

# LOUBNA EL AMINE

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## EMPLOYMENT

- August 1, 2016 – present: Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University.
- August 2014 – July 2016: Assistant Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University.
- Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University (July 2012- June 2014).

## AFFILIATIONS

- January-October 2018: Visiting Scholar, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.
- September-December 2017: Residential Fellow Program, Institute for Advanced Study in Humanities and Social Sciences, Zhejiang University.
- April 2017-April 2019: Associate Member, Nuffield College, University of Oxford.
- July 2015: Asiatic Research Institute of Korea University, Fellowship Program for Northeast Asian Studies.

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

- Henry Luce Foundation/American Council for Learned Societies Program in China Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship, September 2017-August 2018; project title: *The Foundations of Confucian Political Thought: History, Law, and the Political Community*.
- National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, September 2017-August 2018; project title: *The Foundations of Confucian Political Thought: History, Law, and the Political Community*.
- Princeton University Nominee, 2013 APSA Leo Strauss Award for best dissertation in political philosophy.
- Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, 2011-2012.
- Laurance S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, 2010-2011.

## EDUCATION

- Princeton University (2006-2012)  
PhD, Politics (subfields: political theory, Chinese political thought, and comparative politics); also in the Program in Political Philosophy.  
  
Dissertation title: “The Confucian Conception of the Political”; Dissertation Committee: Charles Beitz, Alan Patten, Willard Peterson, and Stephen Angle.  
  
Fall 2009; Visiting Student, Peking University, Beijing, China.
- Indiana University - Bloomington (2004-2006)  
Graduate Studies, Political Science (subfields: comparative politics and political theory).
- American University of Beirut (2001-2004)  
Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies, Minor in Philosophy  
Graduated with high distinction

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOK

*Classical Confucian Political Thought: A New Interpretation* (Princeton University Press, 2015).

Reviewed in: *Religious Studies Review*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *The Review of Politics*, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, *Philosophy East and West* (including critical exchange); also in *InterLib Magazine*, *Annabar*, and *Asbarq Al-Ansat*; subject of book symposium in *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* (June 2019) and of author-meets-critics panel at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Annual Meeting (Seattle 2017).

Book talks: Philosophy Department, Division of Chinese Philosophy, Renmin University, Beijing, April 6, 2017; School of Political Science and Public Administration, Shandong University, Jinan, April 5, 2017; School of Philosophy, Fudan University, Shanghai, March 31, 2017; Philosophy Department, The University of Hong Kong, March 28, 2017; Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy, City University of Hong Kong, March 27, 2017; Department of Philosophy, National University of Singapore, March 23, 2017.

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Political Liberalism, Western History, and the Conjectural Non-West," *Political Theory*, OnlineFirst June 1, 2020.

"On the Liberatory Potential of the Past: The Case of Non-Feudal China," *Journal of World Philosophies* 4:1 (June 2019).

"Beyond East and West: A reorientation of political theory through the prism of modernity," *Perspectives on Politics* 14:1 (March 2016).

### BOOK CHAPTERS

"The family-state analogy in the *Mengzi*," *Oxford Handbook of Chinese Philosophy* (forthcoming). \*

\* Peer-reviewed

OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS \*

- “Material Conditions, Hierarchy, and Order in Early Confucian Political Thought: A Response to Reviewers,” *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 18:2 (June 2019): 285-289.
- “The 2016 elections and American exceptionalism: a view from the periphery,” part of a Critical Exchange on “Political and ethical action in the age of Trump” in *Contemporary Political Theory* 17:3 (August 2018): 331-362.
- “Ethics and Politics in Classical Confucian Thought: A Response to David Elstein,” *Philosophy East and West* 67:3 (July 2017): 919-920.
- “Democratic Hopes for the Arab World: A Review of Iliya Harik’s Work,” *Journal Of New Media Studies in the Middle East and North Africa* 2 (Summer 2013).

\* My non-academic publications are listed here: <https://loubnaelamine.com/writing/>

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of *Democracy in Contemporary Confucian Philosophy*, by David Elstein, *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 46:3-4 (September-December 2019).
- Review of *A History of Chinese Political Thought*, by Youngmin Kim, *H-Net Reviews* (February 2019).
- Review of *Reframing the Intercultural Dialogue on Human Rights: A Philosophical Approach*, by Jeffrey Flynn, *Philosophy East and West* 68:1 (January 2018).
- Review of *Changing Referents: Learning Across Space and Time in China and the West*, by Leigh Jenco, *Perspectives on Politics* 14:4 (December 2016).
- Review of *Being in the World: Dialogue and Cosmopolis*, by Fred Dallmayr, *Perspectives on Politics* 13:1 (March 2015).
- Review of *Confucian Democracy in East Asia: Theory and Practice*, by Sungmoon Kim, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (February 2015).

- Review of *Making the Political: Founding and Action in the Political Theory of Zhang Shizhao*, by Leigh Jenco, *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 11:3 (September 2012).
- Review of *Islam and the Secular State: Negotiating the Future of Shari'a*, by Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im, *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 41:3 (August 2009).

