

# Aaron R Kushner

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## Academic Employment

Arizona State University, Postdoctoral Fellow 2019–

## Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Missouri 2019  
Dissertation: *“Ruling or Being Ruled? The Development of Citizenship in the Cherokee Nation”*  
Committee: J. Dyer (Chair), S. A. Seagrave, S. B. Kitch, J. Dow, M. Overby

M.A., Political Science, Northern Illinois University 2015

B.A., Politics, Saint Vincent College 2013

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

“The Imposition of Freedom: Tribal Citizenship and the Case of the Cherokee Freedmen,” in  
*American Citizenship and Constitutionalism in Principle and Practice*, Eds. Steven Pittz and  
Joseph Postell (Forthcoming at OU Press)

“Cherokee Political Thought and the Development of Tribal Citizenship”  
*Studies in American Political Development*, 35, no. 1 (2021): 1-15.

“Caso McGirt v Oklahoma: el Cumplimiento de los Tratados Indígenas y los Títulos Colectivos  
a la Tierra” (with Katherine Becerra Valdivia) *Revista de Derecho Universidad de  
Concepción*, 89, no. 249 (2021): 397-408.

## Popular Commentary

[“Removing ‘by blood’: Context and Politics in the Cherokee Supreme Court Decision to Alter  
the Constitution”](#)

*Starting Points Journal*

5, April, 2021

[“Who gets Cherokee citizenship has long been a struggle between the tribe and the US”](#)

*The Conversation*

25, March, 2021

[“Holding the Government to its Word: McGirt v. Oklahoma and Tribal Sovereignty”](#)

*Starting Points Journal*

15, July, 2020

["Parasites: Montesquieu on the End of Civic Virtue in a Republic"](#)

*PopMatters*

29, Apr, 2020

["Republicanism – A Going Concern"](#)

*Starting Points Journal*

3, Sep, 2019

["No, Term Limits Won't #DrainTheSwamp. We did the Research."](#) (with Jordan Butcher)

*The Monkey Cage*

8, May, 2018

### **Manuscripts in Submission**

"Citizenship and the Good Life: Cherokee and American Regimes in Conflict"

Co-authored with Stephen Clouse

*Under Review, Comparative Political Theory*

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

#### Book Manuscript in Progress

On the Good Life: The Development of Tribal Citizenship in the Cherokee Nation

#### Articles in Progress

"Mythology and Regime: A Case for Bringing Back Oral Traditions into the Study of Politics"

Co-authored with Stephen Clouse

"Impetuous Vortex: The Use and Abuse of Locke in the Debates over Indian Removal"

"Adaptation: Using Liberal Institutions to House Indigenous Political Practices"

Co-authored with Katherine Becerra Valdivia

"Doomsday: Why Americans Are So Fascinated by the Apocalypse"

Co-authored with Trevor Shelley

### **Conference Presentations**

"Aniyvwiya in America: The Paradox of Liberal Citizenship" (with Stephen Clouse)

Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, IL), April 2021

"Adaptation: Liberal Institutions, Indigenous Political Practices" (with Katherine Valdivia)

Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, IL), April 2021

"John Locke's Right to Immigration" (Invited to Participate with Luke Perez)

American Political Science Association Conference (San Francisco, CA), September 2020

"Written in Blood: Citizenship and the Cherokee Freedmen" (Invited to Participate)

Western Political Science Association Conference (Los Angeles, CA), April 2020

"Toward the Sitting Sun: Congress and the Development of Cherokee Citizenship"

Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, IL), April 2019

“John Locke’s Natural Right to Immigration” (with Luke Perez)  
Shawnee Trail Regional conference (Columbia, MO), March 2019

“Written in Blood: The Cherokee Freedmen and Developing Views of Citizenship”  
Southern Political Science Association Conference (Austin, TX), January 2019

“The Imposition of Freedom: Why the Cherokee Resisted Citizenship for their Former Slaves”  
Shawnee Trail Regional Conference (Colorado Springs, CO), April 2018

“Chutes and Ladders: How Ambition plays out in Term-Limited Legislatures” (with Jordan Butcher)  
Southern Political Science Association Conference (New Orleans, LA), January 2018

