



MATTHEW S. BROGDON, PH.D.

Sr. Director | Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation Chair

EMPLOYMENT

Utah Valley University

Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation Chair, Center for Constitutional Studies, 2023 -

Senior Director, Center for Constitutional Studies, 2023 - present

Associate Professor, Department of History and Political Science, 2022 - present

The University of Texas at San Antonio

Associate Professor, Political Science, 2019 - 2022

Assistant Professor, Political Science, 2013 - 2019

Baylor University

Lecturer, Department of Political Science, 2009 - 2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Baylor University, 2011

Fields: American Politics & Constitutional Law, Political Philosophy

Richard D. Huff Distinguished Graduate Student, 2008-2009

R.W. Morrison Fellowship for the Study of the Constitution, 2007-08

M.A., Political Science, University of West Florida, 2006

B.A., Political Science, University of West Florida, 2005

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

Grants Awarded

PD (with Robert John Burton), American History and Civics Seminars Grant, U.S. Department of Education, 2025-2028, \$1,649,039 for “Foundations of Freedom for Today’s Classroom: America 250 for Civics Teachers”

Co-PD (with Savannah Eccles Johnston and Troy Smith), John Templeton Foundation, sub-award from the Jack Miller Center, 2027-2029, \$1,250,798 for support of UVU's MA in Constitutional Government, Civics, and Law as part of the Civics Foundations Graduate Consortium

PD, Chairman's Award to Individuals, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2026, \$30,000 for *Creation of the Federal Courts: How the Framers of the Constitution Laid the Foundation for a Powerful Judiciary* (book manuscript)

PD (with Nicholas Cole and Scott Paul), Major Collaboratives Grant, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, National Archives and Records Administration, 2024-2027, \$350,000 for "Constitution Making in the Shadow of Disunion: A Project to Digitize and Model Operative State Constitutions Adopted between 1848 and 1864 in the Quill Platform"

PD (with Nicholas Cole and Scott Paul), Digital Humanities Advancement Grant, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2020-2023, \$324,791 for "Digital Modeling of Western State Constitutions by Undergraduates: Extending the Quill Project;" successfully produced digital models and resource collections for five western state constitutional conventions

PI, INTRA Grant, Vice President for Research, UTSA, 2015-2016, \$5000 for "The Judges' Bill, Discretionary Jurisdiction, and Incorporation of the Bill of Rights: An Institutional and Historical Analysis"

Graduate Travel Grant, University of West Florida, 2005-2006

Scholarly and Creative Activities Grant, University of West Florida, 2005

College of Arts and Sciences Merit Grant, University of West Florida, 2004

Fellowships and Scholarships

Summer Institute Fellow, Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History, Philadelphia, June 25-July 3, 2018

Dean's Graduate Fellowship, Baylor Graduate School, 2006-2011

R.W. Morrison Fellowship for the Study of the Constitution, Baylor University, 2007-2008

Lehrman American Studies Fellow, Intercollegiate Studies Institute and the James Madison Program for the Study of American Ideas and Institutions, Princeton University, 2007

Summer Research Fellowship, Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, 2007

Graduate Fellowship, Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, 2006-2007

John C. Pace Graduate Scholarship, University of West Florida, 2006

Awards

Article of the Year, American Political Science Association, American Political Thought Section, 2018

Excellence in Service to Students Award, National Society of Leadership and Success, 2014

Award for Contribution to Academic Integrity, Student Affairs, Baylor University, 2010

Richard D. Huff Distinguished Graduate Student, Baylor University, 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

“Conscience, Consent, and a Multiplicity of Factions: The Emergence of Disestablishment and Free Exercise in Colonial Law and Political Theology,” *Perspectives on Political Science* 52, no. 2 (2022): 53-66

“The Formation of Judicial Federalism in the United States,” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 48, no. 2 (2018): 269-291

“‘Who Would Be Free, Themselves Must Strike the Blow’: Revolt and Rhetoric in Douglass’s *Heroic Slave* and Melville’s *Benito Cereno*,” *Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy* 45, no. 1 (2018): 3-24

“Young Mr. Lincoln in Ford’s Theater,” *Perspectives on Political Science* 47, no. 2 (2018): 78-86

“Political Jurisprudence and the Role of the Supreme Court: Framing the Judicial Power in the Federal Convention of 1787,” *American Political Thought* 6, no. 2 (2017): 171-200

