

# Sean T. Ingham

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science  
University of California San Diego  
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## EMPLOYMENT

### University of California San Diego

Associate Professor of Political Science, July 2020 to present  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, July 2017 to June 2020

### University of Georgia

Assistant Professor of Political Science, August 2012 to May 2017

## EDUCATION

### Harvard University

Ph.D., Political Science, 2012  
A.M., Political Science, 2008

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

B.A., Philosophy (Honors) and Political Science, 2004

## BOOKS

Ingham, Sean. 2019. *Rule by Multiple Majorities: A New Theory of Popular Control*. Cambridge University Press.

- Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics* and *Economics and Philosophy*

## JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Ingham, Sean and David Wiens. 2024. "Making Fair Comparisons in Political Theory." *American Journal of Political Science* 00: 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajps.12850>

Ingham, Sean. 2024. "Domination in Majoritarian Democracy." In *The Oxford Handbook of Republicanism*. Eds. Frank Lovett and Tim Sellars. Oxford University Press.

Ingham, Sean and Niko Kolodny. 2023. "Is One More Powerful With Numbers on One's Side?" *Journal of Political Philosophy* 31:452–469.

Ingham, Sean and David Wiens. 2022. "The Stability of the Just Society: Why Fixed Point Theorems Are Beside The Point." *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* 22(3): 312–319.

Lovett, Frank and Sean Ingham. 2022. "Three errors about republicanism: a reply to Jafarov and Huseynli." *Journal of Political Power* 15(2): 235–242.

Ingham, Sean. 2022. "Representative Democracy and Social Equality." *American Political Science Review* 116(2): 689–701.

Ingham, Sean and Frank Lovett. 2022. "Domination and Democratic Legislation." *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* 21(2): 97–121.

Ingham, Sean and David Wiens. 2021. “Demographic Objections to Epistocracy: A Generalization.” *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 49(4): 323–349.

Ingham, Sean and Frank Lovett. 2019. “Republican Freedom, Popular Control, and Collective Action.” *American Journal of Political Science* 63(4): 774–787.

Ingham, Sean. 2019. “Why Arrow’s Theorem Matters for Political Theory—Even If Preference Cycles Never Occur.” *Public Choice* 179(1): 97–111.

Ingham, Sean and Ines Levin. 2018. “Can Deliberative Minipublics Influence Public Opinion? Theory and Evidence.” *Political Research Quarterly* 71(3): 654–667.

Ingham, Sean and Ines Levin. 2018. “Effects of Deliberative Minipublics on Public Opinion: Experimental Evidence from a Survey on Social Security Reform.” *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 30(1): 51–78.

Ingham, Sean. 2016. “Popular Rule in Schumpeter’s Democracy.” *Political Studies* 64(4): 1071–1087.

Ingham, Sean. 2016. “Social Choice and Popular Control.” *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 28(2): 331–349.

Ingham, Sean. 2015. “Theorems and Models in Political Theory: an Application to Pettit on Popular Control.” *The Good Society* 24(1): 98–117.

Ingham, Sean. 2013. “Disagreement and Epistemic Arguments for Democracy.” *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* 12(2): 135–154.

#### WORK IN PROGRESS

“Elite forbearance as a requirement of democratic stability”

“The IIA axiom in models of deliberative democracy”

“Democratic virtue signaling”

“Defining democracy: are we staying on topic?” (with David Wiens)

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

‘Arrow’s Theorem’ and ‘Game Theory’ in *Cambridge Dictionary of Political Thought*. Eds. Carol Atak, Christopher Brooke, and Leigh Jenco. Cambridge University Press. Forthcoming.

‘Pareto optimality,’ ‘Prisoner’s Dilemma’ and ‘Public Goods’ in *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*. Ed. Mark Bevir. (Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc., 2010).

#### EXTERNAL FUNDING

Time-sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences. “Effects of deliberative minipublics on public opinion: experimental evidence from a survey on Social Security reform,” with Ines Levin.

#### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“The Democrat’s Dilemma: Institutional Forbearance and Democratic Stability”, RGCS lecture series, McGill University, March 2025.

“Richard Tuck’s *Free Riding*.” Princeton University, Center for Human Values: Celebrating Richard Tuck, April 2024.

