

JENNIFER G. PITTS

[as of March 2016]

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Faculty Appointments

- 2007- Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago
Director of Graduate Studies, 2015-
2004-07 Assistant Professor of Politics, Princeton University
2000-04 Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yale University

Education

- 2000 Ph.D., Political Science, Harvard University (1994-2000)
"Nation, rights, and progress: the emergence of liberal imperialism, 1780-1850"
Committee: Richard Tuck (chair), Stanley Hoffmann, Pratap B. Mehta
1992 B.A., *summa cum laude*, English, Yale University

Publications

BOOKS

- 2005 *A Turn to Empire: the rise of imperial liberalism in Britain and France* (Princeton)
Co-winner of the 2006 Best First Book award, Foundations of Political Theory section,
American Political Science Association; A *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title
for 2005

French translation: *Naissance de la bonne conscience coloniale* (Paris: Éditions de
l'Atelier, 2008).

Chinese translation (Phoenix Library, 2009).

Arabic translation under contract as of 2014 (Dar Al-Jadawel)

- 2001 Editor and translator, *Alexis de Tocqueville: Writings on empire and slavery* (Johns
Hopkins).

- Co-ed., with David Armitage, C. H. Alexandrowicz, *The Law of Nations in Global
History* (Oxford University Press: under contract).

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2015 "Irony in Adam Smith's Critical Global History," *Political Theory* [available at
<http://ptx.sagepub.com/content/early/recent>]
2012 "Empire and legal universalisms in the eighteenth century," *American Historical
Review* 117.1 (February 2012), 92-121.
2011 with Stephen Engelmann, "Bentham's 'Place and Time'," *Tocqueville Review* 32.1
2009 "Liberalism and empire in a nineteenth-century Algerian mirror," *Modern Intellectual
History* 6.2, pp. 287-313
2003 "Legislator of the world? A rereading of Bentham on India," *Political Theory* 31.2,
200-234.

2000 "Liberalism and Empire: Tocqueville on Algeria," *Journal of Political Philosophy* 8.3, 295-318.

ESSAYS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- In press "International Law," in *Historicism and the human sciences in Victorian Britain*, ed. Mark Bevir (Cambridge UP, forthcoming)
- In press "Imperialism," in *Cambridge dictionary of political thought*, gen. ed. Terence Ball, (Cambridge UP, forthcoming) (1000 words)
- 2014 "Enlightenment Global Histories," *A Companion to global historical thought*, ed. Prasenjit Duara, Viren Murthy, and Andrew Sartori (Wiley-Blackwell)
- 2014 « Empire colonial et universalismes juridiques au dix-huitième siècle » *Penser l'Europe au XVIIIe siècle*, ed. Antoine Lilti and Céline Spector (Oxford: Voltaire Foundation) [a version of the 2012 *American Historical Review* article listed above]
- 2013 "Intervention and sovereign equality: legacies of Vattel," in *Just and Unjust Military Intervention*, ed. Stefano Recchia and Jennifer Welsh, Cambridge UP
- 2013 "Democracy and domination: Empire, slavery, and democratic corruption in Tocqueville's thought," in *Tocqueville and the frontiers of democracy*, ed. Ewa Atanassow and Richard Boyd, Cambridge UP
- 2012 "Republicanism, Liberalism, and Empire in Postrevolutionary France," in *Empire and Modern Political Thought*, ed. Sankar Muthu, Cambridge UP
- 2012 "Burke and the Ends of Empire," in *Cambridge Companion to Edmund Burke*, ed. Christopher Insole and David Dwan, Cambridge UP
- 2012 "Liberalism and Empire reconsidered," with Uday Mehta and Matthew Fitzpatrick, in *Liberal imperialism in Europe*, ed. Matthew P. Fitzpatrick (Palgrave Macmillan)
- 2011 "Empire, progress, and the 'savage mind'"; in *Colonialism and its Legacies*, ed. Jacob Levy and Iris Marion Young, Rowman and Littlefield
- 2010 "'Great and distant crimes': Bentham on Empire and International Law," *Bentham: Rethinking the Tradition*, ed. Stephen Engelmann, Yale UP
- 2010 "Political Theory and Empire," *Annual Review of Political Science* (reprinted in *Empire and Modern Political Thought*, ed. Sankar Muthu, Cambridge UP 2012)
- 2010 "Hobson's Imperialism: A Reconsideration," *Raritan*, vol 29.3, Winter 2010
- 2009 "Staat und colonialismus bei Bentham und Mill," *Vom Nutzen des Staates: Das Staatsverständnis des klassischen Utilitarismus Hume - Bentham - Mill*, ed. Olaf Asbach. Baden-Baden: Nomos-Verlagsgesellschaft
- 2009 "Constant's Thought on Empire and Slavery," in *The Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Constant*, ed. Helena Rosenblatt, Cambridge, pp. 115-45
- 2007 "Boundaries of Victorian International Law," in *Victorian Visions of Global Order*, Duncan Bell, ed. Cambridge, pp. 67-88
- 2007 "Liberalism, Democracy, and Empire: Tocqueville on Algeria"; in *Tocqueville Today?*, Raf Geenens and Annelien De Dijn, eds., Palgrave Macmillan
- 2005 "Jeremy Bentham: Legislator of the World?"; in *Utilitarianism and Empire*, Bart Schultz and Georgios Varouxakis, eds., Lexington Books, 57-91.
- 2005 "L'Empire britannique, un modèle pour l'Algérie française: Nation et civilisation chez Tocqueville et J.S. Mill," in *L'esclavage, la colonisation, et après... Etats-Unis, France, Royaume-Uni*, ed. Stéphane Dufoix, Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 55-81.
- 2004 "Edmund Burke's peculiar cosmopolitanism," *Diacritica* (Portugal) 18.2, 173-204.

