

**EMILY C. NACOL**

Associate Professor of Political Science  
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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**University of Toronto**

Associate Professor, University of Toronto Mississauga, Department of Political Science; and University of Toronto Graduate Faculty of Political Science, July 2021-

Assistant Professor, University of Toronto Mississauga, Department of Political Science; and University of Toronto Graduate Faculty of Political Science, July 2017-June 2021

**Vanderbilt University**

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2009-2017

**Cornell University**

Faculty Fellow, Society for the Humanities, 2012-2013

**Brown University**

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Political Theory Project, 2007-2009

**EDUCATION**

**University of Chicago**

Ph.D. in Political Science, December 2007

M.A. in Political Science, June 2003

**King's College, Cambridge University**

M.Phil. in Political Thought and Intellectual History, May 2001

**Wellesley College**

B.A. in Political Science, May 1999

## **PUBLISHED WORK**

### **Peer-Reviewed Book**

Emily Nacol. 2016. *An Age of Risk: Politics and Economy in Early Modern Britain*. Princeton University Press.

Reviewed in *Choice*, *Economic History Review*, *Eighteenth Century Life*, *English Historical Review*, *Foro Interno: Anuario de Teoría Política*, *Journal of British Studies*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Lectures*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Review of Political Economy*, *Review of Politics*, *Reviews in History*. Subject of [interview](#) for “New Books Network” podcast.

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

Emily Nacol. 2015. “The Beehive and the Stew: Prostitution and the Politics of Risk in Bernard Mandeville’s Political Thought,” *Polity* 47: 61-83.

Emily Nacol. 2011. “The Risks of Political Authority: Trust, Knowledge and Political Agency in Locke’s *Second Treatise*,” *Political Studies* 59: 580-595.

### **Peer-Reviewed Invited Book Chapters**

Emily Nacol. 2021. “Locke and Cicero on Property, Labor, and Value.” *The Ciceronian Tradition in Political Theory*. Eds. Daniel Kapust and Gary Remer. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press: 140-159.

Emily Nacol. 2016. “‘In Those Old Days:’ The Old and the Aging in Marilynne Robinson’s *Gilead* and *Home*.” *A Political Companion to Marilynne Robinson*. Eds. Shannon Mariotti and Joseph Lane. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press: 113-138.

### **Other Invited Book Chapters**

Emily Nacol. 2023. “Insurance.” *Routledge Handbook of Commodification*. Eds. Elodie Bertrand and Vida Panitch. London: Routledge.

Emily Nacol and Constantine Vassiliou. 2023. “The Plague of High Finance in Montesquieu’s *Persian Letters*.” *The Spirit of Montesquieu’s Persian Letters*. Eds. Jeffrey Church, Alin Fumurescu, and Constantine Vassiliou. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

Emily Nacol. 2020. “Educating Gentlewomen: The Women of Locke’s Circle and Their Influence on *Some Thoughts Concerning Education*.” *The Wives of Western Philosophy: Gender Politics in Intellectual Labor*. Eds. Jennifer Forestal and Menaka Philips. London: Routledge: 73-87.

Emily Nacol. 2020. “The Entanglement of Profit and Loss: Risk and the Language of Insurance in Early Modern Political Thought.” *The Routledge Companion to Risk and Media*. Eds. Bishnupriya Ghosh and Bhaskar Sarkhar. London: Routledge: 79-90.

Emily Nacol. 2018. "J.G.A. Pocock's *The Machiavellian Moment*." *The Oxford Handbook of Classics in Contemporary Political Theory*. Ed. Jacob Levy. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Online first.

### Review Essays and Book Reviews

Emily Nacol. Forthcoming 2023. Alena Wolfink, *Claiming Value: The Politics of Priority from Aristotle to Black Lives Matter*. *Philosophy and Global Affairs*.

Emily Nacol. 2023. Sinja Graf, *The Humanity of Universal Crime: Inclusion, Inequality, and Intervention in International Political Thought*. *Ethics and Global Politics*. Online First.

