

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Mark Dincecco, associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2006	University of California, Los Angeles
M.A.	2003	University of California, Los Angeles
B.A.	1999	University of Arizona

Professional Record:

2019–present	Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan
2013–2019	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan
2013–present	Affiliate, Program in International and Comparative Studies (PICS)
2006–2013	Assistant Professor, IMT Institute for Advanced Studies, Lucca

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Dincecco teaches core courses in comparative (politics inside nations compared with politics inside other nations) and world politics (relations between nations, war, civil war, state repression). Much of his undergraduate teaching is in international studies. Undergraduates and graduate students praise his courses, and Professor Dincecco actively seeks student feedback and acts on it. Post-tenure, he has engaged in more graduate teaching. He provides strong graduate mentorship and coauthors with students.

Research: Professor Dincecco brings new data and research designs to bear on large questions in historical political economy about the origins of the modern state. In unpacking how states are built, he centers his attention on taxation, representation, warfare, and fiscal capacity. He pushes the literature forward to understand that the state does not arise endogenously, on the basis of interests; instead, the state arises through conflict and politics. Professor Dincecco’s work is to unpack that conflict and those politics over long sweeps of time.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Cox, Gary W., Mark Dincecco, and Massimiliano Gaetano Onorato. “Window of Opportunity: War and the Origins of Parliament.” *British Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.

Cox, Gary W. and Mark Dincecco. “The Budgetary Origins of Fiscal-Military Prowess.” *Journal of Politics* 83, no. 3 (2021): 851-866.

Beramendi, Pablo, Mark Dincecco, and Melissa Rogers. “Intra-Elite Competition and Long-Run Fiscal Development.” *Journal of Politics* 81, no. 1 (2019): 49-65.

Dincecco, Mark and Yuhua Want. “Violent Conflict and Political Development over the Long Run: China versus Europe” *Annual Review of Political Science* 21 (2018): 341-58.

Service: Professor Dincecco has developed leadership within the department, the university, and the discipline. In the department, he is the director of graduate studies; he has also served on the department's Executive Committee and as the placement director, and coordinated recent changes to the graduate program, strengthening GSI training and working to develop sustainable/maintainable structures that make clear the "hidden curriculum" to graduate students. He is one of the primary organizers of the department's Political Economy Workshop (a workshop that draws audiences and leadership from economics as well as political science). He is the new editor of the Cambridge Elements Series on Political Economy, and in general is a generous public goods provider.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "[Professor Dincecco] has helped to create this sub-field at the intersection of politics, economics and economic history."

Reviewer (B): "Dincecco's first major contribution relates to the impact of state centralization and executive constraint on various outcomes associated with fiscal health and economic development. His second major contribution relates to his work on the empirical association between war and pre-modern urbanization, a variable long considered to be a measure of economic development."

Reviewer (C): "Dincecco's research has made important contributions to our understanding of state capacity and state-building, of the impact of state capacity on subsequent development, and on the potential historical origins of cross-national differences in state capacity."

Reviewer (D): "[Professor Dincecco's] new scholar[s]hip looks at the role of violent conflict, state formation, and economic growth in Africa, China, and India. Basically stated, it addresses the question; if wars made states, and states made wars, and they jointly produced economic growth and rising living standards in Western Europe, then is the same true around the rest of the world?"

Reviewer (E): "In terms of contributions, [Professor Dincecco's] mainly lie in illuminating major historical political economy issues...How can governments create the means to help their societies develop and prosper? What is the role of war in this? How does democracy and regime type generally affect economic progress? These questions are essential ones for understanding how the world got to where it is today."

Reviewer (F): "Scholarship in this area is interdisciplinary with major contributors from political science, economics, history, sociology, and more. Within political science, [Professor Dincecco's] work on these questions finds its natural home in comparative and international political economy. There is also an emerging subfield of historical political economy which he has helped bring about through both his research and his service to the field."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Dincecco is a creative and productive scholar who has become a leader in the field. He is also a dedicated teacher and advisor, as well as an active citizen in the department. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Mark Dincecco be promoted to the rank of professor of political science, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anne Curzan", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Anne Curzan, Dean
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,
and Education
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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