

**S. Sara Monoson**  
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Northwestern University  
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**Current Position at Northwestern**

Professor of Political Science and Classics & Philosophy  
Director, Graduate Classics Cluster

**Prior Positions**

Associate Professor of Political Science and Classics, Northwestern University  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Northwestern University  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

**Scholarly Specializations**

History of political thought, Greek political philosophy, democratic theory, politics in the ancient world, reception of iconic Greek sources in American political discourse, digital citizenship, the experience of war

**Education**

Ph.D., Politics and Program Political Philosophy, Princeton University.  
M.Sc. Political Philosophy, London School of Economics & Political Science. Awarded with Distinction.  
B.A., Brandeis University. Awarded with Highest Honors in Social & Political Thought, *Phi Beta Kappa*.  
Ancient Greek, The Latin/Greek Institute, The Graduate Center, CUNY.

**Research**

*Books*

- [\*Plato's Democratic Entanglements: Athenian Politics and the Practice of Philosophy\*](#), Princeton University Press, 2000. Awarded “Best First Book Prize” by the Foundations Section of the American Political Science Association, 2001
- *Portraits of Resilience: Finding New Meaning in Plato's Republic*, manuscript in preparation (proposal under review)
- *Socrates in the Vernacular* (in preparation & under contract)  
A public-facing study of popular perceptions of the story of Socrates across media in the US and internationally.

*Journal articles, book chapters, white papers*

- “Cherry-Picking from Thucydides: Social Crisis and Political Science,” *Doing Things with Thucydides*, edited by Maria Fragoulaki and Neville Morley, ICS Publications, London (under contract and in preparation).
- "Socrates' Military Service", in [\*Our Ancient Wars\*](#), edited by Victor Caston and Silke-Maria Weineck, University of Michigan Press, 2016.
- [\*"Aesop Said So: Ancient Wisdom and Radical Politics in 1930s NY,"\*](#) *Classical Receptions Journal*, 2016, Vol 8, Issue 1 (2016), pp. 90-113.
- “Performing for Soldiers: 21st Century Experiments in Greek Theater in the US” (co-author with Laura Lodewyck), in *The Oxford Handbook of Greek Drama in the Americas*, edited by Kathryn Boshier, Fiona McIntosh, Justine McConnell and Patrice Rankine,

Oxford (2015), chapter 37.

