

Justin Wedeking

Curriculum Vitae

September 7, 2026

1 Contact Information

Department of Political Science Email: justin.wedeking@uky.edu
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Lexington, KY 40506-0027

2 Education

Ph.D., Political Science. University of Minnesota, 2007.
Dissertation: Elite Framing and Supreme Court Decision Making
Fields: American Politics, Methodology, Political Psychology.

M.A., Political Science. University of Mississippi, 2002.
Thesis: *Temporal Trends in Party Affect*

B.A., Political Science and Criminal Justice. St. Cloud State University, 2000.

3 Academic Appointments

Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Kentucky (July 2018 – Present)

Associate Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Kentucky (July 2013 – June 2018)

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Kentucky (Aug. 2007 – June 2013)

4 Major Administrative Appointments

Acting Department Chair, Pol. Science, University of Kentucky (July 2026-Present)

Director of Graduate Studies, Pol. Science, University of Kentucky (July 2017-June 2021; July 2025- June 2026)

Editor, *Journal of Law and Courts* (July 2019-December 2020)

Associate Department Chair, Pol. Science, University of Kentucky (July 2017-June 2021)

Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies, Pol. Science, University of Kentucky (August 2015-May 2016)

5 Scholarship and Research

5.1 External Grant and Foundation Proposal

National Science Foundation, \$275,000. Principal Investigator, with Michael Zilis. “Portrayals and Perceptions of the Supreme Court in a New Media Landscape.” Law & Social Sciences Program. May 15, 2019 - April 30, 2023. Award number 1849286. NSF Award Abstract.

Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation- Invitation to submit a Distinguished Scholar Proposal. “Judges and Courts in the Crosshairs: Tracking Judicial Violence and Evaluating State Law Responses.”

5.2 Awards

David Hughes Memorial Award for the outstanding paper presented at the previous year’s conference by a faculty member or graduate student from a Kentucky college or university, presented by the Kentucky Political Science Association. May 2022. “Counter-Attitudinal Voting and the Supreme Court During Crises” with Abbie Saulsbury (Wood).

Pi Sigma Alpha Best Paper Award for “excellence in scholarly writing” for the paper presented at the 2011 Southern Political Science Association meeting (New Orleans). “Picking an Unsettled Brain: The Role of Cognitive Complexity in Ideological Drift on the United States Supreme Court” with Ryan J. Owens.

Pi Sigma Alpha Award for the Overall Best Paper presented at the 2002 Southwestern Political Science Association meeting (New Orleans). “Understanding Temporal Trends in Party Affect: Negativity versus Neutrality” with Harvey D. Palmer. Also recognized as a distinguished paper by the Southwestern Social Science Association.

5.3 Books

Wedeking, Justin and Michael A. Zilis. Under Contract and Reviewed. *Media, Compliance Attitudes, and the Rule of Law: How the Emergence of the New Media Landscape Shapes Attitudes Towards the Supreme Court*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Elements in Experimental Political Science.

Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2020. *The Conscientious Justice: How Supreme Court Justices’ Personalities Influence the Law, the High Court, and the Constitution*. Cambridge University Press.

- Reviewed by: Parker, Christopher M. 2021. *Political Science Quarterly* 136(2): 374-376 (Summer). Review online. Fix, Michael P. 2020. "Giving the Straw Man a Brain: Integrating Law and Politics in Understanding the Supreme Court." *Journal of Politics: Review Essays* 82(4): e40-e44. Review available online. Howard, Robert M. 2020. *Law and Politics Book Review* 30(10): 154-157. Review available online. Bowers, Michael. September 21, 2020. *Choice. Review of the Week.*. Review available online.

Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2016. *U.S. Supreme Court Opinions and Their Audiences*. Cambridge University Press.

- Reviewed by: Bailey, Michael A. 2017. *Law and Politics Book Review* 27(3): 47-48. Review available online.

Farganis, Dion, and Justin Wedeking. 2014. *Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings in the U.S. Senate: Reconsidering the Charade*. University of Michigan Press.

- Reviewed by: Budziak, Jeffrey. 2015. *Political Science Quarterly* 130(2): 376-378. Review available online. Stephenson, Jr., Donald Grier. 2014. "The Judicial Bookshelf" In *Journal of Supreme Court History* 39(2):214-219. Nemacheck, Christine. 2017. *Law and Politics Book Review* 27(6): 89-91. Review available online.
- Featured on "Author Meets Critic" Panel at the American Political Science Association Conference, August 28, 2014, Washington, DC.
- Featured on C-SPAN2 BookTV (Interviewed June 23, 2015) Video online.

Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, and Justin Wedeking. 2012. *Oral Arguments and Coalition Formation on the U.S. Supreme Court: A Deliberate Dialogue*. University of Michigan Press.

- Reviewed by: Westerland, Chad. 2013. *Law and Politics Book Review* 23(6): 305-308. Review available online. Hume, Robert J. 2013. *Journal of Politics* 75(4): 36. Review available online. Whitmeyer, Joseph. 2014. *Perspectives on Politics* 12(1): 235-236. Review available online. Stephenson, Jr., Donald Grier. 2015. "The Judicial Bookshelf" In *Journal of Supreme Court History* 40(3):346-347.

5.4 Articles

Wedeking, Justin, and Michael A. Zilis. 2026. "Democratic Institutions Under Threat: Corrosive Frames, Internet News, and the U.S. Supreme Court." *Political Communication*, 1-27. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10584609.2026.2682952>.

Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2026 "Cameras in the Courtroom: An Experiment on the Public's Views." *Journal of Law and Empirical Analysis*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2755323X261465967>

Wedeking, Justin and Michael A. Zilis. 2026. "Supreme Court Legitimacy in a New Media Era: Judicial Legitimacy, Polarization, and the Changing Media Landscape." *Political Research Quarterly* 79(1)78-94. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10659129251378723>.

Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2024. "Televised Oral Arguments and Judicial Legitimacy: An Initial Assessment." *Political Behavior* 46(2) 777-797.

- Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Timothy R. Johnson, and Justin Wedeking. 2023. "Cameras in the High Court: An Empirical Examination of Support for Supreme Court Justices." *Per Curiam: Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy*. 11 (Spring).
- Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2021. "Conscientiousness and Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings in the Senate Judiciary Committee." *British Journal of American Legal Studies* 10(3) 379-408.
- Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2021. "On Estimating Personality Traits of US Supreme Court Justices." *Journal of Law and Courts* 371-396.
- Denison, Alexander, Justin Wedeking, and Michael A. Zilis. 2020. "Negative Media Coverage of the Supreme Court: The Interactive Role of Opinion Language, Coalition Size, and Ideological Signals." *Social Science Quarterly* 101(1): 121-143.
- Zilis, Michael A. and Justin Wedeking. 2020. "The Sources and Consequences of Political Rhetoric: Issue Importance, Collegial Bargaining, and Disagreeable Rhetoric in Supreme Court Opinions." *Journal of Law and Courts* 8(2): 203-227. This article was accepted by the previous editor (Kevin McGuire).
- Wedeking, Justin, and Michael A. Zilis. 2018. "Disagreeable Rhetoric and the Prospect of Public Opposition: Opinion Moderation on the U.S. Supreme Court." *Political Research Quarterly* 7(2): 380-394.
- Wedeking, Justin, and Alexander Denison. 2017. "Using Text as Data to Measure Latent Legal Constructs: A Dictionary-Based Approach." *Michigan State Law Review* 2017:1057-1084.
- Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2017. "Supreme Court Opinions and Audiences." *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy* 54:169-180.
- Parkin, Michael, and Justin Wedeking. 2017. "Connecting with the Courts: Online Access to State Judicial Systems." *Justice System Journal* 38: 22-36.
- Zilis, Michael, Alexander Denison, and Justin Wedeking. 2017. "Hitting the Bullseye in Supreme Court Coverage: News Quality in the Court's 2014 Term." *Elon Law Review* IX(2):489-523.
- Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2016. "The Influence of Public Sentiment on Supreme Court Opinion Clarity." *Law and Society Review* 50(3): 703-732.
- Lippert, Anne, and Justin Wedeking. 2016. "Is Judicial Expertise Dynamic? Judicial Expertise, Complex Networks, and Legal Policy." *Michigan State Law Review* 2016: 567-606.

- Corley, Pamela and Justin Wedeking. 2014. "The (Dis)Advantage of Certainty: The Importance of Certainty in Language." *Law & Society Review* 48(1): 35-62.
- Owens, Ryan J., Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2013. "Evading Supervisory Review in the Separation of Powers: The U.S. Supreme Court and Strategic Use of Judicial Language." *Journal of Law and Courts* 1(1) 35-59.
- Owens, Ryan J. and Justin Wedeking. 2012. "Predicting Drift on Politically Insulated Institutions: A Study of Ideological Drift on the United States Supreme Court." *Journal of Politics* 74(2): 487-500.
- Winner of the 2011 Pi Sigma Alpha award for the Best Paper given at the 2011 Southern Political Science Association conference.
- Wedeking, Justin. 2012. "Why Do Policy Motivated Justices Conform to Unfavorable Precedents? The Role of Social-Legal Backgrounds and Precedential Characteristics." *Justice System Journal* 33(1):69-95.
- Owens, Ryan J., and Justin Wedeking. 2011. "Justices and Legal Clarity: Analyzing the Complexity of Supreme Court Opinions." *Law & Society Review* 45(4): 1027-1061.
- Covered in the *New York Times* (Nov. 18, 2010, A1), and by the political science blog: The Monkey Cage (November 19, 2010). and cited in the *New York Times* (Aug. 11, 2014)
- Farganis, Dion, and Justin Wedeking. 2011. "'No Hints, No Forecasts, No Previews': An Empirical Analysis of Supreme Court Nominee Candor From Harlan to Kagan." *Law & Society Review* 45(3):525-559.
- Previous version was covered in the New York Times, McClatchy Newspapers, SCOTUSBlog, Pacific*Standard (formerly Miller-McCune), PBS-NewsHour: The Rundown Blog, PBS-NewsHour follow-up story, CQ Weekly, NPR affiliate, and the Lexington Herald-Leader.
 - Guest Post on SCOTUSblog. Dec. 23, 2011. "Legal Scholarship highlight: Analyzing the candor of Supreme Court nominees."
- Palmer, Harvey D., and Justin Wedeking. 2011 "Accounting for Temporal Trends in Party Affect: Negativity versus Neutrality" *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties* 21(1): 57-82.
- Winner of the Pi Sigma Alpha award for the overall best paper presented at the 2002 Southwestern Social Science Association meeting.
- Wedeking, Justin. 2010. "Supreme Court Litigants and Strategic Framing." *American Journal of Political Science* 54(3): 617-631.
- Wedeking, Justin and Dion Farganis. 2010 "The Candor Factor: Does Nominee Evasiveness Affect Judiciary Committee Support for Supreme Court Nominees?" *Hofstra Law Review*

39(2):329-368.

