



## PROFESSOR BRAD CROWELL JOINS LPS WILL OFFER COURSES IN LAW, POLITICS, AND RELIGION

**How did you get interested in law, politics, and religion?**

When I came to Drake in 2007, I primarily taught religious studies courses that were handed down to me. As I built my own courses in response to student interest I found they all revolved around religion in society, with a strong emphasis on politics. I'm especially interested in religious movements that see politics as their primary avenue to affect change in society.

**What classes will you be teaching in the spring?**

This spring I'll be teaching three courses: Law, Politics, and Religion, Christian Nationalism, and The Religious Freedom Debate

**What can students expect to learn in your classes?**

I try to maintain a fairly active classroom with presentations, discussion, and group projects. As far as content, I'm particularly drawn to trying to unpack more marginal religious groups and how they try to represent their identity in a larger secular culture - from Jim Jones and David Koresh to Lance Wallnau and Doug Wilson (current leaders in the Christian Nationalism movement).

**What's one thing students might be surprised to learn about you?**

My wife and I live on 5 acres south of Des Moines and we are planting wildflowers and prairie plants on much of the open land. Our dogs spend much of their time chasing squirrels and deer around our woods.



## OPPORTUNITIES OF INTEREST FOR LPS STUDENTS

### Take Charge of LPS Press!

LPS is looking to hire a student to work 3 – 5 hours a week. Primary responsibility will be to produce the monthly newsletter. Secondary responsibility will be to run the department's social media as time allows. Look for a formal announcement via email soon!

- For more information, contact Professor Will Garriott ([William.Garriott@drake.edu](mailto:William.Garriott@drake.edu))

### 2025 J-Term LPS 113: Law and Social Change

This course with Dr. Nikki Orth will examine social movements and the development of legal mobilization efforts in the United States and the role of law in helping to create (or block) social change. Make sure to register as part of your spring registration!