
DR. AYLON COHEN ayloncohen.com | DPIR, Manor Road, Oxford OX1 3UQ

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science, University of Chicago, 2023

University of Chicago
MA, Political Science, 2017

University of Oxford
MPhil, Politics and International Relations, 2014, *distinction*

University of British Columbia
BA (Honours), Political Science, 2011, *summa cum laude*

**ACADEMIC
APPOINTMENTS**

Departmental Lecturer in Feminist Political Theory, 2024-Present

Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

Lecturer, 2024
Otto Suhr Institute, Department of Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin

Visiting Scholar, 2022—2023
Centre for British Studies, Humboldt-Universität - Berlin

Lecturer, 2022
Otto Suhr Institute, Department of Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin

Lecturer, 2019—2021
Core Curriculum, The College, University of Chicago

Journal Articles

PUBLICATIONS

"Grooming Authoritarianism: Anti-Trans/Queer Panic as Pedagogy for Democratic Decline," co-written with Samuel Galloway, *PS: Political Science & Politics*. 58, 3 (2025): 1-5.

"From the Body of the King to the Body of the Nation: Sovereignty, Sodomy, and the English Revolution of 1688," *Modern Intellectual History* 21, 3 (2024): 524-550.

"Conceptualizing Gender, Sexuality, and the Problem of Democratic Erosion," *Femina Politica: Zeitschrift für Feministische Politikwissenschaft*, 33, 1 (2024): 72-80.

"The Inter-est Between Us: Ontology, Epistemology, and the Failure of Political Representation," *Contemporary Political Theory*, 22, 1 (2022): 46-69.

"Sovereign Chaos and Riotous Affects, Or, How to Find Joy Behind the Barricades," *Capacious: Journal for Emerging Affect Inquiry*, 2, 1-2 (2020): 152-172.

Book Chapters

"Lauren Berlant's Queer Anarchism: Non-Sovereignty, Ordinary Life, and the Inextricatures of the Commons." *The Inconvenience of Lauren Berlant*. Duke University Press, 2026 (forthcoming).

**PUBLICATIONS,
CONT.**

"Communist Guilt, Public Happiness, and the Feelings of Collective Attachment" in *The Double Binds of Neoliberalism: Theory and Culture After 1968*, eds. Guillaume Collett, Krista Giappone, Iain MacKenzie, (Rowman and Littlefield, 2022), 201-224.

"From Mute Objects to Militant Subjects: The Politics of Rebellious Animals" in *Subjectivation in Political Theory and Contemporary Practices*, eds. Andrei Siclodi and Andreas Oberprantacher (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), pp. 237–263.

— Reprinted in Russian in ФОНАРЬ ДИОГЕНА: Человек в многообразии практик [Diogenes' Lantern: The Human Being in Diversity of Practice], 3-4 (2018): 200-227

"'We Support Circus Animals Who Kill Their Captors': Nonhuman Resistance, Animal Subjectivity, and the Politics of Democracy" in *Tiere - Texte - Transformationen: Kritische Perspektiven der Human-Animal Studies*, ed. Andreas Oberprantacher (Bielefeld: Transcript, 2015), pp. 277–294.

— Reprinted in Greek as Υποστηρίζουμε τα ζώα που σκοτώνουν τους καταπιεστές τους: πολιτική των εξεγερμένων ζώων trans., Kostas Alexiou (Athens: Kynaigei, 2017).

Book Reviews

Jessica Ison, *Queer and Animal Provocations: Homonormativity, Animal Exploitation and Sexual Violence* (Bloomsbury, 2024), *lambda nordica* (forthcoming).

Tom Head, *It's Your World So Change it* (Indianapolis, IN: QUE Publishing, 2010), *St. Antony's International Review* 8, 2 (2013): 175–177.

