

# William O'Brochta

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Department of Political Science, Sociology, and Geography • Texas Lutheran University • Seguin, Texas

POSITIONS	Assistant Professor of Political Science, Texas Lutheran University (2023–present) Assistant Professor of Political Science, Louisiana Tech University (2021–2023)
EDUCATION AND TRAINING	Washington University in Saint Louis, Missouri Ph.D., Political Science (2021) M.A., Political Science (2018)  Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas B.A., Politics and Mathematics, <i>summa cum laude</i> (2016)  Budapest Semesters in Mathematics (2014)
EXPERTISE	Teaching writing, civic engagement, representation, identity, political elites, terrorism and violence, event data, media, India, post-Communist states, public policy
PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES	29. “How Human Coding is Used and Described,” accepted at <i>Political Studies Review</i> . 28. “Social Benefits Motivate Young Adult Civic Engagement,” accepted at <i>PS: Political Science &amp; Politics</i> . 27. “Language Cues and Perceptions of Nationalism” (with Patrick Cunha Silva), accepted at <i>Political Behavior</i> . 26. “Quantifying and Contextualizing Violent Collective Action Event Datasets” (with Sunita Parikh), 2025. <i>Social Indicators Research</i> 176: 883–902. 25. “Public Discourse About Autonomous Regions and De Facto States,” 2024. <i>Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism</i> 24(3): 387–402. 24. “Lower-Stakes Legislative Collaborations, Ethnicity, and Gender,” 2024. <i>Political Research Quarterly</i> 77(4): 1081–1095. 23. “Ethnic Cabinet Diversity, Co-Ethnic Representation, and Attitudes Toward Government,” accepted at <i>Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties</i> . 22. “Gendered Ideologies, Gendered Perceptions: Do Nationalist Symbols and Gender Affect People’s Perceptions of Politicians?” (with Patrick Cunha Silva), 2025. <i>Politics, Groups, and Identities</i> 13(1): 46–63. 21. “Sustaining and Supporting the Momentum of Enduring Pandemic Practices” (with Sarah McCorkle, Cathy Box, and Mary-Catherine Dean), 2024. <i>To Improve the Academy: A Journal of Educational Development</i> 43(1): 197–224. 20. “Tweeting Public Service Complaints,” 2023. <i>Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media</i> 3: 1–49. Best Paper Engaged in Quantitative Description on an Under-Studied Phenomenon Published from 2021 to 2023 (Runner Up) 19. “Elite Responses to Ethnic Diversity and Interethnic Contact,” 2024. <i>Political Behavior</i> 46: 1057–1077.

18. “Politicians’ Complaint Response: E-Governance and Personal Relationships,” 2023. *Governance* 36(4): 1147–1164.
17. “Ethnic Representational Priorities and Political Engagement in Deeply Divided Societies,” 2022. *Nations and Nationalism* 28(3): 777–787.
16. “Perceptions of Partisanship in Local Television News,” 2022. *Electronic News* 16(1): 3–17.
15. “Can Policy Responses to Pandemics Reduce Mass Fear?” (with Michael Bechtel and Margit Tavits), 2023. *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 10(3): 343–353.
14. “Completing the Research Article Writing Process in an Introductory Course,” 2022. *Journal of Political Science Education* 18(1): 35–51.
13. “Signaling Democratic Progress with Electoral System Reform” (with Patrick Cunha Silva), 2022. *Political Research Quarterly* 75(4): 1037–1050.
12. “Small-Scale Civic Engagement with Big Impacts,” 2022. *PS: Political Science & Politics* 55(2): 389–391.
11. “Citizen Responses to Ethnic Representation,” 2023. *Political Studies* 71(2): 418–439.
10. “Anomalous Responses on Amazon Mechanical Turk: An Indian Perspective” (with Sunita Parikh), 2021. *Research and Politics* 8(2): 1–4.
9. “Do Peers Respond? Attendance and Critical Events,” 2021. *British Politics* 16(4): 456–468.
8. “Technology and Collective Action Event Size: Lessons for India,” 2021. *Studies in Indian Politics* 9(1): 118–123.
7. “Western Political Rhetoric and Radicalization” (with Margit Tavits and Deniz Aksoy). 2022. *British Journal of Political Science* 52(1): 437–444.
6. “Ethnic Diversity in Central Government Cabinets.” 2022. *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 10(2): 189–208.
5. “Pick Your Language: How Riot Reporting Differs Between English and Hindi Newspapers in India,” 2019. *Asian Journal of Communication* 29(5): 405–423.
4. “A Meta-Analysis of Natural Resources and Conflict,” 2019. *Research and Politics* 6(1):1–6.
3. “Regional Autonomy in Rich Regions: Evidence from Adjara, Georgia,” 2018. *Caucasus Survey* 6(1): 18–41.
2. “International Tourism’s Impact on Regional Autonomy: Evidence from 2004 EU Accession Countries,” 2017. *Tourism Economics* 23(8): 1632–1661.
1. “Did Natural Resource Wealth Motivate Fighting in the Bosnian War?” 2016. *Journal of International Studies* 9(1): 27–43.

