

Dr. Michael T. Giles

giles6@star.lcc.edu

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Associate Professor of Political Science, Lansing Community College	2026-
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Lansing Community College	2023-26
Dean of Students, Great Lakes Christian College	2022-23
Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Director, Constitutionalism and Rule of Law Lab Kellogg Institute for International Studies – Univ. of Notre Dame	2021
Postdoctoral Fellow, Constitutional Studies – University of Notre Dame	2020-21
Visiting Research Fellow – University of Notre Dame	2020
Visiting Instructor – Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, IN	2020-21
Instructor – Michigan State University	2019
Teaching Assistant – Michigan State University	2014-19

EDUCATION

Michigan State University Ph.D. Political Science Dissertation: "The Politics of the Fall in St. Augustine of Hippo." Committee: Dustin Sebell, Arthur Melzer, Corwin Smidt, and Mary Keys	2020
Michigan State University M.A. Political Science	2017
Hillsdale College B.A. Political Economy, <i>Magna cum laude</i>	2012

PUBLICATIONS

- Giles, Michael. "Ye Shall Till Thy Field: The Goodness and Fall of Work in Augustine and Marx." In *Augustine and Contemporary Social Issues*, pp. 86-106. Routledge, 2022.
- Walker, Douglas, and Michael Giles. "Tocqueville Reconsidered: On Toleration, Secular Morality, and Religion's Place in Liberal Democracy." *The Political Science Reviewer* 43, no. 1 (2019), pp. 167-200.

COURSES TAUGHT

Political Philosophy (2026-present, LCC)
Campaigns and Elections (2024, LCC)
Government Internship (2024-present, LCC)
Intro to Political Science (2023-present, LCC)
American Political System (2023-present, LCC)
Historical Research Methods (2023, GLCC)
Bible and Theology (2022, GLCC)
Human Rights Seminar (2021, Notre Dame),
Introduction to Political Economy (2021, Holy Cross College)
American Government (2020, Holy Cross College)

Introduction to Political Thought (2019, Michigan State University)

INVITED TALKS

- “Does the University Need Faith?” Panel Presentation, Michigan State University Christian Study Center, 20 March 2026.
- “Bring back the Oral Examination.” Professional Development Seminar, the LCC Center for Teaching Excellence. 30 October 2025.
- “The Political Climate for Higher Education” Presentation at the Spring Professional Activity Day at Lansing Community College, 4 January 2024.
- “What is Culture?” The Kairos Seminar, East Lansing MI, 1 December 2023.
- “AI and the Human Ecology: A Political Philosophy Approach” LCC Honors Program, 19 October 2023.
- “How to Understand the Current Landscape of Selfhood and Identity.” The Kairos Seminar, East Lansing MI. 19 November 2022.
- “Saints and Heroes: Augustine on the Love of Glory.” Faculty Research Seminar, Holy Cross College, 8 October 2020.
- “Philosophical Origins of the American Constitution and Legal System.” Visiting International Professional Program, Michigan State University, 11 November 2019.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Revisiting the Commercial Republic in the thought of the Baron de Montesquieu: A Meditation on Books III, IV, V (and a bit of XX) of The Spirit of the Laws.” Paper given at the Midwest Political Science Association meetings, 6 April 2, 2024.
- “Civic Education at Community Colleges.” Conference presentation at Michigan Political Science Association, 20 October 2023.
- “What to us is a Founding? Creation, Fall, and the Origin of Politics.” Paper given at Michigan State University, 29 April 2022.
- “By Nature Social, by Corruption Quarrelsome: Sociality in St. Augustine's Account of the Fall.” Paper given at the Midwest Political Science Association meetings, 4 April 2019.
- “On the Original Goodness of Work.” Paper given at the American Political Science Association meetings, 31 August 2018.
- “Not Quite Secular: Montesquieu on the Political Utility of Faith.” Paper given at the Midwest Political Science Association meetings, 7 April 2018.
- “Loneliness, Opioids, and Civil Society: Taking Tocqueville's Lessons to Heart in the Rust Belt.” Paper given at the Michigan Political Science Association meetings, 27 October, 2017.
- “From Religious Minorities to the Religious Minority: Secular Morality and the Failure of Tocqueville's Defense of Religious Toleration,” with Douglas Walker. Paper given at the Midwest Political Science Association meetings, 9 April 2016.

FELLOWSHIPS and AWARDS

Bradley Foundation Fellowship, Constitutional Studies Program, University of Notre Dame	2020
Dissertation Completion Fellowship, MSU College of Social Science	2020
Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$45,000 cumulative)	2017-20
Summer Fellow, Jack Miller Center	2017
Latin Study Grant from the Department of Political Science, MSU (\$12,000)	2016
Intensive Summer Program at University College Cork, Ireland	
Lefrak Symposium Fellowship, Michigan State University	2014-19

Supports doctoral research in the area of political thought and modern democracy	
Hudson Political Studies Fellow in Washington, DC	2013
Fully funded, six-week summer study in classical, modern, and American political philosophy	
Institute for Humane Studies Summer Fellow	2012
Ten-week program consisting of internship at the Competitive Enterprise Institute and weekly seminars in political science, law, and economics	

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE, COLLEGE, and SOCIETY

Lead Faculty, LCC Political Science	2025-
Member, LCC Budget Committee	2023-
Faculty Advisor, LCC Political Science Student Association	2023-
Budget Committee (Standing Committee of the Academic Senate), Lansing Community College	2023-
Judge, "We the People" State Finals, Michigan Center for Civic Education,	2019
Chair and Discussant, "Contemporary Democratic Theory," Midwest Political Science Association meetings, 4 April 2019	
Member, University Committee on Undergraduate Education	2015

REFERENCES

Dustin Sebell
University of North Carolina

Donald Stelluto
University of Notre Dame

Phillip Munoz
University of Notre Dame

Benjamin Kleinerman
Baylor University