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Employment

Associate Professor. Department of Political Science, University of Mississippi. July 2023-present.

Assistant Professor. Department of Political Science, University of Mississippi. August 2017-June 2023.

Education

Ph.D. Political Science. Michigan State University. 2017.

M.A. Political Science. Michigan State University. 2015.

B.A. Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy and Psychology. Michigan State University. 2011.

Research & Teaching Interests

Research: judicial politics, public attitudes and orientations toward Supreme Court, polarization, contemporary political attitudes, survey research

Teaching: Constitutional law, judicial politics, public opinion, American government, research design

Research

Peer-Reviewed Articles

27. ["Explaining Uneven American Support for Electoral Democracy: How Partisanship Conditions the Winner-Loser Gap."](#) Forthcoming. With Steven D. Schaaf. *Electoral Studies*.
26. ["Do Americans Understand the Judicial Philosophies They Endorse? Evidence from Mass and Elite Surveys."](#) Forthcoming. With Chris N. Krewson and Elizabeth A. Lane. *Political Research Quarterly*.
 - Research findings described on [PsyPost](#)
25. [""Lifetime Appointments, Lasting Reactions: Partisanship and the Enduring Effect of Nominations on Supreme Court Approval."](#) Forthcoming. With Chris N. Krewson and Elizabeth A. Lane. *Political Research Quarterly*.

24. [“Rules for Thee, Not for Me: Mass Attitudes on Judge Shopping.”](#) Forthcoming. With Elizabeth A. Lane. *Social Science Quarterly*.
 - Research findings described on [The New York Times](#)
23. [“An Ecclesiastical Court: Christian Nationalism and Perceptions of the U.S. Supreme Court.”](#) Forthcoming. With Jonathan M. King, Elizabeth A. Lane, and Jessica A. Schoenherr. *American Journal of Political Science*.
22. [“The Disparate Correlates of Populist Support in the U.S.”](#) 2024. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Research Quarterly* 78(1): 120–134.
 - Research findings described on [PsyPost](#)
21. [“Democratizing U.S. Courts: Perceived Representation and Support for Judicial Elections”](#) 2024. With John M. Bruce. *Political Research Quarterly* 78(1): 72–86.
20. [“The Influence of Descriptive Representation on Support for Judicial Nominees and the US Supreme Court”](#) 2024. With Christopher N. Krewson and Elizabeth A. Lane. *Political Behavior* 47: 661–687.
19. [“Friendship is Rare: The Influence of Off-Bench Friendships on Support for the U.S. Supreme Court.”](#) 2024. With Jessica A. Schoenherr. *American Politics Research* 53(2): 181–192.
18. [“The Partisan Contours of Attitudes About Rights and Liberties.”](#) 2024. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Behavior* 46: 1079–1099.
 - Research findings described on [CNN](#)
17. [“Filling in the Gaps: False Memories and Partisan Bias.”](#) 2023. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Psychology* 44(2): 281–299.
 - Research findings described on [PsyPost](#)
16. [“Who Supports Political Violence?”](#) 2022. With Adam M. Enders. *Perspectives on Politics* 22(2):427–444.
 - Research findings described on [Newsweek](#)
15. [“Politicized Battles: How Vacancies and Partisanship Influence Support for the Supreme Court.”](#) 2023. With Elizabeth A. Lane. *American Politics Research* 51(1): 23–36
 - Research findings described on [The New York Times](#), [Salon](#), and [Vox](#)
14. [“Christian Nationalism and Political Violence: Victimhood, Racial Identity, Conspiracy, and Support for the Capitol Attacks.”](#) 2021. With David T. Buckley and Adam M. Enders. *Political Behavior* 44:937–960.
 - Research findings described on [The New York Times](#) ([here](#) and [here](#)), [The Washington Post](#), [PsyPost](#), [Time](#), and [Psychology Today](#)
13. [“No Home Court Advantage: The Trump Impeachment Trial and Attitudes toward the U.S. Supreme Court.”](#) 2021. With Adam M. Enders. *Research & Politics* 8(2).
12. [“Place or Partisanship? The Conditional Role of Identities on Candidate Support.”](#) 2021. With Daniel J. Fudge. *American Politics Research* 49(6).
11. [“Affective Polarization and Support for the U.S. Supreme Court.”](#) 2022. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Research Quarterly* 75(2): 409–424.