Emily Nacol. 2021. Ross Carroll, *Uncivil Mirth: Ridicule in Enlightenment Britain*. *Perspectives on Politics* 19.4: 1299-1301.

Emily Nacol. 2020. Adrian Green and Barbara Crosbie, eds. *Economy and Culture in North-East England, 1500-1800*. *Journal of British Studies* 59.1: 165-167.

Emily Nacol. 2019. Arthur M. Melzer & Stephen J. Kautz, eds. *Are Markets Moral? Perspectives on Politics* 17.4: 1174-1175.

Emily Nacol. 2019. Ashley Eva Millar. *A Singular Case: Debating China's Political Economy in the European Enlightenment*. *Journal of Early Modern History* 23.1 93-96.

Emily Nacol. 2019. Dennis Rasmussen. *The Infidel and the Professor: David Hume, Adam Smith, and the Friendship that Shaped Modern Thought*. *Contemporary Political Theory* 18: 270-273.

Emily Nacol. 2019. Korinna Schönhärl, ed. *Decision taking, confidence and risk management in banks from early modernity to the 20th century*. *Economic History Review* 72.4: 1525-1526

Emily Nacol. 2019. Laura Ephraim, *Who Speaks for Nature?: On the Politics of Science*. *Isis* 110.1: 143-144.

Emily Nacol. 2011. Review Essay, "Michael Frazer's *The Enlightenment of Sympathy: Justice and the Moral Sentiments in the Eighteenth Century and Today*." *The Adam Smith Review* 7: 210-216.

Emily Nacol. 2009. "Rousseau, Social Alienation and the Possibility of Generative Critique: A Review Essay." *C.L.R. James Journal: A Review of Caribbean Ideas* 15.1: 228-234.

### Other Writing

Emily Nacol. 2017. "[Health Insurance is Good, Not Just for Individuals but for Democracy.](#)" Monkey Cage Blog, *The Washington Post*.

Emily Nacol. 2017. "Introduction." Symposium for Dennis Rasmussen's *The Pragmatic Enlightenment: Recovering the Liberalism of Hume, Smith, Montesquieu, and Voltaire*. *The Adam Smith Review* 10. (Symposium guest editor)

Emily Nacol. 2010. "Commercial Society." *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*. Ed. Mark Bevir. London: Sage Publications Ltd: 236-237.

Emily Nacol. 2010. "Bernard de Mandeville." *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*. Ed. Mark Bevir. London: Sage Publications Ltd: 842-843.

Emily Nacol. 2010. "Mercantilism." *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*. Ed. Mark Bevir. London: Sage Publications Ltd.: 876-878.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS AND UNDER REVIEW**

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### **Book Manuscript**

*Reimagining Labour: The Politics of Risk and Blame in Early Modern Britain*, in progress.

### **Articles**

"'A More Onerous Citizenship:' Immunity and Community in Defoe's *Journal of the Plague Year*," in progress

"'Time is our Gambling Partner:' José Saramago's *Blindness* and the Politics of Plague-Time," in progress

"Trust, Knowability, and the Demand for Visible Labor in Locke's 'Essay on the Poor Law,'" in progress

### **Invited Book Chapters**

"John Locke." *Research Handbook in the History of Political Thought*. Eds. Cary Nederman and Guillaume Bogiaris. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, in progress.

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Research Grants and Fellowships**

Working Group Grant (with Seth Bernard), "Uncertain Worlds: Comparative Perspectives on Risk," Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto, 2023-2024 (CAD 3,000)

Faculty Research Fellowship, Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto, 2022-2023 (CAD 45,000 to department, CAD 5,000 research grant)

Working Group Grant (with Emily Halliwell-MacDonald), "The Politics of Labour," Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto, 2021-2022 (CAD 3,000)

Insight Development Grant, SSHRC, "Reimagining Labour: The Politics of Risk and Blame in Early Modern Britain," June 2020 (CAD 41,669 for two years) *Application ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in pool*.

