

Zach Lang

Department of History and Political Science
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Academic Positions

2024-present: Assistant Professor of Political Science, Department of History and Political Science, Anderson University

Education

2019-2024: Ph.D., Truman School of Government and Public Affairs- University of Missouri
Ph.D. Fellow: Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy
Concentrations: American Politics, Public Policy
Advisor: Peverill Squire

2015-2019: B.A., St. Lawrence University
Magna Cum Laude
Major: Government
Minor: History

Teaching & Research Interests

The Constitution, Federalism & State Politics, Modern Political Thought (1650-1975), Judicial Process/Politics

Teaching Experience

Anderson University- Assistant Professor

PS 101- *American Government*- Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025

PS 301- *Public Policy*- Spring 2025

PS 303- *Political Institutions*- Fall 2024

PS 310- *Judicial Process*- Spring 2025

PS 399- *State and Local Politics*- Fall 2025

PS 410- *Civil Rights & Civil Liberties*- Fall 2025

PS 435- *Campaigns and Elections*- Fall 2024

CON 399- *The Politics of Star Wars*- Spring 2025

University of Missouri- Graduate Instructor

PS 2004: *The Politics of Star Wars*- Fall 2023, Spring 2024

PS 1100: *American Government*- Fall 2022

University of Missouri- Lead Graduate Assistant for American Government Game-Based Learning Grant

Worked under Dr. Tori Mondelli to create an American government video game and in-person tabletop games. In charge of TA implementation and student playtesting. Lead designer of Supreme Court Nomination and Bureaucratic Politics Games and political typology test.

Guest Lecturer and Invited Speaker

St. Lawrence University

GOVT 371: *The International Relations of Game of Thrones*- Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2025

University of Missouri

PS 1100: *American Government*- Spring 2020, Fall 2022

PS 2455: *The Constitutional Debates*- Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

PS 2800: *Liberty, Justice, and the Common Good*- Fall 2019

PS 4190: *Elections and Democracy in the US*- Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Anderson University

Campus-wide event: "Voting and the 2024 Presidential Election" roundtable- Fall 2024

KOPN Radio guest: "Politics and Philosophy" -Fall 2021

"CS Lewis is Smarter Than You" Podcast guest. Available on Apple Podcasts:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/delinquents-in-the-snow-dangers-of-national/id1794462226?i=1000696624529> -Spring 2025

*AU magazine Sam

*Synthesis magazine Ella

Other

Creator, Director, Head Coach: Hereford Zone Running Camp- Summer 2016-2021

Substitute Teacher: European History- Spring 2017 (Hereford High School, MD)

Teaching and Professional Development Program. University of Missouri, Spring 2023

Missouri Scholars Academy: Political Science Educational Game Instructor, Summer 2024

Academic Articles

“Lessons from Dragons: Teaching Political Science with HBO’s House of the Dragon.” With Ronnie Olesker. *Journal of Political Science Education*. (2024). Available at:

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15512169.2024.2330931?src=exp-la>

Book Chapters

Red Tape: A Bureaucratic Politics Game in *Beating the Clock: The Power of Short Games and Active Learning in the Political Science Classroom* (Forthcoming 2025) edited by Mark Harvey, James Fielder, Ryan Gibb, and Derek Glasgow. Taylor and Francis: Routledge Press.

GalactiVote: Government in Action! An American Government Video Game with Hillary Gould and Tori Mondelli. in *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* (2025) edited by J.L. Plass and X.

Ochea: Springer Nature Switzerland. Originally accepted for the Joint International Conference on Serious Games: New York University (2024).