- Johnson, Timothy R., Ryan Black, and Justin Wedeking. 2009. "Pardon the Interruption: An Empirical Analysis of Supreme Court Justices' Behavior During Oral Arguments." *Loyola Law Review* Vol. 55(1)(Summer): 331-351.
- Brown, Robert D., and Justin Wedeking. 2006. "People Who Have Their Tickets But Do Not Use Them: 'Motor Voter,' Turnout, and Registration Revisited." *American Politics Research* 34(4):479-504.
- Winkle III, John W., and Justin Wedeking. 2003. "Perceptions and Experiences of Gender Fairness in Mississippi Courts" *Judicature* 87:126-134.

5.5 Book Chapters

- Lippert, Anne, Justin Wedeking, and Ryan C. Black. 2024 "10: Citizen Knowledge and the U.S. Supreme Court: Understanding the Importance of Visual and Verbal Knowledge and Their Implications for the Supreme Court in American Democracy." *Open Judicial Politics 3E* Vol. 2. Edited by Rorie Spill Solberg and Eric Waltenburg. Open Education Resources, Oregon State University. [Book link](#)
- Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2024 "16: Legitimacy, Trust, and Cameras in the U.S. Supreme Court." *Open Judicial Politics 3E* Vol. 2. Edited by Rorie Spill Solberg and Eric Waltenburg. Open Education Resources, Oregon State University. [Book link](#)
- Wedeking, Justin. 2019. "'Text as Data' in Law and Courts: Data Coding, Language Clarity, and Data Sharing." In *Research Handbook on Law and Courts*, Editors: Susan Sterett and Lee Walker, Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Wedeking, Justin, and Alexander Denison. 2018. "Justice Scalia's Confirmation Hearing Legacy." in *The Conservative Revolution of Antonin Scalia*, Editors: David Schultz and Howard Schweber, Lexington Books.
- Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2016. "Herding Scorpions: The Chief as Social Leader" In *The Chief Justice: Appointment and Influence*, pg. 281-305. Editors: David Danelski and Artemus Ward, University of Michigan Press.
- Malhotra, Neil, Joanne M. Miller, and Justin Wedeking. 2014. "The Relationship between Nonresponse Strategies and Measurement Error: Comparing Online Panel Surveys to Traditional Surveys" In *Online Panel Research: A Data Quality Perspective*. Editors: Mario Callegaro, Reg Baker, Jelke Bethlehem, Anja S. Göritz, Jon A. Krosnick, and Paul J. Lavrakas, P.J. Wiley (Survey Methodology Series).

5.6 Short Articles & Proceedings

Taing, Austin, Judy Goldsmith, and Justin Wedeking. 2019. "Application of Boolean Logic to Natural Language Complexity in Political Discourse." *Algorithmic Decision Theory. 6th International Conference, ADT 2019, Durham, NC, October 25-27, 2019 Proceedings*. Editors: Sasa Pekec and Kristen Brent Venable. Pages 175-176. Springer.

Wedeking, Justin, Anne Lippert, and Ryan Black. 2015. "(Re)Discovering the Value of Nodes and Links: How Networks Can Further Law & Courts Research." *Law & Courts: Newsletter of the Law & Courts Section of The American Political Science Association*. 25(1): 6-10.

Wedeking, Justin. 2014. "Why Not Experiments?" *Law & Courts: Newsletter of the Law & Courts Section of The American Political Science Association*. 24(1): 21-27.

Owens, Ryan J. and Justin Wedeking. 2012. "Some (Potential) Applications of Computer Content Analysis to the Study of Law & Courts." *Law & Courts: Newsletter of the Law & Courts Section of The American Political Science Association*. 22(1): 26-32.

5.7 Invited Book Reviews, Blog Posts, Op-Ed, and Encyclopedia Entries

Wedeking, Justin. 2020. "Book Review of *The Supreme Court: An Analytical History of Constitutional Decision Making*" by Tom Clark. *Perspectives on Politics* Vol 18(2): 626-627.

Black, Ryan, and Timothy R. Johnson, and Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2020. "Op-Ed: Livestreaming Arguments? The Supreme Court Made the Right Decision." May 8, 2020. The Hill.

Wedeking, Justin. 2018. (September 4). "No, it's not just theater. Here's what to expect from the Kavanaugh hearings this week." Washington Post- Monkey Cage Analysis.

Lippert, Anne, and Justin Wedeking. 2017. "Samuel Alito." *Encyclopedia of Civil Rights and Liberties*, pages 29-30. ABC-CLIO. Editors John Scheb and Kara Stooksbury.

Denison, Alex, and Justin Wedeking. 2017. "Elena Kagan." *Encyclopedia of Civil Rights and Liberties* pages 543-544. ABC-CLIO. Editors John Scheb and Kara Stooksbury.

Wedeking, Justin. 2016. "Book Review of *A Storm Over This Court: Law, Politics, and Supreme Court Decision Making in Brown v. Board of Education*," by Jeffrey D. Hockett. *American Review of Politics* 35(1): 117-119.

Wedeking, Justin. 2015. "Book Review of *Reflections on Judging*," by Richard A. Posner. *Law and Politics Book Review* Vol. 25(6): 93-98.

Invited Guest Post on Professor Dan Kahan's (Yale University Law) Cultural Cognition Blog on the topic of Forecasting Supreme Court decisions. [Link here](#).

