

LOUBNA EL AMINE

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Department of Political Science
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EMPLOYMENT

- August 1, 2016 – present: Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University.
- August 2014 – July 2016: Assistant Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University.
- Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University (July 2012- June 2014).

AFFILIATIONS

- January-October 2018: Visiting Scholar, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.
- September-December 2017: Residential Fellow Program, Institute for Advanced Study in Humanities and Social Sciences, Zhejiang University.
- April 2017-April 2019: Associate Member, Nuffield College, University of Oxford.
- July 2015: Asiatic Research Institute of Korea University, Fellowship Program for Northeast Asian Studies.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

- Henry Luce Foundation/American Council for Learned Societies Program in China Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship, September 2017-August 2018; project title: *The Foundations of Confucian Political Thought: History, Law, and the Political Community*.
- National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, September 2017-August 2018; project title: *The Foundations of Confucian Political Thought: History, Law, and the Political Community*.
- Princeton University Nominee, 2013 APSA Leo Strauss Award for best dissertation in political philosophy.
- Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, 2011-2012.
- Laurance S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, 2010-2011.

EDUCATION

- Princeton University (2006-2012)
PhD, Politics (subfields: political theory, Chinese political thought, and comparative politics); also in the Program in Political Philosophy.

Dissertation title: “The Confucian Conception of the Political”; Dissertation Committee: Charles Beitz, Alan Patten, Willard Peterson, and Stephen Angle.

Fall 2009; Visiting Student, Peking University, Beijing, China.
- Indiana University - Bloomington (2004-2006)
Graduate Studies, Political Science (subfields: comparative politics and political theory).
- American University of Beirut (2001-2004)
Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies, Minor in Philosophy
Graduated with high distinction

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

Classical Confucian Political Thought: A New Interpretation (Princeton University Press, 2015).

Reviewed in: *The Journal of Chinese Philosophy*, *Religious Studies Review*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *The Review of Politics*, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, *Philosophy East and West* (including critical exchange); also in *InterLib Magazine*, *Annabar*, and *Asbarq Al-Ansat*; subject of book symposium in *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* (June 2019) and of author-meets-critics panel at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Annual Meeting (Seattle 2017).

Book talks: Philosophy Department, Division of Chinese Philosophy, Renmin University, Beijing, April 6, 2017; School of Political Science and Public Administration, Shandong University, Jinan, April 5, 2017; School of Philosophy, Fudan University, Shanghai, March 31, 2017; Philosophy Department, The University of Hong Kong, March 28, 2017; Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy, City University of Hong Kong, March 27, 2017; Department of Philosophy, National University of Singapore, March 23, 2017.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Political Liberalism, Western History, and the Conjectural Non-West," *Political Theory*, OnlineFirst June 1, 2020.

"On the Liberatory Potential of the Past: The Case of Non-Feudal China," *Journal of World Philosophies* 4:1 (June 2019).

"Beyond East and West: A reorientation of political theory through the prism of modernity," *Perspectives on Politics* 14:1 (March 2016).

BOOK CHAPTERS

"The family-state analogy in the *Mengzi*," *Oxford Handbook of Chinese Philosophy* (forthcoming). *

* Peer-reviewed

OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS *

- “Material Conditions, Hierarchy, and Order in Early Confucian Political Thought: A Response to Reviewers,” *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 18:2 (June 2019): 285-289.
- “The 2016 elections and American exceptionalism: a view from the periphery,” part of a Critical Exchange on “Political and ethical action in the age of Trump” in *Contemporary Political Theory* 17:3 (August 2018): 331-362.
- “Ethics and Politics in Classical Confucian Thought: A Response to David Elstein,” *Philosophy East and West* 67:3 (July 2017): 919-920.
- “Democratic Hopes for the Arab World: A Review of Iliya Harik’s Work,” *Journal Of New Media Studies in the Middle East and North Africa* 2 (Summer 2013).

* My non-academic publications are listed here: <https://loubnaelamine.com/writing/>

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of *Democracy in Contemporary Confucian Philosophy*, by David Elstein, *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 46:3-4 (September-December 2019).
- Review of *A History of Chinese Political Thought*, by Youngmin Kim, *H-Net Reviews* (February 2019).
- Review of *Reframing the Intercultural Dialogue on Human Rights: A Philosophical Approach*, by Jeffrey Flynn, *Philosophy East and West* 68:1 (January 2018).
- Review of *Changing Referents: Learning Across Space and Time in China and the West*, by Leigh Jenco, *Perspectives on Politics* 14:4 (December 2016).
- Review of *Being in the World: Dialogue and Cosmopolis*, by Fred Dallmayr, *Perspectives on Politics* 13:1 (March 2015).
- Review of *Confucian Democracy in East Asia: Theory and Practice*, by Sungmoon Kim, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (February 2015).

- Review of *Making the Political: Founding and Action in the Political Theory of Zhang Shizhao*, by Leigh Jenco, *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 11:3 (September 2012).
- Review of *Islam and the Secular State: Negotiating the Future of Shari'a*, by Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im, *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 41:3 (August 2009).

