

Department of Political Science
14K Schumacher Hall
SUNY Oneonta
Peter.Lavenia@oneonta.edu
Web: peterlavenia.com

108 Ravine Pkwy
Oneonta, NY 13820
(607) 436-2754

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Political Science, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at SUNY, Albany, 2011
Concentrations: Political Theory (Major), International Relations (Minor)
- M.A. Political Science, Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, SUNY, 2003
- B.A. Political Science, *cum laude*, University of Delaware, 2001

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Academic

- 2022-present Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, SUNY Oneonta
- 2021-2022 Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, SUNY Oneonta
- 2005-2021 Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of History and Political Science, College of St. Rose
- 2008-2013 Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Political Science, Union College
- 2011-2012 Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, Clarkson University

Political

- 2016-2021 Policy Analyst, New York State Department of Health
- 2018 Campaign Manager, Mark Dunlea for New York State Comptroller
- 2014 & 2016 Campaign Manager, Matthew J. Funicello for Congress, NY-21
- 2013-2014 Researcher/Organizer, Ralph Nader & Center for Study of Responsive Law, Washington, DC

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

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

Book Chapters

- 2015 “What Every Harvard Law Student Should Know About... Harvard Law School’s Endowment,” in *What Every Harvard Law Student Should Know*, 2015, Harvard Law Record Corp.

Encyclopedia Articles

- 2021 “Robert Michels,” in *Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy*, ed. M.N.S. Sellers et al. Springer-Verlag.

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

Book Reviews

- 2015 Kunal Chattopadhyay et al, ed., *Trotsky: Writings In Exile*, 2012, Pluto Press. In *Political Studies Review*, Vol. 13, Issue 2, May.
- 2013 Chris Wyatt, *The Defetishized Society: New Economic Democracy as a Libertarian Alternative to Capitalism*, 2011, Continuum. In *Political Studies Review*, Vol. 11, Issue 2, May.

Manuscripts in Preparation

The Party Question: Robert Michels and Democratic Thought. Targets: Cornell and Princeton University presses, 2024

Popular Press

- 2022 “A Better Way to Redistrict New York,” Op-Ed, May 29, *New York Daily News*
- 2019 “The Weaponization of New York’s Campaign Finance Commission,” Op-Ed, November 1, *New York Daily News*
- 2017 “Afghanistan: Why We Won’t Leave,” September 4, *Counterpunch*
- 2017 “Class Struggle Trumps Hate,” co-authored with Jonathan Flanders, May 15, *Jacobin*
- 2016 “The Revenge of Class and the Death of the Democratic Party,” November 16, *Counterpunch*
- 2016 “Smearing Stein: Media as Propaganda,” August 5, *Counterpunch*
- 2015 “The Death of Social Democracy: Syriza, Germany, and Reality,” February 26, *Counterpunch*
- 2015 “Harvard Law School's Endowment As Catalyst For Change: 3 Bold Proposals,” January 2, *The Harvard Law Record*
- 2014 “The Limitations of the Liberal Class,” September, *Counterpunch*
- 2013 “Left Parties in 2013?,” November 15, *Counterpunch*
- 2013 “International Relations Theory in Breaking Bad,” August, RealClearWorld.com

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022 Faculty Development Grant, SUNY Oneonta
- 2012 Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award, University at Albany, SUNY
- 2003 Positive Difference Award, University at Albany, SUNY

