

# William J. Berger

## PhD, Political Science

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Political Economy & Moral Science,  
**University of Arizona** 2021 – present

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Philosophy, Politics & Economics  
**University of Pennsylvania** 2017 – 2021

Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Complex Systems,  
**University of Michigan** 2015 – 2017

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, **University of Michigan** August 2015  
Thesis Title: *Affective Trust and the Role of Social Norms in Constructing Faith in Others*.  
Committee: Don Herzog (*chair*), Arlene Saxonhouse, Jenna Bednar, and Elizabeth Anderson (outside).

A.B., Religious Studies, **The University of Chicago** June 2005  
Thesis Title: *The Role of God in the Covenant Tradition of 17<sup>th</sup> Century England*  
Advisor: Jean B. Elshtain

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political and social epistemology, political psychology, democratic theory, epistemic democracy, experimental philosophy.

PUBLISHED  
PAPERS

- Berger, William J., and Adam Sales. "Testing Epistemic Democracy's Majority Rule Results." *Philosophy, Politics, and Economics*, 19:1 (2020).
- Berger, William J. "A Sympathetic Reading of Emerson's Politics." *Humanitas*, 32:1 (2019).
- Berger, William J. "Deconstructing Batman's Legitimacy: The Radical Political Critique of Christopher Nolan's Batman Cycle." In *Politics in Gotham: The Batman Universe and Political Thought*, edited by Damien Picariello. Palgrave Macmillan, (2019): 57-74.
- Berger, William J. Review of *Jane Austen, Game Theorist*, by Michael Suk-Young Chwe. *Journal of Politics* 76.03 (2014).
- Berger, William J. Review of *Meeting at Grand Central Station: Understanding the Social and Evolutionary Roots of Cooperation*, by Lee Cronk and Beth Leech. *Journal of Politics*, 76.03 (2014).

CSPL PAPERS

- Berger, William J., Daniel J. Singer, Aaron Bramson, Patrick Grim, Jiin Jung, and Bennett Holman "Philosophical Considerations of Political Polarization." In *The Political Turn in Analytic Philosophy: Reflections on Social Injustice and Oppression*. Edited by David Bordonaba and Vctor Castro. De Gruyter, (forthcoming).
- Singer, Daniel J., Patrick Grim, Aaron Bramson, Bennett Holman, Jiin Jung, and William J. Berger. "Epistemic Networks and Polarization." In *The Routledge Handbook of Political Epistemology*. Edited by Michael Hannon, Jeroen de Ridder. Routledge, (2021):133-144.
- Grim, Patrick, Aaron Bramson, Daniel J. Singer, William J. Berger, Jiin Jung, and Scott Page. "Representation in Models of Epistemic Democracy." *Episteme*, 17.4 (2020): 498-518.
- Singer, Daniel J., Aaron Bramson, Patrick Grim, Bennett Holman, Keren Kovaka, Jiin Jung, and William J. Berger. "Don't Forget Forgetting: The Social Epistemic Importance of How We Forget." *Synthese*, (2019).
- Grim, Patrick, Daniel J. Singer, Aaron Bramson, Bennett Holman, Sean McGeehan and William J. Berger. "Diversity, Ability, and Expertise in Epistemic Communities." *Philosophy of Science*, 86.1 (2019): 98 – 123.
- Jung, Jiin, Patrick Grim, Daniel J. Singer, Aaron Bramson, William J. Berger, Bennet Holman, and Karen Kovaka. "A Multidisciplinary Understanding of Polarization." *American Psychologist*, 74.3 (2019): 301–314.
- Singer, Daniel J., Aaron Bramson, Patrick Grim, Bennett Holman, Jiin Jung, Karen Kovaka, Anika Ranganani, and William J. Berger. "Rational Social and Political Polarization." *Philosophical Studies*, 176.9 (2018): 2243–2267.
- Holman, Bennett, William J. Berger, Daniel J. Singer, Patrick Grim, and Aaron Bramson. "Diversity and Democracy – Agent Based Modeling in Political Philosophy." *Historical Social Research*, 43.1 (2018): 259-278.
- Bramson, Aaron, Patrick Grim, Daniel J. Singer, William J. Berger, Graham Sack, Steven Fisher, Carissa Flocken, and Bennett Holman. "Understanding Polarization: Meanings, Measures, and Model Evaluation." *Philosophy of Science*, 84.01 (2017): 115-159.

