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Department of Political Science

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Professional Experience

- 2022-Present Associate Professor of Political Science
University of Dayton. Dayton, Ohio.
- 2016-2022 Assistant Professor of Political Science
University of Dayton. Dayton, Ohio.
- 2011-2016 Assistant Professor of Political Science
Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Mount Vernon, Ohio.

Education

- 2008-2011 Ph.D. in Political Science
The Ohio State University. Columbus, Ohio.
- Dissertation: “Ideological Social Identity: How Psychological Attachment to Ideological Groups Shapes Political Attitudes and Behaviors”
 - Henry R. Spencer Award for Best Dissertation in The Ohio State University’s Department of Political Science, 2010-2011
- 2006-2008 M.A. in Political Science
The Ohio State University. Columbus, Ohio.
- 2002-2006 B.A. in Government (with Honors) and English, *Summa Cum Laude*
Connecticut College. New London, Connecticut.

Books

Do Running Mates Matter? The Influence of Vice Presidential Candidates in Presidential Elections (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2020. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas.

- Media coverage (selected): PBS ([1](#), [2](#)); NPR ([1](#), [2](#)); [NBC](#); [CNN](#); [USA Today](#) ([1](#), [2](#)); [Wall Street Journal](#); [Associated Press](#); [FiveThirtyEight](#); [Vox](#) ([1](#), [2](#)); [The New Yorker](#); [US News & World Report](#); [Univision](#); [Bloomberg](#) ([1](#), [2](#)); [The Hill](#) ([1](#), [2](#)); [The New Republic](#); [The Washington Times](#); [Miami Herald](#); [Niskanen Center](#); [WBUR](#) (Boston); [WVXU](#) (Cincinnati); [CBC](#) (Canada); [The Guardian](#) (UK); [Agence France-Presse](#) (France); [ARD](#) (Germany); [Luzerner Zeitung](#) (Switzerland); [Corriere della Sera](#) (Italy).

Constitutional Law for Criminal Justice, 15th edition (with Jacqueline R. Kanovitz and Jefferson L. Ingram). 2019. New York: Routledge.

The VP Advantage: How Running Mates Influence Home State Voting in Presidential Elections (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press.

- Media coverage (selected): [NPR](#); [CNN](#); [Fox News](#); [C-SPAN](#); [The New York Times](#); [The Wall Street Journal](#); [Los Angeles Times](#) ([1](#), [2](#)); [Philadelphia Enquirer](#); [Washington Examiner](#); [Bloomberg](#); [New York Magazine](#); [US News & World Report](#); [Ozy](#); [WOSU](#) (Columbus); [KPCC](#) (Los Angeles).

Journal Articles

“Public Moralities, Citizen Voices, and Disparate Fears” (with Richard K. Ghere). Forthcoming. *Public Integrity*.

“Did Gary Johnson and Jill Stein Cost Hillary Clinton the Presidency?: A Counterfactual Analysis of Minor Party Voting in the 2016 US Presidential Election” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2021. *The Forum* 19(2): 173-201.

- Media coverage: [USA Today](#), [Newsweek](#)

“Closing the Gap: Collaborating with Research Librarians to Improve Information Literacy in the Political Science Classroom” (with Heidi Gauder and Michelle C. Pautz). 2021. *Journal of Political Science Education* 17(4): 560-577.

“Surrogate-in-Chief: Did Bill Clinton’s Campaign Visits Help (or Hurt) Hillary Clinton in 2016?” (with Aaron C. Weinschenk). *The Forum* 18(2): 177-195.

“The Gender Citation Gap in Undergraduate Student Research: Evidence from the Political Science Classroom” (with Li-Yin Liu and Heidi Gauder). 2020. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 53(4): 729-733.

“Bringing Voters Into the Equation: An Individual-Level Analysis of the Vice Presidential Home State Advantage” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2019. *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 49(4): 827-854.

