

ROBERT JOHN BURTON

CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES
UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Utah Valley University

Director, Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative, Center for Constitutional Studies	2022 – present
Civic Research Fellow, Center for Constitutional Studies	2021 – 2022
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History and Political Science	2021 – 2022

University of Wisconsin – Madison, Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy

Menard Family Postdoctoral Fellow in Political Theory	2020 – 2021
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EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame

Ph.D. – Political Science (Constitutional Studies, Political Theory) <i>A Conscience Safe for Politics: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, and the Formation of the Modern Conscience</i> Committee: Michael P. Zuckert (chair), Patrick J. Deneen, Mary M. Keys, Vincent Phillip Muñoz	2020
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M.A. – Political Science, Fields: Constitutional Studies, Political Theory	2017
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Southern Virginia University

B.A. – Politics and English Literature, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	2013
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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Civic Education, American Constitutional Law, The First Amendment, Constitutional Theory and Interpretation, American Political Thought, Medieval & Early Modern Political Thought, Freedom of Religion & Conscience

PUBLICATIONS

“Animating the Public Spirit: Adam Smith on Conscience, Constitutions, and Civic Education,” *Political Science Reviewer*, vol. 47 no. 1 (2023).

“The State of Civics Education in Utah: A Report” (with Lisa R. Halverson and Glori H. Smith), *Center for Constitutional Studies*, Utah Valley University, April 2022.

“Constitutional Humility: The Contested Meaning of a Judicial Virtue” (with Zachary K. German), *American Political Thought*. Vol. 10, No. 2, Spring 2021.

“The Aim of Every Political Constitution: The Founders and the Election of Trump” (with Zachary K. German and Michael P. Zuckert), in *Trump and Political Philosophy: Patriotism, Cosmopolitanism, and Civic Virtue*. Eds. Mark Sable and Benjamin Torres. Palgrave, 2018.

“Humility, Hubris, and the Next Supreme Court Justice” (with Zachary K. German). *Starting Points: A Journal of*

American Principles and American Practices, March 20, 2017.

CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED (SELECTION)

Utah Valley University

- Edited Volume Workshop: “Schools of Democracy: American Federalism and Civic Education” Nov. 2023
Co-organized with Andrew Bibby (UVU). Contributors: Christina Bambrick (Notre Dame), Ann Bowman, (Texas A&M), John Dinan (Wake Forest), Joshua Dunn (UT-Knoxville), Sanford Kessler (NC-State), John Kincaid (Lafayette College), Michael Rebell (Columbia), Troy Smith (BYU-Hawaii), Kenneth Wong (Brown). Secured \$7,000 grant and \$5,000 book subvention from Jack Miller Center.
- CTLI Civic Educators Conference: “Civics in the Home: A Parent-Teacher Partnership” Oct. 2023
Keynote: Sharon McMahon (SharonSaysSo podcast). Panels on healing the parent-teacher divide, preparing the next generation of citizens and civic leaders, challenging civic conversations in the home, misinformation in a digital age, etc.
- CCS First Amendment Conference: "Tied in a Single Garment of Destiny" Feb. 2023
Contributors: Phillip Muñoz (Notre Dame), Tony Peacock (Utah State), Ralph Hancock (BYU), Leslie Griffin (UNLV Law), Daniel Benson (Becket Law), Jaqueline Rivers (Seymour Institute).
- Symposium: “Beyond Wealth and Nations: Adam Smith’s Moral, Religious, and Social Thought” Nov. 2022
Secured \$8,500 symposium grant, all papers published in the *Political Science Reviewer*.
- CTLI Civic Ed. Conference: “Bridging and Bonding: The Role of Teachers in Cultivating Citizenship” Oct. 2022
Keynote: Arthur Brooks (Harvard). Panels on teachers’ role in the development of social capital, lessons on civic friendship from John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, and communicating across political divides.