BOOK REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

- 2015 “The critical history of international law,” review essay, *Political Theory* 43.4, 541-52. Reviewing Stephen Neff, *Justice Among Nations* (Harvard, 2014) and Teemu Ruskola, *Legal Orientalism: China, the United States, and Modern Law* (Harvard, 2013). Available at <http://ptx.sagepub.com/content/early/recent>
- 2013 Isaac Nakhimovsky, *The Closed Commercial State: Perpetual Peace and Commercial Society from Rousseau to Fichte* (Princeton, 2011), in *Perspectives on Politics* 11:273-75
- 2012 “A liberal geoculture?” Review of Immanuel Wallerstein, *The Modern World-System IV: Centrist Liberalism Triumphant, 1789-1914*, *New Left Review* 78 (Nov-Dec 2012)
- Spanish version: “¿Una geocultura liberal?”, *New Left Review* 78 (Enero-Febrero 2013), 147-56
- 2012 “Sovereignty, governance, law and liberalism in recent works on the East India Company,” review essay, *Radical History Review* 112 (Winter 2012), 193-200
- 2012 Theodore Koditschek, *Liberalism, Imperialism, and the Historical Imagination: Nineteenth-Century Visions of a Greater Britain* (Cambridge UP, 2011), *American Historical Review* (June 2012), 933-34.
- 2011 Domenico Losurdo, *Liberalism: A Counter-History*, *Times Literary Supplement*, Sept. 23, 2011
- 2010 Patrick Weil, *How to be French: Nationality in the Making since 1789*, Duke 2008, in *American Historical Review* 115, April 2010, 621-22
- 2010 Frederick Whelan, *Enlightenment Political Thought and Non-Western Societies: Sultans and Savages*, Routledge 2009, in *Perspectives on Politics* 8:352-53.
- 2010 Aurelian Craiutu and Jeremy Jennings eds., *Tocqueville on America after 1840*, Cambridge 2008, on H-France (<http://www.h-france.net/vol10reviews/vol10no16pitts.pdf>)
- 2005 Jeanne Morefield, *Covenants without Swords*, Princeton 2004, in *Perspectives on Politics*
- 2005 Martin Staum, *Labeling People: French Scholars on Society, Race, and Empire 1815-1848*, McGill-Queen’s 2003, in *Journal of Modern History*
- 2005 Georgios Varouxakis, *Victorian Political Thought on France and the French* Palgrave 2002, in *Nations and Nationalism*
- 2003 Cheryl Welch, *De Tocqueville* (Oxford UP, 2001), in *French Politics, Culture, and Society*
- 2002 Bruce Baum, *Rereading Power and Freedom in J.S. Mill* (U of Toronto Press, 2000), in *Political Theory* 30.2

