

Rebecca U. Thorpe

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Appointments

Visiting Professor, University of Chicago, Fall 2017
Associate Professor, University of Washington, 2016 -
Assistant Professor, University of Washington, 2010 - 2016
Congressional Fellowship, American Political Science Association, 2009-2010
Research Fellowship in Governance Studies, The Brookings Institution, 2008-2009

Education

Ph.D, Government & Politics, University of Maryland, 2010
Fields: American Politics, Public Law
Dissertation: *The Welfare-Warfare State: Perpetuating the U.S. Military Economy*

B.A. Government, Law and Society, Skidmore College, 2004
Magna Cum Laude, Departmental Honors, Phi Beta Kappa
Thesis: *A Constitutional Safeguard for Individual Rights: Synthesizing Rehnquist Court Federalism with the Letter & Spirit of the Fourteenth Amendment*

Publications

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

The American Warfare State: The Domestic Politics of Military Spending. University of Chicago Press, May 2014.
Chicago Series on International and Domestic Institutions
Chicago Studies in American Politics
Winner of the D.B. Hardeman Prize, presented by the Lyndon Johnson Foundation for best book on Congress, 2016
Winner of the Richard Neustadt Award, presented by the Presidency & Executive Politics Section of the American Political Science Association for best book in executive politics, 2015

REFEREED ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, ESSAYS

“US Empire in the Age of Trump,” *Race, Class & Corporate Power*, Forthcoming 2018

“The Hidden Subsidies of Rural Prisons: Race, Space & the Politics of Cumulative Disadvantage,” with Hannah Walker, Emily Christensen & JP Anderson, *Punishment & Society*, October 2017

“Democratic Politics in an Age of Mass Incarceration.” In *Democratic Theory and Mass Incarceration*, edited by Albert Dzur, Ian Loader & Richard Sparks (Oxford University Press 2016).

“Perverse Politics: The Persistence of Mass Imprisonment in the 21st Century,” *Perspectives on Politics*, Sept 2015.

Winner for the Heinz Eulau Award, presented by the American Political Science Association for the best article in *Perspectives on Politics*, 2016

“Urban Divestment, Rural Decline and the Politics of Mass Incarceration,” *The Good Society*, Special Issue on Democratic Theory & Mass Incarceration, June/July 2014.

“The Geographic Distribution of the Federal Stimulus of 2009” (with Jim Gimpel & Frances Lee), *Political Science Quarterly*, Winter 2012-13.

“The Wellsprings of Candidate Emergence: The Distinctive Origins of Statewide Candidates” (with Jim Gimpel & Frances Lee). *Political Geography*, February 2011.

“The Role of Economic Reliance in Defense Procurement Contracting,” *American Politics Research*, June 2010.

“Legal Mobilization and US Supreme Court Decision Making in Property and Civil Rights Cases, 1978-2003,” (with W. McIntosh, M. Evans and S. Simon). In *Property Rights and Neo-Liberalism: Cultural Demands and Legal Actions*, edited by W. McIntosh & L. Hatcher (Ashgate Press 2010).

BOOK REVIEWS & CRITICAL DIALOGUES

Hendrickson, David C. *Republic in Peril: American Empire and the Liberal Tradition*. In *Journal of American History*, Forthcoming 2018

Review of *The Workfare State: Public Assistance Politics from the New Deal to the New Democrats*. By Eva Bertram. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015. Response to Eva Bertram’s review of *The American Warfare State: The Domestic Politics of Military Spending*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press: 2014. In *Perspectives on Politics*, March 2018.

Baker, Nancy V. *General Ashcroft: Attorney General At War*. In *Law & Politics Book Review*, Vol. 16, No. 9, September 2006

EDITED VOLUMES

“Alexis de Tocqueville & the U.S. Supreme Court.” In *Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the United States*, edited by David Tanenhaus (Macmillon References USA, 2008).

Under Review & Work In-Progress

The Fortress & the Ghetto: How State Interventions Remapped Poverty, Violence & Incarceration in American Cities (book manuscript in-progress)

“Violence as State Failure: Suburbanization, Gentrification & Institutionalized Gangs in Chicago” (article manuscript in-progress)

Original Data Collections

City-wide locations of HOLC redlining, urban renewal projects, public housing sites, highway developments, police misconduct allegations, white mob violence, institutionalized gangs and homicides (archival research & GIS mapping), Chicago, IL, 1940-present

Nation-wide locations of state, federal, and private prisons, 2000, 2010

Nation-wide locations of major U.S. defense industries, coded by congressional district, 1995, 2006 coded by FIPS place and county codes, 1940, 1944, 1950, 1966 – 2006 (decennial data)

Digital database classifying amicus curiae participants and judicial documents associated with U.S. Supreme Court cases, 1953-2008 (NSF-funded project with Wayne McIntosh et al.)

