



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

## Matthew H. Young

Department of Political Science

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### EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Exp. Spring 2022  
Fields: Political Theory and American Politics.
- M.A. Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. 2019  
Thesis: “Patiently to Suffer the World: Eschatology and Apocalypse in Early Modern Religious Toleration.” *Prothro Award for Outstanding Research*.
- B.A. Political Science & Economics; minor Philosophy, Berea College, *summa cum laude*. 2017

### DISSERTATION

#### ***Fear, Hope, and Love: Apocalyptic Faith and the Origins of Toleration***

Committee: Jeff Spinner-Halev (chair), Michael Lienesch, Susan Bickford, Alexandra Oprea, Andrew Murphy (Virginia Commonwealth University).

This project explores the development, theory, and practice of toleration in a world steeped in apocalyptic ideology. Though apocalyptic movements are often seen as a threat to liberal polity, I draw on historical sources including the theologian Roger Williams, the novelist John Bunyan, and the egalitarian reformer Gerrard Winstanley to illustrate the promise and peril of apocalyptic politics and demonstrate how eschatological concepts such as divine wrath, historical certainty, and millenarian hope may support the practice of toleration. I conclude by arguing that a hopeful political philosophy of the apocalypse provides immense help as we navigate our own apocalyptic times.

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“‘To Hope, and To Wait’: Roger Williams and the Eschatological Roots of Toleration.”  
*History of Political Thought*, forthcoming.

### FELLOWSHIPS, DISTINCTIONS, AND AWARDS

- Review of Politics Award, *Midwest Political Science Association*. 2022  
*Awarded for the best paper in normative political theory. “The Day of the Lord's Vengeance: Divine Wrath, Judgment, and Toleration in the Works of John Bunyan”*
- Student Undergraduate Teaching And Staff Award, *UNC-Chapel Hill*. 2021  
*Student-nominated teaching award, awarded annually to the top .5% of instructors and faculty at UNC.*
- Uhlman Summer Research Fellowship, *UNC-Chapel Hill*. 2021  
*Competitive award to fund dissertation research.*
- Graduate Degree Completion Grant, *UNC-Chapel Hill* 2021

Prothro Award for Outstanding Research, <i>UNC-Chapel Hill</i> . <i>Awarded for best M.A. thesis in Political Science in the previous academic year.</i>	2020
Humane Studies Fellowship, <i>The Institute for Humane Studies</i> . Conference Travel Grant, <i>American Political Science Association</i>	<i>Four-time recipient</i> , 2018-2021 2021
Hayek Fund Travel Grant, <i>Institute for Humane Studies</i> . Graduate Student Affiliate, <i>Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics</i> .	<i>Three-time recipient</i> , 2019-2021 2019-
Conference Travel Grant, <i>Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society</i> . Graduate Fellow, <i>UNC Parr Center for Ethics</i> .	2020 2018-2020
Calihan Travel Grant, <i>Acton Institute</i> . Doctoral Merit Assistantship, <i>UNC – Chapel Hill</i> .	2019 2017-2018
Seabury Award, <i>Berea College</i> . <i>Awarded annually to two top students for outstanding scholarship and community leadership.</i>	2017
C. Louis Smith Award in Political Science, <i>Berea College</i> . <i>Awarded to the outstanding senior student in Political Science.</i>	<i>Two-time recipient</i> , 2016; 2017
Chin-Wang Prize in Economics, <i>Berea College</i> . Award for Excellence as a Teaching Assistant in politics, <i>Berea College</i> . <i>Two-time recipient</i> , 2016-2017	2017
Abdul H. Rifai Research Award, <i>Kentucky Political Science Association</i> . <i>Awarded for best undergraduate conference paper.</i>	Spring 2017
Henry W. and Edna Austin Award, <i>Berea College</i> . <i>Awarded annually in recognition of academic and personal excellence.</i>	2017
Dorothy and Willis Fisher Scholarship in Philosophy, <i>Berea College</i> .	2017

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Religious toleration and civility, inequality, American political thought and development, constitutional law and civil liberties, historical and contemporary political theory, American government, ethics and theory of international relations, public policy (particularly concerning urban-rural issues), utopian and dystopian political thought, democratic theory.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### As Instructor of Record:

