

John Brooks

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

American Politics, Public Administration, Public Policy, State and Local Politics, Political Methodology, 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 2019**

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

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. *The Journal of Public Policy*, 2017.

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

Selected Works in Progress

[“Should I Stay or Should I Go: Public-Employee Pensions and Retirements.”](#) [Online Appendix](#).

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

“Presidential Administrations and Agency Communications (with Nicholas Howard).

“American Pension Development.”

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

[“To Fund or Not to Fund: Committing to Pension Contributions.”](#) [Online Appendix](#).

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.

PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH

Association Meetings

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2015, 2016, 2017.

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2015, 2019.

Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2019.

Invited Talks

Auburn University Political Science Department: February 2018.

Public Lectures

University of Alabama School of Medicine (Montgomery, AL location): “The Development of Health Care Policy in the United States.” February 2018, February 2019.

TEACHING

Assistant Professor, Auburn University at Montgomery

- PUAD 7000: Ph.D. Seminar in Public Policy: Fall 2019.
- PUAD 6010: [Introduction to Public Administration](#) (MPA course): Fall 2018 & Fall 2019.
- PUAD 6310: [Policy and Politics in Urban America](#) (MPA course): Spring 2019.
- POLS 3500: [Public Policymaking](#) (Undergraduate course): Spring 2019.
- PUAD 6090: [MPA/MPS Capstone Seminar](#): Spring 2018 & Fall 2018.
- PUAD 7972: Ph.D. Seminar in American Politics and Public Administration: Spring 2018.
- PUAD 6070: [Public Policymaking](#) (MPA Course): Fall 2017.
- PUAD 6972: State and Local Government Policy (MPA/MPS/Ph.D. course): Fall 2017.
 - [Master's Version](#).
 - [Ph.D. Version](#).

Adjunct Professor, University of San Francisco

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

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

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

Teaching Assistant (TA), University of Georgia

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

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Joint doctoral program in Public Administration and Public Policy at Auburn University and Auburn University at Montgomery: Alicia Barnes, Brandon Fincher, A.J. Good

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

Michelle J. Schwartz Associate Professor of Public Policy & Associate Professor of Political Science

Email: sanzia@berkeley

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Anthony Bertelli, New York University

Professor of Public Policy, Politics, and Law at Wagner School of Public Service

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Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs

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Paul Pierson, University of California, Berkeley

John Gross Endowed Chair, Professor of Political Science

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