- BOOK CHAPTERS
4. "Collaborative Work in Combined Departments" (with Brenda Savage), 2025. In Daniel Mallinson, Julia Marin Hellwege, and Joseph Roberts (eds.) *Elgar Encyclopedia of Teaching and Pedagogy in Political Science*.
  3. "Civic Engagement at Teaching-Focused Universities: Challenges for Pre-Tenure Faculty" (with Kevin Lorentz II and Kim Saks), 2024. In Lauren Bell, Allison Rank, and Carah Ong Whaley (eds.) *Civic Pedagogy: Teaching Civic Engagement in an Era of Divisive Politics*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.
  2. "You have an Academic Job Offer...Now What? Negotiating Advice from Two Perspectives" (with Lori Poloni-Staudinger), 2022. In Kevin Lorenz II, Daniel Mallinson, Julia Marin Hellwege, Davin Phoenix, and J. Cherie Strachan (eds.) *Strategies for Navigating Graduate School and Beyond*. Washington, D.C.: American Political Science Association.
  1. "Research Articles, Not Research Papers: Empowering Students Through Research Writing," 2021. In Daniel Mallinson, Julia Marin Hellwege, and Eric Loepf (eds.) *Handbook of Political Research Pedagogy*. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 367–378.
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS
6. "Track Summary: Career Preparation in the Political Science Curriculum" (with Cameron Arnzen, Ivy Orr Hamerly, Chloe O'Neill, Rebecca Grace Tan, and Joshua Wood), 2025. *Political Science Today* 5(3): 20–22.
  5. "Review of *What Teaching Looks Like: Higher Education Through Photographs*," 2023. *Journal of Political Science Education* 19(4): 737–739.
  4. "The Benefits of Early Student Involvement with Civic Engagement Programs" (with Anthony Franklin), 2023. *The Political Science Educator* 27(1): 76–79. Reprinted in *Political Science Today* 4(1): 11–12.
  3. "Track Summary: Teaching Research, Writing, and Information Literacy: How to Handle Misinformation" (with Michele Calderon, Heather Katz, and Rachel Olsen), 2023. *Political Science Today* 3(3): 11–13.
  2. "Department-Level Graduate Student Peer Teaching Workshops" (with Bryant Moy), 2021. *The Political Science Educator* 25(1): 6–8.
  1. "Track Summary: Teaching Research, Writing, and Information Literacy" (with Julia Marin Hellwege), 2020. *PS: Political Science & Politics* 53(3): 588–590.
- PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP
4. APSA Civic Engagement Panel Moderator
    - Constitution Day as a Signature Event
    - What are Successful Constitution Day Ideas?
    - Community Partnership Opportunities and Goals
    - Best Practices for Working with Community Partners
    - Civic Engagement Experiences with Dual Enrollment Students
    - Future of High School Students and Civic Engagement
    - Mentoring Students for Civic Engagement Careers
    - Effective Mentor-Mentee Relationships in Academia
    - Lessons from Required Civic Engagement Experiences
    - How Do Political Science Programs Align with Civic Engagement?
    - What Does a Non-Profit Career Look Like?
    - How Do I Get Started with a Non-Profit Career?
    - Getting Started with Classroom Civic Engagement Activities