#### INVITED TALKS

- "Sovereignty and diversity: Lessons from Empires," **keynote speech**, Borghesi-Mellon Workshop on "(Re)Imagining Identity and Diversity in the Shadow of Empire," University of Wisconsin, Madison, February 21, 2020.
- "Beyond Freedom and Slavery: On the Early Confucian Conception of Membership," Columbia University Political Theory Workshop, February 1, 2017.
- "Beyond Freedom and Slavery: On the Early Confucian Conception of Membership," Tri-Co Political Theory Workshop, Bryn Mawr College, December 6, 2016.
- "Sectarianism's Trash: What the Garbage Crisis Reveals about Politics in Lebanon," College Park Scholars, University of Maryland, April 19, 2016.
- "The Question of Political Order in Classical Confucian Thought," the College of William & Mary Confucius Institute, March 17, 2016.
- "Another kind of foundationalism: historical continuity and political order in Classical Confucian thought," Democracy and China: A Workshop with Jiwei Ci, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University, November 13, 2015.
- Panel on Daniel Bell's *The China Model: Political Meritocracy and the Limits of Democracy*, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University, October 19, 2015.
- "Comparative Political Theory: Between Universalism and Particularism," **keynote speech**, 14<sup>th</sup> annual Middle East Technical University Conference on International Relations: "Area Studies and International Relations: Intersecting Dimensions," Ankara, Turkey, June 17-19, 2015.

- “The Problem of Political Order in Classical Confucianism,” Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, University of Cambridge, May 18, 2015.
- “Confucian Political Thought in a Comparative Perspective,” The Rahmania Annual Seminar: “Asia and Arabia Continued,” Al-Ghat, Saudi Arabia, January 3-5, 2015.

## CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

### Organizer:

- Workshop on “Comparative Ancient and Medieval Political Thought,” sponsored by the International Conference for the Study of Political Thought, and co-sponsored by the Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, May 1, 2014.

### Paper Presentations:

- “Outside (European) feudalism: political order in pre-modern China,” Conference on “Rethinking Global Political Thought,” Central European University, Budapest, May 2018.
- “Does Multiculturalism Apply Outside the West?” Workshop on “Priority in Practice,” Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, May 2018.
- (with Kevin Mazur) “Deprovincialising Multiculturalism, or Why We Should Care About the Politics of Difference in Late Industrialising Societies,” Conference on “Rethinking Nationalism, Sectarianism and Ethno-Religious Mobilisation in the Middle East,” St Antony’s College, University of Oxford, January 2018.
- “The Problem of *The Problem of China*,” Conference on “What Now? Political Thought at a Moment of Crisis,” The Program in Critical Theory, Department of Philosophy, UC Berkeley, September 2017.
- “On the implausibility of Rawls’ concept of decency: Culture, modernity, and dissent in non-liberal societies,” Association for Political Theory annual conference; Columbus, Ohio, October 2016.
- “The family-state analogy in Mencius,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, The American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2016.

- “History as Metaphysics: the Politics of Time in Confucian Political Thought,” Association for Political Theory annual conference; Boulder, Colorado, October 2015.
- “Advice to Rulers in Early China: between State and Empire,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2015.
- “Another Kind of Foundationalism: The Importance of Time Consciousness in Confucian Political Thought,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, April 2015.
- “Confucianism between Religion and Politics,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2014.
- “Personal Virtue and Political Engagement in Early Confucianism,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 2013.
- “Beyond the West: The Confucian Conception of the Political,” 10<sup>th</sup> Annual UPSS Student Conference (“From Political Science to Politics”); the New School for Social Research, New York, April 20, 2013.
- “Optimism about human nature and political theory,” Association for Political Theory annual conference; Columbia, South Carolina, October 2012.
- “The Place of the Monarch in Classical Confucian Political Thought,” Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies Conference; Princeton, October 2011.
- “Ethics and Politics in Confucian Thought,” Northeastern Political Science Association 2010 Annual Meeting (panel on “Comparative Political Theory”); Boston, November 2010.
- “Confucian Political Order,” Workshop on East Asian Perspectives on Legal Order, organized by the Asia Research Institute and the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, National University of Singapore; in collaboration with the Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto; Singapore, August 2010.
- “Beyond the West: A Confucian Perspective on Politics.” Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, University of Cambridge, in conjunction with the conference on “The Idea of Politics: Theory and History”; Cambridge, March 2009.

Discussant & Chair:

- Chair, panel on “Democracy in non-Western Political Theories,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2017.
- Discussant, panel on “Ethics and Political Order in Chinese Thought,” Association for Chinese Philosophers in America, The American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2015.
- Discussant, panel on “Comparative Perspectives on Law in the Ancient and Medieval World,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2014.

Other:

- Roundtable on “Political Ethics and Political Action in the Age of Trump,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2017.
- Short course on “Deparochializing Political Theory,” with Emily Beausoleil and Michaelle Browers, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2014.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

Consulting editor: “Studies in Comparative Political Theory” (Oxford University Press).

Chair, “Foundations of Political Theory” section, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 2018.

**LANGUAGES**

Arabic (native language), French (fluent), Spanish (reading), Classical Chinese (reading).