

Dr. Rafael M. Major Ph.D.

University of North Texas
Honors College
Email: Rafael.Major@unt.edu

Education

PhD, University of North Texas, 2002.

Major: "Wisdom and the Law: Political Thought in Shakespeare's Comedies"

MA, University of Dallas, 1994.

Major: Political Philosophy

BA, University of Dallas, 1990.

Major: Philosophy

Professional Positions

Academic - Post-Secondary

Visiting Faculty, National University of Ireland, Galway. (January 2020 – August 2020).

Professional

Principle Lecturer, University of North Texas. (February 28, 2020 – Present).

Senior Lecturer, University of North Texas. (2015 – 2020).

Research Fellow, Trinity College, Dublin. (January 2020 – July 31, 2020).

Development Activities Attended

Faculty Development Leave, "Religious Toleration: John Locke and William

Molyneux," University of North Texas, Dublin, Ireland. (January 2020 – May 2020).

Conference Attendance, "Midwest Political Science Conference," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, United States of America. (April 4, 2019 – April 7, 2019).

Conference Attendance, "Do Economics and and Business Studies Advance the Liberal Arts?," STRATA, Logan, UT, United States of America. (November 3, 2016 – November 6, 2016).

Conference Attendance, "Lincoln Symposium on American Political Thought," Jack Miller Center, Philadelphia, PA, United States of America. (August 10, 2016 – August 14, 2016).

Conference Attendance, "Religion and Rousseau," Salvatori Center, Claremont, CA, United States of America. (March 6, 2014 – March 8, 2014).

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

University of North Texas

HNRS 1100, The Good Society, 26 courses.

HNRS 1500, Introduction to Research : An Interdisciplinary Perspective, 7 courses.

HNRS 3996, Honors College Mentored Research Experience, 1 course.

HNRS 4000, Honors Capstone Seminar : Global Perspectives, 7 courses.

PSCI 1040, American Government: Laws and Institutions, 7 courses.

PSCI 1041, Honors American Government, 6 courses.

PSCI 1050, American Government: Process and Policies, 2 courses.

PSCI 1051, Honors American Government, 2 courses.

PSCI 2305, US Political Behavior and Policy, 6 courses.

PSCI 2306, US and Texas Constitutions and Institutions, 6 courses.

PSCI 2315, Honors US Political Behavior and Policy, 6 courses.

PSCI 2316, Honors US and Texas Constitutions and Institutions, 12 courses.

PSCI 3700, Area Politics, 1 course.

RESEARCH

Published Intellectual Contributions

Book

Major, R. M. (2013). Leo Strauss's Defense of the Philosophic Life: Reading "What is Political Philosophy?". Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. http://www.amazon.com/Leo-Strauss-Defense-Philosophic-Life/dp/0226924211/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1417724347&sr=1-1

Book Chapter

Major, R. M. (2014). "What is Political Philosophy?: and Other Studies": Introduction to Japanese

Translation. http://www.academia.edu/5897456/Japanese_Introduction_to_What_Is_Political_Philosophy_and_Other_Studies_

Major, R. M. (2013). Shakespeare's Venice and the Dawn of Secularism. 31-42. Lexington Books. http://www.amazon.com/Enlightenment-Secularism-Essays-Mobilization-Reason/dp/0739177478/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1417724347&sr=1-2

Book Review

Major, R. M. (2018). Slouching Toward Bethlehem. XVIII(2), 79-80.

Major, R. M. (2016). It Was a Very Good Year. XVI(3), 70-71.

Major, R. M. (2016). Review of "Leo Strauss on the Borders of Judaism, Philosophy, And History". 69(3), 617-618.