Research and Scholarly Activity Fund Grant, University of Toronto Mississauga, "Writing about Plague: Contagion and Imagination in the History of Political Thought," January 2020 (CAD 7,000)

Faculty Fellowship, Society for the Humanities, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 2012-2103 (USD 45,000 for residential fellowship)

Summer Stipend, Research Scholar Grant Program, Vanderbilt University, 2012 (USD 6,500)

Mellon Dissertation-Year Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2006-2007 (USD 15,000)

Horton-Hallowell Fellowship, Wellesley College, Summer 2006 (USD 12,500)

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies, Summer 2006 (USD 2,000)

Dissertation Teaching and Research Fellowship, Social Sciences Division, University of Chicago, 2005-2006 (USD 12,500)

Olin Center for Inquiry into the Theory and Practice of Democracy, Junior Fellowship, 2004-2005 (USD 20,000)

### **Teaching Grants and Fellowships**

Writing Development Initiative Grants, University of Toronto Mississauga

CAD 5,462 for 2023-2024 (POL 320: Modernity and Resistance)

CAD 15,405 for 2018-2019 (POL 200: Political Theory)

CAD 15,401 for 2019-2020 (POL 200: Political Theory)

CAD 7,933 for 2020-2021 (POL 200: Political Theory)

Junior Faculty Teaching Fellowship, Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University, 2011-2012

### **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

Madison-Sarratt Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Vanderbilt University, 2012

Robert H. Birkby Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, 2012

Grodzins Prize Lectureship, for “Medieval Political Thought: ca. 1250-1525,” University of Chicago, 2006-2007 (declined for Mellon fellowship)

Joseph Cropsey Prize for Best M.A. Thesis in Political Theory and the History of Political Thought, University of Chicago, 2003

### **RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Invited Academic Talks**

“‘A More Onerous Citizenship:’ Political Theory in Plague Time”

RGCS Faculty Lecture, McGill University, January 2024

- “Contagions—Real and Imagined—in Eighteenth-Century Political Economic Discourse”  
Workshop: Global Capitalisms  
Neubauer Collegium, University of Chicago, June 2022
- “Time Thrift: Capitalist Discipline and Keynes’ *Economic Possibilities for Our Grandchildren*”  
Conference: Burke, Keynes, and the Political Economy of Time  
Tocqueville Forum, Georgetown University, April 2021
- “‘A More Onerous Citizenship:’ Immunity and Community in Defoe’s *Journal of the Plague Year*”  
Early Modern Studies Workshop, University of Wisconsin, February 2021
- “‘A True and Proper Relief of the Poor?’ Poverty, Labor, and Political Agency in Locke’s Political Thought”  
Political Theory Research Workshop, University of Toronto, November 2019  
Research Seminar, “Debating Capitalism,” Folger Library, April 2015  
Political Theory Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2014  
Political Theory Workshop, Cornell University, November 2012
- “Poverty, Work, and Freedom: Early Modern Legacies”  
Democracy and Freedom Conference, Williams College, April 2019
- “‘Vile Ways of Traffick: Finance, Impropriety, and Labour in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Political Economy”  
Critical Analysis of Law Workshop, University of Toronto, February 2019  
Accounting, Organizations, and Institutions Seminar, London School of Economics, November 2018
- “Attention, Solidarity, Conspiracy? Insurance Technologies and the Rise of Friendly Societies in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Britain”  
Clark Research Library Conference, “Attentional Modes,” UCLA, April 2018
- “The Politics of Contagion: Immunity and Community in Early Modern Plague Narratives”  
Political Theory Research Workshop, University of Toronto, November 2017
- “The Entanglement of Profit and Loss: Risk and the Language of Insurance in Early Modern Political Thought”  
Shelby Cullom Davis Center Seminar, Princeton University, October 2017
- “A Tangled Husk of Emptiness:” The South Sea Bubble and Discourses of Financial Risk and Responsibility”  
Political Theory Workshop, Georgetown University, January 2017  
Political Theory Colloquium, Harvard University, January 2016
- “An Age of Risk: Politics and Economy in Early Modern Britain”  
Political Theory Colloquium, University of Ottawa, December 2016  
Department of Political Science, George Washington University, April 2015
- “Hobbes and the Groundwork for a Political Theory of Risk”  
Political Theory Workshop, Columbia University, February 2013
- “Governing Risk: Politics and Economy in Early Modern Britain”  
Conference, “Risk @Humanities,” Cornell University, October 2012