“Constitutional Text and Institutional Development: Contesting the Madisonian Compromise in the First Congress,” *American Political Thought* 5, no. 2 (2016): 219-249
Named Article of the Year by the American Political Thought section of the APSA

“Defending the Union: Andrew Jackson’s Nullification Proclamation and American Federalism,” *Review of Politics* 73, no. 2 (2011): 245-273

Chapters in Edited Volumes

“Who Will Teach the Teachers? Reforming Academic Disciplines for a Renaissance,” in *Liberal Education, Commerce, and the Public Good: Towards a Philosophically Informed School of Industry, Responsible Leadership, and Ethics*, ed. Constantine C. Vassiliou and Steven Pittz (Palgrave MacMillan, forthcoming)

“Modern Administration and the Integrity of the Article III Judicial Power,” in *Constitutionalism and Liberty: Essays in Honor of David K. Nichols*, ed. Jordan T. Cash and Anthony D. Bartl

(Lexington, 2025)

“Federalist Constitutionalism and Judicial Independence,” in *Readings in American Government*, 9th ed., ed. Mary P. Nichols and David K. Nichols (Kendall Hunt, 2013), 329-40

Essays and Op-Eds

“[Civic Virtue and Our Constitutional Inheritance](#),” *Deseret News*, September 26, 2025

“[An Inheritance for All Americans](#),” *Deseret News*, July 4, 2025

“[Protecting Religious Education from State Dependence](#),” *Deseret News*, April 30, 2025

“[American Students Need Civic Education](#),” with Robert John Burton, *Deseret News*, January 28, 2025

“[250 Years of American Union](#),” *Deseret News*, October 25, 2024

“[Barrett is Right: Immunity is the Wrong Framework in Trump v. U.S.](#)” *Law360*, October 9, 2024

“[Term Limits for SCOTUS Justices Would Bring Unexpected Consequences](#),” *The Hill*, September 8, 2024.

“[On Presidents Day, we celebrate the ones who made our union more perfect](#),” *Deseret News*, February 18, 2024

“[Celebrating America’s Constitutions](#),” *Deseret News*, September 13, 2023

“[Exorcising the Mobocratic Spirit](#),” *The Constitutionalist*, January 29, 2021

“[Don’t Pack the Court](#),” *San Antonio Express News*, October 7, 2020

Book Reviews

Review of *The Contested Removal Power, 1789-2010*, by J. David Alvis, Jeremy D. Bailey, and F. Flagg Taylor IV, *Political Science Quarterly* 129, no. 4 (2014): 738-39

Review of *Slavery in the American Republic: Developing the Federal Government, 1791-1861*, by David F. Ericson, *Kansas History* 36, no. 3 (2013): 210

Works in Progress

Creation of the Federal Courts: How the Framers of the Constitution Laid the Foundation for a Powerful Judiciary (book manuscript)

“Corporations and the Constitution of Civil Liberties” (article)

“Structural Federalism and the Non-Commandeering Doctrine” (article in development)

“The Swashbuckling Origins of the Federal Courts: The Case of the *Active*, the Federal Appellate Prize Court, and the Creation of Article III” (article in development)

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

“The Swashbuckling Origins of the Federal Courts: Article III and the Case of the Sloop *Active*,” The Quill Project, Pembroke College, Oxford University, July 30, 2025.

“Corporations and the Constitution of Civil Liberties,” Zavala Lecture Series, Baylor University, Waco, TX, Feb. 25, 2022

“The Supreme Court and the 1787 Constitutional Convention,” Constitution Week Keynote, Center for Constitutional Studies, Utah Valley University, Orem, Utah, Sept. 16, 2021

“The Case of the *Active*: Impressment, Mutiny, and the Seafaring Origins of the Federal Courts,” Constitution Day Lecture, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL, Sept. 15, 2017

“The Anti-Federal Origins of Judicial Federalism,” Brown Bag Lecture, Baylor University, Department of Political Science, Waco, TX, Sept. 23, 2015

“An Originalist Defense of Judicial Power,” Constitutional Day Lecture, Texas Lutheran University, Seguin, TX, Sept. 17, 2010

“The Constitutional Presidency,” Invited Lecture, Student Government Association, Pensacola State College, Pensacola, FL, Jan. 10, 2008

Civic Literacy and Teacher Equipping

Constitutional Literacy Institute, UVU Center for Constitutional Studies, June 23-27, 2023. Sessions on “Federalism Today” and the “Bill of Rights in the 20th Century”

On-Site Civics, UVU Center for Constitutional Studies, Jan. 21, 2025. Primary source workshop on natural rights and civic virtue in the Declaration of Independence.

