

# Tae-Yeoun Keum

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### University of California, Santa Barbara

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2020–

### University of Oxford

Christopher Tower Junior Research Fellow, Christ Church, 2016–2020

Sub-faculty, Department of Politics and International Relations

## EDUCATION

### Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

**Ph.D.** Political Theory, May 2017

Secondary Field in Comparative Literature

Dissertation committee: Michael Rosen (chair), Eric Nelson, Nancy Rosenblum, Danielle Allen

### University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom

**M.Phil.** Political Thought and Intellectual History, June 2009

### Yale University, New Haven, CT

**B.A.** Humanities, May 2008

*summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

## PUBLICATIONS

(book) **“Plato and the Mythic Tradition in Political Thought,”** Belknap / Harvard University Press, forthcoming December 2020.

**“Plato’s Myth of Er and the Reconfiguration of Nature,”** *American Political Science Review* 114 no. 1 (2020): 54-67.

**“Why did Socrates conduct his dialogues before an audience?”** *History of Political Thought* 37 no. 3 (2016): 411-437.

Review of *Plato’s Caves: The Liberating Sting of Cultural Diversity*, by Rebecca LeMoine, *Perspectives on Politics* 18 no. 3 (2020), forthcoming.

## SELECTED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Leo Strauss Award, American Political Science Association, 2018

For *“the best dissertation in the field of political philosophy”*

Edward M. Chase Prize, Harvard University, 2017

For *“the best dissertation on a subject relating to the promotion of world peace”*

Government Department Nominee, Bok Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching of Undergraduates, Harvard University, 2017

Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University (*4 times*), 2012, 2013, 2016

American Academy of Arts and Sciences Predoctoral Visiting Fellowship, 2014

Mellon Interdisciplinary Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard Mahindra Humanities Center, 2014  
*Awarded to two doctoral students at Harvard across the humanities and social sciences.*

Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellowship in Ethics, Harvard University, 2013

Krupp Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship, Harvard Center for European Studies, 2013

Sheldon/Kennedy Travel Fellowship, Harvard University (*declined*), 2013

Dan David Prize Scholarship, 2013

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) summer grant, 2011

George & Patricia White Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University, 2009

Gates-Cambridge Scholarship, 2008

Jacob Cooper Prize in Classical Philosophy, Yale University, 2007  
*Awarded to the best graduate or undergraduate essay on ancient philosophy*

Yale College Dean's Research Fellowship, 2005

## INVITED TALKS AND SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“The Symbol and the Vortex: Blumenberg, Habermas and Schmitt on Myths and Symbols”

- Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge, March 2020

“Modernity and Mythmaking: The Political Theory of Hans Blumenberg”

- American Political Science Association annual meeting, Washington, DC, August 2019
- “Political Realism and Democratic Theory,” MANCEPT, University of Manchester, September 2019
- “Politics, Truth and Myth: Hans Blumenberg and Beyond,” KU Leuven, September 2019

“Modernity and Mythmaking in German Idealism”

- Politics Speaker Series, University of East Anglia, May 2019
- Department of Government, Georgetown University, November 2018

“Myth, Philosophy and the Political Imagination”

- Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, University of Oxford, February 2019

“Plato's Legacy and the Problem of Myth in Political Thought”

- Department of Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 2018
- Department of Political Science, Yale University, December 2017
- Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, University of Cambridge, November 2017
- Joint session of the Political Theory Research Seminar and History of Political Thought Research Seminar, University of Oxford, October 2016

“The Utopian Founding Myths of More and Bacon”

- History of Political Ideas Early Career Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, School of Advanced Study, University of London, September 2018

“Three Stories of Awakening and the Naming of Nature: Plato’s Myth of Er”

- American Political Science Association annual meeting, Boston, August 2018

“An Enlightenment Fable: Leibniz and the Boundaries of Reason”

- “New Directions in the History of Political Thought, 1500-1800,” University of York, June 2018
- American Political Science Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, August 2016
- X. Internationaler Leibniz-Kongress, Hannover, Germany, July 2016

“The Demon of the City: Ernst Cassirer on Myth and Plato”

- Post-Kantian European Philosophy Seminar, University of Oxford, February 2017
- 8th Annual European Philosophy Workshop, Harvard University, December 2016

“The Mythic Project of Plato’s *Republic*”

- Northeastern Political Science Association annual meeting, Boston, November 2014

“Plato and the New Mythology of German Idealism”

- “Ways of Knowing” Graduate Conference on Religion, Harvard University, October 2013
- 4th Annual European Philosophy Workshop, Harvard University, December 2012

“The Tragic Art of Crowd-Pleasing: On the role of the crowd in Plato’s *Gorgias*”

- American Political Science Association annual meeting, Chicago, August 2013
- Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Princeton University, April 2012
- Tragedy and Political Philosophy Conference, Czech Academy of Sciences, University of Hradec Králové, April 2010 (*presented in absentia*)

“Wittgenstein’s Challenge: Tom Stoppard, Ingeborg Bachmann, and the limits of language”

- Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University, June 2012

“The Inheritance of Evil: the role of the father in *Republic* VIII”

- Ancient Philosophy Society annual meeting, New York, April 2008

#### *Other presentations*

“Symbols in Politics”

- Invited lecture for “Women in PPE Study Day,” Christ Church, University of Oxford, May 2019

Response to the Carlyle Lectures by Melissa Lane, “Constitutions before Constitutionalism: Classical Greek Ideas of Office and Rule”

- Discussant for the 2018 Carlyle Lectures in the History of Political Thought, Oxford, February 2018

“Myths of Modernity and the Myths of Plato”

- In-House Classics Discussion Group, Christ Church, University of Oxford, November 2016

“Kant’s *Towards Perpetual Peace*, or, The Dutch Innkeeper’s Joke”

- Invited lecture for “History of Modern Political Philosophy,” a mixed undergraduate and graduate course, Harvard University, March 2012

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*At University of Oxford*

**Political Thought: Plato to Rousseau**, Michaelmas Term 2019

- Tutor for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics – Honor School (Somerville and Balliol)

**Introduction to the Theory of Politics**, Trinity Term 2018

- Tutor for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics – Prelims (Christ Church)

*At Harvard University, as Teaching Fellow:*

**Sophomore Tutorial in Government**, Spring 2013, Spring 2016

**The European Postwar: Literature, Film, Politics**, Fall 2015

**Shakespeare and Politics**, Fall 2012

**History of Modern Political Philosophy**, Spring 2012

**Foundations of Comparative Politics**, Fall 2011

*Other teaching*

Writing Tutor, Harvard University Extension School, 2010–12

Teaching Intern, Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH, 2008

- Courses taught: **The Craft of the Essay**; co-taught: **World Literature**

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

Academic talks for Christ Church Access, Oxford and London, 2017–20

Assessor for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics; History and Politics; MPhil in Politics, Oxford, 2016–20

Political Theory Panel, Department of Politics and International Relations, Oxford, 2016–20

Co-coordinator, Thesis Workshop for Juniors, Harvard Center for European Studies, 2012–16

Non-resident Concentration Advisor, Currier House, Harvard University, 2012–16

Graduate Coordinator, Political Theory Workshop, Harvard University, 2011–13

Referee: *American Political Science Review*, *Polis*, Springer