

**ALI ASLAM**

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## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**Department of Politics, Mt Holyoke College, South Hadley MA**

Visiting Lecturer (July 2015-present)

- Courses taught include: Introduction to Political Ideas-Political Freedom, Violence & the State, Capitalism, Grassroots Democracy, Democratic Theory, Politics of the Self
- Students in Capitalism course drafted business plan for student-run cooperative business, "Mo'Coffee."
- Developed and led workshop on teaching writing and research for faculty instructors in First-Year Seminar program.
- Coordinator and Facilitator, "Pedagogy of Urgency" Faculty Workshop Sponsored by American Association of Liberal Arts Colleges, May 2018.

**Princeton Writing Program, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ**

*David A. Gardner '69* Lecturer in Humanistic Studies (July 2010-July 2016)

- Primary Instructor for *Politics of Campus Space* (AY10-11), *The Crisis of Democracy* (AY11-12), *Morality & Politics* (Fall 2012), *Race in America* (Spring 2013/4), *What Makes Us Human* (Fall 2014), *Contradictions of Freedom in American Capitalism* (AY2014)
  - Each seminar consists of 2 sections per term, with an enrollment of 12 students/seminar
  - The aim of these seminars is to help students formulate & evaluate arguments, conduct research, identify & marshal evidence, write about key public policy & political issues, and present their research findings.
- Co-taught and developed curriculum for *Ways of Knowing*, the foundational epistemology course for Princeton's 2010, 2011, and 2013 Freshman Scholars Institute.
- Served on Faculty Hiring Committee: responsibilities including reviewing resumes and conducting candidate interviews
- Served on Curriculum Committee: worked with faculty and administrators to evaluate undergraduate writing and identify strategies to improve writing pedagogy within the disciplines at Princeton.
- Served as Academic Advisor (AY12-14) for 40 first- and second- year students

**Department of Political Science, Duke University, Durham, NC**

Instructor (Fall 2005-Fall 2009): various courses (enrollments from 15 to 30 students)

**Berlin Graduate School for Social Sciences, Humboldt-University, Berlin, Germany**

Instructor (Summer 2007): Immigration, Borders, Democracy (enrollment 45 students)

## **EDUCATION**

**Duke University**, Department of Political Science, Durham, NC

**PhD**, August 2010, Dissertation: *Architecture and Politics: Building the Good Life*.

- Committee: Peter Euben (chair), Romand Coles, Ruth Grant.
- Exam Fields: Political Theory and Race & Politics.
- **National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Competition**- Honorable Mention, 2005 and 2006.
- **Top 5% Undergraduate Evaluation Score, (AY2009-2010)**

**University of Michigan**, Ford School of Public Policy, Ann Arbor, MI  
**Masters of Public Policy**, April 2001  
 Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow, GPA 7.38/8.0

**Rutgers College**, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
**Bachelor of Arts** in Political Science, May 1999  
 Magna Cum Laude, GPA 3.79/4.0, Pi Sigma Alpha  
 Eagleton Institute of Politics Undergraduate Fellow, Garden State Scholar

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

### BOOK MANUSCRIPT- OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS (January 2017)

*Ordinary Democracy: Sovereignty and Citizenship Beyond the Neoliberal Impasse*

*Ordinary Democracy* is the first book-length work to engage recent debates in democratic theory about sovereignty, affect, subjectivity, and citizenship in conversation with recent mass movements. *Ordinary Democracy* argues that protests against the claims of economic necessity and state security that justify unilateral assertions of state sovereignty and decision-making by unelected bodies are far from symbolic. Written with close attention to organizing practices, *Ordinary Democracy* reveals an attention across these movements to affective practices and spectacle meant to assist and inspire citizens in responding to moments of crisis and emergency. *Ordinary Democracy* challenges theorists of democratic exemplarity whose hopes for renewal assume an undiminished reserve of agency and who imagine democracy without the state. It finds that efforts to address the attachments contemporary subjects have to sources of political and economic impasse and impassivity are central to the movements' aims of democratizing the sovereign authority of the nation-state and its institutions. This book is written as a work of and argument for the value of public philosophy that closes the distance between the study of politics and political life today.

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS & ARTICLES

- "The Future of Bad Collectivity." *Law, Culture, and Humanities*, June 8, 2017 (online).
- "Salat-al-Jumma: An Islamic Practice of Organizing the Public." *Social Movement Studies*. Vol 16, Issue 3 (January 2017).
- "Politics, Out of the Ordinary." *Theory & Event*, December 2012.
- "Architecture as Government," in *Politics and Architecture* (eds. Duncan Bell and Bernardo Zacka), Cornell University Press (forthcoming).
- "Space and Politics" in Blackwells Encyclopedia of Political Thought. Michael T. Gibbons (Ed.). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- *Social Unaccountability: Understanding Trump's Appeal* (article manuscript)

## BOOK REVIEWS:

- Review of *Ingenious Citizenship*. *Journal of Law, Culture, Humanities* (forthcoming)
- "Listening to Anger," Review of *Sing The Rage*. *Theory & Event*, Winter 2015.
- "On Being Human: Essays from the Fifth Shi'i Muslim Mennonite Christian Dialogue." *The Christian Century*.
- "The Somnambulant Practice of Postmodern Architecture," a review of Felicity D. Scott's *Architecture or Techno-utopia: Politics after Modernism*, in *Theory & Event*, Vol. 11, Issue 4, 2008.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- *The Ethical Life of Democratic Politics* (book-length manuscript)
- *Building the Good Life* (book-length manuscript)

## INVITED PARTICIPATION:

- Workshop on Social Democracy and Neoliberalism, De Paul University, April 7-8, 2017

## INVITED LECTURES

### Scheduled:

- "Creating Common Objects: Attachment in the Age of Democratic Decline," Duke University, Durham, NC, Spring 2018.
- "Social Unaccountability: Origins of a Political Concept," Amherst Program in Critical Theory Workshop, Amherst, MA, Fall 2017.

