

# Julianne J. Thomson

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Citizenship: Canadian

## Education

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| <b>George Mason University</b>   | Expected 2026 |
| Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science   |               |
| Comprehensive Exams: American Government, International Relations  |               |
| Committee: Mark J. Rozell (Chair), Robert J. McGrath, Kendrick Kuo, James P. Pfiffner                                  |               |
| Dissertation: Sacred Speech in a Secularizing Society: Congress, the President, and the Politics of Religious Rhetoric |               |
| <b>Villanova University</b>  | 2022          |
| M.B.A.   |               |
| Specialization: Strategic Management   |               |
| <b>Dartmouth College</b>   | 2020          |
| B.A., Religion   |               |
| Exchange Program: New College School of Theology, University of Edinburgh  |               |

## Additional Training

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| The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse University          | 2025 |
| Graduate Teaching Academy, Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning, George Mason University | 2025 |

## Publications

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### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

2. **Thomson, Julianne J.**, and Mark J. Rozell. 2025. "Challenges to Protecting Religious Freedoms: The Roles of Government and Societal Norms." *Ethos. Quarterly of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin*. 38(3):155-73. <https://doi.org/10.12887/38-2025-3-151-10>.
1. **Thomson, Julianne J.**, and Alena Smith. 2025. "Sacred Speech: Analyzing the Influence of Congressional Leadership on Religious Rhetoric." *Politics and Religion*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755048325100102>.
  - Awarded the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion 2025 Student Paper Award for the best student paper published in 2025.

### Book Chapters

1. Carty, Thomas J., and **Julianne J. Thomson**. 2025. "Catholic Senators and Abortion Politics: The Cases of Joe Biden and Ted Kennedy." In *Religion and Congress: The Intersection of Faith and Politics*, edited by David A. Dulio and Colton C. Campbell, 97–114. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc.

### Public Scholarship

2. Smith, Alena, and **Julianne J. Thomson**. 2025. "The 2026 Midterms: Speaker Mike Johnson's Religious Rhetoric Will Continue to Shape How Republicans Speak to Their Constituents." London School of Economics United States Centre (blog). <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2025/07/30/the-2026-midterms-speaker-mike-johnsons-religious-rhetoric-will-continue-to-shape-how-republicans-speak-to-their-constituents/>.
1. Smith, Alena, and **Julianne J. Thomson**. 2025. "The Johnson Effect: How the New Speaker Sparked a Religious Rhetoric Surge." Religion in Public (blog). <https://religioninpublic.blog/2025/07/14/the-johnson-effect-how-the-new-speaker-sparked-a-religious-rhetoric-surge/>.

## Works in Progress

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*The Christian Right: What Everyone Needs to Know* with Mark J. Rozell (George Mason University) and Clyde Wilcox (Georgetown University) - *Under contract with Oxford University Press.*

“‘Making my Voice Matter’: Civic Engagement and Gendered Leadership among NCAA Student-Athletes” with Cammie Jo Bolin (University at Albany) - *Under review.*

“Christian Nationalism in Congressional Communication in the Twenty-First Century” with Cammie Jo Bolin (University at Albany) and Alena Smith (Stanford University) - *In progress and accepted for the Political Studies Review special issue, “250th Anniversary of the United States of America’s Founding: America at a Turning Point?”.*

“Religious Language and U.S. Presidential Wartime Leadership” - *In progress.*

“Exploring the Mechanism of Crisis Escalation in Territorial Disputes: Lessons from the Greek-Turkish Crises” with Georgios Zacharias (George Mason University) - *In progress.*

