William E. English, Ph.D.

Contact Information

Georgetown University
McDonough School of Business, Hariri 307
Strategy, Economics, Ethics, & Public Policy
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Research Interests

Ethics, Political Economy, Behavioral Economics American Political Development, History of Political Thought, Theories of Justice, New Institutionalism, Behavioral Genomics, Lobbying & Regulation, Firearms Policy, Research Methods, Civic Education, Religion & Politics, Public Policy.

Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor, Economics, Ethics, and Public Policy — Aug 2016 - Present
McDonough School of Business,
Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Research Associate, — July 2015 - June 2016
Research Director, — Jan 2014 - June 2015
Lab Fellow, — Sept 2011 - August 2013
Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics,
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Research Fellow, — Sept 2013 - June 2015
Harvard Initiative for Learning and Teaching,
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Post-Doctoral Research Associate — Aug 2010 - Aug 2011
Political Theory Project,
Brown University, Providence, RI

Education

Duke University, Durham, NC

Ph.D., Political Science — September 2010

- Dissertation: *Social Thought and Social Change: Methodological Dilemmas at the Intersection of Science and Ethics*
- Committee: Mike Munger, Michael Gillespie, Tom Spragens, Evan Charney, Stanley Hauerwas

M.A., Political Science — December 2006

- Field Concentrations: *Political Theory, Methods, Political Economy*

Oxford University (Worcester College) Oxford, UK

M.St., Ethics — October 2004

Duke University, Durham, NC

B.S. with Distinction, Economics — May 2003

B.A., Mathematics

Books

[1] *Business Ethics for Better Behavior*, Oxford University Press, 2021. (with Brennan, Hasnas, and Jaowrski)

Refereed Journal Articles

[2] "Can Welfare Economics Justify Corporate Philanthropy? Proposing the 'philanthropy multiplier' as a metric for evaluating corporate philanthropic expenditures." *Business Ethics Quarterly.* (2023): 1-31.

[3] "The origin of wealth matters: Equity norms trump equality norms in the ultimatum game with earned endowments" *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization.* Volume 158, February 2019, Pages 33-43. (with Benjamin Barber)

[4] "The Logic of Gift: Inspiring Behavior in Organizations Beyond the Limits of Duty and Exchange" *Business Ethics Quarterly.* April 2016: Vol 26 (2), 159180. (with Tomas Baviera and Manuel Guillen)

[5] "Genopolitics and the Science of Genetics" *American Political Science Review.* April 2013: Vol 107 (2), 382-395. (with Evan Charney)

[6] "Candidate Genes and Political Behavior" *American Political Science Review.* February 2012: Vol 106(1), 1-34. (with Evan Charney)

[7] "Demystifying Trust: Experimental Evidence from Thailand and Cambodia." *Journal of Theoretical Politics.*, April 2012 vol. 24 no. 2 172-209.

Scholarly Publications

[8] "Varieties of Citizenship and the Moral Foundations of Politics" in *The Ethics of Citizenship in the 21st Century*, David Thunder (Eds): Springer International Publishing, 2017 DOI:10.1007/978-3-319-50415-5

[9] "Paying People to Make Healthy Choices" *eLS*, John Wiley & Sons Ltd, February, 2017: http://www.els.net

[10] "Two Cheers for Nudging" *Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy*, Vol. 14, 2016: 829.

[11] "Economic and Ideological Corruptions of the Regulatory State" *Society*, May/June, 2014: Volume 51, Issue 3.

[12] "Institutional Corruption and the Crisis of Liberal Democracy" Edmond J. Safra Working Papers, No. 15. June, 2013 (42 pages).

[13] "Locke, Hegel, and the Economy" *Society*, October, 2013: Volume 50, Issue 6.

[14] "The Demographic Challenge to Entitlements: A Comment, Criticism, and Caveat" in *Science, Virtue, and the Future of Humanity*, Peter Augustine Lawler and Marc D. Guerra (Eds), Lexington Books: 2015.

[15] "Corruption in Bioethics'' *Compendium of Global Bioethics.* Edited by ten-Have and Gordijn. Springer, 2013.(20 pages) (with Jennifer Miller).