Media

- 2015 Participant on radio roundtable on Edmund Burke, “Talking History,” (Ireland), https://www.newstalk.com/podcasts/Talking_History/Highlights_from_Talking_History/117146/Was_Edmund_Burke_Irelands_greatest_thinker

Fellowships, Visiting Appointments, and Honors

- 2011 Professeur invité, Ecole des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales
- 2006-07 Institute for Advanced Study, Member in Social Science
- 2006 Co-winner of the Best First Book award, Foundations of Political Theory, APSA
- 2003-04 John K. Castle Scholar of Ethics in Political Science, Yale University
- 2003-04 Junior Faculty Fellowship, Yale University, (competitive fellowship for year’s leave)
- 2003-04 Visiting research associate, Center for Human Values, Princeton University,

- 2000 Best paper, Foundations of Political Theory, APSA (for “Legislator of the World? A rereading of Bentham on India”)
 2000 Chase Dissertation Prize, Department of Government, Harvard University
 1998-99 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 1998-1999
 1998 Mellon Dissertation Writing Fellowship, summer
 1994-98 Jacob K. Javits Fellowship,
 1994-95 John Montgomery Prize Fellow in Government, Harvard University,
 1992 John Hersey Prize, the top journalism prize in Yale College

Invited Lectures

- 2016 Nicholson Center for British Studies faculty lecture (April 21, 2016)
 2016 Egger Lecture in Political Theory, University of Virginia (March 18, 2016)
 2015 “Empires and the law of nations: a contribution to the critical history of international law,” Princeton University (October 28)
 2014 “Global history as political thought: Irony in the *Wealth of Nations*,” Keynote lecture, London Graduate Conference in the History of Political Thought
 2011-15 “Cambridge School/Skinnerian Discourse Analysis”: Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse University
 2011 “Le mondiale dans la pensée historique du siècle des lumières/The global in Enlightenment historical thought,” CERI-CNRS, Sciences Po, Paris [http://www.ceri-sciencespo.com/publica/critique/art_jp.pdf]
 2009 “Democracy and Domination: Empire, Slavery, and Democratic Corruption in Tocqueville’s Thought,” University of Richmond Tocqueville Symposium
 2009 Keynote lecture, Biennial conference of Australian Association of European Historians, Adelaide
 2009 “*Europe, Empire, and the Boundaries of the International*,” University of Sydney
 2008 “The Rise of Imperial Liberalism,” Keynote lecture, “Imperium and Liberal Values,” Free University of Bolzano, Italy. Also Midwest Faculty Seminar, University of Chicago (31 October 2008).
 2008 “Les penseurs libéraux et la question impériale.” Harper Lecture, University of Chicago Center in Paris; additional talks in Dijon, Grenoble, Poitiers, Université de Nanterre, Sorbonne
 2005 “Empire and Democratic Anxiety in Victorian Britain,” University of Chicago Nicholson Center for British Studies

Invited Talks and Workshops

- 2016 University of Toronto, Critical Analysis of Law workshop (March 1: “The turn to of positivism in international law? Vattel and his nineteenth-century reception”)
 2016 Boston University, Elizabeth Battelle Clark Legal History Series, co-presentation with David Armitage (February 11: “The law of nations in global history: an introduction to the thought of Charles Henry Alexandrowicz”)
 2016 Loyola University International Law Colloquium (February 10)
 2015 Harvard International and Global History Seminar (October 21)
 2015 University of Wisconsin—Madison, political theory workshop (February 27)
 2015 Brown University Political Philosophy workshop (February 19)
 2014 Texas A&M political theory workshop (December 6: “Oriental despotism and the law of nations”)
 2014 Princeton University PEPA seminar (September 18: Global history as political thought: irony in the *Wealth of Nations*)