10. [“‘Why Me?’ The Role of Perceived Victimhood in American Politics”](#) 2021. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Behavior* 44: 1583–1609.
 - Research findings described on [The New York Times](#), [Salon](#), [Mother Jones](#), and [PsyPost](#)
9. [“Loyalty over Fairness: Acceptance of Unfair Supreme Court Procedures”](#) 2021. *Political Research Quarterly* 74(4): 927-940.
8. [“The Role of Affective Orientations in Promoting Perceived Polarization.”](#) 2021. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Science Research and Methods* 9(3): 615-626.
7. [“The Purpose of Senatorial Grandstanding During Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings.”](#) 2020. With Jessica A. Schoenherr and Elizabeth Lane. *Journal of Law and Courts* 8(2): 333-358.
6. [“Who Can Impact the US Supreme Court’s Legitimacy?”](#) 2020. *Justice System Journal* 41(1): 22–36.
5. [“The Differential Effects of Actual and Perceived Polarization.”](#) 2019. With Adam M. Enders. *Political Behavior* 41(3): 815-839.
4. [“From Statehouse to Courthouse: Legislative Professionalism and High Court Auditing Behavior.”](#) 2019. *Social Science Quarterly* 101(1): 362-375.
3. [“Extra-judicial Actor Induced Change in Supreme Court Legitimacy.”](#) 2018. *Political Research Quarterly* 71(3): 600-613.
 - Research findings described in [The Washington Post](#) and [Salon](#)
2. [“Politicized Nominations and Supreme Court Legitimacy in the Polarization Era.”](#) 2018. *Justice System Journal* 39(3): 193-209.
1. [“A Well-Traveled Lot: A Research Note on Judicial Travel by U.S. Supreme Court Justices”](#) 2016. With Ryan C. Black and Ryan J. Owens. *Justice System Journal* 37(4): 367-384.
 - Research findings described on [The Hill](#)

Book Review

[Review of “The Rights Paradox: How Group Attitudes Shape US Supreme Court Legitimacy”](#) by Michael A. Zilis. 2022. *Perspectives on Politics* 20(1): 332-334.

Book Chapter

[“The Influence of Politicians on Public Support for the Judiciary”](#) in Jennifer Diascro, Rorie Solberg, and Eric N. Waltenburg, eds., *Judicial Politics Reader*.

- [Full textbook available online](#). Chapter printed in second edition with no changes.

Popular Media

[Authoritarian populist Americans who feel a sense of victimhood and white identity are most likely to support political violence](#). June 23, 2022. The London School of Economics and Political Science Daily Blog on American Politics and Policy (LSE-APP).

[When the Senate plays politics with Supreme Court vacancies this hurts the public’s perceptions of the Court](#). April 21, 2022. The London School of Economics and Political Science Daily Blog on American Politics and Policy (LSE-APP).

[New research shows a connection between political victimhood and White support for Trump.](#) January 13, 2021. *Washington Post/Monkey Cage*.

[Why an attack on the Supreme Court by Donald Trump could hurt its reputation in the eyes of his supporters.](#) February 16, 2018. The London School of Economics and Political Science Daily Blog on American Politics and Policy (LSE-APP).

Non-refereed Material

["Dimensionality on the Supreme Court."](#) 2023. *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 179(1):214–218.

- Comment on Michael A. Bailey's paper from the 38th International Seminar on the New Institutional Economics – Judicial Decision-Making in Stralsund, Germany.

["The State of Political Knowledge in the State of Michigan."](#) With Ryan C. Black. Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Michigan Policy Wonk Blog.

Invited Talks

"Political Science's Approach to Judicial Ideology." University of Mississippi School of Law Law & Economics Society, March 20, 2025.

"From Cloistered to Controversial: The Supreme Court in the Public Eye." University of Mississippi Criminal Justice Colloquium, October 2, 2024.

"Christian Nationalism and Political Violence: Victimhood, Racial Identity, Conspiracy, and Support for the Capitol Attacks." Secular Coalition for Arizona weekly speaker series, December 1, 2023.

"Choosing to Litigate Against Autocratic States." University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs, March 28, 2023.

Awards & Honors

College of Liberal Arts Faculty Advancement Grant, University of Mississippi (\$8,400)

University of Mississippi Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies Isom Fellowship, 2024-2025 (\$9,000)

Inclusive Learning Community Course Redesign Grant (\$4,000)

College of Liberal Arts Summer Research Grant, University of Mississippi, Summer 2021 (\$2,125); Summer 2023 (\$5,000)

Conference Participation (selected)

"Safety as Trauma: The Political Consequences of School Shooting Preparedness." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 3-5, 2026, Boston, MA.

