

YUNA BLAJER DE LA GARZA

Department of Political Science
Loyola University Chicago
1032 W. Sheridan Road, Coffey Hall 336
Chicago, IL 60660

www.yunablajer.com
yblajer@luc.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Loyola University Chicago

2021–present Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

Stanford University

2019–2021 General Ethics Postdoctoral Fellow, McCoy Center for Ethics in Society

The University of Chicago

2017–2019 Preceptor, Committee on International Relations (CIR)

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago

2019 Ph.D., Department of Political Science
Qualifying Exams: Political Theory and Comparative Politics (honors)

2011 M.A. *with honors*, Committee on International Relations (CIR)

El Colegio de México, Mexico City

2010 B.A. (Licenciatura) in International Relations
Including a semester abroad at Sciences-Po, Paris

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED

Forthcoming, “Conceptualizing Belonging for Democratic Theory,” *Journal of Politics*,
<https://doi.org/10.1086/723980>

2022. “The Meek and the Mighty: Two Models of Oppression,” *European Journal of Political Theory* 21(3): 491-513, doi.org/10.1177/1474885120916331.

* Winner of the [Carlo Argenton Memorial Prize](#) for the best research article of 2022 in the *EJPT*

2021. “Vulnerability, Due Process, and Reform in Modern Mexico.” With Milena Ang. *Constitutional Political Economy* 32: 346-375, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10602-020-09305-7>.

2019. “Leaving your Car with Strangers: Informal Car Parkers and Improbable Trust in Mexico City” – *Politics & Society* 47(3): 361-394, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0032329219847305>.

BOOK CHAPTERS, ESSAYS, & BOOK REVIEWS

Forthcoming. “At the Mercy of Predatory Corruption: Women in Mexico’s Prisons” (with Milena Ang), *Handbook on Gender and Corruption in Democracies*, edited by Tiffany Barnes and Emily Bacchus. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.

2022. “Why You’re Doing This: Sustaining Joy and Inspiration in the Scholarly Vocation.” With Patrick J. Egan and Sarah Shugars, 419-423. In *Strategies for Navigating Graduate School and Beyond*. Ed. by Kevin G. Lorentz II et al., Washington: APSA.

2019. Book Review of Bernardo Zacka’s *When the State Meets the Street*, in *Contemporary Political Theory*, 18 (March 2019): 16-19, <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41296-017-0189-9>.

2012. “Del diálogo y el Centro de Estudios Internacionales.” In *El Centro de Estudios Internacionales de El Colegio de México: 50 años de investigación y docencia*. Ed. by Gustavo Vega and Humberto Garza. Mexico: El Colegio de México, 575-580.

WORK IN PROGRESS

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

A House is not a Home: Citizenship and Belonging in Contemporary Democracies.

Book manuscript workshop held January, 2021. Comments by: Elizabeth Anderson, Elizabeth Cohen, David Laitin, Anna Stilz, and Bernardo Zacka.

ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

“Training for Democracy: Local Democratic Deliberation in Paris,” *under review*

“Unequal Belonging and Undermined Freedom,” *draft*

“Against Purity,” *draft*

“Contestatory Citizenry and Privilege: Unequal Civic Virtue,” *early draft*

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023 – 2026	Co-PI, “Speak Up Democracy,” Knowledge for Freedom Initiative, Teagle Foundation (\$300,000)
2023	Nominations for the St. Ignatius of Loyola Award for Teaching Excellence and the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Teaching Freshmen at Loyola (decisions pending)
2022	Carlo Argenton Memorial Prize for the Best Research Article in 2022 in the <i>EJPT</i>
2021	Spotlight Scholar, Interpretive Methodologies and Methods, APSA section
2018	Pozen Center for Human Rights Lectureship, University of Chicago
2017 – 2018	Social Sciences Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago (declined)
2017	Grodzins Prize Lectureship, Department of Political Science
2016	Wayne C. Booth Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Teaching, UChicago
2015 – 2016	Research Grant, Social Sciences Division, The University of Chicago (\$5,000)
2012 – 2017	Five-Year Doctoral Fellowship, The University of Chicago
2012 – 2016	Four-Year Doctoral Fellowship, CONACYT, Mexico City
2010 – 2011	The University of Chicago, partial merit scholarship for MA studies
2004 – 2008	Five semesters of academic excellence scholarship (awarded to top three students), El Colegio de México, Mexico City

SELECTED TALKS AND CONFERENCES

- 2023 APSA. Panelist and chair, Los Angeles (scheduled)
- 2022 WPSA. Panelist, discussant (x2), and chair, Portland.
Maryland Carey Law “Schmooze” on Citizenship.
MPSA. Panelist (x2), discussant (x2), and chair, Chicago.
WPSA Virtual Community. Present. Zoom.
Manchester Center for Political Theory Workshop, MANCEPT. Panelist.
APSA. Panelist + Mini-Course on Interpretivism and Political Theory. Montreal.
APT. Panelist. Houston
- 2021 Western Political Science Association, Zoom. Presenter and discussant.
The Venice World Multidisciplinary Conference on Republics and Republicanism, Zoom.
Northwestern University, “Up the Street” Political Theory Workshop, Evanston.
Minnesota International Relations Colloquium, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities:
“Interpretivism in Political Science, Roundtable,” Zoom. Panelist.
- 2020 Western Political Science Association, Zoom. Presenter, chair, and discussant.
Deep Structures of Democracy, University College, Dublin (postponed due to COVID).
American Political Science Association, Zoom.
- 2019 Western Political Science Association, San Diego. Presenter.
American Political Science Association, Washington DC. Presenter.
Association for Political Theory, Irvine. Presenter.
- 2018 Western Political Science Association, San Francisco. Presenter.
Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago. Presenter.
Duke Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Durham. Presenter.
- 2017 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago (with Milena Ang). Presenter.
Western Political Science Association, Vancouver, Canada. Presenter.
Punishment and Its Discontents, Northwestern University, Evanston (with Milena Ang).
American Political Science Association, (APSA), San Francisco (with Milena Ang). Presenter.
Graduate Conference in Public Law, University of Texas, at Austin. Presenter.