- “Socrates in Combat: Trauma and Resilience in Plato's Political Theory,” in [Combat Trauma and the Ancient Greeks](#), edited by David Konstan and Peter Meineck, Palgrave MacMillan, (2014), pp. 131-62.
- “Afterword,” [Classics in the Modern World: A ‘Democratic Turn?’](#), edited by Lorna Hardwick and Stephen Harrison, Oxford University Press, Classical Presences Series (2013), pp. 427-32.
- “Dionysius I and Sicilian Theatrical Traditions in Plato’s *Republic*,” in [Theater Outside Athens: Ancient Greek Drama in Sicily and South Italy](#), edited by Kathryn Bosher, Cambridge University Press (2012), pp 156-72.
- “[The Making of a Democratic Symbol: The Case of Socrates in North American Popular Media 1941-1955](#),” *Classical Receptions Journal*, Vol. 3, Issue 1 (2011), pp. 46-76.
- “Navigating Race, Class, *Polis* and Empire: The Place of Empirical Analysis in Aristotle’s Theory of Natural Slavery,” in [Reading Ancient Slavery](#), edited by Richard Alston, Edith Hall and Laura Poffitt, Bristol Classical Press (2010), pp. 133-51.
- “Recollecting Aristotle: American Proslavery Thought and the Argument of *Politics I*,” in [Ancient Slavery and Abolition: From Hobbes to Hollywood](#), edited by Richard Alston, Edith Hall and Justine McConnell, Oxford University Press (2011), pp. 247-277.
- “Lived Excellence in Aristotle’s *Constitution of Athens*: Why the Encomium of Theramenes Matters” (with Jill Frank), [Cambridge Companion to Greek Political Thought](#), edited by Stephen Salkever, Cambridge University Press (2009), pp. 243-270.
- “Classical Antiquity and American Popular Culture,” [A Teagle Foundation White Paper](#), edited and with an introduction by Sara Monoson and Reginald Gibbons, (2007).
- “Pericles, Realism and the Normative Conditions of Deliberate action,” (with Michael Loriaux), [Classical Theory in International Relations](#), edited by John Beat, Cambridge Studies in International Relations (2006), pp. 27-51.
- “[Aristotle’s Theramenes at Athens: A Poetic History](#)” (co-author with Jill Frank), *parallax* 29 (October-December 2003), pp. 29-40.
- “The Allure of Harmodius and Aristogeiton,” in [Greek Love Reconsidered](#), edited by Thomas Hubbard, Wallace Hamilton Press (2000), pp. 42-51.
- “[The Illusion of Power and the Disruption of Moral Norms: Thucydides’ Critique of Periclean Policy](#)” (with Michael Loriaux), *American Political Science Review* 92 (1998), pp. 285-97.
- “[Remembering Pericles: The Political and Theoretical Import of Plato’s \*Menexenus\*](#),” *Political Theory* Vol. 26, No 4 (1998), pp. 489-513.
- “[Citizen as \*Erastes\*: Erotic Imagery and the Idea of Reciprocity in the Periclean Funeral Oration](#),” *Political Theory* Vol. 22, No. 3 (1994), pp. 153-76.
- “Frank Speech, Democracy and Philosophy: Plato’s Debt to a Democratic Strategy of Civic Discourse,” in [Athenian Political Thought and the Reconstruction of American Democracy](#), edited by J. Peter Euben, John Wallach and Josiah Ober, Cornell University Press (1994), pp. 172-97.
- “[The Lady and the Tiger: Women’s Electoral Activism in New York City Before Suffrage](#),” *Journal of Women’s History* Vol. 2, No. 2 (Fall 1990), pp. 100-35.

#### *Ongoing collaborative digital projects*

- Director, [The Classicizing Chicago Project](#). Researches, contextualizes, analyzes and provides digital open-access to evidence of the diversity of “classicizing” activity in metropolitan Chicago.
- Principal Investigator, *Socrates in the Vernacular*, digital exhibit of snapshots of adaption of the story of Socrates for general audiences in various media draw from a private archive. In preparation.

- Advisory Board Member, [Classics & Class](#), a research collective based at King's College, University of London.

### **Fellowships, Grants and Awards**

- Dorothy Tarrant Faculty Fellow, Institute for Classical Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London, 2018-2019.
- Digital Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Kaplan Institute, Northwestern, Summer, 2018
- Travel Grant, Crown Family Center for Israel Studies, Northwestern, 2019
- Kaplan Institute for the Humanities Seed Grant for Digital Humanities Projects, Northwestern, 2014-15
- Faculty Fellow, Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University. Washington, D.C., 2010-11
- Faculty Fellow, Foreigner's Fellowship Program, Onassis Public Benefit, Foundation, Athens, Greece, 2011-12
- C-P.I. (with Kate Bosher and Richard Kraut), Sawyer Seminar Series on “Theatre Outside Athens: Reception and Revision of Ancient Greek Drama” held at Northwestern University, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2008-10
- Co-P.I. (with Ahuvia Kahane) “Classical Traditions Project,” Mellon Foundation, 2002-03
- Co-P.I. (with Reginald Gibbons), Teagle Foundation Fresh Thinking Award for a forum in liberal education on the topic “Classical Antiquity and American Popular Culture,” Northwestern in 2005-07
- Best First Book (for *Plato's Democratic Entanglements*), Foundations Section, American Political Science Association, 2001
- Northwestern University Faculty Research Grant, 1999, 2006, 2011
- Barry Farrell Teaching Award, Political Science, Northwestern, 1998
- Faculty Fellow, Kaplan Center for the Humanities, Northwestern, 1996-97
- Research Assistant, Presidency Research Center, Princeton, 1990-91
- Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Award, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, 1989-90
- Princeton University Graduate Fellowship 1985-89
- Stanley J. Seeger Award for Study in Greece, Princeton University, 1987, 1988, 1989