“Voter Mobilization 101: Presidential Campaign Visits to Colleges and Universities in the 2016 Election.” 2019. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 52(2): 261-266.

“What If Hillary Clinton *Had* Gone to Wisconsin? Presidential Campaign Visits and Vote Choice in the 2016 Election.” 2018. *The Forum* 16(2): 211-234.

- Media coverage: [Arizona Republic](#).

“Split Tickets? On the Strategic Allocation of Presidential Versus Vice Presidential Visits in 2016” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2018. *SAGE Open* July-September: 1-12.

“Ideological Social Identity: Psychological Attachment to Ideological In-Groups as a Political Phenomenon and a Behavioral Influence.” 2015. *Political Behavior* 37(3): 509-535.

“The Politics of the Presidential Medal of Freedom: A Fifty Year Analysis, 1963-2013” (with Kyle C. Kopko, E. Fletcher McClellan, Julia Ward, and Jillian E. Casey). 2015. *New England Journal of Political Science* 8(2): 156-184.

- Media coverage: [The New York Times](#); [USA Today](#); [The Washington Post](#); [Washington Examiner](#); [US News & World Report](#); [Buzzfeed](#); [CNN](#); [NPR](#); [C-SPAN](#).

“Presidential Versus Vice Presidential Home State Advantage: A Comparative Analysis of Electoral Significance, Causes, and Processes, 1884-2008” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2013. *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 43(4): 814-838.

- Media coverage: [The Washington Post – The Fix](#).

“Social Issues, Authoritarianism, and Ideological Conceptualization: How Policy Dimensions and Psychological Factors Influence Ideological Labeling.” 2012. *Political Psychology* 33(4): 531-552.

Journal Articles (continued)

“The Vice Presidential Home State Advantage Reconsidered: Analyzing the Interactive Effect of Home State Population and Political Experience, 1884-2008” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2011. *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 41(1): 1-17.

- Media coverage: [The Wall Street Journal](#); [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation](#).

“In the Eye of the Beholder: Motivated Reasoning in Disputed Elections” (with Kyle C. Kopko, Sarah M. Bryner, Jeffrey L. Budziak, and Steven Nawara). 2011. *Political Behavior* 33(2): 271-290.

“Racial Attitude Effects in the 2008 Presidential Election: Examining the Unconventional Factors Shaping Vote Choice in a Most Unconventional Election” (with Herbert F. Weisberg). *Electoral Studies* 29(4): 569-581.

“Partisan Defection and Change in the 2008 US Presidential Election” (with Herbert F. Weisberg). *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties* 20(2): 213-240.

Book Chapters

“The Libertarian Party.” 2020. In *Beyond Donkeys and Elephants: Minor Political Parties in Contemporary American Politics*, ed. Richard Davis. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, pp. 41-63.

- Media coverage: [Westword](#)

“Fly-To County: The Midwest as Presidential Battleground, 1946-2016” (with Daniel R. Birdsong). 2020. In *The Conservative Heartland: A Political History of the Postwar American Midwest*, eds. Jon K. Lauck and Catherine McNicol Stock. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, pp. 72-94.

“Oh, the Places They’ll Go: The Geography and Political Strategy of Presidential Campaign Visits in 2016.” 2018. In *Studies of Communication in the 2016 Presidential Campaign*, ed. Robert E. Denton, Jr. Lanham, MD: Lexington, pp. 45-68.

“#TeamGov: On the Political Experience, Campaign Messaging, and Electoral Performance of Johnson-Weld 2016” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2018. In *Studies of Communication in the 2016 Presidential Campaign*, ed. Robert E. Denton, Jr. Lanham, MD: Lexington, 163-188.

Book Reviews

“Book review of *After Reagan: Bush, Dukakis, and the 1988 Election* by John J. Pitney, Jr.” 2021. *Political Science Quarterly* 136(1): 204-205.

