

Austin Bussing

Curriculum Vitae

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Department of Political Science
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Employment

TRINITY UNIVERSITY, Assistant Professor of Political Science, August 2023-Present

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY, Assistant Professor of Political Science, August 2021-August 2023

Education

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, M.A., PhD, Political Science, August 2016–August 2021.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, Master of Science in Community and Regional Planning, 2014

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, B.A. *Departmental Honors* in Political Science, 2012
Minors in English and Journalism

Refereed Journal Publications

Can We Measure Legislative Complexity with LLMs?, Forthcoming at *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*, 2025. (with Nicholas Howard and Joshua Y. Lerner)

[The Language of Delegation: An NLP Analysis of Congressional Bill Text](#), *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, Early View, 2025. (With Joshua Y. Lerner and Gregory P. Spell)

[Race, Democracy, and Empire: Delegates to Congress from DC and the Territories](#), *Polity*, 56(3), 2024. (With Elliot Mamet); Honorable Mention, David Brian Robertson Prize (APSA 2023 Politics and History Section); short [write-up](#) in Princeton SPIA's Research Record

[The Legislative Legacy of Voter Identification Laws](#), forthcoming, *Journal of Politics*, 86(4), 2024. (With Alejandra Campos and Jeffrey J. Harden)

[The Catalysts of “Red for Ed”: Statewide Teachers’ Strikes as Collective Voice and Conflict Expansion for Communities of Fate](#), *The Social Science Journal*, 2023. (With Michele M. Hoyman and Joshua M. Jansa)

[Inducing Polarization? The Effect of Congressional Procedure and Partisan Lawmaking on Ideal Point Estimation](#), *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*, 3(3-4), 2022. (With Joshua Y. Lerner)

- Congressional Oversight and Electoral Accountability, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, 34(1), 2022. (With Michael Pomirchy)
- Majority Party Agenda Setting: Picking Fights or Avoiding Them?, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 47(3), 2022. (With Sarah A. Treul)
- The Electoral Consequences of Roll Call Voting: Health Care and the 2018 Election, *Political Behavior*, 44, 2022. (With Sarah A. Treul, Jason M. Roberts, and Will Patton)
- Majority Party Strategy and Suspension of the Rules in the House, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 46(4), 2021
- Place Matters: Government Capacity, Community Characteristics, and Social Capital Across United States counties, *Journal of Public Policy*, 41(4), 2021. (With Michele M. Hoyman, Jamie R. McCall, and Laurie E. Paarlberg)

Other Publications

- The Junior Americanist Workshop Series (JAWS), *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 55(3), 2022. (With Zander Furnas, Christina Ladam, Joshua McCrain, David Miller, and Rachel Porter)
- Does a Partisan Public Increase Democratic Stability? in *Research Handbook of Political Partisanship*, Edward Elgar Publishing. 2020. (With John Aldrich, Arvind Krishnamurthy, Nicholas Madan, Katelyn Mehling, Kristen Renberg, and Hannah Ridge)
- Making the Right Bet: The Long Term Consequences of Successful Party Recruitment, in *New Directions in Congressional Politics*, Routledge Press. 2020. (With Sarah A. Treul and Maura McDonald)

Working Papers

- Incentivizing Oversight? An Examination of Chamber and Party Oversight Rules, 1970—2022
- A House Divided—But Along Which Dimensions? District-Level Drivers of Legislator Behavior in the U.S. House of Representatives
- Why (or Why Not) Committees? (with Nicholas Howard and Joshua Y. Lerner)
- Which (or Any) Amendments? (with Nicholas Howard and Joshua Y. Lerner)
- Different Stages, Different Constituencies, Different Scores? Estimating Ideology Throughout the Campaign Cycle (with Nicholas Howard and Joshua Y. Lerner)
- Party Cohesion and Agenda Setting: Party-Committee Dynamics in a Polarized Era
- A Bayesian Parametric Approach to Measuring Legislative Effectiveness (with Joshua Y. Lerner)

Pre-Floor Bundling in the House Rules Committee: Drivers and Implications of an Unorthodox Process

Grants

APSA Centennial Center Research Grant (2022)—**\$9,943**

Junior Americanist Workshop Series Pre-Conference. Co-PIs: Leah Christiani, Alexander Furnas, Christina Ladam, Joshua McCrain, David Miller, Rachel Porter.

