

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. of Public Policy and Political Economy**, Expected 2026

School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences  
The University of Texas at Dallas

**Master of Public Affairs**, 2014

LBJ School of Public Affairs | The University of Texas at Austin  
Master's Report: *Privately Run Health Care in Prisons: An Industry and Health Impacts Analysis*  
Policy Research Project: Children's Issues in Texas with Texans Care for Children

**Master of Science in Social Work**, 2014

School of Social Work | The University of Texas at Austin  
Capstone: *Privatized Health Care in Prisons: Evidence of Poor Quality of Care and Increased Mortality*  
African Diaspora in the Americas and Brazil in Rio De Janeiro, Summer 2013

**Bachelor of Arts**, 2008

Major: Print Media/Communication, Minor: Political Science  
The University of Texas at El Paso, Cum Laude  
The University of Texas System Archer Fellow, Fall 2007

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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**Assistant Professor of Practice**, 9/2021 - Present

Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science - Waco, TX

**Instructor of Political Science and Public Administration**, 7/2016 - 8/2021

Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science - Waco, TX

**Part-Time Government Instructor**, 1/2016 - Present

McLennan Community College, Government Department - Waco, TX

**Teaching Assistant**, Fall 2013

The University of Texas at Austin, School of Social Work - Austin, TX

## TEACHING

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**Texas Tech University, Instructor / Assistant Professor of Practice**

**Graduate:**

PUAD 5346: Public Financial Management (Summer 2018)

PUAD 5335: Management of Nonprofit Organizations (Spring 2017)

**Undergraduate:**

POLS 3314: Intro to Political Analysis [Quantitative Methods] (Spring 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2018)

POLS 3318: Public Opinion (Fall 2021, Fall 2019, Spring 2017)

POLS 3353: Constitutional Law: Limitations - Civil Rights and Liberties (Fall 2021, 2019, 2017)

POLS 3352: Constitutional Law: Powers (Summer 2022, 2021, 2020, Fall 2017)

POLS 4000: Active Learning - Texas Legislative Advocacy (Spring 2021)

POLS 3317: Campaigns and Elections (Fall 2022, 2020)

POLS 3303: Special Topics in Public Adm: Nonprofits in Society (Fall 2022, 2020, Spring 2019)  
POLS 3300: Special Topics in Am Politics: Criminal Justice Reform (Spring 2023, 2022, 2020, Fall 2018)  
POLS 3301: Special Topics in IR: International Relations in Pop Culture (Spring 2019)  
POLS 3329: Environmental Politics and Policy (Summer 2019, Fall 2018)  
POLS 3341: Administrative Process (Spring 2018, Fall 2016)  
POLS 3367: International Bargaining and Security (Spring 2017)  
POLS 2371: Comparative Politics (Fall 2016)

**McLennan Community College, Instructor**

GOVT 2305: Federal Government (Fall 2019)

GOVT 2306: Texas Government (Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016)

**University of Texas at Austin, Courses Assisted**

SW 385: Social Work Research Methods (Fall 2013)

SW 325: Foundations of Social Justice (Fall 2013)

## **GRANTS & AWARDS**

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### **ACADEMIC**

Spring 2022 Arts & Sciences Students' Choice Top Faculty Member. 2022

eLearning Course Development Grant. Texas Tech University, Awarded 2017

eLearning Travel Grant. Texas Tech University, Awarded 2017

LBJ School of Public Affairs Fellow. 2011 - 2013

West Texas Recruitment Fellow, The University of Texas at Austin. 2011 - 2012

### **NONPROFIT**

Cooper Foundation Grant. Co-authored for Wild Imaginings, Awarded 2021

Langeloth Foundation Grant. Co-authored for Grassroots Leadership, Awarded 2014

Resist Grant. Co-authored for Grassroots Leadership, Awarded 2014

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Regional Site Manager, Department of Political Science, 7/2016-8/2021**

Texas Tech University, Waco, TX

Manage Political Science department for the Waco regional campus, oversee the regional Master's in Public Administration program, manage regional site adjuncts, design and teach political science and public administration courses, and develop and supervise internship program.

### **Communications and Operations Coordinator, 7/2015-8/2016**

Texas Jail Project, Austin & Waco, TX

Advocated for conditions improvements in Texas county jails through direct service, public education, legislative research, and coordination with local law enforcement and the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.

### **Communication and Outreach Director, 1/2009-4/2011**

Community Acts of Compassion, Grand Prairie, TX

Developed and managed food security and health care programs, cultivated community relationships, and managed all media and communication to support the startup of this non-profit.

### **Communication Consultant, 10/2008-12/2009**

Quicksilver Strategies, Austin, TX

Managed client relations for state-level think tanks and political candidates. Project tasks included:

developing and managing media campaigns, performing legal research, tracking and analyzing state hearings and bills, advising on public relations strategies, and managing websites and social media.