“Hume’s Fine Balance: On Probability, Fear, and the Risks of Trade”  
Social and Political Thought Workshop, Vanderbilt University, February 2011

“The Beehive and the Stew: Prostitution in the Political Thought of Bernard Mandeville”  
Political Philosophy Workshop, Brown University, April 2008

### **Selected Academic Conference Paper Presentations (last 10 years)**

“Smith and Bentham on Orientations to Risk”

“Contagions—Real and Imagined—in Eighteenth-Century Political Economic Discourse”  
Association for Political Theory, October 2023  
Renaissance Society of America, March 2023

“Defoe on Disaster: Narrating the Catastrophic in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Britain”  
Association for Political Theory, October 2022  
American Political Science Association, September 2022

“The Plague of High Finance in Montesquieu’s *Persian Letters*” (with Constantine Vassiliou)  
*Persian Letters* Anniversary Conference, University of Houston, December 2021

“‘Time is our Gambling Partner’: José Saramago’s *Blindness* and the Politics of Plague-Time”  
Western Political Science Association, May 2020  
Association for Political Theory, October 2019

“‘Vile Ways of Traffick’: Finance, Impropriety, and Labor in Eighteenth-Century Britain”  
American Comparative Literature Association, March 2019  
North American Conference for British Studies, October 2018  
American Political Science Association, August 2018

“‘A Tangled Husk of Emptiness’: The South Sea Bubble and Discourses of Financial Risk, Trust, and Responsibility”  
Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, October 2017  
American Political Science Association, August 2017

“Risk and Insurance in Early Modern Political Thought”  
Western Political Science Association, April 2017  
American Political Science Association, September 2016

“The Politics of Contagion: Immunity and Community in Modern Plague Narratives”  
Association for Political Theory, October 2017  
Western Political Science Association, March 2016

“Poverty, Work, and ‘The People’ in Locke’s Political Thought”  
Western Political Science Association, March 2013  
Association for Political Theory, October 2012

### **Book Symposia (last 10 years)**

Alena Wolfink's *Claiming Value: The Politics of Priority from Aristotle to Black Lives Matter*, American Political Science Association, September 2022

Rachel Friedman's *Probable Justice: Risk, Insurance, and the Welfare State*, American Political Science Association, September 2021.

Sinja Graf's *The Humanity of Universal Crime: Inclusion, Inequality, and Intervention in International Political Thought*, Canadian Political Science Association, June 2021

Igor Shoikhedbrod's *Revisiting Marx's Critique of Liberalism: Rethinking Justice, Legality, and Rights*, University of Toronto Political Theory Research Workshop, July 2020

Antoinette Handley's *Business and Social Crisis in Africa*, University of Toronto, March 2020

Andrew Sabl's *Hume's Politics: Coordination and Crisis in Hume's History of England*, American Political Science Association, August 2014

### **Invited Research Colloquia**

Folger Shakespeare Library Research Colloquium: "London Bills of Mortality," Washington, DC, April 2018

Folger Shakespeare Library Research Seminar: "Debating Capitalisms," Washington, DC, January-May 2015

### **Invited Media Interviews**

CBC Sunday Edition, "[Plagues and Political Thought](#)," February 2020

### **Invited Guest Lectures for Courses**

"Poverty, Work, and Liberalism" for *Political Studies 252: What is Democracy?*, Bard College, Fall 2017