UNDER REVIEW

"Patriarchy, Fraternity and Love in The Homosocial Contract: A Queer Reading of John Locke's *Two Treatises of Government*" (Under Review at *Journal for the History of Ideas*)

**WORKS IN
PROGRESS**

"Who Was the Transvestite? Revisiting a Forgotten Category of Trans Feminism"

"Political Representation, Cannibal Sodomites, and the Gendered Subject of John Locke's Social Contract"

"What is Intellectual in Intellectual History? Language, Action, and the Body in the Study of Ideas"

AWARDS & GRANTS

2026 — Cynthia Weber Award for Best Conference Paper at APSA 2025

2025 — John Fell Fund
University of Oxford, £10,000

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- 2022 — Provost Dissertation Completion Fellowship
University of Chicago, \$33,000
- 2021 — Thomas Keymer Award
British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, £100
- 2020 — Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF)
Social Science Research Council, \$27,100
- 2020 — Pozen Research Grant, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights
University of Chicago, \$4884
- 2020 — Nicholson Center for British Studies Graduate Research Fellowship
University of Chicago, \$7000
- 2019 — Human Rights Doctoral Fellowship, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights, University of Chicago, \$1000
- 2015 — Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Doctoral Fellowship (SSHRC), \$20,000 (x4 years)
- 2015 — Social Sciences Graduate Fellowship
University of Chicago, \$23,000 (x5 years)
- 2012 — Departmental Fellowship
Oxford University, £18,000 (x2 years)
- 2011 — Political Science Gold Medal
University of British Columbia
- 2010 — Hector Gordon Munro Scholarship in Political Science
University of British Columbia \$1000

INVITED TALKS

- “Gender, Sexuality and the Rise of Manhood Democracy”
— EDI Speaker Series, Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford, June 2026
— EDI Event, Department 2026 of Politics and International Relations History, University of Oxford, May 2026
- Roundtable Discussion on the Queer Theatrical Work of Taylor Mac
— Department of History, University of Oxford, October 2025
- “The Homosocial Contract and the Problem of Sodomy: Towards a Queer-Feminist History of Manhood Democracy”
— Faculty of Social & Behavioural Sciences, University of Amsterdam, April 2025
- “Mollies, Manhood, and the Politics of Trans/Sexuality in 18th Century England”
— Politically Engaged Philosophy Workshop, University of Humboldt, Berlin, April 2024
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“Affect, the Body, and the Emergence of Equality in Early Modern England”
— Centre for British Studies, University of Humboldt, Berlin, November 2022
— Transition to Modernity, CISSR-EHESS International Workshop, Paris, June 2022

“The Traffic in Men: Fraternity, Freemasonry, and the Homo-Social Contract”
— Department of Political Science, Purchase College, New York, March 2021

“Nonhuman Resistance, Animal Subjectivity, and the Politics of Democracy”
— The Human-Animal Studies Conference, University of Innsbruck, Austria, Feb 2014

**CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS.**

“Who was the Transvestite? Revisiting a Forgotten Category of Trans Feminism”
— Women’s Liberation at Sixty, University of London Institute in Paris, June 2026

“Lauren Berlant, Queer Anarchist”
— American Political Science Association Conference, Pennsylvania, September 2024

“How does the Body Signify Meaning? Gesture, Affect and Signification in the work of Norbert Elias”
— Annual Philosophy Conference, Athens Institute for Education & Research, May 2024

“Fraternity, Intimacy, and the Politics of Sodomy in Eighteenth-Century Britain”
— Critical Emancipations, University of Leuven, Belgium, May 2024

“Gender Trouble, Trans Panic, and the Formation of Fraternal Democracy”
— Sex Panics International Conference, Dublin City University, October 2023
— International Congress on Political Theory, University of Bremen, September 2023

“Body Politics After the Fall of the King: Radical Democracy, Feminism, and the Possibilities of Queer Critique”
— “Feminism and the Radical Democratic Imaginary,” University of Vienna, July 2023

“Discourse, the Body, and the Historiographies of Radical Democracy”
— Discourse Theory: Ways Forward, Palace of the Academies, Brussels, March 2023

“What is Intellectual in Intellectual History? On Discourse and the Body in the study of Democracy”
— European Consortium for Political Research Annual Conference, August 2022
— Affective Societies Colloquium, Freie-Universität, Berlin, July 2022

“Brotherly Love, Cannibal Sodomites, and John Locke’s Subject of Contract”
— Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2022

**PRESENTATIONS
CONTINUED**

“Traffic in Men: Masonic Contracts, Fraternal Contact & The Bourgeois Public Sphere”

- European Conference on Politics and Gender, ECPR, July 2022
- Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, November 2021
- American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 2021
- Venice World Multidisciplinary Conference on Republicanism (online), June 2021
- Western Political Science Association, (online) March 2021
- Western Political Science Association (cancelled due to covid), April 2020

