

**Michael C. Evans**

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Department of Government and Politics  
University of Maryland  
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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Expected 2009 University of Maryland, Department of Government and Politics

**Areas of Research:**

Public Law; American Political Thought and Development; Judicial Process and Behavior; Modern Political / Constitutional Theory; Presidency; Interest Groups

**Dissertation:**

Title: "The Republican Security Dilemma and American Constitutionalism: Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison on Preserving Civil Liberty amid Interstate Anarchy"

Committee: Wayne McIntosh (Chair), Stephen Elkin, Mark Graber, Irwin Morris, and Karol Soltan

**Abstract:**

How can republics remain free while confronting security threats in international anarchy? This study addresses how and why Hamilton, Jefferson, and Madison differed in their approach to this question, and the bearing this had on their distinct ideas about executive power, federalism, and republican theory more generally. Based on computer-assisted text analysis of their complete digitized works, and informed by recent scholarship on the "republican security" tradition of international thought within which they operated, I offer a reinterpretation of their constitutional ideas and of how those ideas apply today. Among other things, I argue that Hamilton had less, and Jefferson and Madison more, to say about reconciling executive energy and republican liberty than is widely believed, and that Madison's and Hamilton's federalism arguments imply the need for international, as well as domestic, institutional strategies for protecting civil liberty in today's security milieu.

**Examination Fields:** American Politics and Politics/Philosophy/Public Policy  
Passed Both Examinations "With Distinction"

M.A., 2002 Political Science, Western Washington University

**Examination Fields:** Political Theory and American Politics  
Passed Both Examinations "With Distinction"

B.A., 1999 Philosophy/Politics/Economics (PPE), Western Washington University

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer Reviewed Journal Article**

“Recounting the Courts? Applying Automated Content Analysis to Enhance Empirical Legal Research.” (2007) *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*. Volume 4, Number 4: pp. 1007-1039 (with Wayne McIntosh; Jimmy Lin; and Cynthia Cates)

### **Book Review**

Book Review: *The Global Debate over Constitutional Property: Lessons for American Takings Jurisprudence*. Forthcoming in *Law and Politics Book Review*

## **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

### **Instructor**

“Introduction to American Government and Politics,” (GVPT) 170: University of Maryland, Winter 2007

### **Teaching Assistantships**

“The Presidency and the Executive Branch,” GVPT 475: Professor Irwin Morris, University of Maryland, Spring 2005

“The First Amendment in Law and Politics,” GVPT 439a: Professor Wayne McIntosh, University of Maryland, Fall 2004

“Introduction to Political Science,” Political Science 101: Western Washington University. Professor Theodore Kamena, Spring 2002; Professor Kenneth Hoover, Fall 2002; and Professor Timothy Allen, Fall 2000 – Spring 2001

### **Research Positions**

Fall 2006 – Present: Project Director for the NSF - Funded UMD Digital Docket Project Three-year \$750,000 multidisciplinary initiative to create original datasets and digital text analysis tools for enabling new kinds of empirical research on the U.S. Supreme Court (1953 - 2008.) Served as liaison between Principal Investigators from three departments; coordinated and mentored a ten-member team of undergraduate research assistants; assigned tasks to graduate research assistants from several departments; co-authored papers; and made presentations at professional conferences.

Fall 2005 – Spring 2006: Graduate Research Assistant for Wayne McIntosh Played a leading role in conceiving the Digital Docket Project by envisioning the project concept, helping to build the multidisciplinary team, and writing a large portion of the grant proposal.

Fall 2003 – Summer 2004: Graduate Research Assistant for Wayne McIntosh

Explored new methods for applying information technologies to social science research and experimented with applying computational linguistics techniques to legal text analysis. The latter became the basis of the Digital Docket Project.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

- “A Reinterpretation of Alexander Hamilton’s Republicanism based on Systematic Content Analysis of his Complete Digital Works.” Article ms
- “Textualism v. Active Liberty: Testing the Doctrinal Approaches of Justices Scalia and Breyer.” (with Cynthia Cates, Rebecca Thorpe, and Wayne McIntosh). Article ms
- “Tipping Their Hands? Measuring the Predictability of Justices’ Votes Based on the Linguistic Content of Their Oral Argument Questions.” (with Timothy Hawes)
- “*Amicus Curiae*, Social Conflict, and the U.S. Supreme Court.” Leading development of a dataset of all individuals and groups, classified according to a 60-category typology, who have participated as *amicus curiae* before the U.S. Supreme Court (1953 - 2008)