### **Book Reviews**

- Review of Ariel Helfer, *Socrates and Alcibiades: Plato's Drama of Political Ambition and Philosophy* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017). *Perspectives on Politics*.
- [Review](#) of Josiah Ober, *The Rise and Fall of Classical Greece* (Princeton UP 2015). *Perspectives on Politics* 14(4). 2016
- Review of M. Trapp, ed., *Socrates from Antiquity to the Enlightenment and Socrates in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*. (Publications of the Centre for Hellenic Studies, King's College London 9 & 10), *The Journal of Hellenic Studies*, vol. 129, 2009, pp. 259–261
- Elizabeth Markovits, *The Politics of Sincerity: Plato, Frank Speech and Democratic Judgement* (Pennsylvania State Press 2008). *Perspectives on Politics* 7(01). 2009
- Review of Christopher Rocco, *Tragedy and Enlightenment: Athenian Political Thought and the Dilemma of Modernity* (University of California Press, 1997). *Ethics* 108(3). 1999
- Review of Jennifer Tolbert Roberts, *Athens on trial The Antidemocratic Tradition in Western Thought* (Princeton UP, 1994). *Ethics* 107(1). 1996
- Review of Nicole Loraux, *The Children of Athena: Athenian Ideas about Citizenship and the Division between the Sexes*, translated by Caroline Levine (Princeton UP 1993). *Political Theory* 25(2). 1997
- Review of Arlene Saxonhouse, *Fear of Diversity: The Birth of Political Science in Ancient Greek Thought* (University of Chicago Press 1992). *Women and Politics* 16(3). 1996.

### **Selected Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations**

- “Socratic Questioning in the Digital Age,” Teaching Conflict Resolution from Antiquity to the Present, Universidade do Estado dos Amazonas, Manaus, Brazil, June 6, 2020
- “Portraits of Resilience,” Hebrew University, March 18, 2020
- “Saxonhosue on Ancient Drama,” a conference in honor of Arlene Saxonhouse on the occasion of her retirement, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, December 5, 2019
- “Resilience in Plato,” Conflict Resolution in Ancient and Modern Contexts II: Theory and Genre, King’s College London, July 1-3, 2019
- “Cherry-Picking from Thucydides,” Thucydides Global, ICS Workshop, London, April 30, 2019
- “Roadmap to Resilience in Plato’s *Republic*,” ICS, Institute for Advanced Study, University of London, March 13, 2019
- The Arc of the Argument of the *Republic*, Department of Philosophy, University of Durham, February 28, 2019
- “Performing Plato,” Archive for the Performance of Greek and Roman Drama, Oxford, November 5, 2018
- “Military Service in Plato’s *Republic*,” Department of Classics Seminar Series, Tel Aviv University, May 31, 2018
- “Roundtable on Majoritarian Democracy,” Conference on Reviving American Democracy, Northwestern University, January 12, 2018
- “Resilience in the *Republic*” Political Theory Workshop, University of Notre Dame, November 15, 2017
- Keynote Address, Opening of the Visualization Lab’s Project on Socrates, Colgate University, October 27, 2016
- “*Clouds* and the Battle of Delium” Aristophanes & Politics, Center for the Ancient Mediterranean, Columbia University, September 28, 2016
- Keynote Address, Humanities Symposium, Loyola University Maryland, March 9, 2016
- “Aristotle’s *AthPol*,” A conference at the University of Athens, Greece, June 23-24, 2015
- “Combat Trauma and Resilience in the *Republic*,” Political Theory Workshop, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 23, 2013
- “Socrates and the Cold War,” Tragic Vision, Democratic Hope, Duke University, November 9, 2012
- “Socrates’ Military Service,” Our Ancient Wars, University of Michigan, March 23, 2012
- Classical Receptions Series, Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama, Oxford University, November 30, 2011
- Roundtable on “*Plato’s Democratic Entanglements* Ten Years Later,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 2011
- “Trauma and Resilience in the *Republic*,” Department of Political Science, University of Michigan, March 12, 2011
- “Socrates on Stage and Screen,” Contexts for Classics, University of Michigan, March 13, 2011
- Legacy of Greek Political Thought. University of Reading, U.K., December 2011
- Center for Classical & Near Eastern Studies of Australia, Univ. of Sydney, August 2011
- Combat Trauma and the Ancient Stage, a conference at New York University for the inauguration of the Ancient Greeks/Modern Lives Program (NEH), April 21, 2011
- Department of Philosophy and Classics, Univ. of Mississippi, February 11, 2011
- Political Theory Colloquium, University of Notre Dame, 2010.