Wedeking, Justin. 2015. "Book Review of *Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change*, by Paul M. Collins, Jr., and Lori A. Ringhand. *Perspectives on Politics* Vol 13(2): 530-532.

Invited Guest Post (with Dion Farganis) on SCOTUSBlog: Supreme Court of the United States Blog, "Legal Scholarship highlight: Analyzing the candor of Supreme Court nominees." December 23, 2011. [Link here](#).

Wedeking, Justin. 2011. "Book Review of *The Psychology of Judicial Decision Making*, edited by David Klein and Gregory Mitchell." *Law and Politics Book Review* Vol. 21(3): 112-116.

Wedeking, Justin. 2011. "Book Review of *Law, Politics, and Perception: How Policy Preferences Influence Legal Reasoning*, by Eileen Braman. *Journal of Politics* Vol. 73(2): 617-619.

Wedeking, Justin. 2008. "Book Review of *Public Opinion and the Rehnquist Court*, by Thomas R. Marshall." *Law and Politics Book Review* Vol. 18 No. 8 (August); 729-733.

Wedeking, Justin. 2008. "Book Review of *The Final Arbiter: The Consequences of Bush v. Gore for Law and Politics*, edited by Christopher P. Banks, David B. Cohen, and John C. Green." *Law and Politics Book Review* Vol. 18 No.1 (January): 76-79.

5.8 Invited Presentations and Roundtables

Panelist and Presenter, Law and Courts Lifetime Achievement Award Panel, honoring Dr. Jerry Goldman, American Political Science Association Conference 2026, Boston, September 5.

Roundtable Panelist at Indiana University, Department of Political Science, March 1, 2024. Roundtable on Eileen Braman's book "*Constitutional Powers and Politics: How Citizens Think About Authority and Institutional Change*."

Presentation to Louisiana State University, Department of Political Science, March 31, 2023. "Democratic Institutions Under Threat: Corrosive Issue Frames, Internet News, Social Media, and the Case of the U.S. Supreme Court."

Presentation at the University of South Carolina, Department of Political Science, April 2021. "Looking for SCOTUS News in All the Wrong Places: Internet Coverage, Sharing, and Legitimacy."

Presentation and participant at the *Text Analysis and Law Conference* at Northwestern University Law, April 4-5, 2019. “Comparing Styles and Portrayals of SCOTUS in a New Media Environment.”

Presentation at the University of Illinois-Champaign, Department of Political Science, February 2019. “Measuring Personality on the U.S. Supreme Court.”

Presentation for Special Conference titled: “2017 Conference on Elite Personality and Political Institutions” May 5-7, 2017. University of Notre Dame. Presented paper titled: “Justices’ Personalities and Supreme Court Agenda Setting.”

Presentation and Panelist for Symposium titled: “Empirical Legal Studies and Legal Analytics: Shall the Twain Meet?” March 23-24, 2017, Michigan State University Law School, East Lansing, Michigan.

Presentation and Panelist for Symposium titled: “The Relevance of Courts is at Risk.” Panel titled, “The Judicial System’s Role in a Contemporaneous American Society.” Presentation titled, “The Times They Are a Changin’.” November 4, 2016. Elon University Law School.

Presentation and Participant, Legal Quanta Symposium, Michigan State Law Review, Michigan State University. “Measuring Judicial Expertise and Its Implications.” October 29, 2015.

Presentation, with Timothy R. Johnson, “2014 Supreme Court Term: Cases, Predictions, and Public Opinion.” June 8, 2015. Henry Clay Center on Statesmanship Student Congress. Transylvania University. Lexington, Kentucky.

Presentation, “Learning at Oral Arguments and Coalition Formation on the U.S. Supreme Court.” Paper presented to the University of Kentucky Law School Brown Bag Workshop, Feb. 24, 2010.

5.9 Working Manuscripts

Ryan J. Owens, Ryan C. Black, Timothy R. Johnson, and Justin Wedeking. “The Etiology of Public Support for Cameras in the U.S. Supreme Court.”

Justin Wedeking and Michael A. Zilis. “Courts in the Crosshairs: Understanding the Rise in and Ramifications of Threats and Violence Directed at the U.S. Judiciary.”

Peter Lynch and Justin Wedeking “More Than Ideas? Examining the Federalist Society’s Grass Roots, its Leadership Capacity, and the Prospect for Jobs.”

Abbie Wood and Justin Wedeking. “Counter-Attitudinal Voting and the Supreme Court During Crisis.”

5.10 Ongoing Research Projects

“Framing, Debate, and Opinion Change in the Social Media Age” with Michael A. Zilis.

“Televising Oral Arguments and AI” with Ryan C. Black, Timothy R. Johnson, and Ryan C. Owens.

“Evaluating Supreme Court News Coverage by Indigenous American Newspapers” with EmiLee Smart.

5.11 University and Department Grants & Fellowships

5.11.1 *University*

Research Support Grant, University of Kentucky Office of the Vice President for Research. To pay for survey research subjects. With Michael A. Zilis on the project “Framing, Debate, and Opinion Change in the Social Media Age. (Fall 2021-Spring 2022).”

Research Support Grant, University of Kentucky Office of the Vice President for Research. To hire data coders for project on United States Supreme Court and the Media. (February 2013-Jan 2014).

Thesis Research Grant funded in part by the University of Minnesota class of 1890 from the Graduate School at the University of Minnesota (Spring 2007). Purpose: Provide funds necessary to visit archives of former Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell at Washington & Lee University School of law.

Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (Spring 2006) from the Center for the Study of Political Psychology (University of Minnesota). Purpose: Provide funds necessary to perform research at the archives of former Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell at Washington & Lee University School of Law.

Content Analysis Research Group (Spring 2005) from the Center for the Study of Political Psychology, University of Minnesota. Purpose: Co-recipient to purchase content analysis software program - Crawdad - and two year license.

Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (Spring 2005) from the Center for the Study of Political Psychology (University of Minnesota). Purpose: Provide funds necessary for research at the Library of Congress manuscript reading room - files of Supreme Court justices William J. Brennan and Harry A Blackmun.

Administrative Fellowship, Center for the Study of Political Psychology (Fall 2004-Summer 2005) (University of Minnesota).

5.11.2 *Department*

Political Science Department Research Support Grant. Spring 2019. For Computer Programming Consultant and MTurk Survey.

Political Science Department Graduate Student Research Support Grant. Summer 2016. To hire graduate student for summer RA.

Political Science Department Graduate Student Research Support Grant. Summer 2015. To hire graduate student for summer RA.

Political Science Department Graduate Student Research Support Grant. Summer 2014. To hire graduate student for summer RA.

Summer Research Assistant Fellowship Grant (Summer 2012): one-half RA for Summer. University of Kentucky.

Summer Faculty Research Fellowship (Summer 2011). University of Kentucky.

2005-6 American Politics Spring Colloquium Coordinator, Political Science, University of Minnesota (Co-recipient of Award given by American Politics Faculty to the most promising graduate student(s) in American Politics).

Graduate Research Partnership Program Fellowship (GRPP) (Summer 2005). College of Liberal Arts (U of Minnesota). With Timothy R. Johnson. Title: Coalition Formation on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship in Politics, University of Minnesota Graduate School (2002-2006- distributed over 4 summers).

5.12 Professional Conference Papers (Since 2021, full list available)

“The Etiology of Public Support for Cameras in the U.S. Supreme Court” (title changed from program) with Ryan C. Black, Ryan J. Owens, and Timothy R. Johnson at the 2026 meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Sept 3-6.

“Courts in the Crosshairs: Understanding the Rise in and Ramifications of Threats and Violence Directed at the U.S. Judiciary” with Michael A. Zilis at the 2025 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 3-6.

“Evaluating Supreme Court News Coverage by Indigenous American Newspapers” with EmiLee Smart at the 2025 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 3-6.

“Media, Compliance Attitudes, and the Rule of Law: How the Emergence of the New Media Landscape Shapes Attitudes Towards the Supreme Court” with Michael A. Zilis at the 2024

meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 4-7.

“More Than Ideas? Examining the Federalist Society, Its Organizational Roots, and the Prospect for Jobs” with Peter Lynch at the 2024 meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 10-13.

“The TikTok Addiction: TikTok Messaging and the Future of the Supreme Court” with Michael A. Zilis at the 2024 meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 10-13.

“The Court at the Crossroads: Social Media, Abortion, and the Future of the Supreme Court” with Michael A. Zilis at the 2023 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 13-16.

“All the News That’s Fit for the Internet? Coverage and Sharing of SCOTUS News” with Michael A. Zilis at the 2022 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 7-10.

“Counter-Attitudinal Voting and the Supreme Court During Crises” with Abbie Saulsbury at the 2022 meeting of the Kentucky Political Science Association, Lexington, March 4-5.

“Exploring Judicial Behavior and Restraint During Wartime” with Abbie Saulsbury at the 2022 meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Antonio, January 12-15.

“All the News That’s Fit for the Internet? Coverage and Sharing of SCOTUS News” with Michael A. Zilis at the 2021 meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, Sept. 29-Oct. 3.

5.13 Other Research Presentations & Workshop Participation

Presenter, “Assessing Variation in Media Coverage of the U.S. Supreme Court” at the 2019 Commonwealth Computation Summit, Lexington, KY, October 14, 2019.

Panelist, “The More You Know(?) An Informational Session for Students Considering PhD or MA Study in Political Science” at the 2019 annual meeting of the Kentucky Political Science Association, at the University of Louisville, March 1-2.

Presentation, with Michael A. Zilis, “Portrayals and Perceptions of the Supreme Court in a New Media Landscape.” Paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lunch Colloquium. Fall 2018.

Presentation, “Personality and Judging: Motives, Traits, and Decision Making.” Paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lunch Colloquium. Spring 2018.

Panelist - Constitution Day Fall 2017 - Co-Organizer of Panel titled "Constitutional Controversy in the Age of Trump," my presentation titled, "Constitutional Crisis? Crises? Or Controversial and Dangerous Politics?" September 18, 2017.

Presentation, with Michael Zilis, "The Sources and Consequences of Supreme Court Rhetoric." Paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lunch Colloquium. Fall 2017.

Presentation, with Alex Denison, "Is News Coverage of the Supreme Court Ideological?" Paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lunch Colloquium. Spring 2017.

Presentation, with Alex Denison and Michael Zilis, "Negative Media Coverage of the Supreme Court: The Interactive Role of Opinion Language, Coalition Size, and Ideological Signals." Paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lunch Time Talks. Fall 2016.

Presentation, with Anne Lippert, "Visual and Verbal Knowledge of the Supreme Court." Paper presented to the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lunch Time Talks. Fall 2015.

Participant, "Tools for Text Workshop." Competitive application process for NSF sponsored workshop on content analysis. University of Washington, June 14-15, 2010.

