

NASSER BEHNEGAR

Boston College
Department of Political Science
Chestnut Hill, MA

Academic Positions

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, June 2003.

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 1996-2003.

St. John's College, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Tutor, Graduate Institute, 1996 (part-time).

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 1994-1995.

Carthage Post-Doctoral Fellow in The Symposium on Science, Reason,
and Modern Democracy, 1993-1994.

Education

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Ph.D., Committee on Social Thought, December 1993.

Dissertation: "Leo Strauss's Critique of Historicism."

Dissertation Advisor: Nathan Tarcov.

Ph.D. qualifying examination passed with distinction, August 1988.

M.A., Economics (concentration in Industrial Organization), June 1985.

B.A., Economics, with general honors, June 1985.

Publications

Leo Strauss, Max Weber, and the Scientific Study of Politics, The University
of Chicago Press, 2003.

Publications cont'd

“The Political and Theological Psychology of Shakespeare’s *Measure for Measure*,”
Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy.

“The Intellectual Legacy of Leo Strauss (1899-1973),” *The Annual Review of Political Science*, 1998.

“Leo Strauss's Confrontation with Max Weber: A Search for a Genuine Social Science,”
The Review of Politics, Winter 1997.

“The Liberal Politics of Leo Strauss,” in *Political Philosophy and the Human Soul*, edited
by Michael Palmer and Thomas Pangle, Rowman & Littlefield, 1995.

Research Grants

Earhart Foundation, 2000 Spring semester, full funding for a leave of absence.

John M. Olin Foundation, 1998-99, John M. Olin Fellow, full funding for a leave of
absence.

Research Interests

The philosophical foundations of liberalism: 17th and 18th Century English political
philosophy.

The crisis of modern social science.

Islamic Political Philosophy

Work in Progress

David Hume, Warrior of the Spirit, a book-length study of Hume’s treatment of religion
and the relationship of religion and politics.

“Raymond Aron and the Art of Political Observation,” article.

Service

New England Political Science Association.

Program Chair, 2001 Annual Meeting.

Executive Council, New England Political Science Association, 2001-present.

Service continued

Co-director of the Honors Program, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 1997-1998, 1999-present.

Member of the Committee for Undergraduate Education, 1997-present, Department of Political Science, Boston College.

Conferences and Presentations

Harvard University, Department of Government's Political Theory Colloquium, April 2002, presented "Political Science in the Age of Relativism."

University of Chicago, May 2001, participant in a conference on "*Natural Right and History: Contexts and Subtexts.*"

New England Political Science Association, May 2001, chair and discussant on a panel on "Philosophy and Political Science."

Michigan State University, April 2001, presented "On the place of Strauss's Discussion of Weber in *Natural Right and History*" in a conference on "Leo Strauss's *Natural Right and History: A Reassessment.*"

Boston College, April 2000, discussant in a symposium on religion and politics sponsored by the political science department.

American Political Science Association, September 2000, presented "Leo Strauss and Friedrich Nietzsche" on a panel on "Leo Strauss and German Thought."

St. John's College, November 1999, presented "The Challenge of Modern Social Science To Strauss's Return to Classical Political Philosophy" in a conference on "The Obstacles to Strauss's Attempt to Return to Classical Political Philosophy."

American Political Science Association, September 1999, presented "On the Meaning of Strauss's Polemic Against the Scientific Study of Politics" on a panel on "Leo Strauss and the Study of Politics."

Conferences and Presentations continued

Northeastern Political Science Association, November 1998, chair and discussant on a panel on "Morality in Different Lights."

New England Political Science Association, May 1998, discussant on a panel on Adam Smith.

American Political Science Association, September 1997, discussant on a panel on Machiavelli.

New England Political Science Association, May 1997, discussant on a panel on "Allan Bloom's *Love and Friendship*."

New England Political Science Association, May 1996, presented "What Can We Learn from Max Weber's Relativism?" on a panel on "The Problem of Twentieth Century Relativism."

Languages

Persian

German, reading knowledge.

Classical Greek

Latin