

# Darrian Stacy

## Curriculum Vitae

United States Naval Academy  
Department of Political Science  
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### Academic Appointments

#### **The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, July 2021 - current

### Education

#### **Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN**

Ph.D., Political Science, 2021

M.A., Political Science, 2021

*Certificate in College Teaching*; Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching, 2020

#### **The University of Georgia, Athens, GA**

B.A. Political Science, School of Public & Int'l Affairs, 2016 (*Magna Cum Laude*)

B.A. Philosophy, Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, 2016 (*Magna Cum Laude*)

### Dissertation

*Wealth and Political Inequality within the U.S. Congress*

**Committee:** Joshua Clinton (co-chair), Alan Wiseman (co-chair),  
Larry Bartels, Nicholas Carnes, Sharece Thrower

### Research & Teaching Interests

American politics; political institutions; legislative politics; social class and economic inequality; bureaucracy; presidency; quantitative methods; causal inference; formal models and empirical testing

### Peer-reviewed Research Articles

1. **Stacy, Darrian.** 2025. "Wealth and Policymaking in the U.S. House of Representatives." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 50, no. 4: e70014. <https://doi.org/10.1111/lsg.70014>
2. Alexander, Dan, and **Darrian Stacy.** 2024. "The process and perils of coming around: The assimilation of political appointees into bureaucratic agencies." *The American Journal of Political Science* 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajps.12902>

## Book Project

*Capitol Capital: The Consequences of Economic Inequality Within the U.S. Congress*  
(under review)

**Summary:** This book manuscript explores the impact of economic inequality within the U.S. Congress over the past 40 years. It examines how disparities in wealth among legislators affect their electoral strategies, legislative effectiveness, and representation. The analysis reveals significant differences between wealthier and less-wealthy members of Congress, demonstrating how the former group benefits from structural advantages that enhance their political power. This research contributes to the understanding of how economic inequality among elites shapes political inequality in American politics.

## Active Working Papers

1. "The Electoral Effects of Incumbent Wealth Revisited"
2. "The Effect of Broadband Internet Expansion on Policy Uptake: Evidence from the Affordable Care Act"
3. "The Importance of Committee Assignments for Legislative Effectiveness" (with Craig Volden and Alan Wiseman)
4. "Debt, Degrees, and Departure: A Dynamic Model of Educational Signaling and Worker Retention"

## Work in Progress

1. "Economic Inequality and Legislative Effectiveness in the U.S. Senate"
2. "Rich in Assets, Poor in Ethics? Perceptions and Realities of Wealth and Ethics Complaints in Congress"

## Grants & Awards

1. 2025-2026 Institute for Humane Studies (\$5,000)
2. 2025. Miller Fellowship, United States Naval Academy (\$10,000)
3. 2024-2025. Center for Effective Lawmaking Small Grant (\$1,500)
4. 2024-2027. Volgenau Faculty Fellowship for Research, United States Naval Academy (\$15,000)
5. 2022-2024. Naval Academy Research Council grants ( $\cong$  \$45,000)
6. 2021-2024. Volgenau Faculty Fellowship for Research, United States Naval Academy (\$15,000)
7. 2020. J. Leiper Freeman Memorial Award for American Bureaucracy and Legislatures (\$2,000)
8. 2019, 2020. Vanderbilt University Graduate School Conference Travel Grant (\$1,000)
9. 2015. Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities, University of Georgia (\$1,000)

## Public Scholarship and other Writing

1. “What to Make of Donald Trump’s Billionaire Administration.” *The Indicator from Planet Money*, NPR. Interviewed by Adrian Ma and Wailin Wong. Aired December 16, 2024. [[Link](#)]
2. “Trump’s Picks Would Make His New Administration The Wealthiest in U.S. History.” *All Things Considered*, NPR. Interview. Aired December 13, 2024. [[Link](#)]
3. “Why Politicians’ Wealth Matters.” *Axios*. Quoted by Emily Peck, December 9, 2024. [[Link](#)]
4. “Piss-Poor: Georgia’s Debate on Drug Testing Welfare Recipients.” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. Published March 19, 2014. [[Link](#)]
5. “OPINION: The Brown Paper Bag Test of Oppression: A Look at Bizzle’s Response to Macklemore and Ryan Lewis’ ‘Same Love’.” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. Published February 19, 2014. [[Link](#)]
6. “Understanding Georgia’s Underinvestment in Education.” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. January 23, 2014. [[Link](#)]
7. “The Blurred Line Between Treatment and Torture.” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. August 30, 2013. [[Link](#)]
8. “Church and State: A Taxing Debate.” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. Published April 23, 2013. [[Link](#)]
9. “Follow-Up: Should Long Voting Lines Be Fixed?” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. Published March 6, 2013. [[Link](#)]
10. “Interview with Retiring UGA President Michael Adams.” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy; Contributor: Andrew Roberts. Published March 5, 2013. [[Link](#)]
11. “Should Long Voting Lines be Fixed?” *Georgia Political Review*, by Darrian Stacy. Published February 11, 2013. [[Link](#)]

