John A. Robinson

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# Current Academic Appointment

Assistant Professor, Intelligence Analysis, James Madison University 2020-Present

# Previous Positions

Lecturer, Economics, James Madison University 2016-2020

Data Scientist, Central Intelligence Agency 2014-2016

Economic and Political Analyst, Central Intelligence Agency 2012-2014

# Education

Ph.D., Economics, George Mason University 2016

M.A., Economics, George Mason University 2013

B.S., Economics, James Madison University 2009

# Research Areas

philosophy of science; ethics; intelligence analysis; Adam Smith; history of economic thought, political economy, and sociology of science

**Teaching Areas**

introduction to intelligence analysis; research design and writing; economics of information security; ethics; strategy assessment

# Publications

“Why Did Adam Smith Suggest a Labor Theory of Value,” with J. Robert Subrick, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization,* 2020. ([link](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0167268120303176))

“The Role of Hierarchy in the Production of Salvation Goods,” with Zachary Gochenour, *The Journal of Private Enterprise,* 34(1) 2019. ([link](http://journal.apee.org/index.php/ajax/GDMgetFile/2019_Journal_of_Private_Enterprise_Vol_34_No_1_Spring_PARTE7.pdf))

"Goldilocks, Aragorn, and the Essence of Property," *The Independent Review*, 22(3) 2018. ([link](http://www.independent.org/publications/tir/article.asp?id=1261))

"In-Rem Property in Adam Smith's Lectures on Jurisprudence," *Journal of Scottish Philosophy*, 15(1) 2017: 75-100. ([link](http://www.euppublishing.com/doi/abs/10.3366/jsp.2017.0153))

“Property: A Bundle of Rights? Prologue to the Property Symposium,” *Econ Journal Watch* 8(3) 2011: 193-204. (with Daniel B. Klein) ([link](https://econjwatch.org/articles/property-a-bundle-of-rights-prologue-to-the-property-symposium))

“Faerie in J.R.R. Tolkein and C.S. Lewis: Escape and Recovery,” *The Chronicle of the Oxford C.S. Lewis Society,* 2008: 4-21.

# Book Chapters

Robinson, John & Wood, William C., "From Weakling to Superhero: The Economics of Captain America," in O'Roark, J. Brian (ed.)*, Superheroes and Economics: The Shadowy World of Capes, Masks and Invisible Hands*. Routledge: Taylor and Francis Group, 2019.

Roberts, James M. & John Robinson, “Property Rights Can Solve the Resource Curse,” in Terry Miller, Kim R. Holmes, and Edwin J. Feulner, 2013 Index of Economic Freedom: Promoting Economic Opportunity and Prosperity (Washington, DC: The Heritage Foundation and Dow Jones & Company, Inc., 2013), Chapter 5. ([link](http://www.heritage.org/index/pdf/2013/book/index_2013.pdf))

# Book Reviews

Review of *C.S. Lewis on Politics and the Natural Law by Justin Buckley Dyer and Micah J. Watson,* The Independent Review, 22(1). ([link](http://www.independent.org/publications/tir/article.asp?a=1213))

# Works in Progress

“Tacit Knowledge and Big Data in Intelligence Analysis”

“Leo XIII and Adam Smith on the Origins and Significance of Private Property”

“Gershom Carmichael and the In-Rem View of Property”

“The Impartial Spectator’s Embrace of Error”

# Courses

Currently Teaching at James Madison University:

Capstone Project in Intelligence Analysis (Spring 2021)

Strategy Assessment (Spring 2021)

Previously Taught at James Madison University:

Intelligence Analysis Capstone Project Preparation (Fall 2020)

Introduction to Intelligence Analysis (Fall 2020)

The Microeconomics of Business Decision-Making (Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

Political Economy (Spring 2019, Fall 2018)

History of Economic Thought (Spring 2020, Spring 2018, Spring 2017)

Special Topics – Economics and Ethics (Fall 2019, Fall 2017)

Introduction to Macroeconomics (many semesters)

Introduction to Microeconomics (many semesters)

Curriculum developed for The American Enterprise Institute (AEI):

Invisible Hands: Adam Smith on Friendship, Community, and Prosperity. Spring 2020. Developed with Erik Matson.

# Academic Presentations

Ciocca Center for Principled Entrepreneurship, “Pope Leo and Adam Smith on the Origins and Significance of Private Property.” (April 2019)

The Association of Private Enterprise Education Conference, “Smithian Sympathy and International Development.” w/ undergraduate Madison Beebe (April 2018)

The Association of Private Enterprise Education Conference, “The Impartial Spectator’s Embrace of Error.” (April 2018)

Waynesburg University, “Reason and Irregularity in Adam Smith.” (September 2017)

The Association of Private Enterprise Education Conference, "The Origins of Adam Smith's Theory of Property." (April 2017)

Ciceronian Society Conference, "The Rational Undermining of Civilization." (March 2017)

Southern Economic Association Conference, "In-Rem Property in Adam Smith's Lectures on Jurisprudence." (November 2016)

# Awards

**Adam Smith Program Fellow** (George Mason University) 2012 – 2016

**Sound Money Fellow** (Atlas Economic Research Foundation) 2009

# Relevant Work Experience

**Central Intelligence Agency**

*Data Scientist* 2014 – 2016

Applied advanced statistical methods to structured and unstructured data to evaluate government collection programs and presented the findings for both technical and non-technical audiences.

Developed quantitative metrics to complement subject matter expert’s judgments of intelligence topics, increasing the analytic rigor of Intelligence Community publications.

Led an effort to improve evaluation of business processes by incorporating data gathered through natural language processing techniques.

*Economic and Political Analyst* 2012 – 2014

Authored multiple Intelligence Community publications on Europe and the Middle East based on original all-source analysis of both quantitative and qualitative source material.

Performed econometric analysis of regional macroeconomic trends, enhancing the Intelligence Community’s understanding of local events.

Delivered briefings and written products to senior policymakers on short notice and under strict deadlines during a period of high tensions in the region.

# References

Daniel Klein

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