
JAMES H. NICHOLS, Jr.

- Personal:** Born August 13, 1944, New York. Married to Merle N. Stern.
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E-mail: james.nichols@cmc.edu
- Education:** Yale College, B.A., summa cum laude, 1966
Cornell University, Ph.D., in Government, 1971
Study in Paris, France 1969-70
- Languages:** French, Latin, Greek, and German
- Academic Awards, Fellowships and Grants:** AFS foreign exchange student to France, 1961-62
National Merit Scholar, 1962-66
Andrew D. White History Prize, 1963
Phi Beta Kappa, 1964
Berkeley Classics Prize, 1966
Graduated summa cum laude, Yale, 1966
Danforth Foundation Graduate Fellow, 1966-71
Herbert H. Lehman Fellow, 1966-70
Andrew D. White Fellow, 1966-69
Visiting Scholar, Centre Universitaire Internationale, Paris, France, 1969-70
Earhart Foundation Fellow, 1970-71
Earhart Foundation summer research grant, 1972
Claremont McKenna College summer research grants, 1973, 1974, 1983, 1991, 1993, 1997, 1999, 2007
Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation project grants, 1986-88, 1990-92
Bradley Foundation Research Fellowship Program grant, 1987-2018
- Professional Experience:**
- Professor of Government, Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, California, 1990--
-; Dr. Jules L. Whitehill Professor of Humanism and Ethics, 2007---; Government
Department chair, 1992-5, 2001; Associate Professor, 1979-90.
Claremont Graduate School Faculty, 1973-75, 1982--; Avery Fellow, 1988--.
Associate Director for Special Initiatives, Division of General Programs, National
Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C., 1984-85.
Assistant Professor of Political Science, 1975-77, Associate Professor, 1977-79,
Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science, New School for Social Research,
New York, N.Y.
Visiting Associate Professor of Political Science, Yale University, New Haven,
Connecticut, Fall 1977.
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Claremont Men's College, Claremont,
California, 1972-75.
Assistant Professor of Political Science, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario,
Canada, 1971-72.

Publications: Books

- Alexandre Kojève: Wisdom at the End of History*, by James H. Nichols, Jr., in the series Twentieth Century Political Thinkers (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2007). An excerpt from Chapter 3 appeared in French translation by Isabelle Hausser as “L’Enseignement de Kojève sur l’autorité” in *Commentaire*, Numéro 128 (Winter 2009-2010).
- Gorgias and Phaedrus* by Plato, translated with introduction, notes, and interpretative essays by James H. Nichols, Jr. (Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1998). The *Gorgias* and *Phaedrus* were simultaneously published as two separate paperbacks, also from Cornell University Press.
- From Political Economy to Economics --- And Back?*, edited by James H. Nichols, Jr. and Colin Wright (San Francisco: Institute for Contemporary Studies, 1990).
- Introduction to the Reading of Hegel* by Alexandre Kojève, translated from French by James H. Nichols, Jr. (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1980; reissue of original Basic Books edition of 1969).
- Epicurean Political Philosophy: The De rerum natura of Lucretius*, by James H. Nichols, Jr. (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1976). Chinese translation (Beijing, People’s Republic of China: Huaxia Publishing House, 2004).

