

Samuel Ely Bagg

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EMPLOYMENT

Oxford University

Departmental Lecturer, Department of Politics and International Relations, 2022—2023
Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow in Politics, Nuffield College, 2019—2023

McGill University

Postdoctoral Fellow, Research Group on Constitutional Studies, 2017—2019

EDUCATION

Duke University

Ph.D., Political Science, 2011—2017

Yale University

B.A., Ethics, Politics and Economics, 2005—2009

PUBLICATIONS

Book

- Forthcoming. *The Dispersion of Power: A Critical Realist Theory of Democracy*, Oxford University Press (contract signed 1/2021, final revisions in progress, submission expected 5/2022)

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Forthcoming. *Sortition as Anti-Corruption: Popular Oversight against Elite Capture*
American Journal of Political Science (accepted 12/2021, publication expected 2022)
- 2021. *Realism Against Legitimacy: For a Radical, Action-Oriented Political Realism*
Social Theory and Practice (published online 12/2021)
- 2021. *Preaching to the Choir? Rhetoric and Identity in a Polarized Age*, w/ Rob Goodman
Journal of Politics (published online 11/2021)
- 2021. *Intra-Party Democracy: A Functionalist Account*, w/ Udit Bhatia
Journal of Political Philosophy (published online 10/2021)
- 2021. *Fighting Power with Power: The Administrative State as a Weapon against Private Power*
Social Philosophy and Policy 38(1): 220-43.
- 2021. *Beyond the Search for the Subject: An Anti-Essentialist Ontology for Liberal Democracy*
European Journal of Political Theory 20(2): 208-231.
- 2019. *An Adversarial Ethics for Campaigns and Elections*, w/ Isak Tranvik
Perspectives on Politics 17(4): 973-987
- 2018. *The Power of the Multitude: Answering Epistemic Challenges to Democracy*
American Political Science Review 112(4): 891-904
- 2018. *What Makes a Political Theory Political? Comment on Waldron*
Political Studies Review 16(3): 184-191
- 2018. *Can Deliberation Neutralise Power?*
European Journal of Political Theory 17(3): 257-279
→ most cited article in volume 17 of EJPT

- 2017. [When will a Darwinian Approach be Useful for the Study of Society?](#)
Politics, Philosophy, and Economics 16(3): 259-281
- 2016. [Between Critical and Normative Theory: Predictive Political Theory as a Deweyan Realism](#)
Political Research Quarterly 69(2): 233-244

Other Publications

- 2021. [Reply to “The ‘Epistemic Critique’ of Epistocracy and Its Inadequacy” \(Hédoin\)](#)
Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective 10(4): 31-36.
- 2021. [Do We Need an Anti-Oligarchic Constitution? Review of *Systemic Corruption* \(Vergara\)](#)
European Journal of Political Theory (published online 3/2021)
- 2021. [Review of *Democratic Equality* \(Wilson\)](#)
Political Theory 49(3): 517-522
- 2020. [Review of *Equality Beyond Debate* \(Jackson\)](#)
Review of Politics 82(1): 164-167
- 2019. [Review of *Democracy and Truth* \(Rosenfeld\) and *Political Self-Deception* \(Galeotti\)](#)
Perspectives on Politics 17 (4): 1153-1154
- 2014. [Encyclopedia Entry: Legitimacy, w/ Jack Knight](#)
Encyclopedia of Political Thought, ed. Michael Gibbons (Wiley)

Public Writing

- 2019. [Give Political Power to Ordinary People, w/ Michael Schulson](#)
Dissent Magazine
- 2019. [How Should We Think about Democracy?](#)
Law and Political Economy Project
- 2018. [Political Theory as an Anti-Discipline](#)
Humanities Futures

Under Review

- [Beyond Democratic Authorization](#)

PRESENTATIONS

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- [Antitrust, Antimonopoly, and Democracy](#) (→ preparing for special issue of *Politics & Society*)
2021 September, American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA (online)
2021 April, Constitutionalism and the Free Society, McGill University (online)
2021 January, Law and Political Economy Junior Scholars Workshop, Yale Law School (online)
 - [Acting Democratically under Clientelism, w/ Udit Bhatia](#) (→ preparing for review)
2021 September, American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA (online)
2021 September, MANCEPT Workshop: Rethinking Elections, Manchester, UK (online)
 - [Negative Egalitarianism](#) (→ preparing for review)
2021 February, The Politics of Egalitarianism, University of Oxford (online)
 - [Intra-Party Democracy: A Functionalist Account, w/ Udit Bhatia](#) (→ JPP 2021)
2020 November, REDEM Workshop, Bucharest (online)
 - [Organizing for Power: An Agenda for Democratic Action](#) (→ book ms.)
2020 November, Association for Political Theory, Amherst, MA (online)
2020 April, Western Political Science Association, Los Angeles (online)
 - [Fighting Power with Power: The State as a Weapon against Private Power](#) (→ SPP 2021)
2020 February, King’s College London Political Economy Research Seminar, London, UK

