

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

David M. Temin, assistant professor of political science, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. 2016 University of Minnesota
B.A. 2010 Amherst College

Professional Record:

2017-present Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Michigan
2017-present Administrative Faculty in Native American Studies, University of Michigan
2016- 2017 Lecturer, Political Science, University of Minnesota

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Temin teaches a tremendous range of courses, within and outside of his research focus. His teaching and mentoring draws students from across subfields into political theory and creates cross-subfield conversations. Professor Temin was a big force in restructuring the graduate political theory curriculum. He is able to use different modalities with an eye toward how students best learn, and he takes student feedback seriously in modifying his courses. His work on first- and second-year student review, prelim exams, and dissertation committees has been exemplary.

Research: Professor Temin is a leader of the non-Western expansion of the political theory canon. His work de-centers the West, and he looks within to build an intellectual history and political theory of and with indigenous political thought, drawing indigenous thinkers into conversation and building an alternative canon. He broadens the notion of what political theory is. The thinkers he is writing about were not political theorists; he synthesizes and puts their work into context; he “re-presents” their work, doing crucial conceptual mapping. Professor Temin is already a leader in this very important new field in political theory. He works with care and skill, and his book and articles are very well placed and are creating new conversations within the field. His work shows how colonial power masks itself.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Remapping Sovereignty: Decolonization and Self-Determination in North American Indigenous Political Thought. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2023.

“‘Nothing Much Had Happened’: Settler Colonialism in Hannah Arendt.” *European Journal of Political Theory* 21, no. 3 (2022): 514-538.

“Development in Decolonization: Walter Rodney, Third World Developmentalism, and ‘Decolonizing Political Theory.’” *American Political Science Review* 117, no. 1 (February 2023): 235-248.

“Our Democracy: Laura Cornelius Kellogg’s Decolonial-Democracy.” *Perspectives on Politics* 19, no. 4 (December 2021): 1082-1097.

Service: Professor Temin is a thoughtful citizen of the department, leading within political theory and serving effectively in the various service assignments he’s taken on. Within the department, he has coordinated the Political Theory Workshop for three years as well as serving three years on the Diversity Ally’s Committee. He played a major role in restructuring the preliminary exams in Political Theory, and has strong connections with Native American Studies.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): “Temin reconstructs a neglected tradition of anticolonial political reflection among Indigenous thinkers and activists in North America, from the Progressive Era to the present day.”

Reviewer (B): “Temin’s engagement with new and old ways of thinking about and through sovereignty becomes for him a means to ‘remap’ this concept, as he refers to it, in ways that inform both Indigenous Studies and Political Theory... Temin addresses some of the most important and urgent political questions of our time—and our history—as well as the ways by which conversations between different epistemologies and ontologies become possible, that is, of how we begin to develop a framework that would allow us to share the spaces we inhabit.”

Reviewer (C): “[Professor Temin’s] innovations are uniquely compelling, in my view, because of the way that they introduce audiences to a broader interpretive framework for theoretical dialogue and inquiry, grounded in a sustained engagement with debates on interpretive challenges associated with recovery, reciprocity, and democratic dialogue in many arenas.”

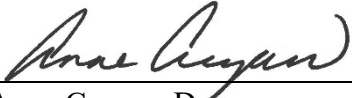
Reviewer (D): “Temin’s 2022 article on Hannah Arendt in the *European Journal of Political Theory* is another example of his penchant, and admirable ability, to run against popular currents of opinion in order to set the record straight and distinguish political movements and mobilizations that have transformational potential from those that do not.”

Reviewer (E): “Work on indigeneity and indigenous political theory has had an extraordinary efflorescence over the last decade. I believe this is one of the most generative fields in political theory... Temin is advancing this field in accord with its strongest and most productive lines of inquiry. He is more learned historically than all but a few scholars (senior as well as junior) in the field, with more attention to the archival and institutional resources.”

Reviewer (F): “Temin’s work is meticulously researched and lucidly argued, and his scholarly interventions are clear, distinctive, and significant. He engages deeply and broadly with the secondary literature, with both a sharp critical eye and a commendable spirit of generosity.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Temin's research, teaching, and service are exemplary and strengthen the department, the college, and the university. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor David M. Temin be promoted to the rank of associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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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