**Communication Intern**, 9/2007-8/2008  
Save Darfur Coalition, Washington, DC

Supported communication team by producing press lists, managing online communication, and producing news clippings service.

**Project Coordinator**, 1/2004-7/2007  
Christian Ministries Center, El Paso, TX

Sorted, packed and distributed hundreds of thousands of pounds of food to families along the El Paso/Juarez border as both disaster relief first responders and long-term food security coordinators.

## GRADUATE FIELD PRACTICUMS

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**MSW Intern**, Spring 2014 - Summer 2014  
Grassroots Leadership, Austin, TX

Collaboratively created campaign strategy and co-wrote funded grant totaling \$250,000 to study and improve correctional health care around the issues of privatization of services. Facilitated DC-based criminal justice coalition to reduce incarceration.

**MPAff Budget Intern**, Spring 2014  
City of Austin Budget Office, Austin, TX

Managed public engagement project for FY 2015. Audited city performance measures, reconciled budget amendments, and assisted in the development of survey instruments.

**MSW Intern**, Fall 2012 - Spring 2013  
Hays Caldwell Women's Center, San Marcos, TX

Provided crisis intervention to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, including case management, court and police accompaniment, counseling, sexual assault hospital response, and violence prevention group facilitation.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### ARTICLES

Dunklee, C. & **Larsen, R.** (2015). Examining the praised Texas prison reform model: How Texas is maintaining racial disparity and mass incarceration. The Institute of Urban Policy Research and Analysis, The University of Texas at Austin.

**Larsen, R.** (2014). Privately run health care in prisons: An industry and health impacts analysis. Texas ScholarWorks, University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin.

Rountree, M.A., Scott, J., **Larsen, R.** (2012). *Dean's Advisory Committee on Social Justice: Social Justice Week*, The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work.

### BOOK CHAPTERS

Rountree, M.A., & **Larsen, R.** (2013). Health impacts on Black marriages. In Bent-Goodley, T. (Ed.), *By grace: The challenges, strengths, and promise of Black marriages*. Washington, D.C.: NASW Press

### NONPROFIT PUBLICATIONS

Claitor, D., Young, A.L., Ling, E., **Larsen, R.** (2016). Jailhouse Stories: Voices of Pretrial Detention in Texas. Texas Jail Project. A two-year storytelling project to tell the stories of people held pre-trial in Texas county jails.

Bufkin, A., Dimitry, L., Garcia, E. ... **Larsen, R.** (2013). Solutions to our Texas challenge: 30 ways to build a better future for our kids and our state. Texans Care for Children.

## OPINION EDITORIALS

**Larsen, R.** & Ling, E. (2016, Jan 6). Stop jail suicides and deaths – here’s how. *Houston Chronicle*.

Claitor, D. & **Larsen, R.** (2015, Dec 27). Diana Claitor, Rebecca Larsen, guest columnists: McLennan County Jail increasingly mired in abuse. *Waco Tribune*.

Dunklee, C. & **Larsen, R.** (2015, Aug 7). Setting the record straight on Texas “Prison Reform.” Featured in: *San Antonio Express News*, *Houston Chronicle*, & *University of Texas at Austin News*.

Dunklee, C. & **Larsen, R.** (2015, Aug 5). Prison reform ‘Texas Model’ hasn’t really solved problems. *Fort Worth Star Telegram*.

## PODCAST

**Larsen, R.** & Lastrape, A. (April 2020 - Present). This is for the CV. Editor, Co-host, Co-creator. A weekly podcast about politics and education by educators from different disciplines, backgrounds, and world views.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Larsen, R. The Impact of Cash Bail on McLennan County.

Lastrape, A. & Larsen, R. De-facto Presidents.

## PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

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**Larsen, R.** (2022). *Being Faculty at a Regional University*. Discussant. Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

**Larsen, R.** (2022). *Experiential Learning in the Classroom*. Discussant. Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

**Larsen, R.** (2022). *Online Courses and Student Engagement*. Chair. Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

**Larsen, R.** (2021). *Considering the Death Penalty in the Human Rights Context*. Invited Guest Lecture in PSCI 4357: Human Rights. University of Texas at Dallas.

Lastrape, A. & **Larsen, R.** (2021). “*I Call it Matilda’s Law*”: *Governor’s Presidential Rhetoric*. Peer Reviewed. Political Communication Division. Southern States Communication Association.

**Larsen, R.** (2021). *Engaging in Bail Reform in McLennan County*. Invited Speaker. Poor People’s Campaign of Texas.

**Larsen, R.** (2021). *The Evolving Administration of the Endangered Species Act*. Invited Guest Lecturer in BIO 4101: Biology Seminar. Texas Tech University.