Presentation, "Exploring the Relationship Between Ideology and Cognitive Style of Supreme Court Justices." Presentation at the 3rd Annual Cognitive Science Symposium, University of Kentucky (February 19, 2010).

Participant, "Workshop on the Identification and Integration of Law and Court Data" Hosted by Kirk Randazzo at the University of South Carolina (November 7, 2009).

Presentation, "Ideology, Cognitive Complexity, and the U.S. Supreme Court" Presentation at the Social Psychology Brown Bag, University of Kentucky. (Oct. 2, 2009).

Presentation, "Supreme Court Litigants and a Strategic Account of Framing." Paper presented as part of faculty research presentations, University of Kentucky, November 2007.

Presentation, "SCSU Campus Safety: Findings of the Spring SCSU Survey." Paper presented at the 2000 St. Cloud State University Student Research Colloquium in St. Cloud, MN.

6 Teaching

6.1 Teaching Interests

American & Judicial Politics: Law & Courts, Judicial Politics and Behavior, Civil Rights and Liberties, Constitutional Law, Separation of Powers, Public Opinion, Political Psychology, Participation and Voting Behavior, American Government.

Political Methodology: Computer Text Analysis, Content Analysis, Survey Research, Research Design, Introduction to Quantitative Research, Strategies of Inquiry in Political Science

6.2 Course Teaching Experience

University of Kentucky

Undergraduate

Constitutional Law: Institutional Powers and Constraints (Spring 2008, Spring 2019, Fall 2021, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2026)

Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties (Spring 2011, Fall 2020, Fall 2024)

Honors in Political Science (Fall 2016, Fall 2018)

(Introduction to) Politics of Law and Courts (Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Summer 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2011, Spring 2014, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025, Spring 2026)

Judicial Politics (Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2013, Spring 2023, Fall 2025)

Sports, Politics, and Law (Spring 2017, Fall 2019, Fall 2022)

Technology and the U.S. Legal System (Fall 2013, Fall 2015)

UK 101 Academic Orientation (Fall 2016, Fall 2017)

Independent studies: “Psychology and Judging,” “Judges, Cognition, & Supreme Court Nominations,” “Supreme Court Behavior and Decision Making.”

Graduate

American Political Institutions (Fall 2023)

Seminar in Judicial Politics (Spring 2010, Fall 2012, Spring 2016, Spring 2021)

Strategies of Inquiry in Political Science (Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2017)

Topics Seminar: Survey Research Methodology and Content Analysis (Spring 2012)

Survey Research Methodology (Spring 2014)

Computer Content Analysis (Fall 2014, Spring 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2024)

Independent Topics Reading Course (Spring 2011, Fall 2015, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2021, Fall 2022)

University of Minnesota

Justice In America (Summer 2007)

University of Mississippi

Introduction to American National Government (Summer 2001 & 2002).

6.3 Advising

Postdoctoral Co-Advisor: Anne Lippert (August 2014-June 2016).

Graduate:

PhD Advisor: Porter Watkins (current), Cynthia Campello (current), Abbie Wood (2024), EmiLee Smart (2024), Alex Denison (2022), Peter Lynch (2022).

PhD Committee Member: Yang Li (current, Statistics), Alex Farone (2026), Audrey Baricovich (2023), Rachael Blandau (2023), Luzmarina Garcia, University of Illinois (2022), Steven Kaiser (2020), Travis Taylor (2020), Austin Trantham (2017), Ryan Voris (2016), Yu Ouyang (2015).

External Member PhD Committee: Kelley Cowden Hodgson (Communication, 2019); Changgeun Yun (Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, 2015); Marc-Anthony Karantabias (History, 2015); Robert Zuercher (Communication, 2014); Brittany Lash (Communication, 2014).

Masters Committee Chair or Advisor: Kayla Woodson- Martin School (2024); Samantha L. Ferrell (2014).

Masters Committee Member: Austin Taing (Computer Science, 2019), Sam Roman (Sociology, 2018), Nikki Schiebel (2016), Phillip Wininger (2011).

Undergraduate:

PS Honors Theses, Independent Studies Supervised, or Honors Supervised Papers: approximately 36 students (various years).

Lewis Honors College Thesis Advisor, Honors Class Credit Advisor, Gaines Senior Thesis Committee Member, or Chellgren Project Mentor: 8 students.

Faculty Internship Supervisor (PS 399): approximately 30 students over various semesters.

7 Service

7.1 University, College, & Department

University of Kentucky

Department, Chair, Comparative Political Behavior Job Search Committee (Fall 2025).

College of Arts and Sciences Area Advisory Committee, Mathematical and Natural Sciences (outside member), (Fall 2024-Spring 2026).

Department, Member, Executive Committee, (Fall 2017-June2021, Fall 2024-Present).

Department, Member, Faculty Merit Evaluation and Review (FMER) Committee (Fall 2013, Fall 2015-Spring 2016, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025).

College of Arts and Sciences, Member, UK BLUE 3+3 Law Program Committee (Fall 2015-Spring 2016, Fall 2024-Spring 2026).

University, Member, Search Advisory Committee for Dean of the J. David Rosenberg College of Law, (Fall 2024-Spring 2025, Fall 2025-Spring 2026).

Graduate Student Teaching Mentorship and Classroom Observations (recurring, repeated semesters).

Department Graduate Field Exam Committees (multiple fields and years, recurring).

College of Arts and Sciences, DOE Review Committee, (Fall 2024-Spring 2025).