Major, R. M. (2015). Recovering Shakespeare's Political Wisdom. Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy. 41(3), . https://www.academia.edu/13846805/Recovering_Shakespeares_Wisdom

Major, R. M. (2015). Review of "Leo Strauss and the Problem of Political Philosophy" by Catherine and Michael Zuckert. Choice. http://choiceconnect.org/webclipping/186772/yp_e49yy179cwg1ggw261juuqli-mix_xweos3bhx-jie0olue

Major, R. M. (2015). Review of "Machiavelli's Art of Politics". Choice. <http://www.ala.org/acrl/choice/home>

Major, R. M. (2015). Review of Machiavelli Goes to the Movies. Choice. <http://www.ala.org/acrl/choice/home>

Major, R. M. (2014). Review of Maurizio Viroli's "Redeeming 'The Prince'" (Princeton University Press). Choice. 51(12), . <http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA377665328&v=2.1&u=txshracd2679&it=r&p=LitRC&sw=w&asid=65bbc911af89fa60b3d719b3aa4d89ab>

Major, R. M. (2014). Review of Waller Newell's "Tyranny: A New Interpretation" (Cambridge University Press) April 2014, Vol. 51, No. 8.. Choice. 51(8), . <http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA363515881&v=2.1&u=txshracd2679&it=r&p=LitRC&sw=w&asid=46e3657f6d4ddf9827b70a1fdf388fc7>

Major, R. M. (2012). "A Free Soul," a Review of Shakespeare's Freedom by Stephen Greenblatt in Claremont Review of Books. (Spring 2012, Vol. XII, No. 2) pp. 73-4.. XII(2), 73-4.

Major, R. M. (2010). Review of *Cynics*, by William Desmond in *Review of Politics* (Vol. 72, No. 2: pgs. 376-378, 2010).. *Review of Politics*. 72(2), .

Major, R. M. (2008). "Tanguay's Birds-Eye View," Featured Review Essay of Leo Strauss: An Intellectual Biography by Daniel Tanguay in *Perspectives on Political Science* (Volume 37, No. 2: pgs. 109-111, 2008).. *Perspectives on Political Science*. 37(2), 109-111.

Major, R. M. (2005). Review of *The Statesman's Science: History, Nature, and Law in the Political Thought of Samuel Taylor Coleridge*," by Pamela Edwards (Columbia University Press) in *Perspectives on Political Science* (Winter 2005, Vol. 34, No. 1).. *Perspectives on Political Science*. 34(1), .

Major, R. M. (2003). Review of Leo Strauss, Max Weber, and the Scientific Study of Politics, by Nasser Behnegar (University of Chicago Press), in *Perspectives on Political Science* (Fall, 2003).. *Perspectives on Political Science*.

Journal Article

Major, R., Behnegar, N., Stauffer, D., Nadon, C. (2022). *From Laslett to Waldmann: The Case for Reconsidering Strauss on Locke*. *Review of Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Major, R. (2022). John Locke: The "Jocose Problem" and the Theoretical Foundation of Toleration. *Political Research Quarterly*. *Ongoing Locke and Molyneux Book Project*.

Major, R. M. (2017). Poetry and Reason: A Midsummer Night's Dream. *Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy*. 43(2), 233-254. Interpretation Inc.. <http://www.interpretationjournal.com/index.php>

Major, R. M. (2012). "Those that Have the Power to Hurt and Will Do None: Shakespearean Dimensions of Lincoln's Statesmanship". *Perspectives on Political Science*. 41(2), 75-82. http://www.academia.edu/1574617/Abraham_Lincoln_and_Shakespearean_Statesmanship

Major, R. M. (2010). Symposium on Leo Strauss's What is Political Philosophy?: 50 Year Anniversary. *Perspectives on Political Science*. 39(2), 63-96.

Major, R. M. (2007). "A New Argument for Morality: Machiavelli and the Ancients". *Political Research Quarterly*. 60(2), 171-179.

Major, R. M. (2007). "Chasing Plato?" Symposium essay on Democratic Faith by Patrick Deneen. *Perspectives on Political Science*. 36(4), 210-213.

Major, R. M. (2005). "The Cambridge School and Leo Strauss: Texts and Context of American Political Science". *Political Research Quarterly*. 58(3), 477-485.

Major, R. M. (2003). "Politics in Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice". *The Explicator*. 61(4), 198-200.

Textbook

Major, R. M. (1997). *Instructor's Manual to accompany Introduction to Political Science: Reason, Reflection, and Analysis* by R. Kenneth Godwin and John C. Wahlke, (Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, 1997).. Fort Worth, TX: Harcourt Brace College Publishers.