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2007 Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH) Winnemore Digital Dissertation Fellowship
- 2006 Phi Delta Gamma Graduate Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Scholarship

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **Conference Papers**

- “Textualism vs. Active Liberty: Testing the Doctrinal Approaches of Justices Scalia and Breyer.” (With Cynthia Cates, Rebecca Thorpe, and Wayne McIntosh). Presented to the Annual Conference of the American Politics Group, University Of London, UK: January 3-5, 2008
- “Toward a Collaborative Model for Social Science Cyberinfrastructure Development: Lessons from the Digital Docket Project.” (With Wayne McIntosh). Presented at the Third International Conference on e-Social Science. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: October 7–9, 2007
- “Recounting the Courts? Applying Automated Content Analysis to Enhance Empirical Legal Research.” (With Wayne McIntosh, et al.). Presented at the Conference on Empirical Legal Studies. Austin, TX: October 28, 2006
- "Beyond the Double Standard: Comparing U.S. Supreme Court Decision Making in Property vs. Civil Rights Cases: 1978 – 2005." (With Rebecca Thorpe). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL: April 20, 2006

"Patterns of Judicial Influence: Tracking Regulatory Takings Policy in the Lower Federal Courts." (With Ken Cousins et al.). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Washington, DC: September 1, 2005

"Using Information Technology to Examine the Communication of Precedent: Initial Findings and Lessons from the CITE-IT Project". (With Wayne McIntosh, et al.). Presented at the Annual Conference of the Western Political Science Association. Oakland, CA: March 17, 2005

"Only Words or Data? Assessing the Relative Policy Positions in Supreme Court Briefs and Opinions". (With Wayne McIntosh and Cynthia Cates). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Chicago, IL: September 2, 2004

### **Presentations**

"Anarchy, Liberty, and the Balance of Powers: Explaining Alexander Hamilton's Ambivalent Republican Leadership." Paper presented to the University of Maryland American Politics Workshop: April 25, 2008

"Overview of Digital Text Analysis Software for Social Science and Humanities Research." Presentation to George Mason University's "Technology Across the Curriculum" faculty working group. Fairfax, VA: February 28, 2008

"The Digital Docket Project: Computer Assisted Textual Data Analysis of the SCOTUS Corpus." Presentation to the Second Chicago Colloquium on Digital Humanities and Computer Science. Evanston, IL: October 22, 2007

"Mixed-Methods Computer Assisted Textual Data Analysis for Social Science and Humanities Research: A Practitioner's Perspective." Presentation to the UMD Human-Computer Interaction Lab. College Park, MD: October 18, 2007

"Testing the Usefulness of Applying Automated Content Analysis Methods for Legal and Political Science Research." Presentation to the Working Group on Automated Content Analysis at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA: September 1, 2006

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS**

Reviewer, *American Politics Research* (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008)

Member, GVPT Student Group on Qualitative and Mixed Methods (2006 – present)

Member, GVPT Quantitative Politics Student Group (2006 – present)

Discussant, UMD American Politics Workshop (2005, 2006, 2007)

Invited Participant, "George Washington and the American Founding" colloquium sponsored by the Liberty Fund. Atlanta, GA (2007)

Graduate Student Field Representative, Politics/Philosophy/Public Policy Field (2006 – 2007)

Graduate Student Representative, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences'  
 Technology Fee Allocation Committee (2005, 2006)  
 Representative, GVPT Graduate Student Association (GSA) "Undergraduate Studies  
 Committee" (2003 – 2005)  
 GSA First Year Representative (2002 – 2003)  
 Contributor, *Augmentation* blog (augmentation.blogspot.com) (2004 – present)

## METHODOLOGICAL SKILLS

Certified Trainer and Consultant: *QDA Miner* and *WordStat* text analysis software  
 Proficient user of *STATA* statistical software  
 Training in categorical data analysis, matrix algebra, and rational choice theory received at  
 2005 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research  
 Completed UMD courses: Advanced Quantitative Methods (multivariate OLS/logistic  
 regression) and Formal Theory (game theory and social choice)

## REFERENCES

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