

# GEOFFREY KURTZ

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Political Science), Rutgers – The State University of New Jersey (2007)  
B.A. (Political Science), New College of Florida (1996)

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of Political Science (with tenure), BMCC–CUNY (2014–present)  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, BMCC–CUNY (2007–2014)  
Teaching Assistant and Part-Time Lecturer, Rutgers University (2001–2007)

## GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

PSC-CUNY Research Award (2025)  
PSC-CUNY Research Award (2022)  
BMCC Fellowship Leave (Sabbatical) Award (2019–2020)  
PSC-CUNY Research Award (2009)  
Phi Theta Kappa Award for Excellence in Education (2008)  
BMCC Faculty Development Grant (2008)  
PSC-CUNY Research Award (2008)

## BOOK

*Jean Jaurès: The Inner Life of Social Democracy* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2014).

## BOOK CHAPTERS (ACADEMIC PRESSES)

“Maybe Even Souls: The Moral Basis of Socialism in *Spheres of Justice*,” in *Walzer and Justice: Spheres of Justice in the 2020s*, ed. J. Toby Reiner (Palgrave Macmillan, 2025).  
“On Organizing, Solidarity, and the Enlightenment,” in *Rational Radicalism and Political Theory: Essays in Honor of Stephen Eric Bronner*, ed. Michael J. Thompson (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2011).  
“Anthony Giddens’s Third Way: A Critique,” in *The Logos Reader: Rational Radicalism and the Future of Politics*, ed. Stephen Eric Bronner and Michael J. Thompson (Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 2005). Originally published in *Logos* 1.3, Summer 2002.

#### BOOK CHAPTER (NON-ACADEMIC PRESS)

“Between Socialism and Socialists,” in *An Inheritance for Our Times: The Principles and Politics of Democratic Socialism*, ed. Michael J. Thompson and Gregory Smulewicz-Zucker (New York: OR Books, 2019).

#### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Politics Despite Liberalism,” in “*The Idea of Fraternity in America* at Fifty: A Symposium,” *Political Science Reviewer* 50.1 (April 2025).

“American Socialism and American Political Culture: Irving Howe’s Conciliation with (and Dissent from) Individualism.” *American Political Thought* 10.1 (Winter 2021).

“An Apprenticeship for Life in Common: Jean Jaurès on Social Democracy and the Modern Republic,” *New Political Science* 35.1, March 2013.

“A Socialist State of Grace: The Radical Reformism of Jean Jaurès,” *New Political Science* 28:3, September 2006.

#### BOOK REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

“Real Communities and Democratic Theory,” a review of *Tradition and the Deliberative Turn: A Critique of Contemporary Democratic Theory* by Ryan R. Holston, *Front Porch Republic*, September 27, 2024.

“*The Idea of Fraternity in America* at Fifty,” *Perspectives on Political Science* 53:4, September 2024.

Review of *Keeping the Republic: A Defense of American Constitutionalism* by Dennis Hale and Marc Landy, *Current*, July 19, 2024.

“Toward a Postliberal Future? Patrick Deneen’s *Regime Change* and the Meletus Option,” *Public Seminar*, May 16, 2023.

“After the Second Cheer,” a review of *Two Cheers for Politics* by Jedediah Purdy, *Front Porch Republic*, February 10, 2023.

Review essay on *Michael Walzer* by J. Toby Reiner and *Justice is Steady Work: A Conversation on Political Theory* by Michael Walzer and Astrid von Busekist, *Logos: A Journal of Modern Society and Culture*, 2021 (20.1).

“Keeping the Left Alive: Michael Walzer’s *Political Action* Reissued,” *Public Seminar*, October 22, 2019.

Review of *The Moral Economists: R.H. Tawney, Karl Polanyi, E.P. Thompson, and the Critique of Capitalism* by Tim Rogan, *New Political Science* 41.1, March 2019.

Review of *The Origins of Collective Decision Making* by Andy Blunden, *Logos* 16.1-2, Spring 2017.

Review of *Karl Polanyi: A Life on the Left* by Gareth Dale, *New Political Science* 39.2, June 2017.

“Socialism as an Ethos,” a review of *A Socialist History of the French Revolution* by Jean Jaurès, ed. and trans. Mitchell Abidor, *Contrivers’ Review*, February 5, 2016.

