

Nicholas P. Barden

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2026– **Postdoctoral Fellow** TUFTS UNIVERSITY
Center for Expanding Viewpoints in Higher Education & Department of Political Science

EDUCATION

2026 **Ph.D.** (with distinction) in **Government** GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Committee: Shannon C. Stimson (chair), Stefan Eich, Mark Fisher, David J. Collins, S.J. (History)
Dissertation: “Bridling the Prince: Reforming French Constitutional Thought, 1532–1586.”
Field Exams: Political Theory (distinction) and American Government (minor)

2021 **M.A.** in **Government** GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

2014 **B.A.** in **Classical Liberal Arts: Philosophy** PATRICK HENRY COLLEGE

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2025 “Bridling the Prince: Humanist Counsel and its Perils in Jean Calvin’s *Seneca Commentary*.”
History of European Ideas 51 (8): 1776–1794.

R&R “Curing the *Patria*: Diagnostic History and Law as Medicine in François Hotman’s *Francogallia*.”

Articles in Preparation

“Charitable Commerce: Love, Pleasure, and Exchange in Lorenzo Valla’s *De voluptate* (1431) and
Desiderius Erasmus’s *Querela Pacis* (1517).”

“The Sovereign Person in Jean Calvin’s Political Theory.”

INVITED TALKS

Covenant College. “Calvin’s Constitutionalism and Ours.” Constitution Day Panel, Reformation Legacies
and the American Constitution. Scheduled for September 17, 2026.

Colgate University. “Searching for the *Politia Judaica*: Corneille Bonaventure Bertram and Théodore de
Bèze.” Colgate Early Modern Political Thought Workshop. May 13, 2026.

George Washington University. “Searching for the *Politia Judaica*: Stability, Corruption, and Regime
Change in the Genevan Reformation.” GW Political Theory Workshop. December 5, 2025.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & GRANTS

2026 Junior Fellowship. INSTITUTE FOR HUMANE STUDIES

2026	Conference Travel Grant.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2025–2026	Paul Lewis Fellowship.	THE MERCATUS CENTER
2025–2026	Finishing Scholarship.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2024–2025	Jill Hopper Memorial Fellowship.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2024	JMC Summer Institute and Fellowship.	JACK MILLER CENTER
2023–2024	Adam Smith Fellowship.	THE MERCATUS CENTER
2023	Humane Studies Fellowship.	INSTITUTE FOR HUMANE STUDIES
2023	Skills Building Award. French.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2022–2023	Political & Social Thought Assistantship.	GU SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE
2022	Political & Social Thought Summer Institute.	GU SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE
2022	Summer Research Award.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2021	Skills Building Award. Latin.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2020	Humane Studies Fellowship.	INSTITUTE FOR HUMANE STUDIES
2019–2024	Graduate School Fellowship Stipend.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
	Graduate School Full Tuition Scholarship.	GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
2018–2024	Hayek Fund for Scholars.	INSTITUTE FOR HUMANE STUDIES

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECT)

1. “Reconsidering Hirschman on the Renaissance.”
Conference on Civic Thought, OSU Chase Center (Sept. 2026, scheduled).
2. “Charitable Commerce: Love, Pleasure, and Exchange in Lorenzo Valla’s *De voluptate* (1431) and Desiderius Erasmus’s *Querela pacis* (1517).”
APSA Annual Meeting (Sept. 2026, scheduled).
3. “The Sovereign Person in Jean Calvin’s Political Theory.”
IHS Graduate Conference in the Humanities (March 2026).
4. “Searching for the *Politia Judaica*: Sinai and the *Ius Gentium* in Bertram and Bèze.”
RSA Annual Conference (Feb. 2026); MPSA Annual Conference (April 2025, alternate title).
5. “Liberal Education and Juristic Formation: Lessons from Petrarch, Valla, and Hotman.”
Conference on Civic Thought, Education, and Leadership, OSU Chase Center (Sept. 2025).
6. “Curing the *Patria*: Diagnostic History and Law as Medicine in François Hotman’s *Francogallia*.”

APSA Annual Meeting (Sept. 2025); UC Berkeley Graduate Conference in Early Modern Political Thought (May 2025); Journal of the History of Ideas 2024 Graduate Symposium (Sept. 2024); MPSA Annual Meeting (April 2024, alternate title).

7. “Bridling the Prince: Humanist Counsel and its Perils in Jean Calvin’s *Seneca Commentary*.”
APSA Annual Meeting (Sept. 2024); SPSA Annual Meeting (Jan. 2024); Sixteenth Century Society and Conference (Oct. 2022, alternate title).
8. “Jean Calvin’s 1536 *Institutes* as a Supplicatory *Libellus*.”
Sixteenth Century Society and Conference (Oct. 2023).

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

UC Berkeley Graduate Conference on Early Modern Political Thought, 1400–1800. May 3, 2025.

Journal of the History of Ideas 2024 Graduate Student Symposium. “The Uses and Abuses of History.”
September 28, 2024.

Georgetown Political Theory Speaker Series. Discussant for William Selinger (2025), Rebecca Kingston (2024), Daniel Lee (2022), Daniel Luban (2021), Nathan Pippenger (2020).

TEACHING

Tufts University

FA 2026 Christianity and Public Life.

Georgetown University

Instructor of Record

FA 2024 The Constitutional Imagination: Between Power and Restraint.

SU 2023 Elements of Political Theory.

Teaching Assistant

2022–23 Political and Social Thought. Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service.

SP 2022 Introduction to U.S. Political Systems.

FA 2021 Elements of Political Theory.

SP 2021 Political and Social Thought. Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service.

FA 2020 Elements of Political Theory.

LANGUAGES

Native: English. Reading: Latin and French (intermediate), Attic Greek (basic).

SERVICE

Co-Chair. Georgetown Graduate Student Political Theory Workshop. Fall 2022–Spring 2024.

REFERENCES

Shannon C. Stimson (Chair)
Professor of Government
Leavey Chair in the Foundations of American Freedom
Georgetown University
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Stefan Eich
Associate Professor of Government
Georgetown University
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Mark Fisher
Assistant Professor of Government
Georgetown University
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David J. Collins, S.J.
Professor of History
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Joshua Cherniss (Teaching)
Associate Professor of Government
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