Call for Submissions

At Starting Points, we are dedicated to fostering an understanding of the principles of the American political tradition from a variety of perspectives and approaches. In the spirit of this mission, we particularly invite essays that discuss one of the most important broad themes of American history, literature, and political thought: that of “nature.” European settlement of North America in the 17th century proceeded in close concert with the Enlightenment’s focus on “Nature” as an immensely important and fertile concept. Since that time, “nature” has played prominent roles in American political history and literature. More recently, “natural” foods, farming, and lifestyles have gained followings as environmental protection and climate change continue to be contentious political topics. We welcome essays that treat “nature” in any of its diverse manifestations in American history, politics, and culture, as well as essays that attempt to bring coherence to this diversity.

Please send all submissions and queries to: editor@startingpointsjournal.com

Launched in January 2017 by Professor Adam Seagrave, Starting Points is affiliated with the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, a signature academic center at the University of Missouri dedicated to promoting excellence in interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching on American political thought, history, and institutions, with a particular emphasis on the ideas and events of the American founding and their continued global impact and relevance today. To learn more about the Kinder Institute, visit democracy.missouri.edu.