Kirsten Walters

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Department of Government

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Education

Ph.D. Department of Government, Harvard University, Expected 2024

M.A. Department of Government, Harvard University, March 2022

B.A. Political Science, Carleton College, June 2019

Magna Cum Laude and Departmental Honors in Political Science

Research Interests

Political parties, partisan polarization, social movements, subnational politics, American political development, American political economy

Publications

"Immigration Clashes, Party Polarization, and Republican Radicalization: Tracking Shifts in State and National Party Platforms since 1980," with Theda Skocpol. Forthcoming at *Studies in American Political Development.*

"Social Justice Campaigns and Democratic Party Gains: How Georgia's Partisan Reformers Overtook North Carolina's Moral Advocates," with Theda Skocpol and Caroline Tervo. *Studies in American Political Development* 36, no. 2 (2022): 63-83.

"Citizen Organizing and Partisan Polarization from the Tea Party to the Anti-Trump Resistance," with Theda Skocpol and Caroline Tervo. In *Democratic Resilience: Can the United States Withstand Rising Polarization?*, Eds. Robert Lieberman, Suzanne Mettler, and Kenneth Roberts: Cambridge University Press, 2021.

Ongoing Research

"US Party Organizations in a Polarizing Era: State Party Chairs, 1980-2022," with Theda Skocpol and Ben TerMaat.

"The Importance of Sociocultural Issues for Tracking Party Polarization: An Analysis of Roll-Call Votes and Advocacy Scorecards, 1970-2021," with Theda Skocpol and Ben TerMaat.

Grants, Honors, and Awards

Graduate Seed Grant, Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University, 2022

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching, Harvard University, 2021

James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Ph.D. Scholar in Inequality and Wealth Concentration, 2020-2025

Lee Sigelman Prize in Political Science, Carleton College, 2018

Research Assistance

Theda Skocpol, November 2020-present

Jennifer Hochschild, March 2020-May 2022

Teaching

Head Teaching Fellow, Race in a Polarized America (Undergraduate Level), Spring 2022

Teaching Fellow, American Society and Public Policy (Undergraduate Level), Fall 2021

Service

Co-Coordinator, Harvard University American Politics Research Workshop, 2021-2022

Co-President, Harvard Government Graduate Student Association, 2021-2022

Co-Coordinator, Harvard University Graduate Student Political Economy Workshop, 2020-2021

Treasurer, Harvard Government Graduate Student Association, 2019-2020

Skills

R, Python, STATA, Qualtrics, SQL, NVivo, LaTeX