

# William J. Berger

## PhD, Political Science

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

Philosophy, Politics, & Economics  
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### EMPLOYMENT

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

2017 – present

Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Complex Systems,  
**The University of Michigan**

2015 – 2017

Lecturer, Political Science,  
**Eastern Michigan University**

2015 – 2016

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, **The 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

Public opinion and behavior, applied political theory, social and political epistemology, democratic theory, epistemic democracy, religion and politics.

PUBLISHED  
PAPERS

- Berger, William J., and Adam Sales. "Testing Epistemic Democracy's Majority Rule Results." *Philosophy, Politics, and Economics*, (forthcoming).
- Berger, William J. "A Sympathetic Reading of Emerson's Politics." *Humanitas*, (forthcoming).
- 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

- Grim, Patrick, Aaron Bramson, Daniel J. Singer, William J. Berger, Jiin Jung, and Scott Page. "Representation in Models of Epistemic Democracy." *Episteme*, (forthcoming).
- 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*, (forthcoming).
- Jung, Jiin, Patrick Grim, Daniel J. Singer, Aaron Bramson, William J. Berger, Bennett 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 Ranginani, and William J. Berger. "Rational Social and Political Polarization." *Philosophical Studies*, (2018).
- 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.
- Bramson, Aaron, Patrick Grim, Daniel J. Singer, Steven Fisher, William J. Berger, Graham Sack, and Carissa Flocken. "Disambiguation of Social Polarization Concepts and Measures" *The Journal of Mathematical Sociology* 40.02 (2016).
- 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 *Complexity and the Human Experience: Modeling Complexity in the Humanities and Social Sciences*, edited by Paul A. Youngman and Mirsad Hadzikadic. Singapore: Pan Stanford Press, (2014): 11-38.
- 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." *Episteme* 10.04 (2013): 441-464.
- Grim, Patrick, Bramson, Aaron; Singer, Daniel; Fisher, Steven; Flocken, Carissa; and William Berger. "Conceptual Analysis in Modeling Polarization: Notes from a Work in Progress." *APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Computers* 12.01 (2012): 7.

IN PROGRESS	<p>Berger, William J. "Affective Trust, Social Norms, and Expectations Under Information Scarcity." (under review).</p> <p>Berger, William J. and Justin Bernstein. "An Act-First Theory of Mezzo Legitimacy." (in preparation).</p> <p>Berger, William J. "How I Learned to Stop Worrying about the Fact/Value Distinction and Love the Epistemic Virtues of Majority Rule: Two Responses." (in preparation).</p>
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>Post-Doc, <b>University of Pennsylvania</b>,</p> <p>PPE 481: Theo. and Emp. Approaches to Inequality in Political Life, 2019</p> <p>PPE 402: Research Practicum, 2018-19</p> <p>PLSC 181: Introduction to Modern Political Thought, 2018</p> <p>PPE 473: Quantitative Models Across PPE, 2017-18</p> <p>BDS 517: Trust and Uncertainties, 2018</p> <p>Lecturer, <b>Eastern Michigan University</b>,</p> <p>POLSCI 213: Introduction to Political Theory, 2015-6</p> <p>POLSCI 307: Democracy and Power, 2015-6</p>
WORKING GROUP AFFILIATION	Behavioral Ethics Lab, PPE Society, Computational Social Philosophy Lab.
SKILLS	R, Netlogo, Excel, Hebrew ( <i>proficient</i> ), Arabic ( <i>intermediate</i> ).
REFERENCES	Available upon request