

# Theo Serlin

## *Contact Details*

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## *Employment*

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON, London, UK  
Lecturer (Assistant Professor), Department of Political Economy, 2025–  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Princeton, NJ  
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Niehaus Center, 2024–2025

## *Education*

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Stanford, CA  
Ph.D in Political Science, 2019–2024  
MA in Economics, 2019–2022  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA  
AB in History, *summa cum laude*, 2015–2018

## *Publications*

“The Public Agglomeration Effect: Urban-Rural Divisions in Government Efficiency and Political Preferences,” Forthcoming, *American Journal of Political Science*  
“Trains, Trade, and Transformation: A Spatial Rogowski Theory of America's 19th Century Protectionism,” with Kenneth Scheve, 2025, *American Journal of Political Science* 69 (3): 915–929  
“The German Trade Shock and the Rise of the Neo-Welfare State in Early Twentieth-Century Britain,” with Kenneth Scheve, 2023, *American Political Science Review* 117 (2): 557–574

## *Working Papers*

“The Export Boom and the Backlash: Reactions to Positive Economic Change in First World War America,” 2022  
“Industry and Identity: The Migration Linkage Between Economic and Cultural Change,” with Vasiliki Fouka, 2023  
“Gravity's Politics,” 2024  
“How Polarization Ends,” with Avidit Acharya and Alexander Lee, 2025

## *In Progress*

“Market Power and Distorted Democracy in the Progressive Era,” with Kenneth Scheve and Sydney White, 2025  
“Lobbying and Legislative Representation,” with Hye Young You, 2025  
“Migration and the Making of the English Middle Class,” with Vasiliki Fouka, 2025

## *Talks*

MIT, Princeton, Rochester, 2025  
Peking University, King's College London, 2024

Emory, UC Berkeley, Princeton, NYU, Yale, Duke, Texas A&M, Notre Dame, Stanford, 2023

### *Conferences*

Copenhagen Business School Money in Politics, NBER Economics of Culture and Institutions, 2025

Peking University Symposium on Institutions and Development, 2024 (discussant)

APSA annual meetings, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

EPSA annual meeting, 2025

IPES annual meetings, 2022, 2023, 2024

### *Teaching*

#### *King's College London*

6SSPP383 Advanced Economics of Politics (undergraduate), Fall 2025

5SSPP245 Statistics for History and Political Economy (undergraduate), Fall 2025

#### *Stanford*

PS 356a Formal Theory I (Ph.D), TA for James Fearon, Winter 2021, TA for Avidit Acharya, Winter 2022

PS 356b Formal Theory II (Ph.D), TA for Amanda Kennard, Spring 2021

PS 450a Political Methodology I (Ph.D), TA for Jens Hainmueller, Fall 2022

PS 150a Data Science for Politics (undergraduate), TA for Alain Schlaepfer, Fall 2021

Political Science Ph.D Math Camp, TA for Alain Schlaepfer, Fall 2022

### *Awards and Grants*

Data Driven Social Science Initiative, Princeton University, 2025. Research grant, \$4,925, with Jeongmin Park

David A. Lake Award, 2022. Best paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Political Economy Society, for “The Export Boom and the Backlash”

George P. Shultz Graduate Fellowship, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, 2022. Research grant, \$7,500

Sophia Freund Prize, Harvard College, 2018. Best academic record among graduating students

Department of History Prize, 2018. Best academic record among graduating students in the Department of History

Thomas T. Hoopes Prize, 2018. University wide senior thesis prize

Phi Beta Kappa, 2017

*Service*

Mentor, Stanford Political Science Pathways to Ph.D Program, 2021, 2022  
Referee, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *International Organization*, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, *Social Choice and Welfare*, *World Politics*

*Professional Experience* SANFORD C. BERNSTEIN & CO., New York, NY  
Research Associate, 2018–2019

*References*

Kenneth Scheve, I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean, Professor of Political Science,  
University of Notre Dame, kscheve@nd.edu

Avidit Acharya, Professor of Political Science,  
Stanford University, avidit@stanford.edu

Vasiliki Fouka, Associate Professor of Political Science,  
Stanford University, vfouka@stanford.edu

Jonathan Rodden, Professor of Political Science,  
Stanford University, jrodde@stanford.edu

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