Presentations Given

Invited Talk

Major, R. (Author & Presenter), *Shakespeare was Serious about the Comedy of Errors*, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, United States of America. (2018 – 2018).

Major, R. M. (Author), *Lincoln Symposium on American Political Thought, Shakespeare, Lincoln, and Political Science*, The Jack Miller Center, Philadelphia, PA, United States of America. (2017 – 2017).

Major, R. M. (Other), *Politics Series, The Attraction and Distraction of Leo Strauss*, University of Dallas, Politics Department, Irving, TX, United States of America. (2014 – 2014).

Lecture

Major, R. (Author & Presenter), *Honors College Grand Challenges Forum, Sailor Talk: The R-Word Almost Never means Reform*, University of Houston, Houston, TX, United States of America. (2017 – 2017).

Paper

Major, R. (Author & Presenter), *Midwest Political Science Conference, Men and Shakespeare's Women in the Comedies*, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, United States of America. (2019 – 2019).

Major, R. (Author & Presenter), Midwest Political Science Conference, Shakespeare's Daughters: Women 'Statesmen' in the Comedies, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, United States of America. (2017 – 2017).

Major, R. M. (Author & Presenter), Second Biennial Shakespeare Conference, Rosalind is the Play: Or As You Like It, University of Dallas, Irving, TX, United States of America. (2016 – 2016).

Major, R. (Author & Presenter), Northeastern Political Science Association Meeting, Shakespeare's Comic Virtues: Self-Understanding in the Modern World, Northeast Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, United States of America. (2015 – 2015).

Contracts, Grants and Sponsored Research

Fellowship

Major, R., "Post-Graduate Fellowship," Sponsored by Liberty Fund Inc., Other, \$50000 Funded. (August 15, 2002 – July 15, 2003).

Grant - Research

Gruver, E. L. (Principal), Major, R. (Co-Principal), "Teaching the Humanities via World War II," Sponsored by Unschwoke Charn Fund, University of North Texas, \$6333.00 Funded. (August 31, 2016 – Present).

Major, R., "Hayek Fund for Scholars," Sponsored by Institute for Humane Studies, National, \$1000 Funded. (December 14, 2019 – August 15, 2020).

Major, R., "Earhart Foundation Research Grant," Sponsored by Earhart Foundation, Other, \$12000 Funded. (August 15, 2006).

Grant - Service

Borck, C. A. (Co-Principal), Duff, A. S. (Co-Principal), Ruderman, R. (Co-Principal), Major, R. (Co-Principal), "Constitutionalism and Democracy Forum," Sponsored by Jack Miller Foundation, National, \$10000 Funded. (August 2021 – May 2022).

Grant - Teaching

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by Jack Miller Center, National, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2020 – Present).

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by Jack Miller Center, National, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2021).

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by Jack Miller Center, National, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2019 – 2019).

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by The Jack Miller Center, Other, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2018).

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by The Jack Miller Center, Other, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2017).

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by The Jack Miller Center, Other, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2016).

Major, R., "Constitution Day Grant," Sponsored by The Jack Miller Center, Other, \$2000 Funded. (September 17, 2015).

Major, R., "American Studies Center Summer Institute," Sponsored by James Madison Program at Princeton University, Other, \$4000 Funded. (July 15, 2007).

SERVICE

University Service

Member, Inclusive Curriculum Committee. (February 2022 – Present).

Member, Honors College Admissions Committee. (August 2021 – Present).

Committee Member, University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. (December 2020 – Present).

Member, RICCO Ethics Award Committee. (October 2020 – Present).

Member, Honors College Curriculum Committee. (February 2015 – Present).

Committee Member, UNT Constitution Day. (September 2014 – Present).

Director, Honors College Study Abroad Program. (January 2014 – Present).

Director, UNT Scholars Day. (January 2014 – Present).

Student Org Advisor (Non-Professional Org), North Texas Emeralds. (August 2013 – Present).

Member, Faculty Senate. (November 2017 – August 2018).

Other, Honors College, UNT Student Life. (July 17, 2016 – July 2018).

Member, University Undergraduate Curriculum
Committee. (September 2016 – February 2018).

Committee Member, University Study Abroad Committee. (August 2015 – August 2016).