Fellowships, Grants & Honors

EXTERNAL AWARDS

Heinz Eulau Award, for “Perverse Politics: The Persistence of Mass Imprisonment in the 21st Century,” best article in *Perspectives on Politics*, American Political Science Association, 2016

D.B. Hardeman Prize, for *The American Warfare State*, best book on the U.S. Congress, Lyndon Johnson Foundation, 2016

Richard Neustadt Award, for *The American Warfare State*, best book in executive politics, Presidency & Executive Politics Section of the American Political Science Association, 2015

Congressional Fellowship, American Political Science Association, 2009-2010

Research Fellowship in Governance Studies, The Brookings Institution, 2008-2009

Junior Fellow, American Academy of Political and Social Science, 2004

Phi Beta Kappa, 2004

INTERNAL AWARDS

Letter of Commendation from Dean of Social Sciences, for exceptional student evaluations & excellence in teaching, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2015-2016

Royalty Research Fund Award, University of Washington (\$38,000), 2013-2014

Junior Faculty Development Grant, University of Washington (\$8,000), Summer 2011, 2014

Michael J. Pelczar Award for Excellence in Graduate Study, The Graduate School, University of Maryland, 2009-2010 (sole university-wide recipient)

Roger H. Davidson Award, Government & Politics, University of Maryland, 2008

Jean Elizabeth Spencer Award, for an outstanding female graduate student in Government & Politics, University of Maryland, 2007

Conley Dillon Dissertation Award, Department of Government & Politics, University of Maryland, 2007

Training Grants, Government & Politics, University of Maryland, 2006, 2007 (\$500/year for

methodology workshops)

Excellence in Teaching Award, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland, 2005-2006 (sole college-wide graduate recipient)

Erwin L. Levine Prize in Government, for excellence in political theory, Skidmore College, 2004

Grant Work (Multi-Year)

University of Washington Royalty Research Fund Award, *The Rural Prison Economy*, 2013-2014 (\$38,000)

Building an original dataset and examining whether prison sector growth contributes to the economic viability and political power of rural areas, while reinforcing forms of punishment that destabilize poor urban neighborhoods and harm politically marginalized populations.

NSF Research Grant BSC-0624067, *A Computational Approach to Understanding the Dynamics of the Judicial System*, 2006 – 2008

Co-directing a multi-year, interdisciplinary grant to develop and apply computational linguistics and information retrieval techniques to U.S. Supreme Court texts (with PI Wayne McIntosh).

NSF Law & Sciences Grant SES-0519157, *Intercourt Relations in the American Legal System*, 2005-2007

Developing tools to examine the transmission of precedent in regulatory takings cases within the American court system (assisted PI Wayne McIntosh).

Conference Papers & Presentations (Last 5 years only)

Critical Perspectives on the Carceral State, Roundtable Discussion, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, August 30-September 2.

“Making the American Penal State: Highways, Housing & Racial Ghettoization.”

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, April 13-15, 2017.

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 2-5, 2016

Teaching Undergraduate Research Methods, Roundtable Discussion, Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 7-9, 2016

Author Meets Critic Panel on Rebecca Thorpe’s *The American Warfare State*. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 16-19, 2015.

“The Politics of Prison Gerrymandering” (with JP Anderson, Emily Christensen & Hannah Walker). Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, April 2-4, 2015.

Emerging Directions in War Powers Research, Roundtable Discussion. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 28-31, 2014.

“Perverse Politics: The Persistence of Mass Incarceration in the 21st Century.”

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, April 17-19, 2014.

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL,

August 29-September 1, 2013.

Invited Talks

Urban Workshop, University of Chicago, 2017
Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, 2017
West Coast Poverty Center Seminar Series, University of Washington, 2014
Department of Political Science, Georgetown University, 2010
The Brookings Institution, Governance Studies, 2008
George Washington University Law School, 2006
Government Department, Skidmore College, 2005

Teaching Experience

GRADUATE TEACHING

Representation & Marginality
Citizenship, Exclusion & Political Violence
American Politics Core
Executive Power
American Political Development

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

Institutional Failure – advanced American politics seminar, also taught as part of the Law,
Societies & Justice & Political Science Honors programs
The Presidency & Executive Branch
Social Science Methodology
Introduction to American Politics
The U.S. Military-Industrial Complex (Graduate Instructor)
Law and Society (Graduate Instructor)

Media

“Changes in How the Census Counts People has Implications for Democracy and Inequality,”
with Hannah Walker, LSE USAPP Blog, February 2018.

“How the American Military Economy Promotes Bipartisan Support for Large Defense
Budgets,” LSE USAPP Blog, June 2016.

“How Rural Prison Economies Impede Bipartisan Efforts to End Mass Incarceration,” LSE
USAPP Blog, November 2015.

“Republicans & Democrats Support Sentencing Reform. This is What Stands in Their Way.”
The Washington Post, The Monkey Cage Blog, September 2015.

Interview on *The American Warfare State* with KERA, Think Radio, June 2014.

Professional Service

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Editorial Board, *Journal of Politics*, 2015-present

American Political Science Association, Legislative Studies Section, Richard Fenno Book Prize Committee, 2018-19

American Political Science Association, Politics & History Section, Greenstone Book Prize Committee, 2017-18

American Political Science Association, Presidency & Executive Politics Section, Legacy Award Committee, 2015-16

American Political Science Association, American Politics Section Chair, Pacific Northwest Political Science Association, 2014 - present

Manuscript Reviewer, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *American Politics Research*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Journal of American History*, *Studies in American Political Development*

Member, American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Western Political Science Association, Legislative Studies, Presidency & Executive Politics, Politics & History

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE & DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Mary Gates Undergraduate Research Symposium, Reviewer, Panel Chair, 2015-present

Stice Lectureship Committee, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, 2010-present

West Coast Poverty Center, Dissertation Fellowship Award Committee, 2016-17

Graduate Admissions Committee, Political Science Dept., 2011-2012, 2013-14, 2014-15

Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2013-2015

Commencement Committee, Political Science Dept., 2012-2013

Graduate Studies Committee, Political Science Dept., 2010-2011