revolution: The Political Theories of Rousseau and Marx." Spring 2014.

Jordan Meehan. "Individual and State: An Examination of Different Forms of Social Contract and Societal Organization and their Relation to Individual Freedom." Spring 2013.

Akhilesh Pillalamarri. "Historicism: Hegel, Spengler, Evola, and Strauss." Spring 2011.

David Waterman. "The Distinctiveness of Cicero's Vision: The Ideal Statesman." Spring 2009.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

I. Invited Activities

Invited instructor. "Concepts and Measurement in the Social Sciences." European Consortium on Political Research and the Workshops on Social Science Research joint program in qualitative methods. Concordia University, Montreal, May 22-23, 2015.

Invited talk. "'The Increase and Diffusion of Knowledge': Constructing the Relation of the Smithsonian Institution to Politics, 1835-1866." Smithsonian Institution Contemporary History Colloquium, April 16, 2015.

Invited panelist. Methods Panel. Advances in Policy and Politics Conference. School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs, George Mason University, April 3, 2015.

Invited instructor. "Knowing and the Known: The Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences." 4th European Consortium for Political Research Winter School in Methods and Techniques, University of Bamberg, Germany, February 16-20, 2015.

Invited paper. "The Historiography of a Centenarian Field: Institutions, Identities, Contexts and the History of Political Science." For workshop on the Historiography of the Social Sciences since 1945, École normale supérieure de Cachan, Paris, 25 May 2012.

Invited Dunbar lecture. "Liberalism, Democracy, and the Transatlantic Gaze: The Case of Political Science." Tulane University, April 7, 2011.

Invited participant. "The Social Sciences and Liberalism in Modern America." Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Seminar, April 23-24, 2010.

Invited talk. "Beyond Pluralism? Corporatism, Neo-Liberalism, and Capitalist Democracy." Smithsonian Institution Contemporary History Colloquium, April 15, 2010.

Invited plenary session lecture. "Interpretation and Causal Inference: Challenges and Opportunities for Interpretive Researchers." NSF Workshop on Interpretive Methodologies in Political Science. University of Toronto, September 1-2, 2009.

II. Paper Presentations

"'The Increase and Diffusion of Knowledge': Constructing the Relation of the Smithsonian Institution to Politics, 1835-1866." Annual Meeting of Society for History in the Federal Government, Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, Shepherdstown, West Virginia, April 25, 2015. Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 16, 2015. Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association (hereafter APSA), Washington D.C., August 29, 2014.

- “A Disciplinary History of Disciplinary Histories: The Case of Political Science.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (hereafter MPSA), Chicago, April 11, 2013.
- “The Historiography of a Centenarian Field: Contexts and the History of Political Science.” Annual Meeting of APSA, New Orleans, August 31, 2012.
- “The American Birth of Political Science: Political Science and Political Economy in Post-Civil War America.” History, Institutions, and Politics Workshop, Harvard University, February 14, 2012.
- “The American Birth of Political Science: The Case of Woodrow Wilson.” Research in American and Comparative Politics Workshop, Boston University, November 3, 2011.
- “Integrating Economic and Sociological Approaches to International Relations? A Classic Puzzle and the Logic of Synthesis” (with Tristan Volpe). Annual Meeting of APSA, Washington D.C., September 5, 2010.
- “Beyond Pluralism? Corporatism, Globalization, and the Dilemmas of Democratic Governance” (with Mark Vail). Paper presented by co-author at “Modern Pluralism: Anglo-American Debates since 1880” conference, UC Berkeley, October 10, 2009.
- “Rethinking Classical Liberalism in ‘Progressive’ Times: Spencer versus Sumner.” Annual Meeting of APSA, Toronto, September 4, 2009.
- “Mill’s Methods Redux.” Annual Meeting of Western Political Science Association (hereafter WPSA), Vancouver, March 19, 2009.
- “The Curious Career of ‘The Comparative Method’: The Case of Mill’s Methods.” Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, August 30, 2008.
- “The Curious Career of the Comparative Method.” Interpretation in Policy Conference, University of Essex, June 21, 2008.
- “Interpreting Behavioralism.” Annual Meeting of APSA, Philadelphia, September 1, 2006.
- “The Emigration of the ‘Comparative Method’: Transatlantic Exchanges and the Character of Comparative Inquiry in the American Study of Politics, 1876-1903.” Annual Meeting of APSA, Washington D.C., September 4, 2005.
- “Historicizing the New Institutionalism(s).” Political Theory Tea, Stanford University, Dec. 10, 2004.
- “Toward Intentional Explanation in Macro-Historical Analysis: Moore’s and Bendix’s Responses to Determinism.” Presented to Interpretive Political Science group, UC Berkeley, November 18, 2002.
- “Determinism and Comparative-Historical Analysis: Clarifying Concepts and Retrieving Past Insights.” Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, August 29, 2002.
- “History, Comparison, and the Study of Politics: European Émigrés and the Transformation of American Social Science.” Qualitative Methods Institute, Phoenix, January 5, 2002.
- “‘History’ and ‘Political Science’: Conceptual Change and the Founding of APSA.” Annual Meeting of APSA, San Francisco, August 30–September 2, 2001.
- “Connecting Ideas with Facts: The Validity of Measurement” (with David Collier). Annual Meeting of APSA, Washington D.C., August 31, 2000.
- “What is a ‘Concept’?” Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, September 3–6, 1998.

