

CURRICULUM VITAE

JAMES SIMEONE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2900
309-556-3126

EMPLOYMENT

Illinois Wesleyan University

2024-present Sally Firestone Professor of Peace and Social Justice in Political Science
2022-2024, Ben and Susan Rhodes Professor of Peace and Social Justice in Political Science
2013-2022, Professor of Political Science
2003-present, Action Research Center (ARC) member and co-founder
2001, 2008-2013, Department of Political Science, Chair
1999-2013, Associate Professor of Political Science
1992-1999, Assistant Professor of Political Science

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Chicago, Department of Political Science, 1992
M.A., University of Chicago, Department of Political Science, 1984
B.A., University of Chicago, Department of Political Science, 1982
Graduated with honors

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

The Saints and the State: The Mormon Troubles in Illinois (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2021)
The Bottomland Republic: Democracy and Slavery in Frontier Illinois (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2000)

ARTICLES

“Do Project Pedagogies Make a Difference?” (with Greg Shaw) *Journal of Political Science Education* 13, no. 1 (2017):75-90.
“Reassessing Jacksonian Political Culture: William Leggett’s Egalitarianism” *American Political Thought* 4 (Summer 2015):359-390
“William Kinney’s Agrarian Dilemma” *Journal of Illinois History* (Spring 2010):2-32
“The 1830 Contest for Governor and the Politics of Resentment,” *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 102 (Fall Winter 2009):282-306

"Ninian Edwards' Republican Dilemma," *Illinois Historical Journal* 90 (Winter 1997):245-264

"NOW v. Scheidler: RICO and Civil Liberties," *Illinois Political Science Review* (Spring 1995): 43-46

BOOK CHAPTERS/ ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

"Sustainability" in *Today's Environmental Issues: Democrats and Republicans* (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2018) Edited by Teri J. Walker 300-309

"Unscripted Learning: Cultivating Engaged Catalysts" (with Jim Sikora and Deborah Halperin) in *Civic Engagement across the Disciplines* (Washington, DC: American Political Science Association, 2017) Edited by Elizabeth C. Matto, Allison Rios Millett McCartney, Elizabeth A. Bennion, and Dick Simpson 273-289

"Political Culture" in *Political and Civil Leadership: A Reference Handbook* (Los Angeles: SAGE Publications, 2010) Edited by Richard Couto Volume 1:481-489

"Congress" "Presidency" and "Lincoln Douglas Debates" in *The Encyclopedia of United States Political History 1841-1877* (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Press, 2010) Edited by William Shade Volume III: 95-101; 233-235; 273-279

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Gardner Faculty Scholar Award, Illinois Wesleyan University, 2021

Lengle Chapter Advisor Recognition Award, Pi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society, 2020

Phi Kappa Phi, National Honor Society, 2006

CIC/Gilder Lehrman Seminar, Columbia University, 2003

Illinois State Historical Society, Superior Achievement Award, 2001

Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honor Society, Best Chapter Adviser Award 1997

Junior Faculty Leave, Illinois Wesleyan University, Fall 1997

PAPERS

2022 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois "Populist Peoplehood Prototype: Mormon Nationalism from Desert to Mountain Meadows"

2020 International Political Science Association, Lisbon, Portugal, "Nineteenth-Century Mormonism as a Nationalist Movement" (Conference postponed due to Covid 19)

2018 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, "The Mormons in Settler Illinois: Misrecognition, Independent Producers, and Regime Services"

2018 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, "Civic Engagement in the Classroom"

2016 American Political Science Association, Teaching and Learning Conference, Portland, Oregon, “Civic Engagement across the Disciplines: Experiential Learning Proficiencies in Community-based Learning”

2015 American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, “Do Project Pedagogies Make a Difference?” with Greg Shaw

2014 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois “Assessing the Quality of Citizenship: Do Project Pedagogies Make a Difference?” with Greg Shaw

2012 American Political Science Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, “Representation Diverted: Egalitarianism in Jacksonian America” (Hurricane Isaac cancelled the meeting)

2012 Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Baltimore, Maryland, “William Leggett and the Debate over Jacksonian Political Culture”

2012 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois “Reassessing Jacksonian Political Culture: William Leggett’s Egalitarianism”

2011 American Political Science Association, Teaching and Learning Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, “Assessing the Quality of Citizenship: Do Project Pedagogies Make a Difference?”

2009 Illinois History Symposium, Jacksonville, Illinois “Lincoln’s 1839 Public Lands Proposal and the Agrarian Tradition in Illinois”

2007 Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois “Majoritarianism as a Causal Mechanism in American Political Development”

2006 British and American Historians of the Nineteenth Century, Oxford, England “The Dilemmas of Agrarian Democracy in Antebellum Illinois”

2005 British and American Historians of the Nineteenth Century, Edgefield, South Carolina “Democracy as Egalitarian Opposition: Illinois Whole Hog Democrats and the Politics of Identity”

2003 Political Science Colloquium Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois “Is Egalitarian Liberalism Sufficient?”