CSPL PAPERS CONT.	<p>Bramson, Aaron, Patrick Grim, Daniel J. Singer, Steven Fisher, William J. Berger, Graham Sack, and Carissa Flocken. "Disambiguation of Social Polarization Concepts and Measures" <i>The Journal of Mathematical Sociology</i> 40.02 (2016).</p> <p>Grim, Patrick, Daniel J. Singer, Steven Fisher, Aaron Bramson, William J. Berger, and Carissa Flocken. "Philosophical Analysis in Modeling Polarization: Notes from Work in Progress." In <i>Complexity and the Human Experience: Modeling Complexity in the Humanities and Social Sciences</i>, edited by Paul A. Youngman and Mirsad Hadzikadic. Singapore: Pan Stanford Press, (2014): 11-38.</p> <p>Grim, Patrick, Daniel J. Singer, Steven Fisher, Aaron Bramson, William Berger, Christopher Reade, Carissa Flocken, and Adam Sales. "Scientific Networks on Data Landscapes: Question Difficulty, Epistemic Success, and Convergence." <i>Episteme</i> 10.04 (2013): 441-464.</p> <p>Grim, Patrick, Bramson, Aaron; Singer, Daniel; Fisher, Steven; Flocken, Carissa; and William Berger. "Conceptual Analysis in Modeling Polarization: Notes from a Work in Progress." <i>APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Computers</i> 12.01 (2012): 7.</p>												
NON-ACADEMIC	<p>Berger, William J., and Konrad Dabrowski, Jake Robinson, and Adam Sales, "A Statistical Approach to Batched Prevalence Testing for Coronavirus" (March 30, 2020). Available at SSRN: <a href="https://ssrn.com/abstract=3564340">https://ssrn.com/abstract=3564340</a></p> <p>Berger, William J., Conor Carroll, Hanh La, Katherina M. Rosqueta. "We the People: A Philanthropic Guide to Strengthening Democracy." <i>Center for High Impact Philanthropy at the University of Pennsylvania</i>, (2019)</p> <p>Steinberg, Gerald, and William Berger. "Evaluating International Approaches to Security and Aid Following Disengagement in Gaza." <i>JCPA Viewpoints</i>, December, (2004).</p>												
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>Post-Doc, <b>University of Pennsylvania</b>,</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 40px;">PPE 481: Trust and Cooperation,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2020, 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PPE 481: Theo. and Emp. Approaches to Inequality in Political Life,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PPE 402: Research Practicum,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2018-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PLSC 181: Introduction to Modern Political Thought,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PPE 473: Quantitative Models Across PPE,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2017-18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BDS 517: Trust and Uncertainties,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2018</td> </tr> </table>	PPE 481: Trust and Cooperation,	2020, 2021	PPE 481: Theo. and Emp. Approaches to Inequality in Political Life,	2019	PPE 402: Research Practicum,	2018-21	PLSC 181: Introduction to Modern Political Thought,	2018	PPE 473: Quantitative Models Across PPE,	2017-18	BDS 517: Trust and Uncertainties,	2018
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PPE 473: Quantitative Models Across PPE,	2017-18												
BDS 517: Trust and Uncertainties,	2018												
WORKING GROUP AFFILIATION	<b>Behavioral Ethics Lab, PPE Society, Computational Social Philosophy Lab.</b>												
SKILLS	R, Netlogo, Excel, Hebrew ( <i>proficient</i> ), Arabic ( <i>intermediate</i> ).												
REFERENCES	Available upon request												