

Joseph Seth Clarkson

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Texas at Tyler

Assistant Professor, Department of Politics, Philosophy, and Law 09/2026 – Present

Holy Cross College

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Politics and Public Service 01/2026 – 05/2026

University of Notre Dame

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Program of Liberal Studies and Political Science 08/2025 – 12/2025

Postdoctoral Teaching Scholar, Political Science 08/2024 – 05/2025

EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame

Ph.D., Political Science 08/2024

M.A., Political Science 01/2022

Baylor University

B.A., University Scholar, *summa cum laude* 05/2019

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“The Rousseauian Roots of Neorealism” 2025

Review of International Studies, First View: 1-19: [online here](#).

“Hegel, History, Hostility: The Persistence of War in Hegel’s Political Philosophy” 2023

Political Research Quarterly, 76(4): 1661-1673: [online here](#).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book Project

The Social *Rechtsstaat*: Hermann Heller and the Origins of a Constitutional Ideal

Translation Project

Hermann Heller: Political Writings

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

External

Travel Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$2,195) 2025

Travel Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$750) 2024

Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center (\$5,000) 2023-2024

Graduate Sabbatical, Institute for Humane Studies (\$15,000) 2023

First Generation Scholars in the Profession Annual Meeting Accessibility Grant, APSA (\$200) 2022

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| Travel Stipend, Institute for Humane Studies (\$730) | 2022 |
| Travel Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$500) | 2020 |

Internal

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| Graduate Fellow, Nanovic Institute for European Studies (\$2,000 per annum) | 2022-2024 |
| Graduate Student Research Award, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (\$1,000) | 2022 |
| Notebaert Professional Development Award, The Graduate School (\$762) | 2022 |
| Advanced Language Training Grant, Nanovic Institute for European Studies (\$4,700) | 2021 |

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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| Research Assistant for Susan Collins Book Project: "Political Order and the Spartan Ideal" | Summer 2025 |
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INVITED TALKS

External

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| "Law versus Dictatorship: An Introduction to Hermann Heller's Theory of the State" Graduate Program in Political Science, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul | 08/2021 |
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CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers

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| "Competing Conceptions of 'The People' in Weimar Political Thought" American Political Science Association (APSA), Vancouver | 09/2025 |
| "Hermann Heller's Social <i>Rechtsstaat</i> as Alternative to Authoritarian Liberalism" Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), San Juan | 01/2025 |
| "Hermann Heller and the 'Polemical Principle' of Democracy" American Political Science Association (APSA), Philadelphia | 09/2024 |
| "Nietzsche's Thucydidean Cure for Platonism" Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago | 04/2024 |
| "Imagining Community in Weimar" Western Political Science Association (WPSA), Vancouver | 03/2024 |
| "Nietzsche's Thucydidean Cure for Platonism" Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), New Orleans | 01/2024 |
| "Critical Politics: Hermann Heller and the Interwar Crisis in Europe" Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago | 04/2023 |
| "Opaque Novel Technologies as a Rationalist Explanation for War" with Clay Parham Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago | 04/2023 |

“Hegel’s Threefold Account of War” 04/2021
Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago

Posters

Accepted: “Hermann Heller and the *Methodenstreit* of Weimar State Theory” 09/2026
American Political Science Association (APSA), Boston

“From Prussia with Love: Hegel and the Concept of the Political” 09/2022
American Political Science Association (APSA), Montreal

Discussant

“Ancient Greek Political Science: Plato and Aristotle” 04/2025
Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago

“Reimagining Political Realism” 09/2024
American Political Science Association (APSA), Philadelphia

“Unity and Multiplicity: Is Political Science Objective or Relative?” 04/2023
Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago

Undergraduate Poster Session 04/2023
Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Modern Political Philosophy Spring 2026
Issues in World Politics Spring 2026
Political Authority and the Rule of Law Fall 2025
Great Texts Seminar III Fall 2025
Political Theory Spring 2025
War and Peace in Modern Political Thought Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant

Genocide in the Modern World, Prof. Ernesto Verdeja Fall 2022
International Relations (Two Discussion Sections), Prof. Joseph Parent Spring 2022
International Relations (Lead TA), Prof. Jazmin Sierra Fall 2021
Contemporary Political Theory, Prof. Dana Villa Spring 2021
Catholicism and Politics, Prof. Daniel Philpott Fall 2020

DEPARTMENTAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

External

Article Reviewer, European Journal of International Relations 2024

Internal

Abstract Reviewer, Notre Dame Political Theory Graduate Conference Spring 2024
Discussant for Amy Gais, Political Theory Colloquium August 2023
Discussant for Eduardo Schmidt Passos, Political Theory Colloquium April 2023
Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Program Committee 2021-2022

SPECIAL TRAINING

Institute for Humane Studies Summer Seminar

Modern Challenges to Liberty

Summer 2022

Goethe Institute German Language Study

Individual Course (Reading German in Political Philosophy & the Social Sciences)

Summer 2021

Technische Universität of Dresden Institute of Advanced Studies

A2 German Certification

Summer 2018

LANGUAGES

Conversational: German (Advanced), Portuguese (Basic)

Reading Only: Latin (Basic), Greek (Basic), Italian (Basic)

MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association (APSA)

Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA)

Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)

Phi Beta Kappa (ΦBK)

REFERENCES

Prof. Dana Villa
Department of Political Science
University of Notre Dame
574-631-7677
dvilla1@nd.edu

Prof. Susan D. Collins
Department of Political Science
University of Notre Dame
574-631-3182
scollin5@nd.edu

Prof. Ernesto Verdeja
Department of Political Science
University of Notre Dame
574-631-8533
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Prof. Joseph Parent
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