III. Miscellaneous Conference Roles

- Participant. Roundtable on “Beyond Mill’s Methods: New Approaches to Comparison.” Annual Meeting of the APSA, Washington D.C., August 31, 2014.

- Specialist on “Comparison in Interpretive Research” at The Methods Café. Annual Meeting of APSA, Washington D.C., August 28, 2014.
- Chair and Discussant. “Ideology and Theory” Panel. Annual Meeting of MPSA, Chicago, April 12, 2013.
- Chair and Discussant. “Innovative Methods in Qualitative and Multi-Method Research” Panel. Annual Meeting of the APSA, Seattle, September 3, 2011.
- Chair and Discussant. “Conceptualization: Theoretical Approaches and Empirical Applications” Panel. Annual Meeting of the APSA, Seattle, September 2, 2011.
- Chair. “QMMR Meets IR: Rethinking Classic and Contemporary Methodological Issues in International Relations” Panel. Annual Meeting of APSA, Washington D.C., September 5, 2010.
- Specialist on “Concept Formation” at The Methods Café. Annual Meeting of APSA, Washington D.C., September 2, 2010; Annual Meeting of APSA, Toronto, September 3, 2009.
- Participant. “Interpretive Approaches to Research Design” Roundtable. Annual Meeting of WPSA, Vancouver, March 20, 2009.
- Discussant. “Using Data Appropriately” Panel. Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, August 29, 2008.
- Specialist on “Reflexive Historical Analysis” at The Methods Café. Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, August 28, 2008.
- Co-coordinator of Working Group on “Interpretivism and Interpretive Methods.” Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, August 28-31, 2008.
- Participant. “Teaching Interpretive Research Methods” Roundtable. Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 6, 2008; Annual Meeting of APSA, Boston, August 28, 2008.
- Participant. “American Political Science: Disciplinary Boundaries in a Globalizing World” Roundtable. Third Annual Berkeley Political Science Graduate Student Conference, April 20, 2006
- Chair and Participant. “Pitkin, Wittgenstein, and Interpretive Social Science” Roundtable. Annual Meeting of WPSA, Oakland, March 18, 2005.
- Chair and Discussant. “Evolution of the American Science of Politics: Perspectives on the Discipline in the last 100 Years” Panel. Annual Meeting of APSA, Philadelphia, August 30, 2003.
- “Some Reflections on the Category ‘Disciplinary History.’” Presentation at “New Research in the History of the Discipline” Roundtable. Annual Meeting of MPSA, Chicago, April 5, 2003.
- “Conceptualization and Measurement Validity.” Presentation as part of APSA Short Course, Annual Meeting of APSA, San Francisco, August 29, 2001.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ASSOCIATIONS

- Committee member. Charles Taylor Book Award. Interpretive Methodologies & Methods Group, 2014
- Nominating Committee member. Section for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, 2008
- Member. American Political Science Association, 1997–present. Section Memberships: Foundations of Political Thought, History and Politics, Qualitative and Multi-Method Research.
- Referee for *Acta Politica*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *European Political Science*, *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, *Journal of International Relations and Development*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, *Millennium*, *Modern Intellectual History*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Theory*, *Polity*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *Social Epistemology*, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, NYU Press.