2001 Illinois Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois “Naturalizing the Argument from Liberal Universalism”

2001 Illinois History Symposium, Springfield, Illinois “William Kinney and the Debate over ‘Plain Folk’ Ideology”

2000 Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Buffalo, New York “*U.S. v. Anne Royall* (1829): ‘Cutthroat Presbyterians’ Sue an ‘Evil Virago’”

1999 Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Lexington, Kentucky “Calvinism and Republicanism in the Early Republic: The Case of Daniel Parker”

1997 American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C. “The Role of the Pi Sigma Alpha Chapter Adviser”

1996 Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield, Illinois “The Republican Theology of Daniel Parker”

1996 American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California “The Impact of Election Pressure on Presidential Oversight of Regulation: OIRA Review, 1984-1991”

1994 Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield, Illinois “‘The Whole of Salvation in Their Hands’: Baptist and Methodist Identities in Early Illinois”

1994 Illinois Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois “NOW v. Scheidler: Civil Liberties and RICO”

1993 Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield, Illinois “The Rise of Bottom Land Republicanism in the Third General Assembly”

1993 Illinois Political Science Association, Bloomington, Illinois “Presidential Micromanagement of the Regulatory Process: The Case of Ethanol” with Craig Curtis of Bradley University

CONFERENCE PANEL ORGANIZER, CHAIR, AND DISCUSSANT

“Religious Civil Society and Political Identity” Midwest Political Science Conference 2024

PODCAST 8/23/21

Interviewed by Nick Stainback for “So you want to talk about Mormonism,”

<https://player.fm/series/so-you-want-to-talk-about-mormonism/the-saints-and-the-state-the-mormon-troubles-in-illinois-w-james-simeone>

BLOGPOST

“The Page 99 Test: James Simeone’s *The Saints and the State*,” June 5, 2021

GRANTS

State Farm Grants funding the Action Research Center (ARC):

- 2016 (\$72,358 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2015 (\$56,000 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2014 (\$56,000 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2013 (\$55,358 with fifteen paid summer internships)
- 2012 (\$55,358 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2011 (\$56,358 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2010 (\$55,758 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2009 (\$110,658 with ten paid summer internships)

- 2008 (\$53,661 with ten paid summer internships)
- 2007 (\$50,000 with ten paid summer internships)

Weir Fellowships garnered for ARC students and community partners:

- 2015 to the present (the Fellowship became endowed with \$23,950 from the estate of Elizabeth Weir; a single \$1000-1250 grant is awarded annually)
- 2013 (\$5000, including two fellowships and two leadership stipends)
- 2012 (two at \$1500 each)
- 2011 (two at \$2000 each)
- 2010 (two at \$2000 each)
- 2009 (two at \$1500 each)
- 2008 (two at \$1500 each)

Re-Centering the Humanities Grant, Dialogues Across the Disciplines 2016

Re-Centering the Humanities Grant, Mellon Fellow 2014

Teagle Grant 2013

Asian Studies Department of Education Grant 2011

Artistic and Scholarly Development (ASD) Grant, Illinois Wesleyan University 1994, 2005, 2011, 2017, 2026

Teagle Grant submitted for ARC 2010

Ameren Foundation Grant submitted for ARC 2006

Illinois Humanities Council Media Grant submitted for Spence Farm by ARC 2005; 2006; 2008 (not funded)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship 1996, 2005, 2010 (not funded)

Surdna Foundation Grant submitted for ARC 2005

McCormick Foundation Grant (Campus Compact) Grant submitted for ARC 2005

Curriculum Development (CD) Program Grant, Illinois Wesleyan University, submitted (with Jim Sikora) for ARC December 2004

Save Our History Grant submitted for the Old House Society by ARC December 2004 (not funded)

Bradley Foundation Grant submitted for ARC 2004 (not funded)

Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL-CUR) Grant for ARC 2003

Curriculum Innovation Fund (CIF) Grant, Illinois Wesleyan University 2000

Heritage Library Gift Grants Illinois Wesleyan University 2000, 1998

Curriculum Development (CD) Grant, Illinois Wesleyan University 1995, 1996, 1998, 2016

Illinois Native Plant Society Grant submitted for the peace Garden, 2022

Department of Education Global Engagement Grant, 2024

INVITED LECTURES AND SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

September 10, 2022 McLean County History Museum, “The Saints and the State: The Mormon Troubles in Illinois”