Presentations

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Which (or Any) Amendments?*, 2025

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Incentivizing Oversight? An Examination of Chamber and Party Oversight Rules, 1970—2022*, 2025

Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, *A House Divided—But Along Which Dimensions? District-Level Drivers of Legislator Behavior in the U.S. House of Representatives*, 2025

Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, “*A Peculiar Indefiniteness: The Resident Commissioner to the United States*”, 2025

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, “*A Peculiar Indefiniteness: The Resident Commissioner to the United States*”, 2024

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *A House Divided—But Along Which Dimensions? District-Level Drivers of Legislator Behavior in the U.S. House of Representatives*, 2024

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Why (or Why Not) Committees?*, 2024

American Politics Research Group 25th Anniversary, *Different Stages, Different Constituencies, Different Scores? Estimating Ideology Throughout the Campaign Cycle*, 2023

Shawnee Trail Conference, *Empire of Liberty? Race, Empire, and Territorial Representation in Congress*, 2023

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Different Stages, Different Constituencies, Different Scores? Estimating Ideology Throughout the Campaign Cycle*, 2023

Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Party Cohesion and Agenda Setting: Party-Committee Dynamics in a Polarized Era*, 2023

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Committee Bypass: Exploring the Dynamics of an Unorthodox Procedure*, 2022

Carl Albert Congressional Research & Studies Center Legislative Studies Conference, *Can Regular Order Reduce Polarization? Unorthodox Legislative Procedures and the Measurement of Ideology*, 2022

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Gatekeeping in the House Rules Committee*, 2022

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Inducing Polarization: Procedural Bias in Ideal Point Estimation*, 2021

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Institutionalizing American Empire: Race, Empire, and the Creation of Territorial Delegates to Congress, 1960-1978*, 2021

Congress & History Annual Conference, *Inducing Polarization: Procedural Bias in Ideal Point Estimation*, 2021

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *A Bayesian Parametric Approach to Measuring Legislative Effectiveness*, 2021

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Majority Party Agenda Setting: Picking Fights or Avoiding Them?*, 2020

Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Majority Party Strategy and Suspension of the Rules in the House*, 2020

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Workshop Presentation, *Congressional Decisions to Restrict or Expand the Capacity of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs*, Summer 2019

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Does Government Matter in the Formation of Social Capital?*, 2019

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Committees and Delegation in the US House of Representatives*, 2018

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Motivation, Capacity, and Legislative Delegation Decisions: Evidence from US House Committees*, 2018

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *A Closer Look at Minority Views: Strategic Behavior of Minority Party Members in Committee*, 2018

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *The Effect of Town Halls on Representation in Congress*, 2018

University of North Carolina, American Politics Research Group, *Motivation, Capacity, and Legislative Delegation Decisions: Evidence from US House Committees*, 2018

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference Poster Presentation, *The Effect of Local Government Form on the Adoption of LEED Policy*, 2012

Teaching Experience

TRINITY UNIVERSITY

- Political Science 1301—Introduction to American Politics, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
- Political Science 3372—Research Methods in Political Science, Spring 2025
- Political Science 3405—The U.S. Congress, Fall 2023, Fall 2024
- Political Science 3413—Policy Analysis and the Policymaking Process, Spring 2024
- Political Science 3190—Money and Corporate Influence in American Politics (Independent Study), Spring 2024

- Political Science 3190—Faculty Research Mentor for McNair Scholar (Independent Study), Summer 2024, Summer 2025
- Communications 4190—Faculty Research Mentor for Murchison Fellow (Independent Study), Summer 2025

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

- Political Science 2305—American Government, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- Political Science 5330—American Politics (MA Course), Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- Political Science 5337—U.S. Congress (MA Course), Fall 2021
- Political Science 3337—The Congress and Legislatures, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Spring 2023
- Political Science 5078—Quantitative Methods in Political Science (Independent Study), Spring 2022
- Political Science 5395—Problems in Political Science/Internship, Summer 2022

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

- Political Science 208—Political Parties and Elections, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020
- Political Science 201—Politics of Bureaucracy, Fall 2019, Spring 2021
- Political Science 101—Introduction to State and Local Government (Online), Summer 2018

Awards and Honors

David Brian Robertson Prize (Honorable Mention) for “Nonvoting Delegates to the Modern U.S. Congress: Race Democracy and Empire” (with Elliot Mamet); APSA 2023 Politics and History Section

Trinity University Summer Research Stipend (Summer 2024)

Uhlman Summer Fellowship, UNC Chapel Hill

Professional Development

Jack Miller Center Summer Institute on Republicanism & Civic Education; Summer 2025

Duke-Northwestern Causal Inference Workshop, Duke University; Summer 2019

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute, Emory University; Summer 2019

Professional Service

Referee for the *Journal of Politics*

Referee for *Legislative Studies Quarterly*

Referee for *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*

Referee for *PS: Political Science and Politics*

Referee for *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*

Co-founder and Co-Organizer, Junior Americanist Workshop Series, 2020-present

Discussant, Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Collaboration and Negotiation in Congress* panel, 2025

Discussant and Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Legislator Attributes & Relationships and Their Behavioral Implications* panel, 2024

Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Institutions, Federalism, and their Implications* Lightning talk panel, 2024

Discussant and Chair, Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Legislative Politics* panel, 2024

Discussant and Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Do You Hear Me? Speaking in Committee and on the Floor* panel, 2023

Chair, Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Legislative Activity and Policymaking* panel, 2023

Discussant and Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Interbranch Relations* panel, 2022

Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Analytical Approaches to Studying Congress* panel, 2022

Discussant, American Political Science Association Annual Conference, *Congress and Policy Making* panel, 2020