[16] "Unlocking the Secrets of Human Biology: Implications for Diplomacy, Security, and War" in Rose McDermott and Peter K. Hatemi, eds. H-Diplo ISSF Roundtable on "Biology and Security", *H-Diplo ISSF Roundtable Reviews* Volume I, Number 2 (April 2010) (p. 6-34).

[17] "The Compartmentalization of Moral Inspiration," *Proceedings of the 36th St. Gallen Symposium*, Switzerland: St. Gallen Press, 2006. (p. 103-107).

Book Reviews and Essays

[18] "Rhetoric and Reality With Exxon, BP, and the Future of Fossil Fuels" *Real Clear Markets* October 05, 2020.

[19] "Why Genes Don't Predict Voting Behavior: when it comes to complex behaviors, gene variants don't count for much" *Scientific American.* Nov 2012 (with Evan Charney).

[20] "The Ethics of Competition" in the Harvard Ethics Center *Research in Action* Blog. http://ethics.harvard.edu/blog/william-english-ethics-competition August, 2012.

[21] "Can Neuroscience Tell Us Anything About Virtue?" review of *The Social Animal: The Hidden Sources of Love, Character, and Achievement* by David Books in *Public Discourse*, Sept 23, 2011.

[22] "Still Awaiting Redemption" review of *Redeeming Economics: Rediscovering the Missing Element* by John D. Mueller in *The Intercollegiate Review*, Spring 2011 (p.57-60).

[23] "Illiberal Arguments" review of James Kalb's *The Tyranny of Liberalism* (part of a larger symposium) in *First Principles* May 13, 2009.

[24] "What has Athens to do with Jerusalem? Political Philosophy and the Christian Church" *Religio* Volume 2 Issue 1, Spring 2008 (p.10-13) (campus journal)

Journal Articles Under Review

[25] "The Right to Carry Has Not Increased Crime: Improving an Old Debate Through Better Data on Permit Growth Over Time." (R&R at Public Choice) Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3887151

[26] "The Introduction of Paid Plasma in Canada and the U.S. Has Not Decreased Unpaid Blood Donations." with Peter Jaworski. R&R at AEJ: Policy Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3653432

[27] "Common Carriage Doctrine as a Framework for Evaluating the Permissibility of Discrimination" (R&R at BEQ)

Working Papers

[28] "Making Itself True: How Organizational Reliance on AI May Entrench the Past and Threaten Radical Innovation."

[29] "A Response to Critics of the 2021 National Firearms Survey." (November 25, 2024) available at: UW College of Law Firearms Research Center

[30] "2021 National Firearms Survey" (July 14, 2021). Preliminary report available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3887145

[31] "2021 National Firearms Survey: Updated Analysis Including Types of Firearms Owned." (May 13, 2022). SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=4109494

[32] "English, William, 2021 National Firearms Survey: Analysis of Magazine Ownership and Use." (May 4, 2023). SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=4444288

[33] "Understanding the Inconsistency of Risk Preference: experimental evidence and broader implications."

[34] "Paid Plasma Has Not Crowded Out Unpaid Blood Donations in the United States" with Peter Jaworski

[35] "What Can Ideal Theory Do for Politics?"

[36] "Student Engagement with Classroom Technologies: Evaluating theories of educational success and failure in a large lecture course."

Book Projects

[37] *The Security of Free State: The theory and science of the Second Amendment*

[38] *The Fall of ESG: Assessing and Addressing the Politicization of Business*

Expert Witness Reports

[39] Expert Witness Report of William English, PhD Expert Witness Report of William English, PhD NRA vs SWEARINGEN, CASE NO.: 4:18-cv-137-MW/CAS Northern District of Florida, August 2020 (pp. 10).

[40] Expert Witness Report of William English, PhD John Doe #1, et al. v. Putnam County, 16-CV-8191 July 22, 2019 (pp. 22).

[41] Expert Witness Report of William English, PhD Vermont Federation of Sportsmens Clubs v. Birmingham, No. 224-4-18 Wncv (Sup. Ct. Wash. Unit) June 16, 2019 (pp. 18).

[42] Rebuttal Report of William English, Rupp, et al. v. Becerra United States District Court Central District of California, Southern Division Case No.: 8:17-cv-00746-JLS-JDE.