Review of *Jean Jaurès* by Gilles Candar and Vincent Duclert, *H-France Review* 15.48, April 2015.

“Social Democracy, Here and Now,” a review essay on *Social Democratic America* by Lane Kenworthy and *What’s Left of the Left: Democrats and Social Democrats in Challenging Times*, edited by James Cronin, George Ross, and James Shoch, *Logos* 13.3-4, Fall 2014.

Review of *What Are Intellectuals Good For? Essays and Reviews* by George Scialabba, *Logos* 10.2, Summer 2011.

“Democracy and Accountability,” a review of *The Colonial American Origins of Modern Democratic Thought* by J.S. Maloy, *The Review of Politics* 72.2, Spring 2010.

“From Liberalism to Social Democracy,” a review of *Liberal Beginnings: Making a Republic for the Moderns* by Andreas Kalyvas and Ira Katznelson, *Dissent* online, August 26, 2009.

“Needed: A Politics of Solidarity,” a review of *The Future of Democratic Equality: Rebuilding Social Solidarity in a Fragmented America* by Joseph M. Schwartz, *Democratic Left* 37.1, Summer 2009.

Review of *The Specter of Democracy* by Dick Howard, *Rethinking Marxism* 21.1, January 2009.

“The Production of Solidarity: Pierre Rosanvallon on Civil Society and Democracy,” *New Political Science* 30.4, December 2008.

Review of *Solidarity: From Civic Friendship to a Global Legal Community* by Hauke Brunkhorst, *New Political Science* 29:2, June 2007.

Review of *Power and the Idealists, Or, The Passion of Joschka Fischer and its Aftermath* by Paul Berman, *Logos* 5.1, Winter 2006.

Review of *The War at Home: The Domestic Costs of Bush’s Militarism* by Frances Fox Piven, *Logos* 4.1, Winter 2005.

Review of *How To Get Stupid White Men Out Of Office: The Anti-Politics, Un-Boring Guide to Power*, ed. Adrienne Maree Brown and William Upski Wimsatt, and *MoveOn’s 50 Ways to Love Your Country* by MoveOn, *Logos* 3.4, Fall 2004.

Review of *Teamsters and Turtles? U.S. Progressive Political Movements in the 21st Century*, ed. John C. Berg, *Logos* 2.4, Fall 2003.

#### OTHER ESSAYS

“Silone’s *Bread and Wine*,” *The Catholic Worker* (October/November 2025).

“On Contemplative Public Space,” guest post at *The Line of Beauty*, March 22, 2025.

“Waiting for a Realignment,” *Current*, December 16, 2024.

“What we already know about the elections,” *Current*, November 4, 2024.

“How to Be a Liberal-Socialist-Conservative,” *Front Porch Republic*, November 7, 2022.

“What Religious Socialists Have Brought to Socialism,” *Syndicate*, September 12, 2019.

“Can There Be Dignity in a Vast Majority?” *Public Seminar*, December 27, 2018.

“From Protest to Organizing,” *Public Seminar*, May 18, 2017.

“After Bernie,” *Contrivers’ Review*, August 22, 2016.

“Obama and the Organizing Tradition,” *Logos* 7.2, Winter 2008.

“Jean Jaurès: A Portrait,” *Logos* 5.2, Spring/Summer 2006.

## ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

“Jean Jaurès,” in *The International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest: 1500 to the Present*, ed. Immanuel Ness (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell), April 2009.

“Solidarity,” in *Encyclopedia of Work in America*, ed. Carl E. Van Horn and Herbert Schaffner (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2003).

## WRITING PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

“Retrieving Religious Socialism” (working title), invited contribution to a festschrift: *The Making of Gary Dorrien: Historical Reconstruction, Ethical Discontent, and the Spirit of Liberal-Liberation Theology*, ed. Aaron Stauffer and Demian Wheeler (Baylor University Press, expected publication 2026).

Book in progress (no working title): a study exploring the thinking and legacy of the writers who founded *Dissent* magazine, placing their ideas within the larger story of American thinking about democracy and community.

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SINCE 2007)

“Solitude and Solidarity: Why Benedict is a Political Thinker and Why That Matters Now,” Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, November 2025.

“To Feel the Ground Again: Political Membership in Ignazio Silone’s Fiction,” New York State Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2025.

Roundtable presenter: “The Idea of Fraternity in America at Fifty and its New Generation of Readers,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2024.