- “Socrates in the Vernacular,” The Athens Dialogues, an international conference at the Onassis Cultural Center, Athens, Greece, November 2010
- Classics and Class, The British Academy, London, July 2010
- Classics in the Modern World: A Democratic Turn? A conference at The Open University, London, June 2010
- Classicizing Chicago, a Mellon Sawyer Seminar at Northwestern University, May 2010
- Classics and the Abolition of the Slave Trade, a conference at the Center for the Reception of Greece & Rome, Royal Holloway College, University of London, December 2007
- Comment on S. Menn. Greater Boston Colloquium for Ancient Philosophy, Brown University, 2004
- Comment on J. Ober, Chicago Area Consortium for Ancient Philosophy, University of Chicago, 2004.
- “Plato & Popular Culture,” John Olin Center for the Theory and Practice of Democracy, University of Chicago, January 12, 2001.
- “Theory and Theatricality in Plato,” Department of Political Science, Stanford University, 1999
- “Theory and Theatricality in Plato,” Olin Center, University of Chicago, April 1998
- On the Future of the Humanities, Faculty Colloquium on the Occasion of the Inauguration of President, Henry Bienen, May 1995

## **Northwestern University Service**

### *Central*

- Member, Provost’s Advisory Council on Women Faculty, 2016-18.
- Member, Press Board, Northwestern University Press, 2008-2011
- Member, Program Review Council 2003-08

### *The Graduate College*

- Director, Interdisciplinary Graduate Classics Cluster, 2009-15, 2017-present
- Member, Presidential Fellows Selection Committee, 2010-11
- Member, Administrative Board of The Graduate School, 1999-2001
- Member, Advisory Board, Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Theatre and Drama, 1999-2001

### *Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences*

- Department Chair, Political Science, Spring 2015-Summer 2018
- Member, Advisory Board, Center for Diversity and Democracy, 2018-
- Member, Advisory Board, The Brady Scholars in Ethics and Public Life, 2013-18
- Faculty Leader, Kakehashi Project, Northwestern, March 2017  
Accompanied 22 undergraduates on an intensive one-week study trip organized and funded by the Government of Japan.
- Member, Accreditation Committee, Subcommittee on Interdisciplinary Studies, 2014-15
- Department Chair, Classics 2004-07, 2008-11
- Member, College-Wide Tenure Review Committee, 2006-07, 2009-11
- Freshman Seminar Instructor and First-Year Advisor, 1995-96, 2004-05, 1999-2000, 2010-11, 2014-15, 2019-20
- Member, Advisory Board, Kaplan Humanities Center, 1997-98

### *Department of Political Science, Division of the Social Sciences*

- Department Chair, Spring 2015-Summer 2019.
- Associate Chair, 2013-15
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2003-04
- Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Initiatives, 2002-03

- Honors Coordinator, 2001-02
- Member, Faculty Search Committees, various 2001-18

*Department of Classics, Division of the Humanities*

- Department Chair, 2004-07, 2008-11
- Committee Chair, Classics Graduate Experience, 2019-20
- Faculty Search Committee Chair, various (all ranks) 2008-11
- Director, Classical Receptions Research Workshop, 2011-2016