Publications: Articles and Book Chapters

- Leo Strauss’s 1959 course on the Political Philosophy of Cicero*: edited and with a preface by James Nichols (2016, available online at the Leo Strauss Center, University of Chicago). A Chinese translation of this work is soon to be published.
- “On Leo Strauss’ ‘Notes on Lucretius’” for *Companion to Leo Strauss’ Writings on Classical Political Thought*, edited by Timothy W. Burns (Brill Academic Publishing, 2015).
- “The Notion of an End of History: Philosophic Origins and Recent Applications” for *Philosophy, History, and Tyranny: Re-examining the Debate between Leo Strauss and Alexandre Kojève*, edited by Timothy Burns and Bryan-Paul Frost (SUNY Press, 2016).
- “On the Philosophic Character of Tacitus’s Imperial Political History” in *Political Philosophy Cross-Examined: Perennial Challenges to the Philosophic Life*, ed. by Thomas L. Pangle and J. Harvey Lomax (New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2013).
- “Lucretius” and “Alexandre Kojève” in *The Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, ed. by Michael T. Gibbons (Wiley-Blackwell, 2014).
- “Preface” to *The Concept, Time, and Discourse* by Alexandre Kojève, translated by Robert B. Williamson (South Bend, IN: St. Augustine’s Press, forthcoming 2018).
- “The Civic Rhetoric of Isaiah Berlin,” in *Pluralism without Relativism: Remembering Sir Isaiah Berlin*, edited by João Carlos Espada and Marc Plattner (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, forthcoming).
- “Political Economy and the Development of Liberalism” in *The Liberal Tradition in Focus: Problems and New Perspectives*, edited by João Carlos Espada, Marc F. Plattner, and Adam Wolfson (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2000).
- “Rethinking Politics for the Next Generation of Liberalism” in *Liberalism in the New Millennium*, edited by Bradley C. S. Watson (Latrobe, PA: Center for Economic & Policy Education, 2000).
- “Rhetoric,” “Pragmatism,” “John Dewey,” and “William James” in *The Encyclopedia of Democracy*, 4 volumes, edited by Seymour Martin Lipset (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Press, 1995).

- "Platonic Reflections on Philosophic Education" in *Political Philosophy and the Human Soul: Essays in Memory of Allan Bloom*, edited by Michael Palmer and Thomas L. Pangle (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 1995).
- "Technology in Classical Thought" in *Technology in the Western Political Tradition*, edited by Arthur M. Melzer, Jerry Weinberger, and M. Richard Zinman (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1993).
- "Political Economy and the Problems of Political Philosophy" in *From Political Economy to Economics --- And Back?*, edited by James H. Nichols, Jr. and Colin Wright (San Francisco: Institute for Contemporary Studies, 1990).
- "Pragmatism and the U.S. Constitution" in *Confronting the Constitution*, edited by Allan Bloom (Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute, 1990).
- "Plato's *Laches*" translated with notes and an interpretive essay, in *The Roots of Political Philosophy: Ten Forgotten Socratic Dialogues*, edited by Thomas S. Pangle (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1987).
- "Human Rights Abroad and at Home" in *Human Rights in Our Time: Essays in Memory of Victor Baras*, edited by Marc F. Plattner (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1984).
- "On the Proper Use of Ancient Political Philosophy: A Comment on Stephen T. Holmes's 'Aristippus in and out of Athens.'" *American Political Science Review*, March 1979.
- Translation from French of Alexandre Kojève's "The Emperor Julian and his Art of Writing" in *Ancients and Moderns*, edited by Joseph Cropsey (New York: Basic Books, 1964).

Publications: Reviews

- Review of *The Black Circle: a Life of Alexandre Kojève*, by Jeff Love (New York: Columbia University Press, 2018) for H-net Ideas:
<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=52954>.
- "Two Traditions of Liberalism," a review of *The Anglo-American Tradition of Liberty: A View from Europe* by João Carlos Espada (London and New York: Routledge, 2016) in *Journal of Democracy* Vol. 28, No.1 (January 2017)
- "The Pursuit of Pleasure," a review of *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern* by Stephen Greenblatt (New York: Norton, 2011), in *Claremont Review of Books* Vol. XII, No. 4 (Fall 2012).
- "Le discours philosophique d'Alexandre Kojève," a review of *Identité et réalité dans le "Dictionnaire" de Pierre Bayle* by Alexandre Kojève (Paris: Éditions Gallimard, 2010) and of *Le Philosophe du dimanche: La vie et la pensée d'Alexandre Kojève* by Marco Filoni (Paris: Éditions Gallimard, 2010), in *Commentaire*, Numéro 136 (Winter 2011-2012).
- Review of *Prudes, Perverts, and Tyrants: Plato's Gorgias and the Politics of Shame* by Christina H. Tarnopolsky (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010), for *Polis*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (Winter 2011).
- Review of *Aristotle's Dialogue with Socrates: On the Nicomachean Ethics*, by Ronna Burger (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008), in *Ancient Philosophy* 31(2011).
- "Plato's Continuing Relevance," a review of *Plato: Political Philosophy* by Malcolm Schofield (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2006), in *Review of Politics*, Vol., No. (2008), pp. 487-490
- "Moderate Romanticism?" a review of *Political Ideas in the Romantic Age: Their Rise and Influence on Modern Thought* by Isaiah Berlin, edited by Henry Hardy, with an introduction by Joshua L. Cherniss (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006), online at www.claremont.org/publications/pubid.714/pub_detail.asp