“Book review of *The White House Vice Presidency: The Path to Significance, Mondale to Biden* by Joel K. Goldstein.” 2016. *Perspectives on Politics* 14(4): 1218-1220.

Public Scholarship

“Early Lessons from This Election in Red and Blue.” 2020. [Dayton Daily News](#). November 8.

“Trump-Biden Election Day showdown ends with barrage of campaign stops. Does it matter?” 2020. [NBC News](#). November 3.

Public Scholarship (continued)

“Pivotal Moments During Presidential Debates Actually Not That Pivotal.” 2020. [Dayton Daily News](#). September 27.

“Do Vice-Presidential Picks Matter?” 2020. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). August 13.

“The Art of the Comeback.” 2020. [The Week](#) (India). July 19.

“Don’t Expect Biden’s VP Pick to Make or Break the 2020 Election.” 2020. [The Conversation](#). July 2.

“For Biden, Naming Cabinet Before Election Would Be a Big Risk.” 2020. [The Conversation](#). May 7.

“Biden’s Choice of Running Mate Matters, But Not for the Reasons You May Think.” 2020. [Los Angeles Times](#). April 12.

“What Trump’s Picks for the Presidential Medal of Freedom – like Rush Limbaugh and Antonin Scalia – Say about Him.” 2020. [The Conversation](#). February 6.

“Don’t Be Fooled – Most Independents are Partisans Too.” 2020. [The Conversation](#). January 27.

“Trump Has Been Awarding a Lot of Presidential Medals of Freedom. Here’s What That Says about His Values” (with E. Fletcher McClellan and Kyle C. Kopko). 2019. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). June 20.

“Holding Their Convention in Wisconsin Could Help Democrats in 2020. Here’s the Evidence.” 2019. [The Washington Post – Monkey Cage](#). March 18.

“Can Florida’s Recount be Done Fairly? Maybe. Here’s What Makes the Difference” (with Kyle C. Kopko, Sarah M. Bryner, Jeffrey Budziak, and Steven P. Nawara). 2018. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). November 16.

“Obama Has Set the Record for the Most Presidential Medals of Freedom” (with E. Fletcher McClellan, Kyle C. Kopko, Jillian E. Casey, and Julia L. Ward). 2016. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). November 22.

“5 Things You Need to Know About How Third-Party Candidates Did in 2016” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). November 15.

“How Clinton and Trump Are Using Their Running Mates on the Campaign Trail” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [FiveThirtyEight](#). October 28.

“Why the Kaine vs. Pence Vice Presidential Debate Matters” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [The Conversation](#). October 3.

“Will Tim Kaine Deliver Virginia (and Catholics)? Don’t Count on It” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). July 22.

“Does Newt Gingrich Pass His Own Litmus Test for Veep?” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [Time](#). July 14.

Public Scholarship (continued)

“Will the Vice Presidential Candidates Matter this Year? Maybe, But Not the Way You Think” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [The Conversation](#). July 12.

“This Year’s Libertarian Ticket has Remarkable Political Experience. Now Will It Matter?” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). May 31.

“How Clinton and Trump Should Choose Their Vice Presidents” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [Time](#). May 2.

“The 4 Advantages a Vice Presidential Pick Could Offer a Candidate” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [Time](#). April 28.

“Who Should Trump and Clinton Pick as Running Mates? This Research Says It Doesn’t Really Matter” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [The Washington Post–Monkey Cage](#). April 25.

“Why VPs Matter Less than You Think” (with Kyle C. Kopko). 2016. [Politico Magazine](#). April 11.

Panelist

“[The 2020 Presidential Election: A Preview?](#)” University of Dayton Law/Human Rights Center 2020 Election Speakers Series (Dayton, OH). September 14, 2020.

“[The Ohio Governor’s Debate](#).” University of Dayton (Dayton, OH). September 19, 2018.

“Protecting the Vote and Ending the Partisan Divide.” League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area (Dayton, OH). March 19, 2018.