[43] Expert Witness Report of William English, PhD Rupp, et al. v. Becerra United States District Court Central District of California, Southern Division Case No.: 8:17-cv-00746-JLS-JDE October 25, 2018.

Grants and Honors

Templeton Foundation ($3,986,992) *2025-28*
- Topic: Assessing and Addressing the Politicization of Business.

Kenan Dissertation Fellowship in Ethics, Kenan Institute, Duke University *2009-10*
- Comprehensive graduate fellowship

Duke Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship Travel Research Award *2009*
- $2,500 for field research in Cambodia and Thailand

National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant *2008*
- $8,500 NSF award to run experiments in support of dissertation research

Summer Fellow, Duke Center for Genomics, Ethics, Law, and Policy *2007*
- $6,000 summer research award

Wings of Excellence Award, St. Gallen Symposium *2006*
- 5,000 Euro essay award for essay on Inspiring Europe

Teaching Experience

Georgetown University, Washington, DC

"Ethical Leadership" *Ongoing*
- Lecture Course, MBA Core Curriculum

"Data Ethics and Privacy" *Ongoing*
- Lecture Course, Masters in Business Analytics Core Curriculum

"Ethical Values of Business: Politics, Regulation, and Corporate Governance" *Ongoing*
- Lecture Course, Sophomore Core Curriculum

"Social Responsibilities of Business" *2016-2018*
- Lecture Course, Senior Core Curriculum

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

"Institutional Corruption" *Spring 2014*
- Lecture Course, Designed and Co-Taught with Larry Lessig

"The Philosophy and Methods of the Social Sciences" *Spring 2013*
- Lecture Course, Designed and Co-Taught with Eric Beerbohm

Brown University, Providence, RI

"Poverty and Prosperity: The History, Ethics, and Economics of the Wealth of Nations" *Spring 2011*
- Lecture Course, Designed and Co-Taught with an Economic Historian

"Freedom" *Fall 2010*
- Seminar Course, Designed and Taught

Duke University, Durham, NC

"Ethics and Policy Making" *Fall 2008*
- Lecture Course, TAed for Evan Charney

"Liberty, Equality, and the American Constitution" *Spring 2008*
- Lecture Course, TAed for Erwin Chemerinsky

"History of Conservative Thought'' *Fall 2007*
- Seminar Course, Designed and Taught

"Introduction to Political Theory" *Fall 2006*
- Lecture Course, TAed for Tom Spragens

Additional Teaching Interests

Political Economy; Biology, Rationality, and Ethics; Analytical Politics; Theories of Justice; American Political Development; New Institutionalism; Behavioral Economics; The Global Economy; Lobbying & Regulation; Persuasion; Leadership in Context; Ancient Political Thought; Modern Political Theory; Statistical Methods; Game Theory.

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

"Can Welfare Economics Justify Corporate Philanthropy? Proposing the philanthropy multiplier as a metric for evaluating corporate philanthropic expenditures." Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Annual Conference, New Orleans LA. (March 2020).

"Making Humanistic Management Relevant to Policy," Academy of Management Annual Meeting, Boston MA. (August 2019).

"Teaching Professional Ethics through Experiential Learning" Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference. (August 2019).

Global Business Ethics Conference - Ethics of Disruption, Workshop, Santa Clara University and CJBE, Santa Clara CA. (June 2019).

"Paid Plasma has not crowded out unpaid blood donations - evidence and further questions," Protein Plasma Therapeutics Association Annual Conference, Reston VA. (June 19, 2019).

"Emerging analysis of crowding out of blood donors by paid plasma donation.," Americas Blood Centers Annual Conference, Crystal City VA. (March 2019).

"Does paid plasma crowd-out unpaid blood donations?," Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Annual Conference, New Orleans LA. (March 2019).

"Do plasma clinics crowd out voluntary blood donations, and is it a problem?," Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Austin TX. (January 2019).

"Centers for Business Ethics & Responsible Leadership, Humanistic Management, 21st Century Impact," Academy of Management Annual Conference, Chicago IL. (August 2018).

