

Zachary C. Courser

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Claremont, CA 91711

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EDUCATION

- University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
ABD in Government, Ph.D. expected Spring 2007.
Dissertation: "Voting Alone: Progressive Reform, Party Decline, and the Rise of the Independent Voter."
Chair: James Ceaser.
Committee Members: Paul Freedman, Larry Sabato.
- University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
M.A. in Government, January 2003.
Thesis: "Soft in the Center: Party Politics in the Age of the Independent Voter."
Advisors: James Ceaser and Sidney Milkis.
- Claremont McKenna College
Claremont, CA
B.A. Government, 1999, Departmental Honors.
Thesis: "Der Geist Der Stets Verneint: A Study of Friedrich Nietzsche's *Genealogy of Morals*."
Advisors: Mark Blitz and Charles Kesler.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Instructor, Department of Government
Claremont McKenna College
Introduction to American Politics, Govt 20
Fall 2006. Scheduled for The Electoral Process,
Govt 104 and American Political Parties, Govt 123
Spring 2007.
- Instructor, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Political Parties and Group Politics, AP 424A
Fall 2005.
- Instructor, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Campaigns and Elections, AP 436.
Summer 2005 & 2006.
- Instructor, CTY Program
Johns Hopkins University
Great Cases: American Legal History, Summer 2004 &
2005.
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Introduction to American Politics, AP 101
Professor Larry Sabato, Spring 2002, 2003, 2004
Head Teaching Assistant, Spring 2004
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Constitutional Interpretation, AP 381
Professor David O'Brien, Fall 2003
- Instructor, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Political Parties and Group Politics, AP 321
Summer, 2003
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Modern Political Theory, PT 302
Professor Colin Bird, Fall 2002
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Introduction to Political Theory, PT 101
Professor Lawry Balfour, Fall 2001.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Politics Department Fellowship, 2004 – 2006
Bradley Fellowship, 2003 – 2006
Dupont Fellowship, 2002 – 2004
Olin Fellowship, 2002 – 2003
Seven Society Graduate Fellowship for Superb Teaching;
Semi-Finalist, 2003.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Midwestern Political Science Association
2007 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
(Scheduled to present.)

“Mugwumps and Goo-Goos: American Democracy
and 19th Century Anti-Partisanship.”

Midwestern Political Science Association
2005 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

“Do Parties Make for a Better Democracy?: A Comparative
Analysis of Party Organization in the States.”

Western Political Science Association
2004 Annual Conference, Portland, OR

“Soft in the Center: Party Politics in the Era of the
Independent Voter.”

Midwestern Political Science Association
2004 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

“Partisanship and Participation: A Theory of Political Parties
in a Democracy.”

PUBLICATIONS

“Political Parties”, “Ballot Initiatives, Term Limits”, “Independent Expenditure”, “Precinct Committee Person”, and
“Soft Money” in *The Encyclopedia of American Parties and Elections*, Larry Sabato and Howard Ernst, eds. (New
York: Facts on File, March 2006).

“A Boon to Consumers,” op-ed, *Riverside Press-Enterprise*, Riverside, CA, January 15, 2006.

“Wal-Mart and the Politics of American Retail,” Competitive Enterprise Institute Issue Analysis (Washington, DC:
CEI Press, November 2005).

RESEARCH, EDITING AND REVISION WORK

Revisions Editor, Longman Publishers, New York, NY. Composing edits and revisions to “Political Parties,”
“Voting and Elections,” “The Campaign Process,” and “The Media,” in *American Government: Continuity and
Change, 2008 Edition* (New York: Longman, expected 2008), Karen O’Conner and Larry Sabato.

Research assistant, *Backlash: The Killing of the New Deal*, Robert Shogan (Chicago, IL: Ivan R. Dee, 2006).
Performed original research in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia
on Homer S. Cummings’ political diaries.

