

Curriculum Vitae - Wesley Dan Nishiyama, Ph.D.

104A LOB, Albany, NY 12248

Office Phone: (518) 455-4704; E-mail: nishiyw@nyassembly.gov

Education

State University of New York at Albany

Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science

First Field: Political Theory, Second Field: American Politics

Dissertation: The Structure of Narratives in Political Theories

University of California at Davis

M.A. in Political Science

First Field: Ancient and Modern Political Theory, Second Fields: American Politics & Social Theory

Master's Thesis: Elshtain, Augustine, and Liberalism

California State University at Long Beach

M.A. in Philosophy

Concentration: Political Philosophy and Phenomenology

Master's Thesis: Locke, Nozick, the Descriptive Model of Rights, and the Limits of Private Property

California State University at Hayward

B.S. in Mathematics

University of California at Irvine

B.A. in Political Science

B.A. in Philosophy

Publication

- Nishiyama, Wesley (2008). *Voting Rights for the Homeless*. Dis|kurs Vol. 2, 22 – 35
Argues that the single member district representation in the United States at the federal level leads to the disenfranchisement of many of the homeless; solutions are offered

Conference Presentations

- “A Heterogeneous Treatment of Condorcet Jury Theorem in Rousseau’s Democratic Theory” NPSA 2014
- “The Unnecessary Complexities of *Amour-Propre*” (in Rousseau) NYSPSA 2014
- “The Electoral College as a Mechanism of Consensus” MPSA 2014
- “Between Nature and Society: The Fictitious and the Ideal in Rousseau” NPSA 2013
- “Rousseau, Government, and Agenda-setting” MPSA 2012
- “The Electoral College, Popular Vote, and Consensus” NPSA 2011
- “The Contraposition between Two Works of Tocqueville” NYSPSA 2011
- “The Mathematics in Rousseau’s Social Contract” MPSA 2010
- “Ontological Assumptions of Narratives in Political Theory” NYSPSA 2010
- “The Electoral College and Winner-take-all” NPSA 2009
- “Two Normative Arguments Concerning the Electoral College” (Poster) APSA 2008
- “The Right Not to Own Property and Still Vote” NYSPSA 2008
- “Madison’s Contribution to Modern and Postmodern Democratic Theory” NPSA 2007
- “Group Theory as Applied to Affirmative Action” SPSA 2002
- “The Marketplace of Culture: A Liberal Defense of Multiculturalism” SPSA 2001

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, New York State Assembly Intern Committee – December 2014 to Present

Lecturer at SUNY Albany, 19 Semesters between Fall 2006 and Fall 2018

- “Introduction to Political Theory”
- “Contemporary Democratic Theory”
- “American Political Theory”
- “Comparative Political Theory”
- “Special Topics: Liberty, Equality, and Rights”
- “Introduction to American Government”

Adjunct Professor at Sage College of Albany, 9 Semesters between Fall 2010 and Fall 2018

- “Citizenship”
- “Civil Rights and Civil Liberties”
- “Elections, Parties and Campaigns”
- “International Human Rights”
- “Introduction to Public Policy Making”
- “Public Service”
- “State Government in the United States”

Adjunct Professor at Hudson Valley Community College,
4 Semesters between Fall 2012 between Spring 2018

- “Introduction to Philosophy”
- “Introduction to Political Science”
- “American National Government”

Instructor at Empire College SUNY (Online), Fall 2014 and Spring 2015

- “American Founding Ideas”
- “Global Perspectives on Political Theory”

Research and Professional Experience

Member of the Speaker’s Tuition Reimbursement Committee – 2016 to Present

**Researcher – The Center for Women in Government and Civil Society – Rockefeller College
of Public Affairs and Policy**

- Summer 2013 – Collecting and analyzing data regarding women in non-traditional trades
- Fall 2012 – Collecting and analyzing data regarding women serving on boards of trustees
- Summer 2012 – Coding of interviews of High School Teachers and Counselors regarding STEM

Campaign Consultant (Non-volunteer) – NYS Assembly Election Fall 2012

Researcher for Dr. Jose Cruz and Dr. Sally Friedman 2008 – 2009

- Processed state election data to determine the participation of the Latino electorate. This study was published in *Nylarnet* (The New York Latino Research and Resources Network)

Research Assistant for Dr. Patricia Strach, Spring 2005

- Researched family farms regarding federal agriculture policy, the results were published in Patricia Strach's book All in the Family: The Private Roots of American Public Policy, 2007

Languages

- Knowledge of French
 - University of Montreal - Intensive French Program, Summer 2004
 - Parisian Institute of French Language and Civilization - Intensive summer French language program in Paris, France, 1996
- Knowledge of Portuguese
 - Portuguese spoken at home; cumulative time spent in Brazil over 2 ½ years

Grants and Fellowships

- Humanities Institute Grant \$900 (for the Jürgen Habermas Cluster)
- Humanities Institute Grant \$800 (for the Richard Rorty Cluster)
- Humanities Institute Grant \$1400 (for the Jürgen Habermas Cluster)
- University Grant \$900
- Graduate Opportunity Fellowship (U.C. Davis) \$16,995
- Institute for Humane Studies Scholarship

Awards and Honors

- Outstanding Adjunct Instructor, May 2009
- Outstanding Teaching Assistant, May 2006

Public Service

The Changing World of Work – Deliberation on the Future of Higher Education – May 2018
American Commonwealth Partnership, American Democracy Project and HVCC

- Served as a discussion facilitator

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution – Law and Citizenship Program of the New York State Bar Association

- Served as a judge in statewide high school competitions – 2016 and 2017

City Summit, Troy NY – Served as a facilitator in a city summit to gather ideas, desires and concerns, from residents of Troy regarding the revitalizing their city, Spring 2015

The Kettering Foundation: Community Democracy Project

- Served as a Discussion Facilitator for the forum “Shaping Our Future: How Should Higher Education Help Us Create the Society We Want?” Spring 2013 and Spring 2014
- This nationwide project fosters democratic discussion among residents, business leaders, and local government officials

Association Membership

- **SAPA** – State Academy for Public Administration (2018)