August 28, 2018 McLean County History Museum, *Illinois Bicentennial Lecture Series*, “How frontier Illinois became the land of the Independent Producer and why it matters today”

January 27, 2016 Illinois Wesleyan University, *Dialogues across the Disciplines*, “Realism in Thucydides and Joyce”

July 12, 2012 Washington University, *Mormon History Workshop*, “Group Identity and the Rise of Anti-Mormonism in Illinois, 1838-1846”

February 28, 2009 Early American Museum, *Goose Pond Lecture Series*, “African Americans in Frontier Illinois”

February 8, 2008 Illinois Wesleyan University, *Multicultural Lecture Series*, “‘And Why Not Every Man?’: The Quest for the Universal in American Liberalism”

January 22, 2005 Illinois Wesleyan University, *Faculty Colloquium*, “On Why Democracies Exclude: Evidence from Nineteenth-Century Illinois”

November 8, 2002 Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, *Elijah Lovejoy Bicentennial Symposium* (keynote speaker), “Slavery and Politics in Early Southwestern Illinois”

March 12, 2001 Illinois Wesleyan University, *Department of Religion Colloquium*, “Daniel Parker and the Politics of Primitive Baptist Theodicy”

BOOK REVIEWS

The Annals of Iowa, Volume 82 No. 4 (Fall 2023):362-364, James A. Edstrom, *Avenues of Transformation: Illinois’s Path from Territory to State*

A Journal of Church and State, Volume 35 Issue 2. (Spring 2023):287-289, Adam Jortner, *No Place for Saints: Mobs and Mormons in Jacksonian America*

Journal of American History, Volume 109 Number 3 (December 2022):678–679, Kondon Smith Hansen and Michael Harold Paulos, *The Reed Smoot Hearings: The Investigation of a Mormon Senator and the Transformation of an American Religion*

Journal of American History, Volume 108 Number 2 (September 2021):382-383, Michael F. Conlin, *The Constitutional Origins of the American Civil War*

Journal of American History, Volume 105 Number 3 (December 2018):677-678, Daina Ramey Berry, *The Price for Their Pound of Flesh: The Value of the Enslaved, from Womb to the Grave, in the Building of a Nation*

Journal of American History, Volume 103 Number 3 (December 2016) 762-763, Silvana R. Siddali, *Frontier Democracy: Constitutional Conventions in the Old Northwest*

American Nineteenth Century History, Volume 16 Issue 3 (2015):358-360, Suzanne Cooper Guasco, *Confronting Slavery: Edward Coles and the Rise of Anti-Slavery Politics in Nineteenth-Century America*

American Political Thought, Volume 5 Issue 1 (Fall 2015) 663-666, Daniel Peart, *Era of Experimentation: American Political Practices in the Early Republic*

Journal of American Studies, Volume 48 Issue 3 (August 2014) 883-884, Fred I. Greenstein, *Presidents and the Dissolution of the Union*

Annals of Iowa, (Spring 2012), Kurt E. Leichtle and Bruce G. Carveth, *Crusade against Slavery: Edward Coles, Pioneer of Freedom*

Illinois Academe, (Spring 2012), Matthew Finkin and Robert Post, *For the Common Good*

Journal of American History, Volume 95 Number 4 (March 2009) 41, John Craig Hammond, *Slavery, Freedom, and Expansion in the Early American West*

Perspectives on Politics, Volume 5 Number 3 (September 2007) 646-647, Noah Pickus, *True Faith and Allegiance: Immigration and American Civic Nationalism*

Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, Volume 93 Number 2 (Summer 2000): 217-220, David Grimsted, *American Mobbing, 1828-1861: Toward the Civil War*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Action Research Center, Co-director, 2003-2011
Advocacy Minor, Coordinator, 2017-present
Assessment Committee, 2026-present
Council on University Programs and Policies, 2001; 2014-2015
Curriculum Council 1994-1996; 2000-2002; 2022
Dialogues across the Disciplines series, Coordinator, 2015-present
Faculty Development Committee, 1998-2000; 2020-2021; 2024-2026
Hearing Committee, 2012-2014
General Education Task Force, 2015-2016, Chair 2017-2018
Institutional Review Board, 2007-2009, 2020-2021
Internship Advisory Committee, 2002-2008
Liberal Arts Cluster coordinator, 2011-2013
Nominating Committee, 1996-1998
Peace Garden Faculty Adviser, 2011-present
Pre-Law Advisory Committee, 1994-2000; 2015-present
Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2010-2012; 2022-2024