3. “[Peers in UK government: Roles and Sitting Attendance](#),” 2021. *UK in a Changing Europe Blog*.
2. “[Members of the Lords Attended More Sittings Following Crises that Affected their Jobs but not crises that Affected the Public](#),” 2021. *LSE Politics & Policy Blog*.
1. “[Civic Engagement Projects in Online Courses](#),” 2020. *APSA Educate Blog*.

**WORKING PAPERS** 4. “OpenStax American Government Activity Workbook” (with Julia Marin Hellwege, under contract).

3. “Students Build Skills Self-Assessing Their Class Notes” (revise & resubmit).

2. “Approaches to Coding Caste” (with Sunita Parikh).

1. “[Political Space in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes: Activating Pro Forma Platforms](#)” (with Norman Schofield).

**STUDENT  
RESEARCH**

#### **Theses**

- Allegra Negrete (Chair, 2025–present): *Challenges to Immigrant Access to Higher Education in Texas*
- Julie Cupples (Chair, 2022–2023): *Addressing the Lack of Due Process Rights in the American Immigration System*
- Victoria Phillips (Chair, 2022–2023): *Affirmative Action in Higher Education: An Examination into the Legal Repercussions of its Elimination*. Most outstanding graduate award
- Emily Meaney (2021–2022): *From Latin America to the United States: Immigration Trends Throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic*

#### **Collaborative Scholarship**

- Andie Lozano-Lomeli (2025–present): Interviews on student perceptions of on-campus civic engagement
- Ruby Wilsford (2025–present): Marketing and resources for sustainability projects
- Izzie Stephens (2025): Analysis of student engagement focus group data
- Moo Holstein (2024): Analysis of class action lawsuits
- Myla Mitchell (2024): Collection and nationalism analysis of historical markers
- Anthony Franklin (2023): Project on student input in civic engagement planning

#### **Group Scholarship**

- Constitutional Arguments for Religious Discrimination (2023, 3 students): Compared Indian and U.S. constitutional provisions related to religious discrimination
- Legal Motivations for Politicians to Respond (2023, 13 students): Developed legal arguments for politicians’ duty to respond to citizen complaints

#### **Campus Research Projects**

- Campus Sustainability Audit (2025–present, 24 students): Conduct a campus-wide sustainability audit aligned with AASHE STARS reporting framework
- A Student-Centered Vision: Committing to Student Engagement (2024–2025, 31 students): Collect data on student engagement, conduct interviews, and facilitate focus groups contributing to strategic planning work
- Community, Knowledge, Culture: Student Civic Engagement Survey Team (2022–2023, 40 students): Design and implement representative campus survey ( $N=1,118$ ) and nine focus groups about civic engagement improvements
- Proposal to Increase Student Civic Engagement (2021–2022, 13 students): Strategic plan for three-year effort to study civic engagement

- Environmental Issue Representative Contact (2020, 12 students): Develop training lessons for high school students on reporting environmental issues

#### **Student Presentations**

- Scholarship Showcase: Izzie Stephens (2025), Sophia Short (2025), Myla Mitchell (2024), Madie Lake (2024), Johnathan Rodriguez (2024), Moo Holstein (discussant, 2024)
- TLU Senior Administration: Izzie Stephens (2025), Allegra Negrete (2024), Moo Holstein (2024)
- Southern Political Science Association Summer Conference: Myla Mitchell (2024)
- Louisiana Political Science Association: Victoria Phillips (2023), Caroline Clifton (2022), Sarah Szwak (2022)