“From the Body of the King to the Body of the Nation”

- British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, (online) January 2021
- Early Modern Workshop, University of Chicago, January 2020
- Stanford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Stanford University, January 2020
- Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Writing Collective, University of Rochester, October 2019

“The Sovereign Sodomite: Sodomy and the English Nation”

- Western Political Science Association, April 2019
- Sovereignty and Strangeness Conference, University of Northwestern, October 2018

“Brotherly Touch, Fraternal Love, and the Republican Body”

- Midwest Political Science Association, April 2019

“Feeling Fraternal: Equality, Touch, and The Politics of Men's Bodies”

- Braga Colloquium in the History of Moral and Political Philosophy, University of Minho, January 2019

“Chaos and the Riot: Auto-Theory on the 50th Anniversary of May '68”

- Double Binds of '68 Conference, University of Kent, September 2018

“Cruel Citizenship and the Failure of Representative Democracy”

- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2018
- Political Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, November 2017

“The Insurrection of Feelings and the Feelings for Insurrection”

- Fifth Annual Radical Democracy Conference, The New School, April 2015
- Enlightened Anarchism Conference, Lapland University, September 2014

“George Rousseau in Conversation with Aylon Cohen”

- Queer Pride/Queer Rage, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, Sept. 2013

“Radical Animals, Rupturing Speech: Maintaining Fidelity to Animal Rebellions”

- Third Annual Radical Democracy Conference, The New School, March 2013

“The Trauma of Sovereignty: Political Realism's Real Emotions”

- Graduate Conference for the Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto, March
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**PRESENTATIONS
CONT.**

2013
— Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Theory, University of Warwick,
Feb. 2013

“Anarch@-Feminism and Animal Liberation”
— Oxford Radical Forum, Oxford University, February 2013

COURSES TAUGHT

2025-27	Feminism and the Future, Graduate Seminar, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford
2024	Michel Foucault and his Histories of Sexuality, Graduate Seminar, Otto Suhr Institute of Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin
2022	Political Anatomies of the Body Politic: Gender, Sexuality, and Embodiment in Western Political Thought, Graduate Seminar, Otto Suhr Institute of Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin
2021	Advanced Theories of Gender and Sexuality, Graduate Seminar, (w/ Prof. Linda Zerilli), University of Chicago
2019	Power, Identity, and Resistance I, Undergraduate Seminar, University of Chicago
2019	Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations, Graduate Seminar, (w/ Prof. Linda Zerilli), University of Chicago

**PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE**

REVIEWER

Bristol University Press; Theory & Event; Feminist Philosophy Quarterly; Journal
of Social and Political Philosophy

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/EVENTS

Discussant, Katie Cruz, “Materialism, Sex Work, and the Law”, The Feminist
Jurisprudence Discussion Group, Oxford University, 2026

Panel Chair, “Thinking Beyond State Coercion”, Oxford Graduate Political Theory
Conference, 2026

Panel Organizer, “Contemporary Queer Contributions to the Study of Politics,”
European Consortium for Political Research Annual Meeting, August 2022

Panel Organizer, “Pluralizing Political Theory: Contemporary Queer
Contributions,”
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, October 2021

Conference Organizer, “The Politics of the Ordinary”,
University of Chicago, Political Theory Graduate Conference, October 2020

Discussant, University of Chicago Political Theory Workshop
University of Chicago, 2017-2020

Conference Organizer, “Queer Pride / Queer Rage” Conference
Oxford University, St. Antony’s College, November 2013

Anti-Sexual Violence Campaign Co-Founder, “It Happens Here”
Oxford University, 2013-2014

Series Organizer, “Bringing the Collective Together:
Nonhuman Animals, Humans and Practice at the University”
University of British Columbia, March—October, 2011.

MEMBERSHIP

International Society for Cultural History (2024-)
Britain and Ireland Association for Political Thought (2022-)
British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (2021-)
Association for Political Theory (2018-)
Western Political Science Association (2018-22)
American Political Science Association (2016-22)
International Political Science Association (2020-2022)
Midwestern Political Science Association (2016-2021)

LANGUAGE

English, fluent
Hebrew, fluent
German, Intermediate (B2)
French, basic reading knowledge (A2)

References Available Upon Request

last updated: August 2026