- Brief review of *Perfection and Disharmony in the Thought of Jean-Jacques Rousseau* by Jonathan Marks (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005), in *Claremont Review of Books*, Vol. VI, No. 2 (Spring 2006).
- Review of *The Restless Mind: Intellectuals in Politics* by Mark Lilla (New York: New York Review Books, 2001), in *Academic Questions*, Vol. 15, No.4 (Fall 2002).
- “God and Mammon,” a review of *Economics as Religion: From Samuelson to Chicago and Beyond* by Robert H. Nelson (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2001), in *Claremont Review of Books*, Vol. II, No. 3 (Spring 2002).
- “Right, Law, and Justice at the End of History,” a review of *Outline of a Phenomenology of Right* by Alexandre Kojève, tr. by Bryan-Paul Frost and Robert Howse (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2000), in *Claremont Review of Books*, Vol. I No. 4 (Summer 2001).
- Review of *Polis and Politics: Essays in Greek Moral and Political Philosophy*, edited by A. Loizou and H. Lesser (Aldershot, England, UK: Avebury, Gower Publishing Company, 1990), in *Ancient Philosophy* 14 (1994).
- Review of *Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Écrivain Politique* by Michel Launay (Grenoble, France: C.E.L. / A.C.E.R., 1971), in *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 71, No. 3 (September 1977).
- Review of *On Liberty and Liberalism: The Case of John Stuart Mill* by Gertrude Himmelfarb (New York: Albert A. Knopf, 1974), in *The New Leader*, February 17, 1975.
- Review of *In Defense of Politics*, Second Edition, by Bernard Crick (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1972), in *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 68, No. 4 (December 1974).

Selected Other Professional Activities:

- Conference at the European Parliament, Brussels: *Europe, Kojève, 2018: Europe between Globalization, Empires, and Populisms—“res publica” or “end of History?”* June 7, 2018: Gave a presentation entitled “The Necessity and Significance of Kojève’s End of History” to (and participated in) the panel “How to understand the ‘end of history’ and the ‘universal and homogeneous State.’” June 9, 2018: Gave a presentation entitled “The Necessity of Empire: The Roman Empire of Tacitus and the Latin Empire of Kojève” to (and participated in) the panel “Europe, the Mediterranean, and ‘the Latin Empire.’”
- Lecture at George Washington Memorial Lunch (hosted by the Associação Amizade Portugal-EUA, Lisbon) entitled “What the Framers of the U.S. Constitution Learned from Rome.” June 28, 2017 at the 25th annual Estoril Political Forum, Estoril, Portugal, on the theme “Defending the Western Tradition of Liberty under Law” (organized by the Instituto de Estudos Políticos of the Universidade Católica Portuguesa). Same place and date: Participant in a round-table discussion of *The Anglo-American Tradition of Liberty: A View from Europe* by João Carlos Espada.
- Lecture, “What the Framers of the U.S. Constitution learned from Rome,” Constitution Day Lecture at University of Alaska, Anchorage; September 17, 2016.
- Paper, “Why an End of History?” presented to a panel on “The Strauss-Kojève Debate at 60: The Philosophic Background” at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, Chicago, August 2013.
- Participant, Liberty Fund Conference on progressivism, Tucson, AZ, March 2012.
- Chaired a panel, “Xenophon, the Philosopher, and the Theological-Political Problem,” at APSA annual meeting, Seattle, August 2011.