“Reigning Together on the Same Soil: How Religion and Party Coexist for the Sake of Public Discourse”  
Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, IL), April 2017

“The Fault in Our Founders: Political Parties and Participation in America”  
Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Chicago, IL), April 2016

### **Invited Talks & Public Lectures**

“Federal Indian Policy: An Outside Perspective”  
Universidad Católica del Norte (Antofagasta, Chile), October 2021

“Tribal Citizenship: The Development of an Idea”  
Mirabella at ASU Lecture Series (Tempe, AZ), July 2021

### **Teaching Experience as Instructor of Record**

#### Arizona State University

Great Ideas of Politics and Ethics	Spring 2022
Great Debates in American Politics & Economics	Fall 2021, Fall 2020
Great Debates in American Politics & Economics, <i>icourse</i>	Spring-A 2021, Fall-B 2020

#### University of Missouri

Freshmen Interest Group: Campaigns & Elections	Fall 2017
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#### Northern Illinois University

American Government and Politics	Spring 2016
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#### Elgin Community College

*Upward Bound Program*

Political Science I	Summer 2016, 2015
Political Science II	Summer 2016, 2015
Political Science IV	Summer 2015

### **Teaching Experience as Assistant**

#### University of Missouri

Political Parties and Campaigns	Fall 2016
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#### Northern Illinois University

Democracy in America	Spring 2015
American Government	Fall 2014, 2013
Public Policy Debate	Spring 2014

### **Research Experience**

#### Research Assistant

Dr. Matthew Streb, Northern Illinois University (Spring 2015-Fall 2015)

Researched and edited manuscript of *Rethinking American Electoral Democracy 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.* (Routledge, 2016) and researched manuscript of *The Battle for the Court: Interest Groups, Judicial Elections, and Public Policy* (University of Virginia Press, 2017).

Dr. Jay Dow, University of Missouri (Summer 2018)

Researched manuscript of *The First Elections* (Working Title). Book-length study of American elections in the first party era: 1789-1824.

### **Research Skills**

#### Programs

STATA  
Microsoft Office Suite  
WordPress  
Quill Software (Oxford/Pembroke)

#### Languages

Latin (Elementary written and spoken)

### **Professional Certifications**

Yellowdig Instructor Certification, Yellowdig ICC	2021
Online Teaching Certification, Arizona State University	2020

### **Service & Professional Activities**

Edited Civic Education Curriculum, Arizona State University	2020-2021
Chair and Discussant, MPSA Panel: Comparative Political Theory	2021
Assistant Director, The Arizona Constitution Project	2019–
Editor, <i>Starting Points: A Journal of American Principles and American Practices</i>	2017–
Organizer, “(Re)Building American Identities” Conference, U. Missouri	2019
Member, Processes Committee, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy	2018
President, Graduate Association of Political Scientists, U. Missouri	2017-2018
President, Political Science Graduate Student Association, NIU	2015-2016

### Fellowships & Awards

JMC Fellow, Jack Miller Center Summer Institute	2019
Graduate Fellow, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy	2017-2019
Research Grant, \$800 (Travel and Archival Work: Kinder Institute)	2019
Dean L. Yearwood Scholar in American Politics	2019
Travel Grant, \$500 (University of Missouri)	2018-2019
Bryan L. Forbis Scholar in American Politics	2018
SPSA Scholarship	2018
Travel Grant, \$500 (University of Missouri)	2017-2018
Travel Grant, \$400 (Northern Illinois University)	2015-2016

### Memberships & Associations

American Political Science Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
Society of Catholic Social Scientists  
Jack Miller Center

### References

- Justin Buckley Dyer, PhD  
Professor of Political Science and Director, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri  
Email: [dyerjb@missouri.edu](mailto:dyerjb@missouri.edu)  
Office Phone: 573-882-3777
  
- S. Adam Seagrave, PhD  
Associate Professor of Political Science and Associate Director, School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, Arizona State University  
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- Jay Dow, PhD  
Professor of Political Science, University of Missouri  
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Office Phone: 573-882-0047

- Jason Jividen, PhD  
Associate Professor of Political Science, Saint Vincent College  
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