- 2014 University of Minnesota political theory workshop (May 2: "Global history as political thought: irony in the *Wealth of Nations*)
- 2013 U.C. Davis speaker series on "The Scottish Enlightenment in Scotland and Abroad": ("The Global in Enlightenment Historical Thought")
- 2013 Harvard Political Theory Colloquium ("The Global in Enlightenment Historical Thought")
- 2012 Indiana University, Bloomington ("Universality and the European law of nations in the eighteenth century")
- 2012 Vanderbilt University, Political theory workshop
- 2011 McGill, Montreal, Political theory workshop/GRIPP
- 2011 Georgetown University, Political theory proseminar ("Political theory and empire")
- 2011 University of Cambridge, Political thought seminar
- 2011 Sorbonne (Paris-IV), Franco-British history seminar
- 2011 Northwestern University, Political theory workshop
- 2011 Washington University, St. Louis, Political theory workshop
- 2009 Stanford University, Political theory workshop
- 2009 Yale University, Seminar on Transitions to Modernity
- 2009 Columbia University, Seminar on Modern Europe
- 2008 New York University, Remarque Institute seminar
- 2007 University of California, San Diego political theory workshop
- 2006 French Studies Seminar, National Humanities Center, North Carolina
- 2006 University of London
- 2005 Brown University, Political Theory Colloquium
- 2004 Columbia University, Seminar in Social and Political Thought
- 2003 Harvard University, Political Theory Colloquium

Conference Papers

- 2015 "The turn to of positivism in international law," presented at the APSA annual meeting, San Francisco, September
- 2015 "Oriental despotism and the law of nations," International Congress for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 27-31 July 2015; also presented at "East and West: Traditions of Representation," University of Chicago, December 2015
- 2013 "Global history, judgment, and irony in the *Wealth of Nations*," presented at the APSA annual meeting, Chicago, August 2013
- 2013 "Historicism in Victorian International Law," presented at Historicism in the human sciences in Victorian Britain," U.C. Berkeley, 6-7 May 2013
- 2011 "In Europe but not of it? The Ottoman Empire and the Law of Nations," presented at "International Law and Empire," University of Helsinki, 4-6 October 2011
- 2010 "Empire and legal universalism in the 18th century," presented at "Making the British Empire, 1660-1800, University College London, March 2010; also presented at "International Law and World Order," University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, April 2010

- 2009 "Sovereignty and intervention in Wolff and Vattel," presented at "The Ethics of Military Intervention" Columbia University, September 2009.
- 2007 "Legal Pluralism and Burke's Law of Nations," presented at "Edmund Burke and the Business of Affection," Oxford University. Also presented at APSA annual meeting, Chicago.
- 2007 "Nationality and Empire in Nineteenth-Century French Liberalism," Presented at *"From Early-Modern to Modern Empire and from Empire to Nation-State"*, UCLA and Clark Memorial Library. Also presented at Oxford-Princeton workshop on international relations, Princeton.
- 2006 " 'Great and Distant Crimes': Bentham on Empire and International Law," presented at "Lineages of Empire," British Academy, London.
- 2006 "Le libéralisme et la suprématie européenne," Conference on C.A. Bayly's *Empire in the Modern World*, organized by *Le Monde Diplomatique*, UNESCO, Paris.
- 2006 "Barbarism and civilization, Islam, and international law: Nineteenth-century debates," presented at "What Is "Civilization," United Nations Alliance of Civilizations initiative, New York
- 2006 "Ancient Empires, Modern Empires: Rome and imperialism in 19th-century British thought"; presented at "Imperial Republics? Ancient Rome and the USA," Princeton University.
- 2005 'Liberalism, Democracy, and Empire: Tocqueville on Algeria'; presented at "Destined to democracy? Tocqueville 1805-2005," UCSIA, Antwerp.
- 2004 "Boundaries of Victorian International Law." American Political Science Association (APSA) annual meeting, Chicago, September 2-5, 2004. Cambridge University conference on *Victorian Visions of Global Order*.
- 2004 "Progress and Empire: Enlightened histories, 'backwardness', and colonial rule." Conference for the Study of Political Thought annual meeting, Chicago, April 2004.
- 2003 Respondent to lecture by Frederick Whelan. Conference on Edmund Burke, The Edmund Burke Society of America, Washington, DC, November 21-22, 2003.
- 2003 "This map of misgovernment: Edmund Burke's cosmopolitanism" (Towards Cosmopolitan Citizenship? Arrabida, Portugal, October 12-13, 2003).
- 2003 "'The stronger ties of humanity': Humanitarian intervention in the eighteenth century" (APSA, Philadelphia; and International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS) meeting, Los Angeles)
- 2002 "Empire and social criticism: Burke, Mill, and the abuse of colonial power" (APSA)

