

# Brandon Rudolph Davis

## Curriculum Vitae

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Tulane University  
Department of Political Science  
The Murphy Institute  
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### EDUCATION

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| <b>Ph.D.</b>  | Political Science, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.<br>(American Politics, Public Policy, and Race & Ethnicity) | 2017 |
| <b>ICPSR</b>  | Summer Program in Quantitative Methods and Social Research, Michigan   | 2017 |
| <b>M.A.</b>   | Gender and Race Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama<br>(Political Theory and Black Political Thought)      | 2016 |
| <b>M.S.W.</b> | Social Work, Alabama A&M University, Normal, Alabama.<br>(Policy, Planning, and Administration)                            | 2012 |
| <b>B.S.</b>   | University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama.<br>(Psychology, Sociology)                                       | 2006 |

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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| Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and The Murphy Institute,<br>Tulane University   | July 2022 |
| Assistant Professor of Law and Society, School of Public Affairs and Administration,<br>African and African American Studies (Courtesy), University of Kansas | 2019-2022 |
| Postdoctoral Research Associate, Political Theory Project, Brown University   | 2017-2019 |
| Visiting Research Fellow, Political Theory Project, Brown University  | 2016-2017 |
| Adjunct Professor, Political Science Department, Clark University (MA)  | 2018-2019 |
| Adjunct Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Alabama at Birmingham  | 2014-2016 |
| Adjunct Professor, School of Social Work, University of Alabama   | 2015-2016 |
| Graduate Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Political Science, University of Alabama  | 2012-2015 |

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on American Politics, Law and Society, and Race and Ethnic Politics. I am interested in normative and empirical approaches to institutions, representation, and criminal justice. In 2022, the National Science Foundation awarded funding for my proposal CAREER: We Dare Defend Our Rights: The Political Use of Law in the Enforcement of Voting Rights. NSF identifies this five-year, \$500,000 integrated research and teaching award as its most prestigious award for early-career scholars.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 “State Incarceration Policy in the U.S. Federal System: Assessing Recent Approaches to Reducing Incarceration Rates” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*,
- 2022 “The Politics of Racial Abjection” *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 1–20. doi:10.1017/S1742058X22000182
- 2021 “Predation in State and Nation.” *Race and Justice*, 11(2), 205–225.
- 2021 “Feeling Politics: Well-Being, Civic Duty, and Participation.” *Policy Studies Journal*, 49(2), 591-615.
- 2020 “Testing Mechanisms: Carceral Contact and Political Participation.” *Social Science Quarterly*, 101(2), 909-924.
- 2019 “Are Majority Minority Districts Too Safe?: A Look at the Alabama State Legislature.” *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 16(1), 157-175.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming “Criminal Justice in State and Nation.” Chapter 10 in *Politics in the American States: A comparative analysis*, eds. T. Kousser, C. Tolbert, and J. Michener (Congressional Quarterly Press, 12th Edition)
- Forthcoming Davis, B. "Predatory States of America" in *Freedom is a Social Process*, eds. F. Rojas and C. Stern.
- Forthcoming Davis, B. “Race and Social Justice” Chapter 34 in *Routledge Handbook on Classical Liberalism*, eds. R. Epstein, M. Rizzo, and L. Palagashvili.
- Forthcoming "Liberty is for Everyone" in *Marginalized Groups and the Market Processes*, eds. D. D'Amico and A. Martin.

## BOOK REVIEWS

- 2022 *The Ethics of Policing: New Perspectives on Law Enforcement*. Edited by Ben Jones and Eduardo Mendieta. New York: New York University Press, 2021. 311p. \$99.00 cloth, \$35.00 paper. *Perspectives on Politics*, 20(1), 330-331. doi:10.1017/S1537592721003777
- Forthcoming *A Political Economy of Justice*. Edited by Danielle Allen, Yochai Benkler, Leah Downey, Rebecca Henderson, and Josh Simons. Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2022. 400p. \$110.00 cloth, \$35.00 paper. *American Political Thought*.

## WORKING PAPERS

- “Race of Prosecutors and Adjudication Outcomes”
- “Race of Judges and Sentencing Outcomes”
- “Carceral Contact, Trust, and Participation”
- “Policing Queerness: LGBTQ+ and Carceral Contact”
- “Antigone: Autonomy and the State”

## PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

“Carceral Classrooms: Gendered Pathways into the Welfare State” (Revise & Resubmit, APSR)

“Social Welfare Receipt, Race, and Participatory Behavior”

“Faith, Race, and Immigration: Religiosity and Racial Resentment”

## BOOK PROJECT

The Alabama Democratic Conference (ADC) is arguably the United States’ most successful political organization when it comes to the use of law for political purposes. As such, it offers an excellent case study for examining the vital—yet understudied—question of how organizations can capitalize on available support structures for legal mobilization to successfully overcome systematic oppression. Based on data, I have collected and analyzed, I investigate how this minority political organization sustained a statewide legal campaign for over twenty years (1965-1989), eventually achieving the most successful political usage of law in American history in service of enforcing voting rights. The central question then arises: what institutional, ideological, and/or instrumental features of the ADC account for its unique success relative to other civil rights organizations? I postulate that the causal factors include: the social context relative to other states; the ability of the ADC to build statewide strategic capacity relative to other organizations within the same social context; and its ability to effectively capitalize on the support structure for legal mobilization relative to other organizations within the same social context. This study of the ADC offers broad theoretical and practical implications for the study of political organizations and their relationship to legal structures.

