

Peter A. LaVenia, Jr.

Curriculum Vitae

College of St. Rose
Dept. of History and Political Science
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EDUCATION

2011 Ph.D. in Political Science, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, SUNY
Concentrations: Political Theory (Major), International Relations (Minor)

Dissertation: "Breaking the Iron Law: Robert Michels, The Rise of the Mass Party, and the Debate over Democracy and Oligarchy."

2003 M.A. in Political Science, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, SUNY

2001 B.A. in Political Science, *cum laude*, University of Delaware

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2011-2012 Visiting Assistant Professor, Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

2019 "Rethinking Robert Michels," *History of Political Thought*, vol. XL (1), Spring 2019.

Book Chapters

2015 "What Every Harvard Law Student Should Know About... Harvard Law School's Endowment," in *What Every Harvard Law Student Should Know*, (Cambridge, MA: The Harvard Law Record Corp., 2015)

Encyclopedia Articles

2015 “Gaetano Mosca,” in *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, ed. Michael T. Gibbons et al. (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2015)

Book Reviews

2015 Kunal Chattopadhyay et al, ed., “Trotsky: Writings In Exile,” *Political Studies Review*, Vol. 13, Issue 2, May 2015

2013 Chris Wyatt, “The Defetishized Society: New Economic Democracy as a Libertarian Alternative to Capitalism,” *Political Studies Review*, Vol. 11, Issue 2, May 2013

Other Publications

2019 “The Weaponization of New York’s Campaign Finance Commission,” Op-Ed, New York Daily News, November 1, 2019.

2017 “Afghanistan: Why We Won’t Leave,” September 4, 2017, Counterpunch

“Class Struggle Trumps Hate,” co-authored with Jonathan Flanders, May 15, 2017, Jacobin

2016 “The Revenge of Class and the Death of the Democratic Party,” November 16, 2016, Counterpunch

“Smearing Stein: Media as Propaganda,” August 5, 2016, Counterpunch.

2015 “The Death of Social Democracy: Syriza, Germany, and Reality,” February 26, 2015, Counterpunch

“Harvard Law School's Endowment As Catalyst For Change: 3 Bold Proposals,” January 2, 2015, The Harvard Law Record

2014 “The Limitations of the Liberal Class,” September 2014, Counterpunch

2013 “Left Parties in 2013?,” November 15, 2013, Counterpunch

“International Relations Theory in Breaking Bad,” August 2013, RealClearWorld.com

AWARDS AND HONORS

2012 Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award (2011-12), University At Albany, SUNY

2003 Positive Difference Award, University at Albany, SUNY

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

- 2019 “The Mass Party Debate,” Western Political Science Association Conference, April 2019
- 2018 “The Mass Party Debate,” Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, November 2018
- 2017 “Platform for a Left Opposition,” Left Forum, June 2017
“Comparing Trump On...,” Left Forum, June 2017
- 2016 “A Brief History of the Future,” Left Forum, May 2016
“So the Next Bernie Can Run As an Indie: The Ballots, the Dollars, and the Debates,” Left Forum, May 2016
- 2015 “From Syriza to Syracuse: How Can Elected Radicals Fight Austerity from Above,” Left Forum, May 2015
- 2012 “Food is the New Rock: Political Pathways of Change and Rebellion,” Western Political Science Association Conference, March 2012
- 2011 “Liberal Doubts and the Mass Political Party: Weber, Bryce, and Ostrogorski,” Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, November, 2011
“The Mass Strike Debate: Luxemburg, Kautsky, Pannekoek on the Nature of Democracy and the Modern Political Party,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference, March 2011
“Breaking the Iron Law: Electoral Politics and the Reform/Revolution Debate,” Left Forum, Spring 2011
- 2010 “Michels the Syndicalist,” Northeast Political Science Association Conference, November 2010
- 2009 “Rethinking Michels’ ‘Political Parties’ and Democratic Thought,” Western Political Science Association Conference, March 2009
- 2008 “Michels’ Law of Oligarchy in Perspective: The German Debate,” New York State Political Science Association Conference, April 2008
- 2007 “Political Uses of the Commune: Punctuated Equilibrium, Class Consciousness and Grassroots Revolts in Paris and Oaxaca”, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, March 2007

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2001 “The International Left and the First World War,” Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, November 2001

Discussant

2012 “The Meaning of Occupy Wall St. for the Left: a discussion with Dr. Jodi Dean,” Chair, James Connolly Forum, Troy, NY, January 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visiting Assistant Professor

Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY

American Foreign Policy (Spring 2012)

History of Western Political Thought (Spring 2012)

The Clarkson Seminar: Utopias: Imagining The Future (Fall 2011)

Adjunct Instructor

College of St. Rose, Albany, NY

Introduction To American Government (Fall 2004-2007, Fall/Spring 2017-2021)

Introduction to International Relations (Spring 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2008)

Introduction to Political Science (Summer 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007)

Siena College, Loudonville, NY

Introduction to Political Theory (Fall 2015)

Union College, Schenectady, NY

Socialist Political Thought (Spring 2013)

Social Movements and Third Parties (Spring 2013)

European Politics (Winter 2013)

Global Terrorism (Winter 2013)

Environmental Politics and Policy (Spring 2009)

Introduction To American Government (Fall 2008)

University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY

Introduction To American Government (Fall 2005, Spring 2007, Summer 2007, Summer 2010)

Introduction to Political Theory (Fall 2006)

Ancient to Modern Political Thought (Spring 2008)

American Foreign Policy (Summer 2005, Summer 2006, Fall 2006, Fall 2008)

Independent Study: Marxism and Contemporary Politics (Spring 2006)

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

Environmental Politics and Policy (Spring 2008)
Social Entrepreneurship (Spring 2010)
Introduction To American Government (Fall 2009)
Leadership (Spring 2011)

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Introduction to International Relations (Spring 2009)

Empire State College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Introduction to Political Theory (Spring 2009)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY

Introduction to Political Theory (Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Spring 2003, Spring 2005)
Introduction to American Politics (Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005)
Global Terrorism (Spring 2002)

INVITED SPEAKER

Expert Testimony, Public Finance Reform Commission, Rockefeller Institute, September 18, 2019,
Albany, NY

MEDIA APPEARANCES

“The Capitol Pressroom,” WCNY, Albany, NY, 12/2/19
Spectrum News, Albany, NY, 10/30/19
“The Capitol Pressroom,” WCNY, Albany, NY, 4/5/19
“The Capitol Pressroom,” WCNY, Albany, NY, 12/14/18
“Capital Tonight,” Spectrum News, Albany, NY, 12/13/18
“Capital Tonight,” Spectrum News, Albany, NY, 11/30/16
“The Infectious Myth,” Progressive Radio Network, 11/29/16
“Flashpoints,” KPFA, San Francisco, 8/17/16
“Flashpoints,” KPFA, San Francisco, 8/9/16
“Capital Tonight,” Spectrum News, Albany, NY 8/4/16
“Capital Tonight,” Spectrum News, Albany, NY 4/20/16
“Maryland News Now,” WBAL, Baltimore, 8/8/2013
“Capital Tonight,” Spectrum News, Albany, NY 4/22/11
“Northeast Report,” WAMC, Albany, NY 11/8/10
“The Capitol Pressroom,” WCNY, Albany, NY 1/8/10

NON-ACADEMIC WORK

Campaign Manager, Matthew J. Funicello for Congress, NY-21, 2014 & 2016
Researcher/Organizer, Ralph Nader & Center for Study of Responsive Law, 2013-2014

REFERENCES

Peter Breiner, PhD.
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