- Lecture, "Aristotle and Plato on the Art of Rhetoric," the first lecture in a conference on rhetoric, Hillsdale College, November 2010.
- Commentator on two Cicero panels, APSA annual meeting, Washington, D.C., August 2010.
- Lecture, "Tacitean Reflections on Republic and Empire," Claremont Graduate University, March 23, 2010.
- Participant, Liberty Fund Conference on "Authority and Resistance in Contemporary Drama," Pasadena, September 2009.
- Commentator, panel on Cicero, APSA annual meeting, Toronto, August 2009.
- Lecture, "Alexandre Kojève on Empire, with some Tacitean Reflections," given at Boston College, October 2008.
- Paper, "Tacitus on Government and the Military in the Roman Empire, with some Reflections on what Machiavelli and Montesquieu learned from him," presented at the American Political Science Association convention, Chicago, August 2007.
- Address, "Political Philosophy and Ancient History: the Example of Tacitus," presented to the Tau of California chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, May 2007.
- Lecture, "The Thought of Alexandre Kojève: Hegelian System or Postmodern Irony?" presented at Carl Friedrich von Siemens Stiftung, Munich, Germany, June 2004.
- Paper entitled "On Leo Strauss's Intellectual Engagement with Alexandre Kojève and Its Relation to *Natural Right and History*" presented at a conference on "Leo Strauss's *Natural Right and History*: Contexts and Subtexts" at the University of Chicago, May 11-13, 2001.
- Lecture on "The Rational Historicism of Alexandre Kojève" on Panel IV: The Challenge of Historicism, at the conference "Contemporary Obstacles to Leo Strauss's Experiment: Is a return to classical political philosophy possible today?" at St. John's College, Santa Fe, NM, November 1999.
- Lecture on "Rethinking Politics for the Next Generation of Liberalism" at a Civitas Forum on "Liberalism in the New Millennium" at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA; October 1999.
- Lecture on "The Civic Rhetoric of Isaiah Berlin" for one of the Cursos da Arrábida, on "Pluralism without Relativism: Remembering Sir Isaiah Berlin," in Arrábida, Portugal; October 1999.
- Lecture on "From Political Economy to Economics --- And Back?" for one of the Cursos da Arrábida, on "Liberalism, Old and New," in Arrábida, Portugal; October 1998.
- Lecture on "Fostering Civic Virtue through Understanding Politics" in an APSA Short Course (sponsored by the Institute for Contemporary Studies New Civics Project), course entitled "Teaching Civic Virtue: A Workshop on Citizenship" at the annual meeting of the APSA in Boston, September 1998.
- Lecture on "Platonic Reflections on Education, Philosophic and Rhetorical" and seminar on "Economics or Political Economy?: Reflections on the Relation between Economic Science and Politics," Centre de Recherches Politiques Raymond Aron, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, May-June, 1997.
- Lecture, "Platonic Reflections on Philosophic Education," delivered at a conference on "The Purpose of the University," at the University of Chicago, May 1992.
- Lecture, "Plato's *Phaedrus*," delivered at St. John's College, Santa Fe, April 1992.
- Lecture, "The Epicurean Political Philosophy of Lucretius" given at Carl Friedrich von Siemens Stiftung, Munich, Germany, July 1991.
- Paper, "Philosophy, Persuasion, and Politics: Plato's View" presented at American Political Science Association convention, San Francisco, September 1990.
- Lecture on Plato's *Gorgias*, Boston College, December 1989.
- Lecture on "Technology in Classical Thought," Michigan State University, Nov. 1989.

Lecture and seminar on "John Dewey's Pragmatism and the U.S. Constitution," University of Chicago, March 1988.

Co-organized and co-chaired conference on "What Is Political Economy?: Some Issues at the Foundation." Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA, November 1987.

Lecture, "The Politics of Science," sponsored by Francis Bacon Foundation, Claremont, California, January 1982.

Organized and chaired a symposium on human rights, at the Graduate Faculty of the New School, New York, N.Y., April 1978.

Lecture, "Reflections on Statesmanship," concluding a series of lectures on statesmanship, principally American; Claremont, California, May 1973.

Paper, "Rousseau and Lucretius," presented at American Political Science Association convention, New Orleans, September 1973.

Work in Progress:

Tacitean Reflections on Republic and Empire: current major research project.