"The Court in their Own Words: Open-ended Attitudes on the Supreme Court." with Elizabeth A. Lane. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 23-26, 2026, Chicago, IL.

"Injunction Junction: The Supreme Court and the Politics of Nationwide Relief." with Jonathan M. King, Elizabeth A. Lane, and Jessica A. Schoenherr. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 8–10, 2026, New Orleans, LA.

"How Partisanship Conditions Public Support for Judicial Independence." with Steven D. Schaaf. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 11–14, 2025, Vancouver, BC, CA.

"American Support for Democracy before and after the 2020 and 2024 Elections." with Steven D. Schaaf. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 11–14, 2025, Vancouver, BC, CA.

"An Ecclesiastical Court: Christian Nationalism and Support for the U.S. Supreme Court." with Elizabeth A. Lane, Jonathan M. King, and Jessica A. Schoenherr. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 8–11, 2025, San Juan, PR and Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 3–6, Chicago IL.

"The Court in their Own Words: Open-ended Attitudes on the Supreme Court." with Elizabeth A. Lane. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 3–7, 2024, Chicago, IL.

"The Role of Race and Sex on Attitudes about Rights and Liberties." with Adam M. Enders. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 11–14, 2024, New Orleans, LA.

"Rules for Thee, Not for Me: Mass Attitudes on Judge Shopping." with Elizabeth A. Lane. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 11–14, 2024, New Orleans, LA.

"Coherence and Constraint in Public Preferences for Judicial Philosophy." with Christopher N. Krewson and Elizabeth A. Lane. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 4–7, 2023, Chicago, IL.

Teaching Experience

*ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research,
University of Michigan*

Legal and Judicial Data Analysis (formerly Techniques for the Analysis of Legal and Judicial Data),
Summer 2020–present

University of Mississippi

Undergraduate Courses

Constitutional Law I: Institutional Powers

Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights & Liberties

Judicial Behavior

Public Opinion & Political Psychology

Voting and Political Participation

Honors Experiential Learning

Introduction to Research Methods

Graduate Courses

Proseminar in American Politics, Fall 2023

Seminar in Public Opinion & Political Psychology, Fall 2018; Spring 2021, 2024

Seminar in Political Participation & Voting, Fall 2022; Spring 2026

Service Activities

Professional

Editorial Board: *Journal of Politics*, 2026–present

APSA Law & Courts Section Chair (with Marcy Shieh), 2026

APSA Law & Courts Section Law and Politics Book Review Editor Search Committee, 2025

APSA Law & Courts section Best Journal Article Award Committee, 2022

Panel chair: 2023, 2024, 2026 MPSA meetings; 2022, 2026 SPSA meetings; 2026 APSA meeting

Panel discussant: 2018, 2023, 2024, 2026 MPSA meetings; 2019, 2022, 2024, 2025 SPSA meetings; 2026 APSA meeting

Journal Reviewer: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *American Politics Research*, *Journal of Law and Courts*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Law & Society Review*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, & Politics*, *Justice System Journal*, *Electoral Studies*, *Political Psychology*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *Research & Politics*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *The Social Science Journal*, *Time-sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences*, *Contemporary Italian Politics*

University

University Research Board, 2024-2026

Faculty and Staff Appeals, 2024-2026

ORSP Faculty Travel Grant Committee, 2024-present

Committee on Accessibility, 2023-2024

College of Liberal Arts Taylor Medal Selection Committee, 2024

Faculty Advisor for Stamps Impact Prize Award (student: Ella Jordan), 2024

Departmental

Committee Service

Comparative Politics Search Committee, Fall 2024
American Politics Search Committee, Fall 2022, 2023
Scholarship & Awards Committee, 2018-2022; chair, 2019-2022
Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2019-2021
Graduate Studies Committee, 2018-2019; 2021-2024
Tenure & Promotion Document Committee, 2021-2022
Library Representative, 2018-2019
Strategic Planning Committee, 2023-present

Graduate Advising

Ryan Ammenheuser (Ph.D. expected 2027; committee chair)
Patricia Hull (Ph.D. expected 2026)
Jonah King (Ph.D. 2022)
Austin Cutler (M.A. 2021)
Rahul Hemrajani (Ph.D. 2023; University of South Carolina)
Raymond Radford (Ph.D. 2024; University of Sydney)

Memberships

American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Southern Political Science Association

References

Available upon request