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Public Administration (Spring 2026, cross-list communication studies and social innovation and social entrepreneurship)
- Asia and Development (Spring 2026, Fall 2023, cross-list economics and social innovation and social entrepreneurship)
- Comparative Politics (Spring 2026, Spring 2024, Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Summer 2019)
- First-Year Experience: Exploring the Arts and Sciences (Fall 2025, Fall 2024)
- Legal Research and Policy Analysis (Fall 2025, Summer 2025, Spring 2025, independent study)
- Data Analysis in Social Science (Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023, cross-list sociology/criminal justice)
- American Politics I (Fall 2025 x2, Fall 2024 x2, Spring 2024 x2, Fall 2023 x2, Spring 2023, Winter 2023 x2, Fall 2022 x2, Spring 2022 x2, Winter 2022 x2, Fall 2021)
- Comparative Political Economy (Spring 2025)
- International Relations (Spring 2025)
- Environmental Politics (Spring 2025)
- Qualitative Research Methods and Writing (Spring 2025, independent study)
- Legal Research and Writing (Fall 2024, independent study)
- Electoral Politics (Spring 2024)
- Nationalism and Political Behavior (Spring 2024, independent study)
- Internship Supervisor
- Politics of Developing Nations (Spring 2023)
- Intelligence Policy and Analysis (Spring 2023)
- Representation, Identity, and Community (Spring 2022)
- Scope and Methods in the Social Sciences (Winter 2023, Winter 2022)
- Representation, Identity, and Dissent (Summer 2020, online)
- Immigration, Identity, and the Internet (Fall 2018, co-instructor)

#### PEDAGOGICAL CERTIFICATIONS

- Washington University Teaching Citation, 2019
- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Scholar, Washington University, 2020

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Association for the Study of Nationalities, 2025  
 Texas Methods Conference, 2025  
 Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education Regional Gathering, 2024  
 Engaging Pedagogy Conference, 2024  
 Southern Political Science Association, 2024 (Summer Conference), 2024  
 Midwest Political Science Association, 2024, 2018–2022  
 American Political Science Association, 2025 (Research Group), 2024–2025, 2017–2022  
 American Political Science Association Standalone Teaching and Learning Conference, 2025, 2023, 2020

Descriptive Research Conference, 2022  
Professional and Organizational Development Network Conference, 2021  
Washington University Graduate Research Symposium, 2021  
Washington University — University of Illinois Student Exchange Conference, 2021  
Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium Conference, 2019  
Fifth International Conference on Political Economy and Institutions, 2017  
Arkansas Political Science Association, 2016

#### SERVICE

##### Discipline

Director of Professional Development, APSA Civic Engagement Section (2023–present)  
Symposium Editor, “Centering Career Preparation” at the *Journal of Political Science Education*  
External Program Reviewer (2025)  
Organizer, Civic Engagement and Faith Perspectives Conference (2025)  
Track Moderator, APSA Teaching and Learning Conference (2025)  
Organizer, APSA Civic Engagement Workshop (2025, 2024)  
APSA Outstanding Civic Engagement Project Awards Committee (2024, 2023, 2022)  
Editorial Assistant, *The Journal of Politics* (2020)  
Discussant:  
MPSA (2017–2025), APSA (2024), SPSA (2024), Professional and Organizational Development Network (2021), Louisiana Political Science Association (2023, 2022)  
Panelist:  
“How to Approach the Job Interview,” MPSA, 2024  
“Preparing for the Academic Job Market,” APSA, 2022

##### University

- Texas Lutheran University
  - Coordinator, Faculty Scholarship Development, 2025–present
  - Director, Dr. Donald H. Nelson Environmental Conservation and Sustainability Fund, 2025–present
  - Advisor, Beta Alpha Sigma Sorority, 2025–present
  - Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities Committee, 2025–present
  - Co-Coordinator, Faculty Community Building, 2024–present
  - Faculty Marshal, 2024–present
  - Founder and Advisor, CIVIC Club (Creating InVolved Individuals and Communities), 2024–present
  - Honors Program Advisory Committee, 2024–present
  - Environmental Sustainability Committee, 2024–present
  - Teacher Education Committee, 2024–present
  - Trumpet, TLU Symphonic Winds, 2024–present
  - Service Learning, Career Development, and Civic Engagement Committee, 2023–present
  - Founder and Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society (Alpha Mu Psi), 2023–present
  - Faculty Co-Leader, Holden Village Study Away Trip, 2025
  - Student Engagement Award Committee, 2025, 2024
  - Vocation of Lutheran Higher Education Conference, 2024
- Louisiana Tech University
  - Analysis and Investigation of Cyber Scenarios, 2021–2023
  - American Democracy Project Campus Coordinator, 2022–2023
  - Evaluation of Administrators Policy Committee, 2022
  - Science Olympiad Event Supervisor, 2023, 2022