Constitutional Literacy Institute, UVU Center for Constitutional Studies, June 24-28, 2023. Sessions on “Federalism at the Founding” and the “Bill of Rights”

Constitutional Literacy Institute, UVU Center for Constitutional Studies, June 27-July 1, 2022. Sessions on “Federalism at the Founding” and “Theories of Constitutional Interpretation”

Summer Teachers Academy, Founding Civics Initiative, Jack Miller Center, May 1, 2021. Academy for Florida high school teachers on constitutional rights. Edited a collection of

primary source readings and ran a live discussion session on the origins and development of the Second Amendment.

Summer Teachers Academy, Missouri Humanities Council and the Kinder Institute for the Study of Constitutional Democracy at the University of Missouri, June 22, 2021. Included a lecture and separate discussion session on changes to the Electoral College stemming from the 12th Amendment and the contested election of 1824.

Conference Papers

“Free Association and the Corporate Form in American Constitutional Development,” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX, Jan. 13, 2022

“Free Association and the Corporate Form,” Lincoln Symposium on American Political Thought, Jack Miller Center, Portland, Oregon, Oct. 23, 2021

“Free Association and the Corporate Form,” 7th Annual Shawnee Trail Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism, April 10, 2021

“Modern Administration and the Integrity of the Article III Judicial Power,” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Sept. 9-13, 2020

“Dissemination as a Component of Free Press: Censorship by Mail in the Ratification Debates,” with Rory Michael Vance (graduate student), Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Austin, TX, Jan. 17-19, 2019

“‘Who Would Be Free, Themselves Must Strike the Blow’: Revolt and Rhetoric in Douglass’s *Heroic Slave* and Melville’s *Benito Cereno*,” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, Jan. 4-6, 2018.

“The Judges’ Bill, Discretionary Jurisdiction, and the Rights Revolution,” Shawnee Trail Regional Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism, held in conjunction with the Southwestern Social Science Association, Austin, TX, April 13, 2017

“Anti-Federal Opposition and the Formation of Judicial Federalism,” Shawnee Trail Regional Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism, University of Missouri at Columbia, May 21-22, 2016

“Anti-Federal Opposition and the Formation of Judicial Federalism: A Case Study in the Politics of Partisan Entrenchment at the Founding,” Annual meeting of the Southwestern Political Science Association, Las Vegas, NV, March 24-26, 2016

“The Anti-Federalist Origins of Judicial Federalism,” Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, Sept. 3-6, 2015

“Certiorari, Incorporation, and the Role of the Supreme Court,” Annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, Nov. 13-15, 2014

“Constitutional Text as Determinant in the Development of the Federal Judiciary,” Annual meeting of the Southwest Social Science Association, San Antonio, April 16-19, 2014

“Constitutional Origins of the Federal Judiciary: An Exercise in Federalist Revisionism,” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 13, 2014

“Defending the Union: Andrew Jackson and American Federalism,” Annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, 2011

“*Young Mr. Lincoln* in Ford’s Theater: Greatness, Democracy, and the Rule of Law,” Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., 2011

“Reassessing the Institutional Role of Judicial Power in the Constitutional Order,” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2009

“Religious Toleration and Church Establishment in Colonial America,” Annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, 2008

“Statesmanship and Rhetoric: Persuasion in Aristotle’s Political Philosophy,” Annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, GA, 2006

“An Examination of Early Voting in the 2004 Presidential Election,” with Jocelyn Jones Evans, Annual meeting of the Florida Political Science Association, Tallahassee, FL, 2005

Colloquia, Panel Discussions, and Other Lectures

Panelist, Plenary Session, JMC National Summit on Civic Education, Union League of Philadelphia, November 15, 2024

Panelist, Future of American Higher Education, JMC and Bradley Foundation, Philadelphia, April 12-13, 2024

Participant, Inaugural AEI-JMC Policy Conference, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., March 14-16, 2019