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **University of Toronto**

##### *Undergraduate Courses at University of Toronto Mississauga*

POL 200Y5: Political Theory, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 (winter 2021 only)

POL 320Y5: Modernity and Resistance, 2023-2024 (Fall 2023 only)

POL 414H5: The Future of Work, Winter 2024

POL 485H5: Topics in Political Thought (The Future of Work), Winter 2021



Graduate Courses

POL 485H/12027H1: Topics in Political Thought II (Plagues and Political Thought), Fall 2019

POL 485H1/2027H1: Topics in Political Thought II (The Politics of Capitalism), Winter 2018, Winter 2019

POL 2000H1: Ancient Political Thought and the Rise of Modernity, Fall 2023

Undergraduate Independent Studies

Tactile Devotions: Weaving Marion Labour in the Late Medieval Convent, 2022-23 (JHI)

The Politics and Ethics of Prostitution, Summer 2019 (UTM)

Community Research Partnerships in Ethics, 2019-2020 (TRN 407, Trinity College)

Poverty and Modern Political Thought, 2019-2020 (UTM Research Opportunity Program)

Reimagining Labour: The Politics of Risk and Blame in Early Modern Britain, Winter 2021 (UTM

Research Opportunity Program)

Disability and Political Theory, Winter 2021 (UTM)

Graduate Independent Studies

Capitalism and Feminism, Summer 2018

Marx and Engels on Labour and War, Fall 2019

An Epistemic Break? Risk, Finance, and the Pressures of a Changing Climate, Winter 2021

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees

Carley Chavara, Political Science, in progress (Committee member)

Jasmine Chorley Foster, Political Science, in progress (Supervisor)

Rosalind Cooper, Religious Studies, in progress (Committee member)

Charles Dumais, Political Science, in progress (Co-supervisor)

Ari Finnison, History, in progress (Committee member)

Omar Garcia, Political Science, in progress (Committee member)

Erica Kunimoto, Political Science, in progress (Committee member)

Mary Jo MacDonald, Political Science, defended November 2023 (Committee member)

Catherine Power, Political Science, defended June 2021 (Committee member)

Ujjwala Sharma, History, in progress (Committee member)

Eric Schildroth, Political Science, in progress (Committee member)

Rachel Wagner, Political Science, in progress (Co-supervisor)

Internal Reader for Dissertation Defences

Zachariah Black, Political Science, 2022

Scott Dodds, Political Science, 2019

Nathaniel Gilmore, Political Science, 2019

Chi Kwok, Political Science, 2020

Stephanie Murphy, Political Science, 2020

Constantine Vassiliou, Political Science, 2019

**Vanderbilt University**

Undergraduate Courses

PSCI 1103: Justice  
PSCI 2202: Ancient Political Thought  
PSCI 2203: The History of Modern Political Philosophy  
PSCI 2207: Liberalism and Its Critics  
PSCI 3258: Democratic Theory and Practice  
PSCI 3896: Special Topics in Political Theory (Self and Society)  
PSCI 4257: The Politics of Capitalism  
HONS 183: Risky Ventures: The Moral and Political Dimensions of Modern Political Economy

Graduate Courses

PSCI 300: Political Theory (Liberalism and Its Critics)  
PSCI 302: Democratic Theory  
PSCI 308: Studies in Historical Political Thought (Individualism and the Self in Modernity)

Undergraduate Independent Studies

Democracy and Democratization  
Democratic Theory  
Self and Society

Graduate Independent Studies

Hobbes  
Medieval/Renaissance Political Thought  
Marx's *Capital*  
Modern Political Thought  
Selfhood and Individualism  
Politics of Capitalism  
Rousseau

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees

Alexander Ayris, Religion, Defended in 2018  
Stacy A. Clifford, Political Science, Defended in 2011  
Alexander Jacobs, History, Defended in 2016  
Andrew Martin, Religion, Defended in 2016