College of Arts and Sciences, External Review Committee (Dept. of Anthropology), (Spring 2025).

Department, Member, International Relations Job Search Committee, (Fall 2024).

Responsible Conduct for Research (RCR) Department Trainer, (Spring 2025).

Faculty Advisor to student organization- Kappa Alpha Pi Pre-Law and Government Student Organization, (Spring 2023-Spring 2025).

College of Arts and Sciences Research Review Committee, (Fall 2023-Spring 2025).

Department, Chair, Community Engagement Committee, (Fall 2024-Spring 2025).

Department, Member, Graduate Program Committee, (Fall 2012-Fall 2014, Fall 2016-Fall 2021, Fall 2022-Spring 2025).

Department, Member, DEI Committee, (Fall 2023-Spring 2024).

Statistics Department, Judge for Data Science Competition (Spring 2023).

Department, American Politics Search Committee (Fall 2022).

Department, Ad Hoc Committee on Potential Law and Justice major-minor (Fall 2022-Spring 2023).

College of Arts and Sciences Ad Hoc Committee for Review of Chairs, DGS, & DUS Roles Terms (Oct. 2021-April 2022).

University Graduate Council, University of Kentucky (Fall 2018 - Spring 2021).

University Senate, (August 2015 - June 2016; January 2021-June 2021).

Grad Student Placement Director, Pol. Science, University of Kentucky (Jan. 2014-June 2015)

Mock Trial Team Faculty Sponsor and Advisor (Fall 2016 - Spring 2020). Team advanced to National Tournament in 2016-2017 for first time ever.

Advisory Board Member, Quantitative Initiative for Policy and Social Research (Fall 2013-Spring 2022).

Guest Speaker Panelist, Preparing Future Faculty Class (Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021).

Panelist, Department of Political Science Roundtable on Preparing for Comprehensive Exams (multiple times).

Department Chair Selection Committee, Political Science (Spring 2017).

Organizer of Political Science Lunch Talks (Fall 2015 - Spring 2017).

Committee Member, Joint Search Committee with AAAS (Fall 2016- Spring 2017).

University Senate's Academic Programs Committee (SAPC) (August 2015 - June 2016).

Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies (August 2015 - May 2016).

Faculty Advisor to student group: Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society (August 2015 - May 2016).

Organizer, with Sarah Ballard, Pre-Law Workshop for Political Science Majors (Fall 2015).

Department Workshop, Studying for Comprehensive Exams (Fall 2014).

Judicial Politics Search Committee, Chair (Fall 2014).

Placement Director, Department of Political Science (Spring 2014-June 2015).

Department Publication Wall (Fall 2013-July 2015).

Member of the Undergraduate Program Committee, Political Science (Fall 2007-Spring 2012).

Proposal reviewer for Eureka! Undergraduate Research (Spring 2010).

Member of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of PS 101 (Spring 2010).

Department Representative for TA language screening (several semesters).

Panelist: Department "Roundtable Discussion on the Job Market Experience" (Oct. 7, 2009).

Panelist: Department Colloquium "Graduate Student Conference Presentations" (Feb. 2009).

Department Recorder for Department faculty meetings (Fall 2007-Spring 2008; Spring 2012).

Member of the Search committee for the Judicial Politics position (Fall 2008).

Moderated presidential debate in UK 101 class (November 3, 2008).

Co-Organized mentoring session entitled "Are you a Political Science Major Interested in law school???" on October 28, 2008 (with advisors).

University of Minnesota

Faculty Recruitment and Hiring Committee. Graduate Student Representative. Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota (2005-2006).

Conference II on Party Effects in the U.S. Senate - Assisted in organizing a small conference hosted at the University of Minnesota (Fall 2006).

Journal Assistant- *Political Psychology* (Fall 2004-Summer 2005) - responsible for handling accepted manuscripts and corresponding between editors, authors, and copyeditor.

Political Methodology Conference - Assisted in organizing and coordinating the summer methodology conference, University of Minnesota (Summer 2003).

7.2 *Service to Discipline*

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Law and Courts* (January 2021-present).

External Tenure & Promotion Letter Writer (13 letters, various years).

NSF Panel Member (multiple panels).

Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, Member. Decide the award winner for our field's lifetime achievement award for the Law & Courts section of the American Political Science Association (Fall 2016-Spring 2017, Fall 2025-Spring 2026).

Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Chair. Decide the best grad student paper for the previous year for the Law & Courts section of the American Political Science Association (Spring 2016).

Pi Sigma Alpha Best Paper Award Committee, Member. Decide the best paper presented at the 2015 Southern Political Science Association, (Fall 2015).

Best Paper Award Committee, Chair. Decide the best overall paper for the previous year for the Law & Courts section of the American Political Science Association (Spring 2014).

Occasional Manuscript Reviewer: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Politics Research*, *American Review of Politics*, *Behavior Research Methods*, *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Communication and Democracy*, *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, *Crime & Delinquency*, *CQ Press*, *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, *Journal of Law and Courts*, *Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Judicature*, *Justice System Journal*, *Law & Policy Journal*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Law & Society Review*, *National Science Foundation (Law and Science)*, *NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant*, *New England Journal of Political Science*, *Oxford University Press*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Publius*, *Routledge*, *Rowman & Littlefield*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Taylor and Francis*, *Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS)*, *University of Virginia Press*, *Wiley*.

7.3 Service at Professional Conferences

Panel Discussant at the 2026 American Political Science Association (Boston). Panel title: “Media Coverage and the Courts.”