The Ethics of Peace, War, and Defense.	Fall 2021
American Political Thought.	Summer 2021
American Political Thought.	Spring 2021
American Political Thought.	Fall 2020
Modern Political Thought.	Summer 2020
Modern Political Thought.	Fall 2019

### As Assistant:

The Ethics of Peace, War, and Defense with Prof. Jeff Spinner-Halev	Spring 2022
Modern Political Thought with Prof. Matt Weidenfeld.	Spring 2020
Modern Political Thought with Prof. Jeff Spinner-Halev.	Spring 2019
International Relations with Prof. Navin Bapat.	Fall 2018
Civil Liberties with Prof. Kevin McGuire.	Fall 2018

Modern Political Thought with Prof. Stephen Leonard.	Spring 2018
Modern Political Thought with Prof. Stephen Leonard.	Fall 2017

Berea College

**As Teaching Assistant:**

Comparative Politics with Prof. Lauren McKee.	Spring 2017
American Government with Prof. John Heyrman.	Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017
International Relations with Prof. Lauren McKee.	Fall 2016
Intro to the Study of Political Science with Prof. Michael Berheide.	Spring 2016
International Relations with Prof. Abdul Rifai.	Fall 2015
Microeconomics and Statistics with Prof. Volker Grzimek.	Spring 2015

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Review of R.L. Wilken, *Liberty in the Things of God: The Christian Origins of Religion Freedom*. *Voegelin View*, November 2019.

Review of Jordan B. Peterson, *12 Rules for Life*. “Self-Help for Moderns,” *Modern Age*, 2018. Volume 60, No. 3.

“OPEC’s Strategies in an Expanding Energy Market.” *Journal of Energy Security*, April 2016. With Lauren McKee

**PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS**

“‘To Hope, and to Wait’: Roger Williams and the Eschatological Roots of Toleration.”  
American Political Science Association. Seattle, WA. 2021

“The Day of the Lord’s Vengeance: Divine Wrath, Judgment, and Toleration in the Works of John Bunyan.” UCLA Graduate Conference in Political Theory. 2021

“The Day of the Lord’s Vengeance: Divine Wrath, Judgment, and Toleration in the Works of John Bunyan.” Midwest Political Science Association. 2021  
*Winner of the 2022 MPSA Review of Politics Award for best paper in normative political theory.*

“Liberalism and the Lake of Fire: Divine Retribution and the Development of Religious Toleration.”  
Midwest Political Science Association. *Cancelled*. 2020

“Liberalism and the Lake of Fire: Divine Retribution and the Development of Religious Toleration.”  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Meeting. *Cancelled*. 2020

“Patiently to Suffer the World: Eschatology and Apocalypse in Early Modern Religious Toleration.”  
Midwest Political Science Association. 2019

Response to Shmulik Nili, “Unconditional commitments, integrity, and the polity.”  
Duke-UNC Political Theory Workshop. October 2018

“Aphorism and Argument: Nietzsche, Gómez Dávila, and the Ethics of Political Communication”  
Parr Center for Ethics, the University of North Carolina. April 2018

“Marijuana, Martinis, and Morals Legislation: A Virtue-Ethical Approach to Sobriety and the Law.”  
Kentucky Political Science Association. 2017  
*Rifai Award winner for best undergraduate paper*

## **SERVICE**

Co-Convener, Tobacco Road Political Theory Working Group. 2021-present  
Political Theory Representative, Political Science Graduate Program Executive Council. 2019-2021  
Convener, UNC Political Theory Working Group. 2019-2021

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Political Science Association  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society  
Association for Political Thought  
Midwest Political Science Association

## **REFERENCES**

Jeff Spinner-Halev  
Distinguished Professor of Political Science;  
Kenan Eminent Professor of Political Ethics,  
UNC – Chapel Hill  
[spinner@email.unc.edu](mailto:spinner@email.unc.edu)

Michael Lienesch  
Emeritus Professor of Political Science  
UNC – Chapel Hill  
[liensch@email.unc.edu](mailto:liensch@email.unc.edu)

Susan Bickford  
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Andrew Murphy  
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