"The Moral Problems of Modern Medicine: Understanding and addressing failures in healthcare" Mercy College of Health Sciences (Des Moines, IA), 2018

"Untangling the conditional logic of behavioral findings" Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Behavioral Ethics Lab at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA), 2018

"The Failures of Behavioral Genomics," Vienna Institute Summer University (Vienna, AT), 2017

"Experiential Learning," Georgetown Institute for the Study of Markets and Ethics (Washington, DC), 2017

"Institutional Corruption, the Challenge of Accountability, and Strategies for Reform," Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society (New Orleans, LA), 2017

"Lobbying and Bribery: Complements or Substitutes?" Southern Economic Association (Washington, DC), 2016

"An Introduction to Religion and the Social Sciences" Summer Seminar, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2016

"Institutional Corruption, The Challenge of Accountability, and Strategies for Reform" American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (San Francisco, CA), 2016

"Building Trust in Organizations through Meaningful Work" Fourth Annual IECO-RCC International Colloquium, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2016

"What can ideal theory do for politics?" Southern Economic Association (San Juan, PR), 2016

"Two Cheers for Nudging" The Ethics of Nudging: Evaluating Libertarian Paternalism, Georgetown Institute for the Study of Markets and Ethics (Washington, DC), Nov 2015

"Institutional Corruption and Strategies of Reform" Duke State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA) Program (Chinese Delegation), Duke Center for International Development (Durham, NC), 2015

"Corruption: The Unaddressed Elephant on the Global Stage" Herbert C Kelman Seminar Series on International Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2015

"The Promise and Perils of American Democracy" Ending Institutional Corruption Conference, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2015

"Developing Trust and Ethically Healthy Organizations through Humanistic Management" Third Annual IECO-RCC International Colloquium, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2015

"The Challenge of Institutional Corruption" New Horizons in the Study of Corruption Conference (Mexico City, Mexico), 2014

"Institutional Corruption and Strategies of Reform" Duke State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA) Program (Chinese Delegation), Duke Center for International Development (Durham, NC), 2014

"Teaching ethical reasoning" HILT Annual Conference 2014: Engagement and Distance (Cambridge, MA), 2014

"The Future of Business Ethics" The Institute for Ethics in Communication and Organizations, University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain). 2014

"Varieties of Citizenship & the Moral Foundations of Politics" The Ethics of Citizenship in the 21st Century Conference, University of Navarra (Pamplona, Spain). 2014

"The role of moral motivation in building trust" Second Annual IECO-RCC International Colloquium, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2014

"When are Lobbying and Bribery Complements versus Substitutes? Reconciling two literatures through a unique compilation of world enterprise survey data." Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago, IL), 2014

"Institutional Corruption and the Crisis of Liberal Democracy" Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Notre Dame University (South Bend, IN), 2014

"Institutional Corruption and Strategies of Reform" Duke State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA) Program (Kazakhstan Delegation), Duke Center for International Development (Durham, NC), 2014

"Institutional Corruption and the Crisis of Liberal Democracy" Southern Political Science Association (New Orleans, LA), 2014

"'Economic and Ideological Corruptions of the Regulatory State" Manhattan Institute Symposium (NY, NY), 2013

"Institutional Corruption and Strategies of Reform" Duke State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA) Program (Chinese Delegation), Duke Center for International Development (Durham, NC), 2013

"Institutional Corruption and the Crisis of Liberal Democracy" University of New Orleans (New Orleans, LA), 2013

"The Logic of Giving in Organizational Environments" European Business Ethics Network Conference (Pamplona, Spain), 2013

"The Politics of Politics: Standards and Perceptions of Legitimate Advocacy" Law and Society Association (Boston, MA), 2013

"Putting Biological-Behavioral Findings in Perspective: conceptual issues and empirical examples" Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago, IL), 2013

"The role of ethics, values and dignity in building trust" IECO-RCC International Colloquium, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), 2013

"The Architecture of Trust in Public and Private Institutions" Southern Political Science Association (Orlando, FL), 2013

"Overabundance and Serendipity in Gene Association Studies" American Political Science Association (New Orleans, LA), 2012 [accepted]

"Varieties of Corruption and the Architecture of Public Trust" American Political Science Association (New Orleans, LA), 2012 [accepted]

"Candidate Genes and Political Behavior" Integrating Genetics and the Social Sciences (Boulder, CO), 2012