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Discussant, Mentor, Midwest Political Science Association, 2022-2024
Manuscript Reviewer, 1997-present, (for *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Illinois History*, *Ohio Valley History*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, *Populism*, Southern Illinois University Press, Northern Illinois University Press, Oxford University Press, University of Illinois Press)
Executive Council Member, Pi Sigma Alpha (National Political Science Honorary Society), 2010-2013
Chapter Adviser, Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honorary Society), 1994-present
Reviewer, *Choice*, 1995-2015
Producer, Action Research Center, Roundtables 2005-2006
Chapter President, American Association of University Professors, 2001-2003

Co-Editor, Illinois Political Science Review, 1996-1997
Editor, Illinois Political Science Review, 1998
Editor, Illinois Political Science Association Newsletter, 1993-1995

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Midwest Political Science Association, 1995-present
Illinois Historical Society, 1993-present
American Political Science Association, 1992-2020
American Association of University Professors, 1994-2018
Illinois Political Science Association, 1993-2003
Social Science History Organization, 1999-2014
Society for Historians of the Early Republic, 1999-2020
British and American Nineteenth Century Historians, 2005-2008

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lamu Center of Preventative Health, Board Member and Treasurer, 2008-present
Bloomington Zoning Board of Appeals, Member, 2012-2017
Legacy of the Land Farmers Co-op, Member, 2015-2018
American Civil Liberties Union, Central Illinois Steering Committee, Speaker's Committee Chair, 2006-2015
Founders' Grove Neighborhood Association, President, 2006-2008
Old House Society, Board Member and Treasurer, 1999-2004
West Bloomington Revitalization Project, Plant Exchange Coordinator, 2021-present

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department Courses:

PSCI 101 American National Government
PSCI 104 Multiculturalism and its Critics
PSCI 202 Engagement and the City (cross listed with SOC 202)
PSCI 210 Democracy: What's the Big Idea?
PSCI 242 Voting, Voice, Virtual Freedom in the Internet Age
PSCI 261 Risk and Regulation: Debates in American Environmental Protection
PSCI 270 The American Presidency
PSCI 270 Sustainable Agriculture
PSCI 307 Constitutional Law I: Judicial Review and Constitutional Interpretation
PSCI 315 Classical Political Thought: Democracy in Athens and America
PSCI 316 Modern Political Thought: Liberalism, Religion, and the Nation State
PSCI 317 American Political Thought: Liberalism, Republicanism, and Ascription
PSCI 365 Ethical Dilemmas in Environmental Politics (cross listed with ENST 365)
PSCI 395 Action Research Seminar (cross listed with SOC 395)
PSCI 396 Internship Seminar
PSCI 396 City Internship Program
PSCI 397 Internship in Administration
PSCI 415 Senior Seminar

PSCI 422 Research Seminar: American Political Development

University Courses:

GATEWAY 100 Dear Humanity,
GATEWAY 100 Improvising Citizenship
GATEWAY 100 Utopianism and its Critics
GATEWAY 100 Citizens & Strangers
GATEWAY 100 Into the Wild
GATEWAY 100 Power in America
FYE 100 Citizen Scholars
HUM 103 Philosophy, the State, and the Individual, 1600-1800
HUM 103 Love, Knowledge, and Power 1600-1800
UNIV 397 Lawrence Correctional Center Deep Thinkers

University Clusters Themes:

2011 *What We Eat/Why it Matters*
2012 *Making Human Rights Real*
2013 *Unraveling Inequality*
2026 *Emergence*

Summer Eckley Fellows/Environmental Studies Summer Experience Fellows

2023 Melinda Burgin (Eckley)
2024 Melinda Burgin (ESSE)
2025 Celina El Ghossaini (Eckley)
2025 Natalia Martinez (ESSE)
2026 Cameron McGill (ESSE)

Honors research students as chair:

1998 Paul Konzal
1999 Justin Taylor
2003 James Melton
2005 Katherine Egan
2008 Mujtaba Isani
2011 Amy Uden
2013 Danny Kenny
2023 Rachel Williams
2023 Adrianna Helstad
2023 Emma Stroh
2025 Melinda Burgin
2025 Rowan Danou
2025 Franchesca Smith
2025 Chase Beitz

Peace Garden summer interns as supervisor:

2013 Ryan Dyar
2014 Carolyn Ashley
2015 Amanda King
2016 Rachel Shaffer

2018 Allana Scoggins
2019 Refugio Moreno
2020 David Werner
2021 Myeia Donald
2022 Alexis Aranda-Hernandez
2023 Logan Faith and Eric Min Myat
2024 Peter George and Miles Keeton
2025 Logan Faith and Alexis Aranda-Hernandez
2026 Cameron McGill and Christopher Brach

Lamu Center of Preventative Health summer interns

2024 Peter George and Miles Keeton
2025 Logan Faith and Alexis Aranda-Hernandez
2026 Cameron McGill and Christopher Brach