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Utah Valley University

- CNST 4720: Foundations of American Constitutionalism (Oxford University, study abroad) Summer 2024
 POLS 1000: American Heritage (every semester) Fall 2022 – Spring 2024
 POLS 490R: Civic Thought and Leadership (Oxford University, study abroad) Summer 2023
 POLS 420R: Tocqueville’s *Democracy in America* (original course) Summer 2023
 POLS 490R: Conscience from Aquinas to Madison (original course) Summer 2022
- Honors thesis advisor, Honors committee member, Integrated Studies thesis committee member 2022, 2023

University of Wisconsin – Madison

- PS 470: The First Amendment Spring 2021
 ILS 200: Critical Thinking and Expression: Arguments in Political Rhetoric Spring 2021
 PS 470: The First Amendment (original course) Fall 2020

University of Notre Dame

- Lecturer & Teaching Assistant, Liberalism and Conservatism (Dr. Patrick Deneen) Spring 2019
 Teaching Assistant, American Political Parties (Dr. Christina Wolbrecht) Fall 2016

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS & PUBLIC TALKS

- “Civic Virtue for Civic Educators” (public talk to civic educators) 2023
 Civic Literacy and Citizenship Symposium, Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy

“ <i>Carson v. Makin</i> : Church, State, and Religious Education” (panelist, UVU Ethics Awareness Week)	2022
“Civic Virtue and the American Founding” (public talk to civic educators) Civic Literacy and Citizenship Symposium, Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy	2022
“Animating the Public Spirit: Adam Smith on Conscience, Constitutions, and Civic Education” Mini-Conference on Adam Smith’s Moral, Religious, and Cultural Thought	2022
“Turmoil of a Solitary Walker: Rousseau’s Natural Conscience and Its Conflict with Politics” Midwest Political Science Association	2021
“Constitutional Humility: The Contested Meaning of a Judicial Virtue” American Political Science Association (w/ Zachary German)	2020
“Conscience: Its Epistemology and Freedom in Locke” (cancelled due to covid-19) Midwest Political Science Association	2020
“Aristotle and Madison on the Cause of Faction” Northeastern Political Science Association	2018
“The Aim of Every Political Constitution: The Founders and the Election of Trump” (w/ Michael Zuckert and Zachary German) American Political Science Association	2017
“Tocqueville, Religious Liberty, and the Nexus of Freedom” Henry Symposium (Calvin College)	2017
“Humility and Hubris in Constitutional Jurisprudence” (w/ Zachary German) Henry Symposium (Calvin College)	2017
“Division of Power: A New Theory of Church-State Relations in Democratic Regimes” Fondazione Marcianum (Venice, Italy)	2016
“Church-State Relations and the ‘Division of Powers’” Henry Symposium (Calvin College, MI)	2015

FUNDING, FELLOWSHIPS, & GRANTS

Secured \$2.125 million total ongoing legislative funding for Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative	2023
Secured \$875,000 one-time legislative funding for Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative	2023
Jack Miller Center workshop grant (\$7,000) and book subvention (\$5,000)	2023
Mercatus Center grant (\$8,500) for research workshop and special issue of <i>Political Science Reviewer</i> “Beyond Wealth and Nations: Adam Smith’s Moral, Religious, and Social Thought”	2022
James Buchanan Fellowship, Mercatus Center	2022
Sorin Fellow, De Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame	2019-2021
Summer Graduate Research Fellowship, Institute for Human Studies	2019
Hayek Fund for Scholars Award, Institute for Humane Studies	2018, 2015
Calihan Academic Grant, Acton Institute	2017
Calihan Travel Grant, Acton Institute	2016

INVITED COLLOQUIA

Institute for Humane Studies	Comparing Singularities: Social and Technological Disruptions	2021
Jack Miller Center	Fredrick Douglass and Lincoln, Visions of the Constitution	2020
Baylor University in D.C.	Robert P. George Religion and Public Life Seminar	2018
HIS & Liberty Fund	Advanced Topics: Liberty and Civil Society	2018

Jack Miller Center	JMC Summer Institute: American Constitutionalism	2017
IHS & Liberty Fund	Advanced Topics: The Federalist	2016
Villanova University School of Law	Libertas Project: Religious Freedom Workshop	2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, <i>University Press of Kansas, Jurisprudence</i>		
Editorial Intern, <i>American Political Thought: A Journal of Institutions and Culture</i>		2017 – 2018

ADDENDA

Languages:	Spanish (fluent speaking, proficient reading and writing), German (beginner speaking)
Memberships:	American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Northeastern Political Science Association, Canadian Political Science Association
Software:	Canvas, Blackboard Collaborate, Zoom, Teams, MS Office Suite

REFERENCES

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