

SIDDHANT ISSAR

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021- **Rising Scholar Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Virginia**
Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics (Mentor: Lawrie Balfour)
- 2017-2018 **Visiting Scholar, St. Louis University**
Department of Philosophy

EDUCATION

- 2021 **Ph.D., Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Amherst**
Fields: Contemporary Social and Political Theory; History of Political Thought
Dissertation: *Thinking with Black Lives Matter: Towards a Critical Theory of Racial Capitalism*
Committee: Nicholas Xenos (Chair), Adam Dahl, Sonia Alvarez, Keith Feldman
- 2015 **M.A., Liberal Studies, The Graduate Center, City University of New York**
- 2012 **B.A., Philosophy, Wesleyan University, CT**

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2021 Issar, S. "Theorizing 'Racial/Colonial Primitive Accumulation': Settler Colonialism, Slavery, and Racial Capitalism." *Race & Class*, 63(1), 23-50.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0306396821996273>
- 2021 Issar, S. "Listening to Black Lives Matter: Racial Capitalism and the Critique of Neoliberalism." *Contemporary Political Theory*, 20(1), 48-71.
<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41296-020-00399-0> (Online First: April 2020)

Book Chapters

- 2021 **Issar, S.**, Brown, R., McMahon, J. "Rosa Luxemburg and the Primitive Accumulation of Whiteness." In J.A. Gordon & D. Cornell (Eds.), *Creolizing Rosa Luxemburg* (343-370). Rowman & Littlefield International.

Invited Book Review

- 2018 Issar, S. "Class, Race, and Marxism by David R. Roediger." *The Black Scholar*, 48(4), 75-78.

Interviews

2020 **Issar, S.,** Padlioni Jr., J. “‘To Address Black Suffering is to Destroy the World’: An Interview with Frank B. Wilderson, III on *Afropessimism*.” *Interfere: Journal for Critical Thought and Radical Politics*, 1(1), 92-113.

Manuscripts in Progress

Issar, S. “Conceptualizing Abolition-Democracy: From Reconstruction to Neoliberalism” (to be submitted to *Political Theory*)

Issar, S. “Rethinking the Racial Contract” (in preparation)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Instructor, The Politics of Black Lives Matter (Fall 2020, online)

Instructor, Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Identity in Politics (Spring 2018, Winter 2018-2019, Summer 2019, Winter 2020-2021, online)

Teaching Assistant, American Political Thought (Spring 2021, online due to Covid-19)

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Comparative Politics (Fall 2015, Fall 2016)

Washington University in St. Louis

Instructor, Theoretical Foundations of the Movement for Black Lives (Fall 2020 & Spring 2021 online due to Covid-19)

St. Louis University

Instructor, Theoretical Foundations of the Movement for Black Lives (Fall 2018, Fall 2020 online due to Covid-19)

Harris-Stowe State University

Instructor, Political Theory (Spring 2020)

TEACHING INTERESTS

Ancient, modern, and contemporary political theory; Black and Indigenous political thought; race, empire, and the struggle for US democracy; Black social movements; race, indigeneity, and inequality in the US

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & GRANTS

External

2020 Honorable Mention, Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

2020 Conference Support Funding (\$350), Race and Capitalism Graduate Student Conference, University of Chicago

2019 Conference Support Funding (£900), University of Brighton, UK, and International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs

- 2018 Workshop Support Funding (\$400), “Subversive Theories of the Political” Workshop, The Academy of Global Humanities and Critical Theory
- 2018 Travel Grant (\$200), American Political Science Association
- 2018 Conference Support Funding (\$350), Race and Capitalism Graduate Student Conference, University of Chicago
- 2018 Selected Winter School Participant (~ €1750), “Inherited Inequality and the Formation of the Modern World,” University of Göttingen, Germany

Internal

- 2020 Political Science Summer Research and Writing Grant (\$2500), UMass Amherst
- 2019 Political Science Summer Research and Writing Grant (\$2500), UMass Amherst
- 2019 Political Science International Conference Travel Grant (\$500), UMass Amherst
- 2018 Political Science Summer Research and Writing Grant (\$2500), UMass Amherst
- 2017 Political Science Conference Travel Grant (\$300), UMass Amherst
- 2017 Political Science Summer Research and Writing Grant (\$2500), UMass Amherst
- 2015-2021 Fellow, The Amherst Program in Critical Theory

