

Brandon Rudolph Davis
Curriculum Vitae

Tulane University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Political Science, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. (American Politics, Public Policy, and Public Administration)	2017
ICPSR	Summer Program in Quantitative Methods and Social Research, Michigan	2017
M.A.	Political Theory, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama	2016
M.S.W.	Social Work, Alabama A&M University, Normal, Alabama. (Policy, Planning, and Administration)	2012
B.S.	University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama. (Psychology, Sociology)	2006

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and The Murphy Institute, Tulane University	July 2022
Assistant Professor of Law and Society, School of Public Affairs and Administration, 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 and Law and Society. 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

Articles

- 2024 “Racialized Feedback and Social Welfare Receipt: Disentangling Duration and Dollar Amount Mechanisms” *Politics, Groups, and Identities*. 13(1), 111-137
- 2023 “Faith, Race, and Immigration: Assessing the Effect of Religiosity on Racial Beliefs and Attitudes” *New Political Science*. 45 (3), 448-477
- 2023 “State Incarceration Policy in the U.S. Federal System: Assessing Recent Approaches to Reducing Incarceration Rates” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*
- 2023 “The Politics of Racial Abjection” *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 20 (1), 143-162.
- 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

- 2025 “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 12th Edition, Congressional Quarterly Press.
- 2024 "Predatory States of America" Chapter 4 in *Freedom is a Social Process*, eds. F. Rojas and C. Stern, Rowman and Littlefield.

Book Reviews

- 2025 *Race and the American Story*. Shonekan, Stephanie, and Adam Seagrave. Oxford UK: Oxford University Press, 2024. 196p. \$99.00 cloth, 27.95 paper. *Political Science Reviewer*, 48(2), 328-331
- 2023 *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*, 12(3), 470-474
- 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.

WORKING PAPERS

“Prosecutors and Adjudication Outcomes”

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

“Reconciling Classical Liberalism with Racial Justice”

“Carceral Classrooms: Gendered Pathways into the Welfare State”

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
Political Science Fiction	Tulane
International and Comparative Political Economy	Tulane
State and Local Politics	Tulane
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
Minority 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	UAB

PRESENTATIONS

Race of Prosecutor and Adjudication Outcomes	
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Research Seminar Series, San Jose State University, Department of Economics	September 2024
Northeastern Political Science Association meeting	November 2024
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

Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Research Seminar Series, San Jose State University, Department of Economics	Fall 2024
Voting Rights Expert Convening, Fordham law School (Seminar)	Smr. 2024
Graduate Summer Seminars, Junior Fellows Faculty (Mentor), Durham NC	Smr. 2024

Reader for Alexandra Filindra's Race, Rights and Rifles: The Origins of the NRA and Contemporary Gun Culture, at the Annual Mtg of the Law and Society Assoc.	Smr 2024
Reader for Adam Seagrave and Stephanie Shonekan's, Race and the American Story, at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association	Sp. 2024
National Conference of Black Political Science, Annual Meeting, (Plenary Panel, Lecture: Incarceration in the States)	Sp. 2024
Graduate Summer Seminars, Junior Fellows Faculty (Mentor), Durham NC	Smr. 2023
Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism, Wabash College (Lecture: Incarceration in the States)	Sp. 2023
Graduate Summer Seminars, Junior Fellows Faculty (Mentor), UNC - Chapel Hill	Smr. 2022
Virtual Seminar Series: Policing and Police Reform in the United States (Moderator)	Fall 2021
Graduate Summer Seminars, Junior Fellows Faculty Mentor (Lecture: Carceral Contact and Participation)	Smr. 2021
Police Reform in Pittsburgh: A Conversation with Mayor Peduto, University of Pittsburg, Center for Governance and Markets (Panelist)	Fall 2020
2020 Presidential Election Symposium, DePauw University (Lecture: Voting Rights)	Fall 2020
American Public Square, Kansas City, MO. (Panelist: From Resistance to Resilience)	Smr. 2020
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, Univ. of Pittsburg (Lecture: Carceral contact, Well-being, and Participation)	Sp. 2020
Truman School of Government and Public Affairs, University of Missouri (Lecture: Carceral Classrooms)	Fall 2019
University of New Orleans (Lecture: Race, Crime, and Public Policy)	Fall 2018
Duke University (Lecture: Race, Crime, and Public Policy)	Fall 2018
Bridgewater State University (Lecture: Race, Crime, and Public Policy)	Fall 2017
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Lecture: Race, Liberalism, and the State)	Sp. 2015

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

2024	Ballot Battle: Insights into the 2024 Presidential Election, Tulane Journal of Policy & Political Economy
2024	Community Voter Informational, East Orleans Public Library. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Theta Beta Sigma-NOLA Alumni Chapter
2024	FOX 8 News ACLU says it is ready for trial if Louisiana legislature falls short on redistricting map
2022	Out of Many, One . Liberty Matters
2021	Expanding Medicaid would enable treatment for mental health illness and ease the burden on law enforcement . Topeka Capital-Journal
2020	Carceral Contact & Participation . 3Streams. Medium
2016	Globalizing the Agenda of #BlackLivesMatter . Agenda for International Development
2015	Graduate students hurt by the Affordable Care Act . The Hill
2014	The Federal Government Created Police Militarization. That's Why It Shouldn't Solve It . Students for Liberty
2014	Ferguson the Latest Front in the State's War on Black Community . PanAm Post

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Executive Council, Section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics	
American Political Science Association	2023
Voting Rights Expert Convening	
Fordham University School of Law	2024
Tulane University	
Undergraduate Committee, Department of Political Science	2022
Committee to Select Center for Ethics Faculty Fellows, The Murphy Institute	2023
National Science Foundation (NSF)	
NSF Reviewer	2024
National Conference of Black Political Scientist (NCOBPS)	
Conference Chair, New Orleans	2024-2025
NCOBPS Taskforce for Political Engagement and Criminal Justice Reform	2023
Conference Section Chari	2021-2022
University of Kansas, School of Public Affairs and Administration	
Kansas Governor Laura Kelly, Commission on Racial Equity and Justice Chair- Data Subcommittee	2020 - 2022
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

AWARDS

University of Alabama, Graduate School	
Centennial Graduate Scholar	2024