### Past:

- "Cooperatives at the University: Lessons from Mo'Coffee," at Annual Meeting of Valley Alliance of Worker Cooperatives, Greenfield, MA, May 26, 2017.
- "The Future of Bad Collectivity," University of Connecticut, Department of Political Science, September 2016
- "American Islam & Democratic Practice," Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, Jan. 2015
- "Politics Without Vision," Deep Springs College, CA, March 2014
- "Transforming Ordinary," Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, March 2014
- "Challenging the Uneventful," University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA, April 2014
- "Idle No More: Democratizing Sovereignty," Western Kentucky University, KY, April 2013
- "The Rough Ground of Politics," Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg, Canada, January 22, 2013
- "*Salat-al-Juma: An Islamic Practice of Organizing the Public*," Princeton University, Princeton, Fall 2012
- "Building, Circulation, Thinking: Threshold Dwelling in the Work of Herman Hertzberger." School of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands. September 14, 2011.

## PHD STUDENTS

Callum Ingram, University of Virginia (2015)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Social Theory Examiner, Wesleyan University, Spring 2014
- Reviewer for: *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Journal of Politics*, *Oxford University Press*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Polity & Polity Books*, *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, *Society & Space*.
- Hiring Committee, Princeton Writing Program, Princeton University.
- Faculty Search Committee Member. University-wide appointment in Religious Studies and Campus Life, Spring 2008, Duke University.
- President, Political Science Graduate Students, Duke University Dept. of Political Science, 2005-2006.
- President, Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, Duke University Dept. of Political Science, 2005-2006.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE & INTERESTS

### Mount Holyoke College

*Violence & the State*, *Political Freedom*, *Capitalism*, *Grassroots Democracy*, *Ethical Life*, *Politics of the Self*, *Modern Political Thought*, *Democratic Theory*

### Princeton University

*Contradictions of Freedom in American Capitalism*, *Race in America*, *What Makes Us Human*, *Morality & Politics*, *The Crisis of Democracy*, *The Politics of Campus Space*.

### Duke University

*Theories of Multiculturalism*; *Left, Right, and Center*; *Ambition & Politics* (TA); *Living an Ethical Life* (TA), *Liberty, Equality, and the American Constitution* (TA); *Theories of Liberal Democracy* (TA)

### Top 5% Undergraduate Evaluation Score, Duke University, Fall 2009

Departmental Nominee, Graduate Award for Teaching Excellence, Spring 2009

### University of Michigan

*Introduction to Statistics*

### Teaching Interests:

Democratic Theory, Ethics, Comparative Political Theory, Race, Ethnic, and Gender Politics, Political Culture, American Political Thought, History and Politics, Black Political Thought, Politics and Literature, Religion and Politics, Space and Politics.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Recent Conference participation

Panel Discussant, American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA      September 2016  
Panel: *Politics of Place*

Paper Presentation, American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA      September 2016  
Paper Title: *Democracy of Disagreement*

Panel Discussant & Chair, Association for Law, Culture, and Humanities Annual Conference,  
Hartford, CT, April 2016  
Panel: Constitutionalism and their Discontents

Paper Presentation, American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA      September 2015  
Paper Title: *Freedom & the Event: Recognizing Agentic Capacity in Modernity*

Panel Discussant & Chair, Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, NV April 2015  
Panels: What Would Socrates Do? Roundtable & Space, Property, & Environment

Paper Presentation, Western Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, April 2014.  
Paper Title: Idle No More's Countersovereignty

Panel Discussant & Chair, Western Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, April 2014.  
Panel Title: Modes of Democratic Action: Obligation, Negotiation, Sacrifice, or Recognition

Paper Presentation, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2014.  
Paper Title: Politics Without Vision

Panel Discussant & Chair, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2014.  
Panel Title: Contestatory Citizenship

Paper Presentation, Western Political Science Association, Hollywood, CA, March 2013  
Paper Title: Wasting Well: Materiality and the Cultivation of a Sustainable Ethos

Paper Presentation, Western Political Science Association, Portland, Oregon, March 2012.  
Paper Title: Ordinary Politics

Panel Discussant & Chair, Western Political Science Association, Portland, Oregon, March 2012.  
Panel Title: Being, Ethics, and Becoming Political

Paper Presentation, Western Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.  
Paper Title: Building and Sustaining a World: The Space and Culture of Democracy

Panel Discussant & Chair, Western Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.  
Panel Title: Collective Identities, Borders, and Border Crossings

Panel Chair, Western Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.  
Panel Title: Mocking Authority in Aristophanes' *Clouds*

**Professional Memberships**

American Political Science Association  
Association for Political Theory  
Western Political Science Association

**PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Federal Reserve Bank of New York, New York, New York**

Financial Analyst, Bank Supervision Group, August 2001-July 2004.

**LANGUAGES:** English (native speaker), Pashto (advanced), Urdu (basic), French (intermediate), German (basic), Arabic (basic), Ancient Greek (basic).