INVITED TALKS

- 2021 “Mapping the Logics of Contemporary Racial Capitalism,” Recent Work on Race and Ethnicity in Contemporary Politics Lecture Series, Reed College (October 27, online due to Covid-19)
- 2021 “Rosa Luxemburg and the Primitive Accumulation of Whiteness,” Creolizing Rosa Luxemburg panel, Rosa Luxemburg at 150: Revisiting Her Radical Life and Legacy, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin, Germany (March 5, online due to Covid-19)
- 2020 “Listening to Black Lives Matter: Racial Capitalism and the Critique of Neoliberalism,” Presentation in Marx and Marxism course, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota Twin Cities (November 16, online due to Covid-19)
- 2020 “Reflecting on Black Lives Matter: Visions of Abolition-Democracy,” Center for Ethics, University of Toronto (June 23, online due to Covid-19)
- 2019 “What is Capitalism?” Presentation in Radical Design: Making Civic Experiences, Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, Washington University in S. Louis (January 28)

2018 “Understanding Capitalism,” Presentation in Radical Design: Making Civic Experiences, Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, Washington University in St. Louis (September 26)

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICPATION

Papers Presented

- 2021 “Reproducing Racial Domination: Financial Expropriation, the Great Recession, and the Covid-19 Crisis,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (September 30-October 3)
- 2020 “Rosa Luxemburg and the Primitive Accumulation of Whiteness” (co-authored), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (September 10-13)
- 2020 “Democratize Now! The Movement for Black Lives’s Fight Against Racial Capitalism,” Race and Capitalism Graduate Student Conference, University of Chicago (February 28)
- 2019 “Rethinking Primitive Accumulation with Black Lives Matter,” Workshop on Politics, Ethics, and Society, Washington University in St. Louis (April 26)
- 2019 “Theorizing ‘Racialized Primitive Accumulation,’” “Critical Theories in a Global Context” Conference, University of Brighton, UK (January 23-25)
- 2018 “Rethinking Primitive Accumulation with Black Lives Matter,” “Subversive Theories of the Political” Workshop, Colorado College (October 25-26)
- 2018 “The Primitive Accumulation of Whiteness: Catalyzing Racial Capitalism” (co-authored), Association for Political Theory Annual Conference (October 18-20)
- 2018 “Moving Beyond the ‘Imperial’ and ‘Neoliberal’ Turn in Political Theory,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (August 30-September 2)
- 2018 “Theorizing Racial Capitalism in the Era of Black Lives Matter,” Race and Capitalism Graduate Student Conference, University of Chicago (May 18)
- 2018 “Listening to Black Lives Matter: Racial Capitalism and Critiques of Neoliberalism,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (March 29-31)
- 2017 “Listening to Black Lives Matter: Racial Capitalism and Critiques of Neoliberalism,” Abolish Border Imperialism Conference (October 6-8)
- 2016 “Decolonizing Liberal Metaphysics,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (March 24-26)

Roundtables Organized

- 2019 “Teaching Climate Change Radically,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (April 18-20)

Roundtable Participation

- 2019 “Theorizing Racial Capitalism,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (April 18-20)
- 2018 “Teaching White Supremacy: Pedagogical Reflections After Charlottesville,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting (March 29-31)

Discussant

- 2019 “Why Not Uncivil Disobedience?” by William Scheuerman, Workshop on Politics, Ethics, and Society, Washington University in St. Louis (September 27)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

2018-present Co-Host, Always Already Podcast: A Critical Theory Podcast

SERVICE TO PROFESSION AND DEPARTMENT

Journal Manuscript Reviewer, *American Political Science Review*; *Constellations*; *Economy and Society*; *Radical Philosophy Review*; *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change*

Political Science Representative, Graduate Student Senate (2016-2017)

LANGUAGES

English (native); Hindi (native); Bengali (proficient); German (beginner)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
Western Political Science Association
Association for Political Theory

REFERENCES

Nicholas Xenos
Professor Emeritus
Political Science
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Director, The Amherst Program in Critical Theory
xenos@polsci.umass.edu

Adam Dahl
Associate Professor
Political Science
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
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Sonia E. Alvarez
Distinguished University Professor
Political Science
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Keith Feldman
Associate Professor
Ethnic Studies
University of California, Berkeley
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