**Larsen, R.** (2020). *The Forefront with Art Aguirre. Episode: “Rebecca Larsen.”* Guest on podcast to discuss the function of the Supreme Court, the legacy of Justice Ginsburg, the nominee confirmation process, and the greater implications on the 2020 election and beyond.

**Larsen, R.** (2020). *Policy of Animal Conservation: Examining the Evolving Administration of the Endangered Species Act*. Invited Guest Lecturer in Biology 4101: Endangered Species and Conservation. Texas Tech University.

**Larsen, R. & Button, A. (2019).** *2019 Summer Teaching Academy*. A 2-day continuing education workshop organized and taught by Texas Tech Waco faculty and staff. Workshop is accredited for continuing education by the Texas Education Agency for middle and high school teachers.

**Larsen, R. (2019).** *Teaching classes synchronously using Zoom*. Texas Tech Waco Advising Workshop.

**Mitchell, M. & Larsen, R. (2019).** *Online Teaching: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion*. Midwest Political Science Association Conference

**Larsen, R. (2018).** *It's Not a MOOC: Delivering Quality Online Education to Large Programs*. Presented at Online Learning Consortium Accelerate Conference.

**Larsen, R. (2018).** *Our Evolving Right to Privacy*. Presented at Constitution Day: Social Media and the Constitution, McLennan Community College.

**Larsen, R. (2018).** *Dreamers and the Dream Act*. Panel discussant at Community Race Relations Coalition.

**Larsen, R. (2018).** *Where the Dream Act Stands: A Policy Briefing*. Presented at A Clean Dream Act. Panel discussant at Community Conversations at Seventh and James.

**Larsen, R. (2017).** *A Conversation with Texas Tech University Systems Chancellor Duncan*. Facilitated.

**Larsen, R. (2016).** *The Thirteenth Amendment and Rights of the Criminally Accused*. Presented at Constitution Day, The Unfinished Business of the Constitution: The Search for Equality, McLennan Community College.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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**Central Texas Economic Justice Fund**, Chair and Co-founder, 2022 - Present

**ChangeWaco**, Task Force Member, 2021 - 2023.

**City of Waco Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee**, 2020 - Present  
City Council Nominated and Approved Committee Member for a two, two-year terms.

**Wild Imaginings**, Member of the Board of Directors, 2020 - Present

**League of Women Voters of Waco**, Member, 2020 - Present

**Waco Immigrants Alliance**, Board Chair: 2019 - 2022, Board Member: 2017 - 2018,  
Leadership Team, 2015 – 2017.

**Community Race Relations Coalition**, Member, 2016 - Present

**LBJ Mentorship Program**, Mentor, 2020 - 2021

**Friends of the Archer Center Trust**, The Archer Center, Member, 2018 - 2019

**Feminist Policy Alliance**, Senior Member, LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2012 - 2014

**Hays Caldwell Women's Center**, On-Call Sexual Assault Hospital Response, 2012 - 2013

**Attorney General of Texas**, Certified Crime Victim and Sexual Assault Advocate, 2011 - 2014

**Social Justice and Action Committee**, Member, UT School of Social Work, 2011 - 2014

**Graduate Public Affairs Council**, Community Service Chair, LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2011 - 2012

## **SELECT UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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Regional Sites Student Support Resources Project, Committee Member, 2022 – Present

Selection Committee, Academic Advisor for TTU Waco. 2023

TTU Waco Faculty Council, Chair of New Faculty and Adjunct Support. 2020 - Present

Texas Tech Waco Pride Ally Coalition, Faculty Member. 2020 - Present

Pedagogy and Educational Technology Committee, Member. 2019 - Present

Chords and Conversation Annual Fundraiser, Event coordination for POLS sponsorship. 2018 - Present

New Student Orientation. Political Science representative for new majors and minors. 2017 - Present

New Faculty and Adjunct Orientation. Co-facilitate training each semester. 2017 - Present

Miracle Match Marathon, Annual marathon stop as TTU Waco. 2017 - Present

TTU Waco Graduation Celebration. Faculty representative for Political Science. 2016 - Present

Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce. Represent TTU Waco Membership. 2016 - Present

Public Debate Organizer with Braver Angels. 2021.

Texas Tech Regional Site Commercial. Interviewed for TTU Waco Campus. 2021.

