

John Brooks

CONTACT INFORMATION

209J Goodwyn Hall
Department of Political Science and
Public Administration
Auburn University at Montgomery
P.O. Box 244023
Montgomery, AL 36124-4023

Phone: (334) 244-3123
E-mail: John.Brooks2@aum.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American Politics, Public Administration, Public Policy, State Politics, Causal Inference, Political Behavior.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

[Auburn University at Montgomery](#)
Assistant Professor, [Department of Political Science and Public Administration](#) August 2017 -

[Duke University](#)
Visiting Research Fellow, [Social Science Research Institute](#) July 2017 - July 2018

Postdoctoral Associate, [Social Science Research Institute: Human Capital, Career Dynamics, and Organizational Performance in the U.S. Federal Government Project](#) July 2016 - July 2017

[University of San Francisco](#)
*Adjunct Professor, Master of Public Affairs Program
[Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public Service & the Common Good](#) Fall 2015*

[University of California, Berkeley](#)
Graduate Assistant, [Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models](#) Summer 2013

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Political Science, 2016

- Dissertation: “The Commitment Credibility of Public-Employee Pensions”
- Advisor: Sean Gailmard
- Subfields: American Politics, Political Behavior, Methodology and Formal Theory

M.A., Political Science, 2009

University of Georgia

M.P.A., Specialization in Public Policy, 2008

- University-Wide Graduate School Assistantship (given to roughly 40 Master’s and Ph.D. students across entire University)

University of Pennsylvania

B.A., Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, 2004

RESEARCH

Publications

“[Board on the Job: Public-Pension Governance in the U.S. States.](#)” [Online Appendix](#). Forthcoming at *The Journal of Public Policy*.

“Mediating the Electoral Connection: The Information Effects of Voter Signals on Legislative Behavior” with John Henderson. Online Appendix. *Journal of Politics*, 2016.

Selected Works in Progress “Should I Stay or Should I Go: Public-Employee Pensions and Retirements.” Online Appendix. Under Review.

“To Fund or Not to Fund: Committing to Pension Contributions.” Online Appendix.

“The Policy Effects of Unlimited Spending in State Referenda” (with Leftaris Anastasopoulos).

“Mind the Gap: Examining the Role of Gender in Campaign Compensation” (with Sara Chatfield).

“Heroes or Political Pawns? The Effects of Domestic Terrorism on Bureaucrats’ Wages and Turnover” (John de Figueiredo).

“Judicial Oversight of the Bureaucracy: *Chevron* and Hard Looks.”

Datasets

THE COMMITMENT CREDIBILITY OF PUBLIC-EMPLOYEE PENSIONS

To assess the causes and consequences of variation in pensions, I constructed a new dataset including plan, political, and personnel variables from 103 funds in all fifty states from 2001-2016. Included among the data is a variable for the politicization of funds’ management boards, the percentage of retired and active employees on boards, as well as a proxy variable for the retirement rate for public employees in each fiscal year. The creation of both of those variables required examining the actuarial reports of all plans in my data for all years. I merged this with other actuarial information from Boston College’s [Public Plans Database](#).

STATE REFERENDA TEXT AND SPENDING

Leftaris Anastasopoulos and I are currently constructing this dataset. It includes the date, title, text, summary, spending, electoral margins, and interest groups involved in state propositions from 2000-2012. Currently, there is no website or source to easily access the actual text of state propositions or download it in a format that is suitable for analysis: we plan to rectify this by sharing our data when the collection is complete.

Conference Presentations and Posters

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “The Policy Effects of Unlimited Spending in State Referenda” (with Leftaris Anastasopoulos). April, 2018.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Mind the Gap: Examining the Role of Gender in Campaign Compensation” (with Sara Chatfield). April, 2018.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Poster: “Mind the Gap: Examining the Role of Gender in Campaign Compensation” (with Sara Chatfield). September, 2017.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Heroes? The Impact of Terrorism on Human Capital in the Federal Government” (with John de Figueiredo). April, 2017.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “The Policy Effects of Unlimited Spending in State Referenda.” September, 2016.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Poster: “Public Pension Credibility and the Retirement Decision.” September, 2015.

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Commitment Credibility in Funding State Public-Employee Pensions (2001-2011).” January, 2015.

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Rain and Representation: The Effect of Margin of Victory on Incumbent Legislative Behavior” (with John Henderson). January, 2015.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Poster: “Commitment Credibility in Funding State Public-Employee Pensions (2001-2011).” August, 2014.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Public Pension Credibility and the Retirement Decision.” April, 2014.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Risk and the Commitment Credibility of State Public-Employee Pensions.” April, 2013.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “How Opposing Fair Employment Allowed Republicans to Gradually Undercut Affirmative Action.” April, 2012.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting. “Rain and Representation: The Effect of Margin of Victory on Incumbent Legislative Behavior” (with John Henderson). April, 2012.

TEACHING

Assistant Professor, Auburn University at Montgomery

- Fall 2018: PUAD 6010: Introduction to Public Administration.
- Fall 2018: PUAD 6090: MPA/MPS Capstone Seminar.
- Spring 2018: [PUAD 7972: PhD Seminar in American Politics and Public Administration](#).
- Spring 2018: [PUAD 6090: MPA/MPS Capstone Seminar](#).
- Fall 2017: [PUAD 6070, Public Policymaking](#).
- Fall 2017: PUAD 6972, State and Local Government Policy.
 - [Master’s Version](#).
 - [PhD Version](#).

Adjunct Professor, University of San Francisco

- Fall 2015: [Master of Public Affairs 610, Campaign Theory and Practice](#).

Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), University of California, Berkeley

- Spring 2016, Spring 2015, & Fall 2014: Political Science 1, Introduction to American Politics. Head GSI.
- Summer 2015 & 2014: [Interdisciplinary Studies Field 187, Experiential Learning: Organizational Context, Self-Reflection, and Professional Development](#). Online Course.
- Spring 2014 & Spring 2013: Political Science 1, Introduction to American Politics.
- Spring 2011: Political Science 164, Psychology of Politics.
- Fall 2010: Political Science 103, Congress.
- Spring 2010: Political Science 109, American Public Policy.
- Fall 2009: Political Science 1, Introduction to American Politics.

Teaching Assistant (TA), University of Georgia

- Spring 2008: Political Science 1101, Introduction to American Politics. Head TA.
- Fall 2006, Spring/Fall 2007: Political Science 1101, Introduction to American Politics.

COMPUTER SKILLS R, Stata, SQL, C++, Java, Python, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES **Referee:** *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Economics & Politics*
Member: American Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association

REFERENCES **Sean Gailmard, University of California, Berkeley**
Professor of Political Science
Email: gailmard@berkeley.edu
Ph: 510-642-4677

Sarah Anzia, University of California, Berkeley
Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Goldman School of Public Policy
Email: sanzia@berkeley
Ph: 510-642-5431

Anthony Bertelli, New York University
Professor of Public Policy, Politics, and Law at Wagner School of Public Service
Email: bertelli@nyu.edu

Margaret Weir, Brown University
Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs
Email: margaret.weir@brown.edu
Ph: 401-863-6059

John de Figueiredo, Duke University
Edward and Ellen Marie Schwarzman Professor of Law and Professor of Strategy and Economics
Email: jdefig@duke.edu
Ph: 919-613-8513

Paul Pierson, University of California, Berkeley
John Gross Endowed Chair, Professor of Political Science
Email: pierson@berkeley.edu
Ph: 510-643-6424