“Election 2016: History in the Making.” Cedarville University (Cedarville, OH). October 25, 2016.

Invited Lectures

“[Running Mates: Vice Presidents and U.S. Presidential Elections](#).” U.S. Mission to Italy (Milan, Italy). October 8, 2020.

“(Why) Should I Care Who’s Running for *Vice* President?” Marjorie Dilley Lecture Series, Connecticut College (New London, CT). October 6, 2016.

“Did Chester Arthur ‘Deliver’ the 1880 Election for James Garfield?” (with Kyle C. Kopko.) James A. Garfield National Historic Site (Mentor, OH). August 6, 2016.

“The VP Advantage: How Running Mates Influence Home State Voting in Presidential Elections” (with Kyle C. Kopko). Elizabethtown College (Elizabethtown, PA). March 9, 2016.

Conference Presentations (Selected)

“Campaign Visits in the 2008-2020 Presidential Elections: To Mobilize or Persuade?” Paper to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 15-18, 2022. Montreal.

“Presidential Campaign Visits, by the Numbers: A Descriptive Analysis of the 2008-2020 Elections.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 7-10, 2022. Chicago.

“When and Why Do Campaign Visits Matter?” Paper presented at the Presidents and Executive Politics Micro-Conference, February 18, 2022. Virtual.

“Fiscally Conservative and Socially Liberal?: The Libertarian Party as an Ideological Alternative to the American Two-Party System.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 4-7, 2019. Chicago.

“Voter Mobilization 101: Presidential Campaign Visits to Colleges and Universities in the 2016 Election.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 5-8, 2018. Chicago.

“Running Together, Running Apart: Where Presidential Versus Vice Presidential Candidates Campaigned in 2016” (with Kyle C. Kopko). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 6-9, 2017. Chicago.

“Pedagogical Techniques for Pre-Law Students: Lessons from Small and Large Institutions” (with Lawrence Baum and Kyle C. Kopko). Panel presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Association of Pre-Law Advisors, September 17-19, 2015. Columbus.

“Did LBJ Really ‘Deliver’ Texas, and the South?: Testing Perception Against Reality in 1960 Survey Data” (with Kyle C. Kopko). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 16-19, 2015. Chicago.

“Surveillance or Aversion? Emotional Responses to Immigration in America” (with Michael A. Neblo and Sarah McKinnon Bryner). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2-5, 2010. Washington, D.C.

“Why Liberals Don’t Call Themselves Liberals: The Effects of Elite Communication on Ideological Comprehension and Identification.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 22-25, 2010. Chicago.

Grants & Awards

Summer Research Fellow, University of Dayton. 2020.

Summer Research Fellow, University of Dayton. 2019.

Summer Research Fellow, University of Dayton. 2018.

Summer Research Fellow, University of Dayton. 2017.

Henry R. Spencer Award for Best Dissertation in The Ohio State University’s Department of Political Science. 2011.

Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences ([TESS](#)) research grant. 2010.

Randall Ripley Graduate Research Grant, The Ohio State University. 2010.

Teaching Experience

University of Dayton (2016-Present)

- POL201: The American Political System
- POL207: Political Science Research Methods
- POL310: Political Parties, Campaigns, & Elections
- POL311: Public Opinion & Political Behavior
- POL313: The American Presidency
- POL411: Constitutional Law

Manuscript Reviewer

American Journal of Political Science; British Journal of Political Science; Journal of Politics; Public Opinion Quarterly; Perspectives on Politics; Political Behavior; Political Research Quarterly; American Politics Research; Congress & the Presidency; Presidential Studies Quarterly; PS: Political Science & Politics; Journal of Gender Studies; Social Influence; Representation; European Political Science Review; European Journal of Social Psychology; Politics; Journal of Political Marketing; Medical Humanities; Statistics, Politics, and Policy.

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association; Midwest Political Science Association.

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