**External Professional Service**

- Dramaturge, “[Socrates Now](#),” and “Con-sti-tu-tion,” [Elliniko Theatro](#) (New York and Athens), 2012-currently
- Chair, Awards Committee, "Best First Book Prize," Foundations Section of the American Political Science Association, 2014-15
- "Introductory Remarks," Staged “Retrial of Socrates” (featuring notable US prosecutors and jurists), National Hellenic Museum, Chicago, January 31, 2013
- Affiliated Scholar, Ancient Greeks/Modern Lives Program of Community Outreach, directed by Peter Meineck of Aquila Theater, New York and supported by the National Endowment of the Humanities, 2011-13,
- Pedagogy Committee Member, Classical Reception Studies Network, London, UK, 2011-13 Advisory Board Member, Teagle Assessment Project, Teagle Foundation, NY, 2009-13.
- Selection Committee Member, Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship Competition, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation 2005-12
- Advisory Board, Assessing Undergraduate Outcomes Within Disciplinary Contexts, The Teagle Foundation, 2009. (a study about measuring student learning outcomes)
- Selection Committee Member, American Council of Learned Societies Postdoctoral Fellowship Competition, 2009
- Advisory Board, A Longitudinal Study of Critical Thinking and Postformal Reasoning, The Teagle Foundation, 2007. (a study measuring student learning outcomes)
- Selection Committee Member, Benjamin E. Lippincott Award, American Political Science Association, 2005
- Section Chair, Political Theory Division, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2001-02
- Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Politics* 2001-05
- Editorial Assistant (to Ernestine Friedl), *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, 1987-1990

**Selected Courses & Advising**

*Courses in Political Science*

- First-Year Seminar on Plato’s *Republic* (POLISCI 101)
- First-Year Seminar on Data Ethics (POLISCI 101)
- Undergraduate lectures on Classical Political Theory (in historical context) POLISCI 301
- Undergraduate research seminar on Politics in the Digital Age (POLISCI 395)
- Graduate seminar on Classical Receptions Theory and Practice (CLASSICS 400)
- Graduate seminars on Greek Political Theory (POLISCI 461)

*Doctoral Dissertations*

- Giuseppe Cumella, “Political Activity in Aristotle’s Moral and Political Philosophy,” Political Science, & Graduate Classics Cluster. 2018. Visiting Assistant Professor, DePaul University.
- Elizabeth Hunter, “Enactive Spectatorship,” Interdisciplinary Theater and Drama and

Graduate Classics Cluster. 2018. Assistant Professor of Teater, San Francisco State.

- Demetra Kasimis, “Metic Ways of Living in Ancient Political Thought.” Political Science. 2010. Placement: Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at The Whitney Center for the Humanities, Yale University, 2010-12, followed by Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago. Laura Lodewyck, “A Cognitive Perspective on War and Performance in Contemporary American Theater,” *Interdisciplinary Theater and Drama*, 2015. Placement: Assistant Professor of Theater, North Central College, IL.
- Steven Skultety, “Aristotle on Conflict,” Philosophy, 2006. Placement: Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Classics, University of Mississippi.

*Visiting Postgraduate Fellows Supervised*

- Larissa Atkison. Canadian SSRC award winner. “Political Theory and Greek Tragedy.” 2016-18
- Elizabeth Sawyer. “Reception of Thucydides in American Military Education.” Visitor to the Graduate Classics Cluster from the Department of Classics, Trinity College, Oxford University. 2011
- Dana Mills. “Modern Dance and Classical Political Thought.” Visitor to the Graduate Classics Cluster from the Department of Political Science, Mansfield College, Oxford University. 2012.

*Undergraduate Farrell Fellows Mentored*

- Hayden Richardson, Socrates in the Vernacular 2019-20
- Jacob Yalowitz, Socrates in the Vernacular, 2019-20

*Award-winning Undergraduate Senior Thesis Supervised:*

- Lilly Liu, “Recovering from the War: Veterans’ Reintegration and the Communalization of Grief Through Ancient Greek Tragedy.” Awarded the Ken Janda Prize for Best Honors Thesis, Northwestern 2012
- Sarah Bush, “Children’s Rights,” Awarded the Ken Janda Prize for Best Honors Thesis, Northwestern 2002