Panelist, Alexis de Tocqueville on the Problems of Democracy in America, Alexander Hamilton Institute Conference, Baylor University, May 31-June 1, 2019

Panelist, “The U.S. Response to Election Meddling: Strengthening Institutions, Preserving Free Speech,” Panel on Russian Interference in the 2016 Election, UTSA Department of Political Science and Geography, Nov. 30, 2017

Presenter, Roundtable on Jeffrey Rosen’s *Louis D. Brandeis: American Prophet*, Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, April 6-9, 2017

Panelist, “The Future of the Supreme Court,” Faculty Panel Discussion on Forecasting the Trump Presidency, UTSA Dept. of Political Science and Geography, Center for Digital Politics Research, Jan. 19, 2017

Invited Talk, “What’s Our Best Response to 2016?” First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Mid-Week in the City Series, Nov. 2, 2016

Panelist, “Human Rights and the United Nations,” UTSA Faculty Panel Discussion, UTSA Model UN Society, April 10, 2015

Lecture, “Certiorari and the Role of the Supreme Court,” UTSA Department of Political Science and Geography Spring Lecture Series, Feb. 27, 2015

Keynote Speech, “A Socratic Perspective on Leadership and Success,” Induction Ceremony, UTSA Chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success, Dec. 6, 2014

Panelist, “The Future of Political Science: An Open Debate,” UTSA Department of Political Science and Geography Lecture Series Colloquium, April 17, 2014

Lecture, “Constitutional Text and Institutional Development: Madison and Ames’s Case for the Necessity of Inferior Courts in the First Congress,” UTSA Department of Political Science and Geography Fall Lecture Series, November 8, 2013

Panelist, “Race, Liberalism, and the Idea of America,” Colloquium on African American Political Thought, The Alexander Hamilton Institute, Clinton, NY, July 5-6, 2010

Panelist, “Contracts and the Constitution,” Constitution Day Panel, Baylor University, Sept. 17, 2009

Lecture, “The Seedbed of Religious Toleration in America,” Ph.D. Program Visitors’ Day, Department of Political Science, Baylor University, Feb. 23, 2008

Media Appearances

TV interview on leaked opinion in SCOTUS case, KSAT, San Antonio, TX, May 3, 2022

Radio interview on Prize Courts and the Origins of the Federal Courts, WAMC, New York Public Radio, September 13, 2017

Radio interview on Privateering and the Origins of the Federal Courts, WUWF, Pensacola, FL, September 11, 2017

Documentary Film on Justice John Marshall Harlan, NISD, San Antonio, Sept. 2017

Interview on the Electoral College, Evening News, KENS5 San Antonio, Nov. 10, 2016

Invited Expert on Constitutional Law, News 4 Town Hall on Abortion Law, Dec. 11, 2013

TEACHING

Utah Valley University

POLS 1000 American Heritage

POLS 1100 American National Government
CNST 3880 Constitutional History since 1896
CNST 4720 Foundations of American Constitutionalism (Oxford Study Abroad)
POLS 420R Special Topics: Jurisprudence
POLS 420R Topics: Rival Founders: Hamilton, Madison, Jefferson (w/ Bradford Wilson)
CNST 490R Topics: The Federalist Papers (w/ Bradford Wilson and Carson Holloway)
CGCL 6430 The Supreme Court (w/ Bradford Wilson)

Ashland University/Ashbrook Center, Masters of American History and Government

MAHG 643 Race and the 14th Amendment (with Elizabeth Amato)

University of Texas at San Antonio

POL 5503 Seminar: Law and Courts (Graduate)
POL 5203 Seminar: American Political Thought (Graduate)
POL 5213 Seminar: The American Presidency (Graduate)
POL/PAL/GLA 4973 Senior Seminar: Courts and Constitutional Politics
POL/PAL 4973 Senior Seminar: Constitutional Politics in the U.S.
POL/PAL 4973 Senior Seminar: The American Founding
PAL 4233 Federal Courts
POL 3583 Jurisprudence
POL 3323 Constitutional Law I: Institutions
POL 3333 Constitutional Law II: Rights & Liberties
PAL 3343 Constitutional Analysis
POL/PAL 3313 The Supreme Court
POL 3202 African American Political Thought
POL 3133 Political Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval
POL 3113 American Political Thought
POL 2503 Intro to Political Theory
POL 1013 Intro to American Politics

Baylor University

PSC 4V94 Slavery in American Political Development
PSC 4361 Constitutional Law I
PSC 4342 Public Policy and the Courts
PSC 3353 American Political Thought
PSC 3330 The American Presidency
PSC 3311 Moot Court
PSC 2302 American Constitutional Development
PSC 1305 American National Government
BIC 2340 Social World II

Theses Directed

MA Thesis, Rory Vance, "Free Press in American Political Development," 2018-present
BA Honors Thesis, "Death as Rightful Punishment: Examining Justifications of Capital

Punishment through Wordsworth's *Sonnets upon the Punishment of Death* and other Literature," 2019.

