

Charles Nathan
charlesnathan.com
cnathan@uh.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, University of Houston, 2025 - Present

Jerome Levy Postdoctoral Fellow, Moynihan Center, City College of New York, 2023 - 2025

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Duke University, Durham NC, 2017-2023

Primary Field: Political Theory

Teaching Certificates: College Teaching, Teaching Political Science

Dissertation: "The Good Old Days: The Concept of the Golden Age in Greek Political Thought"

Committee: Michael Gillespie (chair), Jed Atkins, Alex Kirshner, Geneviève Rousselière

Bachelor of Arts, Carleton College, Northfield MN, 2010-2014

Distinction, Department of Political Science

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

Nathan, Charles. *The Golden Age: The Uses and Abuses of Nostalgia in Politics*

PUBLICATIONS

1. "[The Urban/Rural Divide in Athenian Political Thought](#)," *American Political Science Review*, 2022.
2. "[La Loi Primitive: Recovering Benjamin Constant's Transcendent Liberalism](#)," *History of Political Thought*, 2022.
3. "[Anthropoligarchy: Politics and the Non-Human in the Anthropocene](#)," *Theory & Event*, 2023.
4. "[The Donor Went Down to Georgia: Out-of-District Donations and Rivalrous Representation](#)," with Curtis Bram, Arvind Krishnamurthy, and Jason Todd, *Political Behavior*, 2024.
5. "[The Punitive Public? Testing the Opinion-Election Connection in Criminal Justice Policy](#)" with Curtis Bram and Arvind Krishnamurthy, *American Politics Research*, 2025.
6. "[Untangling the Paradox of the Antipolitical Politician: Populism, Antipolitics, and the Family](#)" with Utku Cansu, *Contemporary Political Theory*, 2025.
7. "From Reel to Reality: Zelenskyy, Populism, and the Fantasy of the Plebeian President,"

Accepted at *Political Theory*.

WORKING PAPERS

“Hesiod, the Golden Age, and the Invention of Politics,” Working Paper

AWARDS

Outstanding Preliminary Exam Paper Award, Duke 2020
Distinction, Political Theory Comprehensive Examination, Duke 2019
Facing the Anthropocene Graduate Research Fellowship, 2019
Democracy, Institutions and Political Economy Research Grant, 2018
Phi Beta Kappa, 2014
Lee Siegelman Prize for Best Political Science Paper, Carleton College, 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record, Crisis of Democracy, Spring 2024
Co-Instructor, Introduction to Political Theory Lecture, Fall 2023
Instructor of Record, Classical Political Thought, Fall 2023
Teaching Assistant, Left, Right, and Center, Fall 2022
Teaching Assistant, Democracy: Ancient and Modern, Fall 2020
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Political Philosophy, Spring 2020, Spring 2021

CONFERENCES

“Just Your Average President: Zelenskyy, Populism, and the Fantasy of the Plebeian President” (MPSA Annual Meeting, 2024)
“Untangling the Paradox of the Unpolitical Politician: Populism, Politics, and the Family” (APSA Annual Meeting, 2023)
“Plato and the Golden Age” (APSA Annual Meeting, 2022)
“The Urban/Rural Divide in Athenian Political Thought” (APSA Annual Meeting, 2021)
“Democratic Failure and Rural Discontent: Revisiting the Sicilian Expedition” (APSA Annual Meeting, 2020)
“Rule of the Unqualified: Democracy as Sortition and An-Arkhê” (NEPSA Annual Meeting, 2018)
“The *Loi Primitive*: Recovering Benjamin Constant’s Transcendent Liberalism” (APSA Annual Meeting, 2018)

SERVICE

Organizer, Duke Graduate Conference in Political Theory, 2020, 2021

LANGUAGES

Ancient Greek, reading knowledge
Latin, reading knowledge
French, reading knowledge

REFERENCES

Michael A. Gillespie, Duke University, mgillesp@duke.edu
Alexander Kirshner, Duke University, alexander.kirshner@duke.edu
Jed Atkins, University of North Carolina, jed.atkins@duke.edu
Geneviève Rousselière, Duke University, genevieve.rousseliere@duke.edu
Carlo Invernizzi Accetti, City College of New York, caccetti@ccny.cuny.edu
Jack Knight, Duke University, knight@law.duke.edu
Laurence Cooper, Carleton College, lcooper@carleton.edu