Summary

Rebecca U. Thorpe is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Washington. Her research focuses on U.S. political institutions and state development, with an emphasis on the growth and fortification of American empire, mass suburbanization & urban gentrification, and the rise of expansive U.S. prison complex. Her first book, The American Warfare State: The Domestic Politics of Military Spending (University of Chicago Press, 2014), examines the development and persistence of a permanent U.S. military complex and growth in presidential power to launch military actions. She is currently working on a second book project examining how state interventions shaped the racial and spatial dimensions of poverty, violence and incarceration in post-World War II American society.

Her work has received national recognition, including the American Political Science Association's Richard Neustadt Award for best book on executive politics in 2015, the D. B. Hardeman Award presented by the Lyndon B. Johnson Foundation for the best book on the US Congress in 2016, and APSA's Heinz Eulau Award for the best article in Perspectives on Politics in 2016.

Thorpe received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Maryland in 2010. She was a Research Fellow at The Brookings Institution from 2008-2009. During the 2009-2010 academic year she worked on Capitol Hill as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow.

Research

PUBLICATIONS, ARTICLES


PUBLICATIONS, BOOKS

BOOK CHAPTERS

Teaching
AUTUMN 2019
• POL S 202 A: Introduction to American Politics
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings and Research

SPRING 2019
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings and Research

WINTER 2019
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings and Research
• POL S 555 A: American Politics Topics

AUTUMN 2018
• POL S 202 A: Introduction to American Politics
• POL S 456 A: Institutional Failure
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings and Research

AUTUMN 2017
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings And Research

SPRING 2017
• POL S 202 A: Introduction To American Politics
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings And Research

WINTER 2017
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings And Research
• POL S 555 A: American Politics Topics

AUTUMN 2016
• POL S 355 A: The American Presidency
• POL S 499 D: Undergraduate Readings And Research

News & Events
RELATED NEWS
• Three Faculty Panels address the impact of the 2016 Presidential Election in the US and Around the World Jun 29, 2017
• The Department in the News Jun 28, 2017
• A new form of corruption: Professors Smith & Thorpe address Trump’s Nordstrom Tweets on KUOW Feb 13, 2017
• “Final Chance”: The Independent Interviews Professor Thorpe about Electoral College Vote Dec 18, 2016
• What Now? Faculty Panel Discusses the 2016 Election & Its Aftermath Dec 3, 2016
• FIUTS Lecture: Making Sense of the US Election Nov 10, 2016
• Prof. Rebecca Thorpe wins Award for Article in Perspectives on Politics Sep 20, 2016
• Understanding the Role of Religion in American Politics Jun 27, 2016
• Retrospective: Faculty Discuss Race, Prisons & Protests with Students Jun 2, 2016
Prof. Thorpe Discusses the Impact of Rural Prison Economies on Mass Incarceration in LSE Blog  Dec 9, 2015
Affiliated Centers: WISER is now WISIR  Nov 18, 2015
Prof. Rebecca Thorpe in the Washington Post, Republicans and Democrats support sentencing reform. This is what stands in their way.  Oct 5, 2015
2011 Political Science News Summary  Dec 31, 2011

RELATED EVENTS
The 2016 Election: What Now?  - Nov 16 2016 - 4:30pm to 6:00pm
Making Sense of the U.S. Elections  - Nov 2 2016 - 3:30pm to 5:00pm
Spring Political Science Faculty Panel: Police, Prisons & Protest  - Apr 19 2016 - 4:30pm