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

- 2023 “Marxism and the Party: Obstacles to Class Democratic Will Formation,” Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, April 6-8
- 2022 “Pro-Party Problems and Deliberative Democracy: A Michelsian Critique,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 7-9
- 2019 “The Mass Party Debate,” Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA, April 18-20.
- 2018 “The Mass Party Debate,” Northeastern Political Science Association, Montreal, QC, November 8-10.
- 2017 “Platform for a Left Opposition,” Left Forum, New York, NY, June 2-4.
- 2017 “Comparing Trump On...,” Left Forum, New York, NY, June 2-4.
- 2016 “A Brief History of the Future,” Left Forum, New York, NY, May 20-22.
- 2016 “So the Next Bernie Can Run As an Indie: The Ballots, the Dollars, and the Debates,” Left Forum, New York, NY, May 20-22.
- 2015 “From Syriza to Syracuse: How Can Elected Radicals Fight Austerity from Above,” Left Forum, New York, NY, May 29-31.
- 2012 “Food is the New Rock: Political Pathways of Change and Rebellion,” Western Political Science Association, Portland, OR, March 22-24.
- 2011 “Liberal Doubts and the Mass Political Party: Weber, Bryce, and Ostrogorski,” Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 10-12.
- 2011 “The Mass Strike Debate: Luxemburg, Kautsky, Pannekoek on the Nature of Democracy and the Modern Political Party,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, March 31-April 3.
- 2011 “Breaking the Iron Law: Electoral Politics and the Reform/Revolution Debate,” Left Forum, New York, NY, March 18-20.
- 2010 “Michels the Syndicalist,” Northeast Political Science Association Conference, Boston, MA, November 11-13.
- 2009 “Rethinking Michels’ ‘Political Parties’ and Democratic Thought,” Western Political Science Association, Vancouver, BC, March 19-21.
- 2008 “Michels’ Law of Oligarchy in Perspective: The German Debate,” New York State Political Science Association, Albany, NY, April 25-26.
- 2007 “Political Uses of the Commune: Punctuated Equilibrium, Class Consciousness and Grassroots Revolts in Paris and Oaxaca,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 12-15.
- 2001 “The International Left and the First World War,” Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA, November 8-10.

Discussant

- 2012 “The Meaning of Occupy Wall St. for the Left: a discussion with Dr. Jodi Dean,” Chair, James Connolly Forum, Troy, NY, January 13.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SUNY Oneonta, Instructor of Record

Understanding Political Ideas
Modern Political Thought
U.S. Social Movements
Ecosocialist Political Thought
American Social Welfare Policies and Politics

College of St. Rose, Instructor of Record

Introduction To American Government
Introduction to International Relations
Introduction to Political Science

Siena College, Instructor of Record

Introduction to Political Theory

Union College, Instructor of Record

Socialist Political Thought
Social Movements and Third Parties
European Politics
Global Terrorism
Environmental Politics and Policy
Introduction To American Government

Clarkson University, Instructor of Record

American Foreign Policy
History of Western Political Thought
The Clarkson Seminar: Utopias: Imagining The Future

University at Albany, SUNY, Instructor of Record

Introduction To American Government
Introduction to Political Theory
Ancient to Modern Political Thought
American Foreign Policy
Independent Study: Marxism and Contemporary Politics

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Instructor of Record

Environmental Politics and Policy
Social Entrepreneurship
Introduction To American Government
Leadership

Skidmore College, Instructor of Record

Introduction to International Relations

Empire State College, Instructor of Record

Introduction to Political Theory

INVITED SPEAKER

Speaker, NYPIRG Panel on Social Security Reform, Binghamton University, SUNY, December 7, 2022

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

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- “Connect NY,” WMHT, Albany, NY, 9/27/22
- “The Capitol Pressroom,” WCNY, Albany, NY
- “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

REFERENCES

Peter Breiner, PhD.
Department of Political Science
Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy
University at Albany, SUNY
1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222
518-442-5277 / Breiner@albany.edu

Morton Schoolman, PhD.
Department of Political Science
Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy

1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222
University at Albany, SUNY
518-442-5275 / mschoolman@albany.edu

John G. Gunnell, PhD.
Department of Political Science
Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy
1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222
University at Albany, SUNY
207-371-2869 / jgunnell@albany.edu

Ryane Straus, PhD.
Department of History and Political Science
College of Saint Rose
432 Western Ave.
518-454-5285 / strausr@mail.strose.edu