INVITED TALKS

- "Sovereignty and diversity: Lessons from Empires," **keynote speech**, Borghesi-Mellon Workshop on "(Re)Imagining Identity and Diversity in the Shadow of Empire," University of Wisconsin, Madison, February 21, 2020.
- "Beyond Freedom and Slavery: On the Early Confucian Conception of Membership," Columbia University Political Theory Workshop, February 1, 2017.
- "Beyond Freedom and Slavery: On the Early Confucian Conception of Membership," Tri-Co Political Theory Workshop, Bryn Mawr College, December 6, 2016.
- "Sectarianism's Trash: What the Garbage Crisis Reveals about Politics in Lebanon," College Park Scholars, University of Maryland, April 19, 2016.
- "The Question of Political Order in Classical Confucian Thought," the College of William & Mary Confucius Institute, March 17, 2016.
- "Another kind of foundationalism: historical continuity and political order in Classical Confucian thought," Democracy and China: A Workshop with Jiwei Ci, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, November 13, 2015.
- Panel on Daniel Bell's *The China Model: Political Meritocracy and the Limits of Democracy*, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University, October 19, 2015.
- "Comparative Political Theory: Between Universalism and Particularism," **keynote speech**, 14th annual Middle East Technical University Conference on International Relations: "Area Studies and International Relations: Intersecting Dimensions," Ankara, Turkey, June 17-19, 2015.

- “The Problem of Political Order in Classical Confucianism,” Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, University of Cambridge, May 18, 2015.
- “Confucian Political Thought in a Comparative Perspective,” The Rahmania Annual Seminar: “Asia and Arabia Continued,” Al-Ghat, Saudi Arabia, January 3-5, 2015.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Organizer:

- Workshop on “Comparative Ancient and Medieval Political Thought,” sponsored by the International Conference for the Study of Political Thought, and co-sponsored by the Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, May 1, 2014.

Paper Presentations:

- “Outside (European) feudalism: political order in pre-modern China,” Conference on “Rethinking Global Political Thought,” Central European University, Budapest, May 2018.
- “Does Multiculturalism Apply Outside the West?” Workshop on “Priority in Practice,” Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, May 2018.
- (with Kevin Mazur) “Deprovincialising Multiculturalism, or Why We Should Care About the Politics of Difference in Late Industrialising Societies,” Conference on “Rethinking Nationalism, Sectarianism and Ethno-Religious Mobilisation in the Middle East,” St Antony’s College, University of Oxford, January 2018.
- “The Problem of *The Problem of China*,” Conference on “What Now? Political Thought at a Moment of Crisis,” The Program in Critical Theory, Department of Philosophy, UC Berkeley, September 2017.
- “On the implausibility of Rawls’ concept of decency: Culture, modernity, and dissent in non-liberal societies,” Association for Political Theory annual conference; Columbus, Ohio, October 2016.
- “The family-state analogy in Mencius,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, The American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2016.

- “History as Metaphysics: the Politics of Time in Confucian Political Thought,” Association for Political Theory annual conference; Boulder, Colorado, October 2015.
- “Advice to Rulers in Early China: between State and Empire,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2015.
- “Another Kind of Foundationalism: The Importance of Time Consciousness in Confucian Political Thought,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, April 2015.
- “Confucianism between Religion and Politics,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2014.
- “Personal Virtue and Political Engagement in Early Confucianism,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 2013.
- “Beyond the West: The Confucian Conception of the Political,” 10th Annual UPSS Student Conference (“From Political Science to Politics”); the New School for Social Research, New York, April 20, 2013.
- “Optimism about human nature and political theory,” Association for Political Theory annual conference; Columbia, South Carolina, October 2012.
- “The Place of the Monarch in Classical Confucian Political Thought,” Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies Conference; Princeton, October 2011.
- “Ethics and Politics in Confucian Thought,” Northeastern Political Science Association 2010 Annual Meeting (panel on “Comparative Political Theory”); Boston, November 2010.
- “Confucian Political Order,” Workshop on East Asian Perspectives on Legal Order, organized by the Asia Research Institute and the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, National University of Singapore; in collaboration with the Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto; Singapore, August 2010.
- “Beyond the West: A Confucian Perspective on Politics.” Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, University of Cambridge, in conjunction with the conference on “The Idea of Politics: Theory and History”; Cambridge, March 2009.

Discussant & Chair:

- Chair, panel on “Democracy in non-Western Political Theories,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2017.
- Discussant, panel on “Ethics and Political Order in Chinese Thought,” Association for Chinese Philosophers in America, The American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2015.
- Discussant, panel on “Comparative Perspectives on Law in the Ancient and Medieval World,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2014.

Other:

- Roundtable on “Political Ethics and Political Action in the Age of Trump,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2017.
- Short course on “Deparochializing Political Theory,” with Emily Beausoleil and Michaelle Browers, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2014.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Consulting editor: “Studies in Comparative Political Theory” (Oxford University Press).

Chair, “Foundations of Political Theory” section, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 2018.

LANGUAGES

Arabic (native language), French (fluent), Spanish (reading), Classical Chinese (reading).