“Maybe Even Souls: The Moral Basis of Socialism in Spheres of Justice.” Seminar on *Spheres of Justice* at 40, Institute for Advanced Study, October 2023.

“The Intellectual History of Realignment Socialism, and Why It Matters.” New York Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2022.

“Maybe Even Souls: Michael Walzer on the Moral Basis of Socialism.” New York Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2021; revised version at Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, November 2021.

“Michael Walzer’s Political Pluralism, Or, When is a Social Democrat Not a Communitarian?” Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, October 2018.

“Social Democracy in Lockean America: Michael Walzer’s Dilemma.” New York State Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2018.

“An Apprenticeship for Life in Common: Jean Jaurès on the Modern Republic.” New York State Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2012.

“Organizing in the Age of Experiments: Benjamin Franklin’s Public Spirit.” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, November 2009.

“Assembling the Public: Benjamin Franklin on the Practice of Organizing and the Modern Republic.” New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, May 2009.

“Organizer in Chief? Barack Obama, Saul Alinsky, and the Organizing Tradition in American Democratic Thought.” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, November 2007.

#### OTHER PUBLIC TALKS AND INTERVIEWS

Podcast guest discussing *Bread and Wine* by Ignazio Silone, *Christians Reading Classics*, August 2025.

Panelist, “The 2024 Elections: What Happened? What Does It Mean?” BMCC Social Sciences Department forum, November 11, 2024.

Interview on *Jean Jaurès: The Inner Life of Social Democracy*: New Books Network (with Zalman Newfield), June 2022.

Discussant, “Democratic Socialism: Then and There, Here and Now,” book launch panel for *Social Democracy in the Making: Political and Religious Roots of European Socialism* by Gary Dorrien. Union Theological Seminary, New York City, April 3, 2019.

Panelist, “The Midterm Elections: A Post-Mortem.” At the monthly meeting of the Professional Staff Congress/CUNY Retirees’ Chapter, December 2018.

Panelist, BMCC Social Science Department symposium on the 2016 elections, February 2017.

Panelist, “Publishing with Academic Presses.” BMCC Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship, November 2016.

“Why Jaurès Matters.” Left Forum, May 2015.

“What is a Political Tradition? The Case of Social Democracy.” BMCC Social Science Department Faculty Salon, October 2014.

“How to Publish.” BMCC Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship, October 2014.

“Jean Jaurès and the Emergence of Social Democracy.” Lectures from the Allen Room and Wertheim Study, New York Public Library, July 2014.

“Building a Modern Republic: Jean Jaurès on Coalition Politics.” BMCC Social Science Department Faculty Salon, May 2011.

“Solidarity and Critical Theory.” Left Forum, April 2011.

“Organizers and Communities: Two Views.” Left Forum, April 2011.

“The President as Community Organizer.” Interview with Bill Resnick of KBOO Community Radio (Portland, Maine), July 13, 2009.

Panelist, “Author Meets Critics: A Discussion of Joseph Schwartz’s *The Future of Democratic Equality: Rebuilding Social Solidarity in a Fragmented America*.” Left Forum, April 2009.

“The Political Thought of Jean Jaurès.” BMCC Faculty Scholarship Week, April 2009.

Panelist, BMCC political science faculty forum on the Presidential Election, October 2008.

#### SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Journal manuscript reviews: *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, *New Political Science*

Book manuscript reviews: Hackett Publications, Lexington Books, Palgrave Macmillan, SUNY Press, Yale University Press

Award Committee, Best Dissertation in American Political Thought, American Political Science Association (2025)

Political Theory Section Chair, New York State Political Science Association (2025-2026)

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, AND UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Member of Academic Senate / College Council, 2010-2019

Member of Department Personnel & Budget Committee, 2020-2023

Proposal review panelist for Economics and Political Science, PSC-CUNY Research Awards, 2025

Officer in the Professional Staff Congress of CUNY (NYSUT/AFT Local 2334, AFL-CIO):

Member, Legislative Committee (2008-2023); Member, Delegate Assembly (2010-2024);  
BMCC Chapter Secretary (2010-2013); BMCC Chapter Vice-Chair (2013-2016); BMCC  
Chapter Chair (2016-2019); Community College Officer, Executive Council (2021-2024);  
Bargaining Team member (2024-2025)