**Cornell University**

SHUM 4975/GOV 4775: The Politics of Risk in Early Modernity

**Brown University**

POLS 0280M: Medieval and Renaissance Political Thought  
POLS 1820R: Early Modern Political Orders

POLS 1820W: Capitalism and Political Theory

**University of Chicago**

SOSC 15100: Classics of Social and Political Thought I

SOSC 15200: Classics of Social and Political Thought II

**SERVICE**

**University of Toronto**

*Department Service*

Chair, Chair's Advisory Committee on EDI, Department of Political Science (UTM), 2023-2024

Associate Chair Academic, Department of Political Science (UTM), January 2021-July 2025

Search Committee for Tri-Campus Graduate Chair, Department of Political Science (UTM rep), May 2022

PTR Committee, Department of Political Science (UTM), May 2022, May 2023

Ontario Graduate Scholarship Committee, Department of Political Science (UTSG), Winter 2021, Winter 2019

Political Theory Search Committee, Department of Political Science (UTM), Fall 2020

Curriculum Mapping Committee, Department of Political Science (UTM), 2019-2020

Graduate Placement Co-Director, Department of Political Science (UTSG), 2018-2020

Urban Politics Search Committee, Department of Political Science (UTM), Fall 2019

Undergraduate Essay Prize Committee, Department of Political Science (UTM), Winter 2018

Chair Search Committee, Department of Political Science (UTM), Winter 2018

Space Reallocation Committee, Department of Political Science (UTSG), Winter 2018

Speakers Committee, Women's Caucus, Department of Political Science (UTSG), 2017-2018

*University Service*

Faculty Member, Undergraduate Program and Curriculum Advisory Committee (UTM), 2023-2026

Selection Committee, RSAF Grant Adjudication (UTM), April 2023

Faculty Member, University Tribunal, 2022-2024

Guest Lecturer, Humanities for Humanity Program (H4H), 2018, 2019, 2023

## **Vanderbilt University**

### Department Service

Graduate Committee, 2009-2012, 2013-2016

Junior Speakers Committee, 2009-2012, 2014-2016 (Chair, 2014-2015)

### University Service

Faculty Mentor, Vanderbilt Visions Program, 2010-2012

Faculty Steering Committee, Social and Political Thought Workshop, 2009-2011, 2015-2017

Student-Faculty Relations Committee, 2011-2012

## **Profession of Political Science**

### Leadership Roles and Committee Service

Co-President, Association for Political Theory, 2023-2026

Co-Chair, Standing Committee on Mentoring and Professional Development, Association for Political Theory, 2019-2022

Division Chair, Political Thought and Philosophy: Historical Approaches, American Political Science Association, 2020-2021

Chair, Foundations of Political Theory Best Paper Committee, American Political Science Association, 2019-2020

Division Chair, Liberalism and Democratic Theory, Midwest Political Science Association, 2020 (Program organized but canceled due to COVID-19)

First Book Workshop Committee, Association for Political Theory, 2019

Program Committee, Association for Political Theory, 2009-2010, 2014-2015, 2018-2019, 2019-2020

Division Co-Chair, Foundations of Political Theory, American Political Science Association, 2016-2017

Chair, Political Theory Poster Section, Midwest Political Science Association, 2017

Head of Chair/Discussant Committee, Association for Political Theory Annual Meeting, 2016

Governance Committee, Association for Political Theory, 2014-2017 (Chair, 2016-2017)

Host, Association for Political Theory Annual Meeting, 2012-2013

Peer-Review Activities

Editorial board member of *Polity*, 2020-

Reviewer for *Adam Smith Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Intellectual History Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Studies*, *Political Theory*, *Polity*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Public Affairs Quarterly*, *Utopian Studies*, *William and Mary Quarterly*, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Palgrave MacMillan, Routledge, SUNY Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, University of Edinburgh Press