

Winston C. G. Berg

Department of Political Science
University of Chicago
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Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Chicago, 2017 - Present

Dissertation: *Secrets Known Only to Inner Elites: the Epistemic Politics of QAnon*
Committee: Lisa Wedeen (Chair), William Howell, Joseph Masco, Kathleen Belew

M.A., International Relations, University of Chicago, 2014-2016

B.A., International Relations, the George Washington University, 2010-2013

Publications

“The Origins of the ‘Deep State’ Trope.” Forthcoming, *Critical Review*.

Selected Works in Progress

“Knowing (with) the Enemy: how QAnon conspiracy theorists hack elite messaging.” Working paper (2023).

Teaching

Instructor, Undergraduates

Conspiracy Theories & the Social Sciences (Winter 2024)
Power and the Presidency (Summer 2021)
Self, Culture and Society (Spring 2021, two sections)
Power and the Presidency (Summer 2020)
Self, Culture and Society (Fall 2020)

Teaching Assistant

Self, Culture and Society (Fall, Winter & Spring 2020)

Presentations

“Expertise and Epistemic Strategy in the QAnon Community,” Extreme Political Groups and their Online Networks, MPSA 2023.
“The ‘Deep State’ Trope and the Origins of Conspiracy Culture,” The Late-20th Century Organization and Interrelation of Right and Far Right Ideology, OAH 2023.
“Knowing with the Enemy: Epistemic Strategy Beyond Belief in the QAnon Community,” Political Theory Workshop, University of Chicago 2023.
“The Ideological Origins of Deep State Conspiracy Theories,” The Coherence of Political Beliefs & Ideologies, APSA 2022.
“Conspiracy Theory Is Political Theory,” Theoretical Encounters With Democracy, MPSA 2022.
“The QAnon Archipelago,” U.S. Locations Workshop, University of Chicago, 2022.
“Belonging and Identity in Far-Right Webforums.” 20th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference, University of Chicago, 2018.
“Cycle.” Scaling Forms: Dialogues Across Disciplines, University of Chicago, 2016.

Other Publications

“MAGA” and “Conspiracy Theories and the 2020 Election,” in *The Encyclopedia of American Political Parties and Elections*, 3rd Edition. Infobase Publishing. 2022.

Service

Webmaster, Interpretative Methods and Methodologies Organized Section, APSA 2023 - Present.
Awards Committee Member, Ideas, Knowledge and Politics Organized Section, APSA 2023.

Employment

Senior Analyst, Chicago Project on Security and Terrorism, University of Chicago, IL. 2016-2017.

Awards & Fellowships

Provost's Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Social Science Division, University of Chicago 2023 (\$5000)
Grodzins Prize Fellowship, University of Chicago 2023 (\$2000)
Data & Democracy Exploratory Grant, Center for Effective Government, University of Chicago 2023 (\$10000)
Best Graduate Student Paper, Ideas, Knowledge and Politics Section, APSA 2022
Social Sciences Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2017-present
Rebecca A. Boylan and Thomas W. Sidlik Fund Grant, University of Chicago, 2015-2016
Committee on International Relations Second-Year Specialization Fellowship, 2015-2016

References

Lisa Wedeen

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William Howell

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Joseph Masco

Professor of Anthropology
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Linda Zerilli

Professor of Political Science
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