Panel Discussant at the 2025 Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago). Panel title: “Violence and Courts.”

Panel Discussant at the 2024 Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago). Panel title: “The Influence of External Actors on the Courts.”

Panel Discussant at the 2022 Southern Political Science Association (San Antonio). Panel title: “Deciding to Go to Court.”

Panel Discussant at the 2021 New Directions in Law and Society Virtual Graduate Student and Junior Scholar Workshop. Panel title: “The Legal Profession.”

Panel Discussant at the 2021 American Political Science Association (Seattle). Panel title: “Politics of Federal Judicial Selection.”

Panel Chair at the 2021 Southern Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Courts and the Press.”

Panel Chair at the 2021 Southern Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Authors Meet Critics: It’s Not Personal: Politics and Policy in Lower-Court Confirmation Hearings by Logan Dancey, Kjersten Nelson, and Eve Ringsmuth.”

Panel Discussant at the 2019 American Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Taking the Measure of Judicial Institutions.”

Panel Chair and Discussant at the 2017 American Political Science Association. Panel titled: “U.S. Federal Judges and their Political Environment.”

Panel Chair and Discussant at the 2017 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Examining Justices.”

Panel Discussant at the 2016 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel titled: “U.S. Supreme Court Behavior.”

Paper Discussant at the 2015 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies. Panel titled: “Session II: Judicial Decision-Making I.”

Panel Discussant at the 2015 Southern Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Influences on Judicial Behavior Workshop: Leadership, Consensus, and Agenda Setting.”

Panel Discussant at the 2014 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel titled “Nomination and Confirmation Politics in the Federal Judiciary.”

Panel Discussant at the 2014 Southern Political Science Association. Panel titled: “High Court Decision Making: Influential Actors and Information.”

Panel Chair and Discussant at the 2013 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Using Text-Based Analysis to Examine Court Opinions.”

Panel Discussant at the 2012 Southern Political Science Association, Panel titled: “Judicial Politics: Inter-Institutional Interactions.”

Panel Discussant at the 2011 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel titled: “The Strategies and Effects of Lawyers in High Courts”

Panel Discussant at the 2010 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel titled: “Linkages Between Courts and Public Opinion.”

Panel Chair and Discussant at the 2010 Southern Political Science Association meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Panel titled: “Courts Under the Separation of Powers”

Panel Discussant at the 2009 Midwest Political Science Association meeting in Chicago. Panel titled: “Testing Influences on Supreme Court Decision Making.”

Panel Chair and Discussant at the 2009 Southern Political Science Association meeting in New Orleans. Panel titled: “External Influences on the U.S. Supreme Court.”

Panel Chair - 2008 American Political Science Association in Boston. Panel titled: “Public Opinion and the Courts.”

Panel Chair and Discussant- 2008 Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago. Panel titled: “The Court as Signaler?”

Panel Chair and Discussant - 2008 Southwestern Political Science Association. Panel Titled: “Constitutional Law & Jurisprudence”

Panel Discussant - 2007 Midwest Political Science Association. Panel Titled: “Measuring and Assessing The Impact of Judicial Preferences”

7.4 Media

News interview: WKYT, February 21, 2022, article “Ky. judges excited about Biden’s pledge to nominate a Black woman to Supreme Court ” [Link Here](#).

News interview: *Bloomberg Law*, January 7, 2021, article “Georgia Opens Path for Bold Push on Judges—If Biden Wants It” [Link Here](#).

News interview: *Bloomberg Law*, December 7, 2020, article “Liberals Push Congress for ‘Robust’ Lower Court Expansion” [Link here](#).

Radio Interview: *WUKY- Local NPR*, Fall 2020. Amendments 1 and 2 to the Kentucky Constitution.

Radio Interview: *WVLK*, October 12, 2020. Discussion of confirmation hearings of Judge Amy Coney Barrett.

News Source: *Bloomberg Law*, September 21, 2020, article “Biden Himself is One Obstacle to Democrats’ Court Packing Plan.” [Link here](#).

News Source: *Louisville Courier Journal*, October 6, 2018, article “McConnell’s legacy is solidified with Kavanaugh, but at what cost?” [Link here](#).

News Source: *Time*, September 2018, article “Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings Weren’t Always Such a Spectacle. There’s a Reason That Changed” [Link here](#).

Consultant for *New York Times*, September 2018, Video by David Botti: “How Supreme Court Confirmations Became Partisan Spectacles” [Link here](#).

News Source: *The Guardian*- for article “Neil Gorsuch’s confirmation hearing revealed his hidden similarity to Trump” March 25, 2017.

News Source: *Kentucky Kernel* (UK Student Newspaper)- Feb. 24, 2016.

News Source: *Lexington Herald Leader* (June 29, 2012)- Re Supreme Court decisions in health care cases.

TV News Interview- UK Student News Network (Post-Election analysis) November 3, 2010.

Radio Interview- *WRFL*- “Campus Voices: College Age Voters” September 29, 2010.

Various media interviews- Elena Kagan confirmation hearings (Summer 2010).

Minnesota Public Radio - Midmorning with Kerri Miller - (February 27, 2006). *The Forum*, “The Crisis of Polling.”

8 Miscellaneous

Employee, Stearns County Court Administration (St. Cloud, MN). 1999-2000. Assisted with caseload management, courtroom proceedings, and case processing. Internship (Summer 1999).

Letter winner (1996-1999), St. Cloud State University football. Academic All-Conference (Fall 1999).

9 References

Available Upon Request