- 2002 "Legislator of the world? A rereading of Bentham on Empire." (University of Chicago political theory workshop, May 13, 2002; APSA meeting, Washington, D.C., 2000)
- 2002 "Empire, rights, and democratic exclusion in Tocqueville," (University of California at Los Angeles, Center for 17th and 18th century studies *History, Theory, and the Subject of Rights, ca. 1640–1848*)
- 2001 "Tocqueville, J.S. Mill, and the British Empire as a model for French Algeria." ("The legacies of colonization and decolonization on the integration of migrants in Europe and the Americas', Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris)
- 2000 "Progress and pluralism in the age of empire" (Yale Political Theory Workshop; also presented at APSA, Washington, D.C.)
- 2000 "From conjectural history to the march of civilization: the transformation of 'progress' in the age of empire" (International Society for the Study of European Ideas, Bergen, Norway)
- 1999 "Liberalism and Empire: Tocqueville on Algeria" (APSA)
- 1998 "Nation and empire: Constant, Tocqueville and the liberal *volte-face*'. Presented at "Europe and Empire," Harvard University

Discussant and Roundtable Participant

- Discussant, "The view from the provinces: Empire in contexts," APSA, San Francisco 2015
- Participant, Panel on the work of Carlo Ginsburg, Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago, December 2, 2015
- Discussant, Panel on "Sociability and its Discontents," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2012
- Presenter, "Roundtable on Imperialism/Colonialism and Political Theory: Taking Stock," APSA 2011, Seattle
- Presenter, Panel on John McCormick's *Machiavellian Democracy*, University of Chicago Center in Paris, March 2011
- Presenter, "New Directions in Eighteenth-Century Studies," Lewis Walpole Library, October 2009
- "Tocqueville on America after 1840," APSA meeting, Toronto 2009
- "Tocqueville and the Frontiers of Democracy," University of Chicago, 2/5/09
- J.G.A. Pocock's "Historiography and Political Thought," Nicholson Center for British Studies, University of Chicago conference, 12/05/08
- "Tocqueville and the Intellectual Origins of French Liberalism," APSA meeting, Boston 2008
- "Pluralism Before Pluralism," APSA meeting, Boston 2008
- "Law in 18th Century European International Political Thought," Commemorative Conference on Alberico Gentili, New York University Law School, 3/13-15/08
- "Bentham in the World," Centre for History and Economics, Harvard University, 6/5/06
- "Genealogies of Empire," APSA meeting, Washington, DC, 2005
- "Radical reinterpretations of Tocqueville," APSA meeting, Philadelphia 2003

“Sites of Comparison: Empire and Encounter in Modern Political Thought,” APSA meeting, Boston, 2002

“Tocqueville on Democracy,” APSA meeting, San Francisco, 2001

Conference Organizer

- 2015 “East and West: Traditions of Representation,” a joint University of Chicago-Collège de France conference, Chicago, December 4-5
- 2015 “New Directions in Global History: Rethinking Scale and Temporality,” University of Chicago, April 9
- 1998 “Europe and Empire: encounters, transformations, legacies,” graduate student conference, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University (October 1998)

Professional Affiliations and Participation

- 2009- Member, Editorial Board, *Ideas in Context* Series, Cambridge University Press
- 2013- Trustee, Toynbee Prize Foundation
- 2009- Member, Conseil scientifique, *Critique internationale*, Presses de Sciences po
- 2008-09 Chair of Walter Lippincott Award Committee, APSA
- 2007- Member of the executive committee, Conference for the Study of Political Thought
- 2007- Editorial Advisory Board, *Studies in Burke and his Time*
- 2006-07 Member of David Easton Award Committee, APSA, Foundations of Political Theory
- 2006 Advisory Committee, John Stuart Mill Bicentennial Conference, 1806-2006, University College London

Member: American Political Science Association, Conference for the Study of Political Thought, American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy

Referee: Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, *American Political Science Review*, *Political Theory*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of British Studies*, *Modern Intellectual History*, *Review of Politics*, *Constellations*, *Histoire sociale/Social History*

At the University of Chicago:

- 2008- Human Rights Program
- 2008- Senior Fellow, Society of Fellows
- 2010-14 Franke Institute for the Humanities
- 2007-14 Nicholson Center for British Studies
- 2008-12 Women’s Leadership Council
- 2009-11 Program on Language, History, and Political Theory
- 2008-11 College Council