## Teaching Experience

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Instructor of Record

Religion and the American Presidency, Encore Learning

Fall 2024

## Research and Work Appointments

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|---|-----------|
| Graduate Research Assistant, Schar School of Policy and Government                          | 2022-2026 |
| Research Assistant to Dr. Mark J. Rozell, Dean of the Schar School of Policy and Government |           |
| Business Research Fellow, Villanova School of Business                                      | 2020-2022 |
| Research Assistant to Dr. Jonathan Doh, Senior Associate Dean for Research                  |           |
| Research Assistant to Dr. Denise Downey, KPMG Endowed Professor in Accounting               |           |
| Senior Admissions Fellow, Dartmouth College   | 2019-2020 |
| Research Intern, Council for Advancement and Support of Education                           | 2018      |

## Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

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### *George Mason University*

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|---|------------------------|
| Presidential Scholarship (full tuition and stipend) | 2022–2026              |
| Daniel Druckman Fellowship (\$8000)                 | 2025                   |
| Schar School IQMR Grant (\$3025)                    | 2025                   |
| May La Due Bishop Book Fund (\$1200)                | 2024                   |
| Schar School Conference Travel Grant (total \$5000) | 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 |

### *Villanova University*

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| Graduate Research Fellowship (full tuition and stipend) | 2020–2022 |
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### *Dartmouth College*

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| Religion Department Faculty Prize (\$750) | 2020 |
| Citation for Meritorious Performance      | 2019 |

### *External*

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| APSA Graduate Student Support Grant (\$150)                              | 2025       |
| Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Student Paper Award (\$500) | 2025       |
| ASREC Graduate Student Workshop Grant (\$800)                            | 2023       |
| All-Academic First Team, Big East Conference                             | 2021, 2022 |

## Conference Presentations

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8. "Christian Nationalism in Congressional Communication in the Twenty-First Century." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2026. *Paper presentation (Scheduled)*.
7. "Presidential Religious Rhetoric and War." 2025 West Point Social Sciences Seminar, West Point, NY. February 2025. *Paper presentation*.
6. "Leathernecks and Lexicon: Exploring Partisanship in the US Military." The Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Canada Conference, Ottawa, Canada. October 2024. *Paper presentation (Virtual)*.
5. "Sacred Speech: Analyzing the Influence of Congressional Leadership on Religious Rhetoric." Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA. October 2024. *Paper presentation*.
4. "From Silence to Speech: Women's Participation in Christian Nationalism." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. September 2024. *Paper presentation*.
3. "Leathernecks and Lexicon: Exploring Partisanship in the US Military." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA. September 2024. *Paper presentation*.
2. "Leathernecks and Lexicon: Exploring Partisanship in the US Military." US Army War College Civil-Military Relations Center Annual Conference, Carlisle, PA. May 2024. *Paper presentation*.
1. "Faithful Leadership: Analyzing the Influence of Speaker Mike Johnson's Religious Identity in the House." Henry Institute Symposium on Religion and Public Life, Grand Rapids, MI. April 2024. *Paper presentation*.

## Service and Leadership

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| International Officer, Religion and Politics Specialist Group, Political Studies Association Leadership Team, Schar PhD Student Association, George Mason University | 2025-Present |
| Consultant, Writing Support Lab, George Mason University   | 2024-Present |
| Alumni Admissions Interviewer, Dartmouth College   | 2020-Present |
| Treasurer, Schar PhD Student Association, George Mason University  | 2024-2025    |
| Division 1 Track and Field Coach, George Mason University and Villanova University   | 2023-2025    |

### Organizer

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| Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting Religion and Politics Working Group | 2026 |
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### Panel Chair

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| West Point Social Sciences Seminar          | 2025 |
| Henry Symposium on Religion and Public Life | 2024 |

### Conference Discussant

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| Henry Symposium on Religion and Public Life | 2024 |
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### Reviewer

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| <i>Politics and Religion</i>                                   | 2025 |
| Stearns Center Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference | 2024 |

## Professional Memberships

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| Canadian Political Science Association       | 2025-Present |
| Political Studies Association                | 2025-Present |
| Society for the Scientific Study of Religion | 2024-Present |
| American Political Science Association       | 2023-Present |

## **Skills**

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Computing: R, R Markdown, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Qualtrics, Microsoft Suite