

Cosmo Houck

Department of Political Science
University of California Davis
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Education

- PhD University of California Davis, Department of Political Science (2012 - expected 2018)
- B.A. Ithaca College, Department of Politics & History, *magna cum laude* (2011)

Research

Research/Teaching Interests

- Jean Jacques Rousseau's theories of freedom and the *Social Contract*
- Classical and Modern Political Thought
- Eros in Plato's dialogues and Rousseau's *Emile*
- American Political Thought
- Basics of American Politics

Conference Presentations/Papers

- "Between Beasts and Gods: moral freedom in the *Social Contract* and free will in the *Second Discourse*," Presented at the Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago IL, April 2016, and at the UC Davis Political Theory Workshop, Davis CA, March 2016.

Working Papers

- "Between Beasts and Gods: moral freedom in the *Social Contract* and free will in the *Second Discourse*" (2015).

Teaching and Professional Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of California Davis

- Spring 2016: The Legislative Process, Dr. Erik Engstrom
- Winter 2016: Media and Politics, Dr. Amber Boydston
- Fall 2015: Public Policy, Dr. Adrienne Hosek

- Summer 2015: Media and Politics, Dr. Amber Boydston
- Winter 2015: The Supreme Court, Dr. Robert Gates
- Fall 2014: Distributive Justice, Dr. Robert S. Taylor
- Summer 2014: American Politics, Dr. Stuart Hill
- Spring 2014: Nietzsche's Critique of Modernity, Dr. Shalini Satkunanandan
- Winter 2014: Social-Contract Theory, Dr. Robert S. Taylor
- Fall 2013: California State Government, Dr. Scott Mackenzie

Graduate Research Assistant

- Professor Shalini Satkunanandan, Summer 2013, Summer 2014, research for book manuscript *Extraordinary Responsibility: Politics Beyond the Moral Calculus*
- Professor Shalini Satkunanandan, Spring 2015, research for a project on religion and politics

Awards and Service

- Political Science Departmental Travel Grant, UC Davis (Spring 2016)
- Member, Midwestern Political Science Association (2015-)
- UC Davis Undergraduate Research Center Mentorship Program, graduate student mentor (2015-16).
- GAPPS Mentorship Program for Incoming Students (2013-)
- Graduate Student Association department representative (2015-16).
- Graduate Student Association department representative (2013-14).
- Member, American Political Science Association (2012-)
- Political Science Internal Departmental Fellowship (2012-13 academic year).

References

- Prof. John T. Scott, Chair, Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis, jtscott@ucdavis.edu
- Prof. Robert S. Taylor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis, rstaylor@ucdavis.edu
- Prof. Shalini Satkunanandan, Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis, ssatkunanandan@ucdavis.edu