- 2019 December, Social Philosophy and Policy (SPP): “The Administrative State,” Tucson, AZ
 2019 November, University of Reading Political Science Research Seminar, Reading, UK
- **Beyond Deliberation and Participation** (→ book ms.)
 2020 February, New Political Imaginaries Conference, Oxford, UK
 2019 October, Law and Political Economy in Europe, Oxford, UK
 2019 September, iSEE Congress, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
 - **Sortition as Anti-Corruption** (→ [AJPS 2022](#))
 2019 October, Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, Oxford, UK
 2018 December, New Directions in Global Justice, Justitia Amplificata, Freie Universität, Berlin
 2018 October, Association for Political Theory, Philadelphia
 - **How to Defend Democracy: Normative Priorities for a Tragic World** (→ book ms.)
 2019 September, MANCEPT Workshop: Democratic Realism, Manchester, UK
 2019 August, American Political Science Association, Washington DC
 - **Philanthropy as Democratization** (→ preparing for review)
 2019 April, Western Political Science Association, San Diego
 - **Realism Against Legitimacy: For a Radical, Action-Oriented Political Realism** (→ [STP 2022](#))
 2018 November, Northeast Political Science Association, Montreal
 2017 April, Western Political Science Association, Vancouver
 - **Resisting State Capture: A Realistic Defense of Democratic Institutions** (→ [APSR 2018](#))
 2018 May, Political Theory In/And/As Political Science, McGill University, Montreal
 2017 November, Realist Theories of Legitimacy, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
 2016 September, American Political Science Association, Philadelphia
 2016 March, Western Political Science Association, San Diego
 - **Basic Income Against Oligarchic Democracy** (→ book ms.)
 2018 May, The Great Transition Conference, Montreal
 2017 May, Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), The Hague, Netherlands
 - **What is an Agent? A Scientific, Multidisciplinary, Postmodern View** (→ [EJPT 2021](#))
 2016 April, Princeton Graduate Conference in Political Theory
 2015 October, Association for Political Theory, Boulder
 2015 September, American Political Science Association, San Francisco
 2015 March, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago
 - **Realism as Pragmatism: A Deweyan Approach to Judgment and Political Theory** (→ [PRQ 2016](#))
 2014 October, Harvard Graduate Conference in Political Theory
 - **Sincerity and Reciprocity in Deliberative Democracy** (→ [EJPT 2018](#))
 2014 January, Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans
 - **The Circumstances of the Political: Jeremy Waldron’s Conception of Politics** (→ [PSR 2018](#))
 2013 March, University of Toronto, Centre for Ethics Graduate Conference

AWARDS

- Best Dissertation Award, Department of Political Science, Duke (2017)
- Graduate Fellow, Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke (2013–2017)
- Research Fellow, Council for European Studies, Duke (2014–2017)
- Vienna International Summer University Fellowship, Duke (2016)
- Summer Language Study Grant, German Academic Exchange Service (2012)
- James B. Duke Scholarship (prize fellowship), Duke (2011–2015)
- University Scholarship (prize fellowship), Duke (2011–2012)
- Kilborne Fellowship for Summer Research, Yale (2007)

TEACHING

Oxford University

- Core Seminar in Critical Theory (graduate) – co-instructor (2022, expected)
- Theory of Politics (undergraduate) – regular lecturer (2020-2022)

McGill University

- Liberal Political Theory (undergraduate) – instructor and course designer (2019) – see [syllabus](#)
- Capitalism and Democracy (undergraduate) – instructor and course designer (2018) – see [syllabus](#)

Duke University

- Introduction to Political Science (2017), Ethics of Violence and War (2014), Challenges of Living an Ethical Life (2014), Introduction to Political Philosophy (2013) – teaching assistant

SERVICE

- *Seminar Convener*: Nuffield Workshop in Political Theory (2020–2021); Kenan Institute for Ethics Graduate Fellows Seminar (2015–2017); Duke-UNC Graduate Political Theory Working Group (2013–2017); University Scholars Program Seminar (2012–2013, 2015–2016); Duke Political Science Graduate Student Colloquium (2014–2015)
- *Conference Organizer*: What is Democracy? Theories, Practices, Values (2022, Oxford); The Politics of Egalitarianism (2021, Oxford); Graduate Conference in Political Theory (2015–2017, Duke)
- *Member*: Yan P. Lin Centre Board of Directors, McGill (2018–2019)
- *Reviewer*: Oxford University Press; Routledge; American Political Science Review; American Journal of Political Science; Journal of Politics; Perspectives on Politics; Political Studies; Journal of Political Philosophy; Political Theory; European Journal of Political Theory; Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy; Political Research Quarterly; Journal of Social Philosophy; Ethical Perspectives; Social Theory and Practice; Theoria; Ergo; Representation; Political Research Exchange; Revista Ética, Política, & Sociedade; Planning Theory and Practice; Business Ethics, Environment, and Responsibility (see [publons](#))

REFERENCES

1. Jack Knight, Frederic Cleaveland Professor of Law and Political Science, Duke University
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3. Jacob Levy, Tomlinson Professor of Political Theory, Political Science, McGill University
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5. Jonathan Wolff, Alfred Landecker Professor of Values and Public Policy, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford
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2. Cécile Laborde, Nuffield Professor of Political Theory, University of Oxford
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4. Arash Abizadeh, Professor of Political Science, McGill University
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