## GRANTS

National Science Foundation, LS. 2021. PI. “CAREER: We Dare Defend Our Rights: The Political Use of Law in the Enforcement of Voting Rights” (**Funded - \$483,302/5 years**)

EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program Track-1. Adaptive and Resilient Infrastructure driven by Social Equity (ARISE). (Senior Personnel). (**Funded: \$20,000,000**)

William T. Grant Scholars Program. 2021. “A Sense of Belonging: Improving Outcomes Among Underrepresented Minority Students” (Not funded).

Center for Governance and Markets, University of Pittsburgh. 2021. “We Dare Defend Our Rights: The Alabama Democratic Conference” (**Funded - \$8,318**)

## CLASSES TAUGHT

Crime and Punishment	Tulane
Law and Society	Tulane
State and Local Politics	Tulane
Race and American Politics	Tulane
International and Comparative Political Economy	Tulane

Race and Public Policy	KU
The Pursuit of Rights	KU
Theoretical Foundations of Law and Society	KU
Race, Crime, and Public Policy	Brown
Institutions: Questions of Power and Democracy	Brown
Race, Ethnicity, and Political Behavior	Clark University (MA)
Public Policy	Clark University (MA), UA
Introduction to American Government	UA
Southern Politics	UA
Public Administration	UA
Social Policy and Social Programs, Honors (School of Social Work)	UA
U.S. Congress	UAB
Race, Politics, and Film (African American Studies)	UAB

## PRESENTATIONS

Carceral Classrooms (coauthor Juree Capers, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies)	
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	April 2019
Faith, Race, and Immigration	
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	April 2018
Testing Mechanisms: Carceral Contact and Participation	
Public Choice Conference, Annual Meeting	March 2018
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	April 2017
American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	September 2016
Feeling Politics: Well-Being, Civic Duty, and Participation	
American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	September 2018
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Annual Meeting	February 2018
Southern Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	January 2018
Sophistication, Inconsistency, and Symbolism: A Rational Approach to Ideology	
Southern Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	January 2016
Predation in State and Nation	
Southern Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	January 2016
Are Majority Minority Districts Too Safe?	
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	April 2014
Symposium on Southern Politics, Biannual Meeting	April 2014
Public Opinion and Alabama's Immigration Bill (HB56)	
Southern Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	January 2014
Politics of Racial Abjection	
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	April 2019
National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Annual Meeting	March 2014
The Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act, Annual Meeting (HB56)	
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	April 2013
Southern Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	January 2013

**INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS**

Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism, Wabash College	Sp. 2023
Summer Seminars, UNC - Chapel Hill	Smr. 2022
Virtual Seminar Series: Policing and Police Reform in the United States (Moderator)	
University of Pittsburg, Center for Governance and Markets	Fall 2020
2020 Presidential Election Symposium, DePauw University	Fall 2020
American Public Square at Jewell, Kansas City, MO.	Smr. 2020
Feeling Politics, Univ. of Pittsburg, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Sp. 2020
Carceral Classrooms, University of Missouri (Truman School)	Fall 2019
Race, Crime, and Public Policy, University of New Orleans	Fall 2018
Race, Crime, and Public Policy, Duke University	Fall 2018
Race, Liberalism, and the State, Bridgewater State University	Fall 2017
Race, Liberalism, and the State, University of Alabama at Birmingham	Sp. 2015

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

2022	<a href="#">Out of Many, One</a> . Liberty Matters
2021	<a href="#">Expanding Medicaid would enable treatment for mental health illness and ease the burden on law enforcement</a> . Topeka Capital-Journal
2020	<a href="#">Carceral Contact &amp; Participation</a> . 3Streams. Medium
2016	<a href="#">Globalizing the Agenda of #BlackLivesMatter</a> . Agenda for International Development
2015	<a href="#">Graduate students hurt by the Affordable Care Act</a> . The Hill
2014	<a href="#">The Federal Government Created Police Militarization. That's Why It Shouldn't Solve It</a> . Students for Liberty
2014	<a href="#">Ferguson the Latest Front in the State's War on Black Community</a> . PanAm Post

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE****University of Kansas, School of Public Affairs and Administration**

Kansas Governor Laura Kelly, Commission on Racial Equity and Justice	2020 - 2022
Chair- Data Subcommittee	
Student Athlete Appeals Board (KU)	2020 - 2022
Undergraduate Committee, School of Public Affairs and Administration (KU)	2019 - 2022

**University of Alabama**

Vice President, Research and Travel, Graduate Student Association	2014-2016
Member, University Committee on Technology	2014-2016
Graduate Mentor, Tide Together Program	2013-2015

**National Association of Social Workers, Alabama Chapter**

President	2013-2015
President Elect	2012-2013
Chair, Legislative Committee	2010-2013
Chair, Chapter Committee on Nomination and Leadership Identification	2010-2012