BA Honors Thesis, Elizabeth Hamilton, "Tribal Law and Violence Against Indigenous Women in the United States," 2018

BA Honors Thesis, David McClure, "The Lincoln-Douglas Debates and the Moral Foundations of the American Polity," 2018

BA Honors Thesis, Rory Vance, "Judicial Independence in China: The Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, and the Basic Law of the HKSAR," 2017

MA Thesis, Brendan Van Winkle, "Property Rights and the Takings Clause," 2017

Other Advising Activities

MA Thesis Committee Member, Javier Roman, Political Science, 2018-2019

MA Thesis Committee Member, Dagoberto Chavez, Political Science, 2017-2018

Faculty Mentor, UTSA Top Scholar Program, 2015-2016

MA Thesis Committee Member, Kevin Hernandez, Political Science, 2015-2016

MA Thesis Committee Chair, James Nelson, Political Science, 2014-2015

Advisor, Undergraduate Moot Court Program, Baylor University, 2009-2013

Faculty Partner, Campus Living and Learning, Baylor University 2009-2010

Faculty Participant, Honors Colloquium, Baylor Honors College, 2007-2008

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Department Service

Coordinator, BA in Politics and Law, DPSG, 2017-2022 (a relatively new and rapidly growing degree program with more than 200 majors)

Member, Search Committee for Tenure-track Position in Methodology, DPSG, 2019-2020

Chair, Academic Policy and Curriculum Committee, DPSG, 2017-present

Member, Graduate Program Committee, DPSG, Spring 2015-present

Member, Search Committee for Department Chair, DPSG, 2018-2019

Member, Search Committee for Department Chair, DPSG, 2017-2018

Faculty Library Liaison, DPSG, 2014-2017

Coordinator, Minor in Legal Studies, DPSG, 2014-2016

Member, Search Committee for Lecturer in Political Philosophy, DPSG, 2015

Member, Academic Policy and Curriculum Committee, DPSG, 2014-2017

Chair, Politics and Law BA Degree Proposal Committee (ad hoc), DPSG, 2014-2016

Member, Political Science BA Degree w/ SSTT Proposal Committee (ad hoc), DPSG, 2016

Member, By-laws Revision Committee (ad hoc), DPSG, 2014

University and College Service

Member, Graduate Council, UTSA, 2019-2021

Member, Academic Policy and Curriculum Committee, COLFA, 2017-present

Member, University Libraries Committee, UTSA, 2015-2017

Member, Pre-Law Council, College of Arts and Sciences, Baylor University, 2010-2011

Professional Service

Academic Advisory Council, Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History, 2023-present

Peer Reviewer, *The American Political Science Review*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *American Political Thought*; *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*

Panel Chair/Discussant, "O, Congress!" Annual meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association, Las Vegas, NV, March 24, 2016

Section Organizer, Judicial Politics Section, annual meeting of the Southwestern Political Science Association, Las Vegas, NV, March 24-26, 2016

Director, South Texas Region, American Collegiate Moot Court Association, 2012-2014

Panel Discussant, "The Constitutional Politics of Democracy in America," Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., Aug. 28-31, 2014

Panel Discussant, "Virtue and Happiness in American Literature," Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., Aug. 28-31, 2014

Panel Chair and Discussant, "Constitutional Politics and Constitutional Theory," Annual meeting of the Southwest Social Science Association, San Antonio, April 16-19, 2014

Panel Discussant, "Courts and Constitutional Orders," Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, August 30, 2013

Panel Discussant, "Ancient Themes in Modern Literature and Film," Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 12, 2013

Member-at-Large, Politics, Literature, and Film Section of the American Political Science Association, 2010

Editorial Intern, *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*, Martin J. Medhurst (ed.), 2008