School of History and Social Science Curriculum Committee, 2022–2023

- Washington University
  - Fellow, Center for Teaching and Learning, Washington University, 2021
  - Founder and Facilitator, Teaching Political Science Workshop Series, 2019–2021
  - Pedagogy Specialist, Department of Political Science, 2020
  - Graduate Student Organizer, Comparative Politics Conference, 2020–2021
  - Teaching Center Orientation Mentor, 2018–2021
  - Teaching Center Graduate Student Advisory Council, 2017–2020
  - University Graduate Advisory Council, 2018–2019
  - University Teaching and Professional Development Committee, 2018–2019
  - Graduate Student Senate Sustainability Committee, 2016–2017
- Hendrix College
  - Chief Sustainability Officer, 2015–2016
  - Presidential Ambassador, 2014–2016
  - Strategic Planning Committee, 2015–2016
  - Financial Committee, 2015

#### **Reviewer**

*PS: Political Science & Politics, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Springer Verlag, Professional and Organizational Development Network, American Political Science Review, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties, Tourism Economics, Research & Politics, Nationalism and Ethnic Politics, Public Choice, Journal of Politics, Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, Journal of Contemporary European Studies, Perspectives on Psychological Science, New Perspectives, Central Asian Survey*

#### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

##### **Grants**

- Assessment Coordinator, Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education Campuswide Innovation in Vocation Planning Grant (team lead Wes Cain, \$23,996), 2025
- Summer Research Grant (with Allegra Negrete, \$5,000), 2025
- Innovative Course Release Grant (\$3,000), 2025, 2024
- Pi Sigma Alpha Start-Up Grant (\$750), 2025
- Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy
  - \$14,910: Fieldwork in India (with Sunita Parikh), 2025
  - \$9,600: Surveys in India (with Sunita Parikh), 2021
  - \$11,000: Survey experiments (with Margit Tavits), 2019
  - \$4,500: Surveys in India (with Sunita Parikh), 2019
  - \$8,900: Survey experiments in India and Macedonia (with Sunita Parikh), 2018
- The Brandes Fund for Religious Activities
  - \$4,353: Civic engagement and faith perspectives conference, 2024
  - Holden Village program (with Kathleen Seal and Tiffiny Sia), 2024
- Department of Political Science Seed Grant (\$1,500), 2020
- Professional and Organizational Development Network Career Grant, 2020
- American Political Science Association Travel Grant, 2023, 2017
- Hendrix Provost Scholarship (full merit scholarship), 2012–2016

##### **Awards**

- Emerging Scholar Award, American Political Science Association Civic Engagement Section, 2025
- Best Chapter Award, Pi Sigma Alpha, 2025
- Highly Established Action Plan, All in Campus Democracy Project, 2024
- Best Paper Engaged in Quantitative Description on an Under-Studied Phenomenon Published from 2021 to 2023 (Runner Up), *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*

- Pi Sigma Alpha (Politics), Pi Mu Epsilon (Mathematics)
- Graduate Research Symposium Best Poster (3rd Place)
- W.C. Buthman Prize in Politics
- Parker Mathematics Undergraduate Research Award
- Mathematics Association of America Best Presentation Award

SKILLS

**Fieldwork:** Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Lucknow, Maharashtra

**Computer:** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, R, Stata, SPSS, Python, Qualtrics

**Additional Training:** Python, Network Analysis, GIS, Advanced Causal Inference