## Invited Talks & Conference Presentations

“The Electoral Effects of Incumbent Wealth Revisited”

Paper presented at:

- The Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL, April 2025
- The Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy at the University of Virginia, September 2024

“Wealth and Policymaking in the U.S. House of Representatives.”

Paper presented at:

- The Center for Effective Lawmakers 6th Annual Conference at the University of Virginia, June 2024
- The Political Inequality Workshop at Duke University, May 2024

- The Junior Americanist Workshop Series, Virtually, March 2024
- The 2023 MPSA Conference
- The New Perspectives and New Questions in Legislative Studies Conference at American University, April 2021
- The Emerging Issues in Political Science Speaker Series at the University of Georgia, October 2020
- The Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA) Conference, September 2020

“Selling the Affordable Care Act: The Effects of Presidential Appeals on Public Compliance in the Digital Age”

Paper presented at:

- The 2023 APSA Conference, Los Angeles, CA, August 2023
- The 2022 MPSA Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2022

“The Process and Perils of Coming Around: The Assimilation of Political Appointees into Bureaucratic Agencies”

Paper presented at:

- The 2023 MPSA Conference, April 2023
- The 2021 MPSA Conference, April 2021
- The 2021 SPSA Conference, January 2021
- The Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics Conference, June 2020.

“The Importance of Committee Assignments for Legislative Effectiveness.”

Paper presented at:

- The 2019 MPSA Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2019
- The Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (CSDI) at Vanderbilt University, March 2019

## Teaching Experience

2024-current. Congressional Dysfunction Demystified Capstone (Instructor of record)

2022-current. The Politics of the Legislative Process (Instructor of record)

2021-current. U.S. Government and Constitutional Development (Instructor of record)

2021. Public Administration, Prof. David E. Lewis (TA)

2019. Statistics III: Causal Inference, Prof. Bradley Smith (TA)

2018. Introduction to American Law, Prof. Carrie Russell (TA)

2017. Mass Media and American Politics, Prof. Suzanne Globetti (TA)

2016. U.S. Elections, Profs. Bruce Oppenheimer, Joshua Clinton, Jon Meacham, John Geer (TA)

## Research Assistantships

### **Vanderbilt University**

Fall 2017- 2021. Sharece Thrower

Spring 2020. Joshua Clinton

Summer 2017. Alan Wiseman and the Center for Effective Lawmaking

### **The University of Georgia**

2015-2016. Michael Lynch and the UGA Congress Project

2014-2015. Anthony Madonna and the UGA Congress Project

## University Service

2021-current. Faculty Senator for the USNA School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2022-2025. Chair of the USNA Faculty-Midshipmen Relations Committee

2024. Senior Advisor for the 64th Annual Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference

2022-2025. Best Honors Thesis Awards Committee (Department)

2021-2022. Office Allocation and Planning Committee (Department)

## Professional Service and Affiliations

2021-current. *Faculty Affiliate*; Center for Effective Lawmaking

2025-current. Reviewer for *Journal of Politics*

2024-current. Reviewer for *Legislative Studies Quarterly*

2022-2023. *Program Chair* (Presidency & Executive Politics); MPSA Program Committee 2023

2019-2023. *MPSA Section Chair and Discussant*

- Does Chamber Matter (2023)
- Presidency & Executive Politics (2021-2023)
- Party Power, Representation and Competition (2019)

2022. *Member*; Carl Albert Dissertation Award (in Legislative Studies) committee

2020-2021. *Graduate Fellow*; Scholars Strategy Network, Tennessee chapter

2020-2021. *Mentor*; TN Achieves, Tennessee College Scholarship and Mentorship

2018-2019. *Graduate Advisor*; TN Intercollegiate State Legislature, Vanderbilt University

2018-2019. *Program Co-chair*; Project Development Forum for Graduate Students

2017-2018. *Executive Secretary*; Vanderbilt Political Science Graduate Student Association

2017-2021. *Graduate Affiliate*; Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions

2017-2021. *Graduate Affiliate*; Center for Effective Lawmaking

## Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association