

Alberto Alcaraz, Ph.D.

Contact Information

Department of Political Science, Brown University

111 Thayer Street
Providence, RI 02912

+1 (401) 225-3702
alberto_alcaraz_escarcega@brown.edu

Education

Brown University / Ph.D., Political Science

September 2019 - August 2026, Providence, RI, United States

Dissertation: Reality Checking Democracy: Quixotic Encounters with Political Theory

Committee: Sharon Krause (Chair), Bonnie Honig, Ainsley LeSure

First field: Political Theory. Second field: American Politics

The University of British Columbia (UBC) / Master of Arts, Political Science

September 2018 - August 2019, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Master's Thesis: Los Hijos de Cuauhtémoc: Mexican National Identity in Primary School History Textbooks

Committee: Bruce Baum (Chair) & Mark Warren

The University of British Columbia (UBC) / Bachelor of Arts, Honours, Political Science

August 2014 - May 2018, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Honours Thesis: "Realest Negus Alive:" Hip-Hop and its Interrelated and (Potentially) Emancipatory Politics of Language and Identity

Advisors: Bruce Baum & Antje Ellermann

Research Interests

Early Modern British and Spanish Political Thought; Democratic Theory; Ordinary Language Philosophy; Phenomenology; Political Theory in Literature

Teachable Subjects

Introductory courses in Political Theory and American Politics; Language and Politics; Phenomenology and Performativity, Gender- and Race-based Analysis; 17th Century Political Thought; 20th Century Political Thought; Interpretive and Critical Approaches to Social Science

Public Writing

["The Racial Imaginaries of H.P. Lovecraft"](#)

Online exhibition for the John Hayes Library, Brown University

**Invited
Colloquia,
Conferences &
Talks**

“The Quixotism of Sovereignty” / University of British Columbia Political Theory Colloquium

March 2025, Department of Political Science, UBC

“Don Quijote and the Scandal of Telling” / Harvard Graduate Conference in Political Theory

October 2024, Department of Government, Harvard University

“Reality Checking and Democracy: Reflections on Contemporary World Alienation” / Princeton Graduate Conference in Political Theory

April 2024, Department of Politics, Princeton University

“Democracy and the Dignity of Work” / Democracy a Humanities Perspective Series

March 2021, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Brown University

Discussant alongside Professor Noga Rotem to Professor Bonnie Honig’s talk.
Moderated by Professor Amanda Anderson.

**Teaching
Experience**

Brown University

Teaching Assistant, *Injustice*, Alex Gourevitch, Fall 2025

Teaching Assistant, *Intro to Political Theory*, Melvin Rogers, Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant, *Intro to American Politics*, Wendy Schiller, Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant, *International Political Economy*, Mark Blyth, Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant, *American Constitutional Law*, Corey Brettschneider, Fall 2020

The University of British Columbia

Teaching Assistant, *Intro to Political Theory*, Chris Erickson, Spring 2019

Teaching Assistant, *Intro to Political Theory*, Anna Jurkevics, Fall 2018

**Conference
Presentations**

“‘The Riddle of Judgment:’ Reading Hannah Arendt with the Spanish Baroque”

Western Political Science Association Conference (WPSA). Seattle, 2025.

“Don Quijote and the Scandal of Telling”

American Political Science Association Conference (APSA). Philadelphia, 2024.

Western Political Science Association Conference (WPSA). Vancouver, 2024.

“Reality Checking and Democracy: Reflections on Contemporary World Alienation”

American Political Science Association Conference (APSA). Online, 2023.

Canadian Political Science Association Conference (CPSA). York, 2023.

Western Political Science Association Conference (WPSA). San Francisco, 2023.

“Notes on Arendt’s Sensorium: Appearance, Metaphor, and Common Sense”

Cogut Collaborative Humanities Conference. Providence, 2022

New England Political Science Association Conference (NEPSA). Bretton Woods, 2022.

Selected Awards & Fellowships

Cogut Collaborative Humanities Fellow

2021-2022, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Brown University

Faculty of Arts Graduate Award

2019, Faculty of Arts, The University of British Columbia

Professional & Administrative Service

Stone Inequality Initiative / Executive Support Coordinator

2022-2025, Watson Institute for International & Public Affairs, Brown University

Political Theory Colloquium / Coordinator

2021-2023, Department of Political Science, Brown University

Graduate Political Theory Symposium / Coordinator

2020-2022, Department of Political Science, Brown University

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Association for Political Theory

Canadian Political Science Association

Certificates & Languages

Sheridan Teaching Seminar Program

2020, Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning, Brown University

Doctoral Certificate in Collaborative Humanities

2024, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Brown University

Fluent in Spanish and English. Conversant in French.

List of references

Sharon Krause

William R. Kenan, Jr. University Professor of Political Science, Brown University

Bonnie Honig

Nancy Duke Lewis Professor of Modern Culture & Media and Political Science, Brown University

Ainsley LeSure

Richard and Edna Salomon Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Political Science, Brown University

Alexander Gourevitch [teaching reference]

Associate Professor of Political Science & Director of Undergraduate Studies, Brown University

Margaret Weir [Stone Inequality Initiative Reference]

Wilson Professor of International and Public Affairs and Political Science, Brown University