Research assistant, *American Government: Balancing Democracy and Rights, 1st ed.* Marc Landy and Sidney
Milkis (New York: McGraw Hill, 2003). Researched sources, provided editorial assistance, and co-wrote the
glossary and annotated bibliography. August 2001 – August 2003.

Research assistant, *American Government: Origins, Institutions, & Public Policy, 7th ed.* James Ceaser (Dubuque,
IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing, 2002). Updated facts, figures, and revised the text for the “Congress” and “Political
Parties” chapters. January – June 2002.

MEDIA APPEARANCES, TELEVISION

“Closing Bell,” CNBC, October 31, 2006. Subject: Commentary on Wal-Mart’s entry into politics, their present political battles, and predictions for the 2008 election season.

“Closing Bell,” CNBC. January 19, 2006. Subject: A debate with Ed Yingling, president and CEO of the American Bankers Association, over Wal-Mart’s entry into the banking industry.

“Evening News,” Regional News Network (RNN), New York, New Jersey and Connecticut cable news. December 8, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart’s impact on the American economy.

MEDIA APPEARANCES, RADIO

“Business Hour,” KNX 1070, Los Angeles, CA. January 13, 2006. Subject: A debate on the Maryland law forcing Wal-Mart to change its healthcare spending practices.

“Scott Sloan Show,” WLW 700 AM, Cincinnati, OH. December 15, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Investor Coaching with Paul Winkler,” WLAC 1510 AM, Nashville, TN. December 10, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Bill Cunningham Show,” WLW 700 AM, Cincinnati, OH. December 9, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Bruce Elliot Show,” WBAL 1090 AM, Baltimore, MD. December 8, 2005. Subject: Debate with anti-Wal-Mart activist on whether Wal-Mart is good for America.

“Thom Hartmann Show,” Air America and Sirius Satellite Networks. December 7, 2005. Subject: Debate on whether Wal-Mart is good for America.

“Viewpoint University,” KSOO 1140 AM, Sioux Falls, SD. December 5, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Chris Duel Show,” KTSA 550 AM, San Antonio, TX. December 1, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Brent Clanton Show,” KXYZ 1320 AM, Houston, TX. December 1, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Dale Julin Show,” KIRV 1150 AM, Fresno, CA. November 30, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the future of American retail.

“Fred Hornsberger Show,” KDKA 1020 AM, Pittsburgh, PA. November 23, 2005. Subject: Is Wal-Mart good for America?

“Stock Doctor,” Nationally syndicated. November 23, 2005. Subject: Government regulation and Wal-Mart.

“The AM Magazine,” WGBF 1280 AM, Evansville, IN. November 21, 2005. Subject: Debate with WalmartWatch.com representative regarding is Wal-Mart good for America.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Claremont McKenna College
Claremont, CA

Selections Committee
CMC Washington, D.C. Semester Program, Fall 2006.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

University Honor Committee, Member for the Graduate
School of Arts and Sciences.
Elected for 2003 – 2004 term.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Chair and co-founder, Range Housing Council
Elected 2004 – 2005, 2005 – 2006 terms.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Candidate
Washington State House of Representatives
49th District, Position 1, 2000

- Defeated in general election 45 – 55%, November 2000.
- Won primary election, September 2000.
- Raised record amount for election, nearly \$100,000.

Systems Administrator
Office of the Speaker, J. Dennis Hastert
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.
August 1999 – April 2000

- Managed computer networks for the Speaker's Office.
- Helped form computing policy for U.S. House offices.

Field Coordinator
Don Benton for Congress, WA-3
Vancouver, Washington
May – August 1998

- Recruited and supervised grassroots volunteers.
- Organized volunteer activities relating to canvassing, fund raising and “get of the vote” drives.

Intern
Office of Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn
U.S. House of Representatives, WA-8
Washington, D.C.
September 1997 – May 1998

- Assisted office administration and constituent services.
- Helped execute a national conference on women in politics hosted by Congresswoman Dunn.