"Divide Our Dollar, Not Divide The Dollar" Public Choice (Miami, FL), 2012

"Rent Seeking and Institutional Corruption" Harvard Law School, Lab Seminar on Institutional Corruption (Cambridge, MA), 2012

"Gene Association Studies in the Social Sciences" Columbia University (NY, NY), 2012

"Why Defining Corruption is Harder Than You Think" Southern Political Science Association (New Orleans, LA), 2012

"The Political Economy of Government Expansion: Why Civil Society Must Supply What Government Can't" The Economic Challenge (Princeton, NJ), 20011

"Stable Risk Preferences Don't Exist: experimental evidence and implications" American Political Science Association (Seattle, WA), 2011

"What can 'ideal theory' do for politics?" Brown Political Philosophy Working Group (Providence, RI) 2011

"Demystifying Trust: experimental evidence from Thailand and Cambodia" Duke Political Economy Work Group (Durham, NC) 2010

"Two Genes Do Not Predict Voter Turnout" American Political Science Association (Washington, DC), 2010

"Demystifying Trust: experimental evidence from Thailand and Cambodia" (poster) American Political Science Association (Toronto, CN) 2009

"Charles Taylor's 'two cheers' for modernity" Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture Conference (South Bend, IN) 2009

"Ethics and Economics: new thoughts on an old debate" Public Choice (Las Vegas, NV), 2008

Professional Memberships

- American Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Southern Political Science Association
- Association for Political Theory
- Public Choice Society
- Southern Economic Association
- Society for Business Ethics
- Academy of Management

Media Coverage

- *Wall Street Journal*
- *Washington Post*
- *New York Times*
- *National Geographic*
- *Science Daily*
- *VOX.com*

Extracurricular Academic Activities

- Chair, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2026 - present.
- Member, National Council on the Humanities, 2019-2026.
- Founder and Board Member of The Abigail Adams Institute, a 501(c)3 educational initiative in Cambridge, MA.
- Fellow of the Program on Integrative Knowledge, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, 2016-Present.
- Organizer of Harvard's Kirkland House's "Conversations" Dinner Program
  - 2015-2016
  - 2014-2015
  - 2013-2014
  - 2012-2013
- Summer Institute Fellow, "The Commercial Republic" Huntington Library and Jack Miller Center, Pasadena, CA (2014)
- VISU Vienna Summer University- Scientific World Conceptions Summer Seminar, Vienna University, Austria
  - Chance and Necessity (2005)
  - Philosophy and Economics (2006)
  - Consensus in Science (2007)
  - History and Philosophy of the Biomedical Sciences (2008)
  - The Culture of Science and Its Philosophy (2009)

  - Applied Science (2012)
- Central European University, Budapest- Summer Seminar (2008, 2010)
- Summer Institute of the Lehrman American Studies Center (2008)
- Coordinator of Provosts Common Fund Project on "Cognitive and Behavioral Genomics, Evolution and Race, and Behavior." (2007-08)
- Duke Neuroeconomics Journal Group (Huettel and Platt labs) (2006-08)
- Duke Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy- Science and Society Group (2006-08)
- Duke English Dept- Working Group on Sovereignty (2006-2010)
- Duke Economics Dept- History of Political Economy Working Group (2007-09)

SCHOLARLY RESOURCES

Reading knowledge of Latin and German
STATA and "R" Preferred for Statistical Analysis

REFERENCES

Michael C. Munger (e-mail: munger@duke.edu; phone: 919-660-4301)
Professor Of Political Science, Economics, and Public Policy
Director, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Program
Duke University, Box 90204, Durham, NC 27708

Lawrence Lessig (e-mail: lessig@pobox.com; phone: 617-495-1336)
Roy L. Furman Professor of Law and Leadership, Harvard Law School
Director, Emond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University
124 Mount Auburn St, Suite 520N, Cambridge, MA 02138

John Tomasi (e-mail: john_tomasi@brown.edu; phone: 401-863-1577)
Professor of Political Science
Director, Political Theory Project
Brown University, Box 2005, Providence, RI 02912

Evan Charney (e-mail: echar@duke.edu; phone: 919-613-9213)
Associate Professor of the Practice of Public Policy and Political Science,
Duke University, Box 90239, Durham, NC 27708