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Dr. Claudia Franziska Brühwiler

Political Initiation in the Works of Philip Roth

(born 1982 in Switzerland) wrote her Doctoral Dissertation *Political Initiation in the Works of Philip Roth* under the supervision of Prof. Yvette Sánchez and Prof. Christoph Frei. Her thesis exemplifies how literature can help political science understand the ways in which individuals develop their political identity, learn to understand political ideas, and define their role in society. The formula she suggested to encapsulate these developments was "political initiation," a term which bridges the gaps between political science, literary theory, and anthropology. Through a careful analysis of Philip Roth's characters, Dr. Brühwiler showed that literature can confront political science with challenging counter-realities, and force it to consider aspects it has hitherto neglected.

Dr. Brühwiler holds an M.A. in International Affairs and Governance from the University of Saint Gallen. In the fall of 2008 she was a Visiting Researcher at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

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