IN-RESIDENCE CAMPUS TALKS

Stanford University

- 2021 Women in Politics, short talk for undergraduate association
- 2021 Center for Ethics in Society, twice
- 2020 Political Theory Workshop & Center for Ethics in Society workshop, twice
- 2019 Center for Ethics in Society workshop

The University of Chicago

- 2018 Political Theory & Comparative Politics workshops
Defending Human Rights in Times of Constitutional Crisis (with Milena Ang)
- 2017 Migration and Incorporation Workshop; Latin America and the Caribbean
Workshop; Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries (co-organizer and presenter); Politics,
History, and Society Workshop (with Milena Ang); Comparative Politics Workshop
- 2015 Political Theory Workshop

TEACHING

INSTRUCTOR, UNDERGRADUATES

Loyola University Chicago

Introduction to Political Theory, several times each year

Contemporary Political Thought, Fall 2021

Global Justice, Spring 2022

Stanford University

Introduction to Global Justice, Winter 2020 and 2021

On Condoned Violence: from Punishment to Pleasure, Winter 2021

The University of Chicago

A Right to Belong? Spring 2018

On Condoned Violence: from Punishment to Pleasure, Winter 2017

Classics of Social and Political Thought III, Spring 2016

Classics of Social and Political Thought II (two sections), Winter 2016

INSTRUCTOR, MASTER STUDENTS

Loyola University Chicago

Political Ethics (Spring 2023)

The University of Chicago, Committee on International Relations (CIR)

Perspectives in International Relations (Methods course), co-taught, Fall 2017 and 2018

TEACHING ASSISTANT

The University of Chicago

Machiavelli's Political Thought, with John P. McCormick, Spring 2019 and Winter 2014

Classics of Social and Political Thought III, with Patchen Markell, Spring 2015

Classics of Social and Political Thought II, with John P. McCormick, Winter 2015

Introduction to Comparative Politics, with Monika Nalepa, Winter 2015

Classics of Social and Political Thought I, with John L. Martin, Fall 2014

OTHER TEACHING

Lead Faculty and Co-PI, 2023 – present

Co-PI and lead faculty for [Speak Up Democracy](#) an intensive summer program in the liberal arts for rising seniors from Chicago Public Schools, supported by the Teagle Foundation.

Faculty Advisor, 2022 - present

Faculty advisor of the “Political Discourse Club” at Loyola, a student organization.

APSA Short-Course, Fall 2022

One of two presenters in a short course on “Ethnographic Methods in the Study of Belonging and Migration,” speaking about Political Theory and Ethnographic Methods.

Hope House, Residential Program, Spring 2020

Philosophy and Food, at Hope House, a residential alcohol and drug treatment program for women released from the San Mateo County Women's Correctional Center, California.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2023 – 2026 Executive Committee, Interpretive Methods and Methodologies, APSA (invited)
 2023 – 2026 Co-PI, Speak Up Democracy, summer program for rising seniors from Chicago Public High Schools
 2023 Hayward R. Alker Award, Interpretive Methodologies. Award Committee member
 2022 – 2023 MPSA 2023, Section Chair, Foundations of Political Theory
 2021 – present Co-Chair of the Political Theory Virtual Community at WPSA
 2021 – 2022 Political Science Representative, Academic Council, Loyola University Chicago
 2021 Discussant for the Political Theory Workshop, Stanford
 2020 Selection Committee, Junior Scholars Workshop, Center for Ethics, Stanford
 2017 – 2019 Admissions Committee, Committee on International Relations, UChicago
 2017 – 2018 Comparative Politics Workshop, Graduate Student Coordinator
 2013 – 2019 Workshop discussant: Political Theory; Comparative Politics; Latin America and the Caribbean; and Money, Markets and Governance
 2017 – 2018 Co-creator of “Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries,” a conference convening doctoral students and faculty across the Social Sciences Division at UChicago
 2016 – 2017 Dean’s Advisory Council, Division of the Social Sciences, UChicago
 2016 – 2017 College's Fulbright Grant On-Campus Interview Process Committee, UChicago
 2013 Graduate student representative to the Faculty Search Committee in International Relations, Political Science, University of Chicago

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, European Journal of Political Theory, Political Research Quarterly, Política y Gobierno

METHODS TRAINING

Summer 2015, Syracuse NY - Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Italian (advanced), Polish (beginner)

REFERENCES

Bernard E. Harcourt

Columbia University
 Professor of Political Science
bharcourt@law.columbia.edu

Rob Reich

Stanford University
 Professor of Political Science
reich@stanford.edu

Mauricio Tenorio

University of Chicago
 Professor of History
tenorim@uchicago.edu

John P. McCormick

University of Chicago
 Professor of Political Science
jpmccorm@uchicago.edu

Dan Slater

University of Michigan
 Professor of Political Science
dsltr@umich.edu

Lisa Wedeen

The University of Chicago
 Professor of Political Science
lwedeen@uchicago.edu