“Elite forbearance as a requirement of democratic stability”, PPE Society Annual Meeting, November 2023.

“The IIA axiom in models of deliberative democracy”, PPE Society Annual Meeting, November 2023.

“Democratic Virtue Signaling”, PPE Society Annual Meeting, November 2022.

“Is It Better to Have Power or Numbers on One’s Side?”, Power and Domination Workshop, McGill University, August 2022.

“Domination in Majoritarian Democracy”, Republicanism Symposium, University of Baltimore School of Law, October 2021.

“Demographic Objections to Epistocracy”, New York University, December 2020.

“Author Meets Critics: *Rule by Multiple Majorities*, APSA, August 2019.

“Collective Action Problems and Political Inequality”, PPE Society annual meeting, March 2019.

“Author Meets Critics: *Rule by Multiple Majorities*, PPE Society annual meeting, March 2019.

“Social norms and de facto power”, Stanford University, January 2019.

“Equal de facto influence”, University of California Irvine, December 2018.

“Popular Control without a Popular Will”, Yale University, September 2018.

“Rule by Multiple Majorities: A New Theory of Popular Control”, McGill University, conference on Political Theory In/And/As Political Science, May 2018.

“Tyrannical majorities and social choice theory”, PPE Society annual meeting, March 2018.

“Responsiveness to Citizens’ Preferences and the Gibbard-Satterthwaite Theorem”, MPSA, April 2017.

“Democratic Responsiveness and the Gibbard-Satterthwaite Theorem”, PPE Society annual meeting, March 2017.

“Rule by Multiple Majorities: A New Theory of Popular Control”, University of California San Diego, November 2016.

“A Dilemma for Theories of Public Reason”, Harvard Business School, Conference on Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics, October 2016.

“A Conception of Popular Control that Tolerates Majority Cycles”, University of California San Diego, February 2016.

“A Theory of Popular Control”, New York University, November 2015.

“Social choice and popular control”, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, May 2014.

“Social choice and popular control”, Washington University in St. Louis, April 2013.

#### FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS AND HONORS

Lilly Teaching Fellow, Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Georgia, 2015–2017.

Senator Charles Sumner Prize, awarded by the Harvard Government Department for the best dissertation from the legal, political, historical, economic, social, or ethnic approach, dealing with any means or measures tending toward the prevention of war and the establishment of universal peace.

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University, 2011-2012.

Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellowship in Ethics, 2009-2010.

Justice, Welfare, and Economics Research Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2008-2009.

Graduate Fellowship in Political Economy, awarded by the Harvard Faculty of the Arts and Sciences to support graduate-level study in the Economics Department, 2007-2008.

#### TEACHING

##### *Undergraduate:*

Early modern political thought

19th-century political thought

Liberty and equality

Introduction to game theory

Senior honors thesis seminar

##### *Graduate:*

Analytical theory I (game theory)

Democracy: theory and measurement (with David Wiens)

Democracy and equality

Formal models in political theory

What could justify representative democracy?

Popular control, electoral accountability, and representation

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Associate Editor, *Free & Equal: A Journal of Ethics and Public Affairs*, 2025 to present.

Associate Editor, *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*, 2023 to present.

Associate Editor, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, 2024 to present.

Referee for *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Citizenship Studies*; *Contemporary Political Theory*; *Constellations*; *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*; *Erkenntnis*; *Ethics*; *European Journal of Political Theory*; the European Research Council; the Icelandic Research Fund; *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of Theoretical Politics*; *Moral Philosophy and Politics*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Philosophers' Imprint*; *Political Psychology*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Political Studies*; *Politics, Philosophy, & Economics*; *Polity*; *Public Choice*; *Qualitative Sociology*; *Res Publica*; *Social Epistemology*; *Social Theory and Practice*; *Synthese*; and *Utilitas*.

Program Committee, Association for Political Theory, 2018.

Section Chair for the Contemporary Political Theory section, Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, 2014.

#### DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Graduate admissions committee (2020, 2022)

Political theory field coordinator (2019–20, 2020–21, 2023–25)

Faculty recruitment committee (2019–20, 2018–19, 2022–23, 2023–24)

Chair's advisory committee (2018–19)

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

UCSD Academic Integrity Review Board (2021–25)