Waco Day at the Texas Capitol, Faculty Advisor. Spring 2019

Service-Learning Project with Political Science students for Talitha Khoun, Faculty Advisor. Spring 2019

Undergraduate Political Science Internship Advisor. Summer 2019

Turn Out 2018. Created and managed event to give students rides to the election polls. 2018

Midterm Election Night Watch Party, Co-host with McLennan Community College. 2018

Selection Committee, Academic Advisor for TTU Waco. 2018

Weekly government tutoring sessions with student who recently immigrated. 2017 - 2018

Campus Town. Rotating Committee Member representing TTU Waco. 2017 - 2018

eLearning Council, Rotation as needed for TTU Waco & Arts and Sciences College. 2016 - 2018

Texas Tech System Day at the Texas Capitol, TTU Waco and Political Science Representative. 2019

Selection Committee, Waco ISD Summer Internship Program. 2017

Selection Committee, Academic Advisor for TTU Hill College. 2017

P-20 Council, TTU Waco Representative. 2017

Prosper Waco Education Steering Committee, Rotating representative for TTU Waco. 2017

Presidential Election Night Watch Party, Co-host with McLennan Community College. 2016

Primary Election Night Watch Party, Co-host with McLennan Community College. 2016

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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Workshop, "External Fellowships for Women," University of Texas at Dallas. September 21, 2022.

Continuing Education Program, "GROW Series: Developing a Research Portfolio," University of Texas at Dallas, November 4, 2022.

Workshop, "Open Meetings Act Training," Attorney General of Texas, Waco, Texas. October 18, 2022.

Workshop, "Public Information Act Training," Attorney General of Texas, Waco, Texas. October 18, 2022.

Continuing Education Program, "New Faculty Fall Series: Digital Measures," TLPDC TTU. September 13, 2022.

Conference Attendance, "Midwest Political Science Association Conference," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, United States of America. April 7, 2022 - April 10, 2022.

Training, "Supreme Court Opinions of 2020 to 2021 Term – Part 2." Government for Grownups. Sharon McMahon. Remote. July 29, 2021.

Training, "Supreme Court Opinions of 2020 to 2021 Term – Part 1." Government for Grownups. Sharon McMahon. Remote. June 28, 2021.

Training, "The Texas Schools Project: Research Possibilities and Opportunities," Rodney Andrews. University of Texas at Dallas. Remote. June 25, 2021.

Job Talk, "Employee Engagement in Government: Exploring the Role of the (Perceived) External Environment." Taha Hameduddin. Remote. 2021.

Conference Attendance, "Southern States Communication Association Conference," Southern States Communication Association. Remote. 2021.

Training, "Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act Training." Attorney General of Texas. Remote. 2020

Seminar, "Covid Outbreaks in Prisons." Transformative In-Prison Workgroup, Remote. 2020

Workshop, "Waco Political History," Helen Marie Taylor Museum, Waco, TX. 2020

Workshop, "Freedom of Information Act Training." Open the Government. Waco, TX. 2020

Seminar, "The 2020 Elections in Texas: From the Democratic Primary to the Battle for Control of the

Texas House," McLennan Community College, Waco, TX. 2019

Workshop, "Blackboard Collaborate Ultra Training," Texas Tech University, Waco, TX. 2019.

Conference Attendance, "Midwest Political Science Association Conference," Chicago, Illinois. 2019.

Panel, "Stories Beyond Borders – Film Screening and Discussion Panel." Waco, TX. 2019.

Public Hearing, "HB 1651." Texas House Committee on County Affairs. 2019

Conference Attendance, "Online Learning Consortium - Accelerate," Orlando, Florida. 2018.

Conference Attendance, "Distance Learning & Teaching Conference," University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, Wisconsin. 2018.

Seminar, "State of Education in Central Texas Forum," Heart of Texas P-20 Council. 2018.

Conference Attendance, "Texas Women in Higher Education Regional Conference." Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX. 2018.

Training and Organizational Planning Retreat, Waco Immigrants Alliance. Waco, TX. 2018

Conference Attendance, "Midwest Political Science Association Conference," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois. 2018.

Leadership Fellowship, "Leadership Plenty Institute," PEW Charitable Trust and Waco Foundation, Waco, TX. 2017 - 2018.

Conference Attendance, "Distance Learning & Teaching Conference," University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, Wisconsin. 2017.

Public Hearing, "Senate Bill 4." Texas Senate Committee on State Affairs. 2017

Seminar, "State of Education in Central Texas," Heart of Texas P-20 Council and Prosper Waco. 2017

Training and Organizational Planning Retreat, Waco Immigrants Alliance. Whitney, TX. 2017

Presentation, "Conversation with Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas." McLennan Community College. Waco, TX 2017

Workshop, "How to Support Immigrants in Our Community." Hope Fellowship. Waco, TX 2017

Workshop, "Welcoming Communities." Grassroots Leadership. Waco, TX. 2017

Seminar, "Prosper Waco 101: Building Community by Getting Involved," Prosper Waco. Waco, TX. 2017

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management  
American Society for Public Administration  
Midwest Political Science Association