In Progress

***“State Politics in the Early Republic and the Development of the American Executive: Representation, Party Politics, and Executive Selection Mechanisms 1788-1832.” With Aric Gooch. (*R&R at Congress and the Presidency*)

Selected Non-Academic Publications

“Social Security goes bust in 2034: Here’s how free markets can save it.” *Foundation for Economic Education* (September 2018). <https://fee.org/articles/social-security-goes-bust-in-2034-here-s-how-free-markets-can-save-it/>

“Rent Control is killing the coasts.” *Washington Examiner* (May 2018). <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/rent-control-is-killing-the-coasts>

“Trump’s New Tariff is Putting America Last.” *Foundation for Economic Education* (March 2018). <https://fee.org/articles/trumps-new-tariff-is-putting-america-last/>

“In Gun Debate, Both Sides Have Evidence to Back Them up” with Jen Selin. *The Conversation* (April 2021). <https://theconversation.com/in-gun-debate-both-sides-have-evidence-to-back-them-up-158118>

Conference Presentations

November 2018. “Chaos is a ladder: A study of identity, norms, and power transition in the Game of Thrones universe.” Northeastern Political Science Association. Montreal, Quebec.

June 2019. “Chaos is a ladder: A study of identity, norms, and power transition in the Game of Thrones universe.” British International Studies Association. London, England.

April 2021. “The Elitist Few or the Populist Many? Public Demand, Representation, and Health-Interest Groups in the American States.” Southwestern Political Science Association. New Orleans, Louisiana (virtual).

April 2021. Panel chair for: “The Aftermath of the 2020 Election.” Southwestern Political Science Association. New Orleans, Louisiana (virtual).

March 2023. “Lessons from Dragons: Teaching Political Science Through House of the Dragon.” International Studies Association. Montreal, Quebec.

April 2023. “The States Strike Back: The Role of Attorneys General in Multistate Litigation Against the Federal Government.” Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, Illinois.

April 2023. “The States Strike Back: The Role of Attorneys General in Multistate Litigation Against the Federal Government.” Selected for Graduate Student Workshop, Shawnee Trail Regional Conference on American Politics and Constitutionalism. Columbia, MO.

January 2024. “Red Tape: Bureaucracy in Action” board game presentation at CUNY Adult Learning Games Conference. New York, New York (virtual).

May 2024. Panel Moderator for sessions: “Customizing Chat GPT to create a GPT Teaching Assistant” and “Bringing Your Classroom to Life! How to Utilize Live Demonstrations to Enhance Understanding of Complex Concepts.” Celebration of Teaching Conference. University of Missouri.

March 2025. “The Dragon in Our Minds: the impact of exposure to Game of Thrones and House of the Dragon fictional narratives on students’ political attitudes” International Studies Association Conference. Chicago, IL.

Service

Anderson University

Fall 2024-present: Athletics Oversight Committee Member

Spring 2025: Founder of the Athletics Mentor Program (AMP)

Spring 2025-present: Faculty mentor, Men's/Women's Cross Country and Track & Field

Spring 2025-present: Political Science advisor

Summer 2025-present: Dissertation Writing Coach, Anderson University Graduate School

University of Missouri- Truman School of Government and Public Affairs

Spring 2021-Spring 2023- Graduate Student Mentor: Joe Harrison, Antony Jackson

Fall 2022-Spring 2022- Secretary, Graduate Association of Political Scientists

University of Missouri- Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy

Fall 2022- *First Year Interest Group and Residential College Fellow.*

Fall 2022- *DC Summer Scholars Program Acceptance Committee Member*

Awards

Boy Scouts of America

2013- *Eagle Scout, Silver Palm, Order of the Arrow*

St. Lawrence University

2016-2019 *Presidential Scholarship*

2016-2019 *Sesquicentennial Scholarship*

2016-2019 *NCAA Division III Liberty League All-Academic Team: Cross Country and Track & Field*

2018- *Summer Research Fellowship*

2019- *Outstanding Student Athlete Award*

University of Missouri

Fall 2019-spring 2024 *Graduate Fellowship*. Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, University of Missouri.

Fall 2022-spring 2024 *Conference Travel Grant*. University of Missouri.

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association, International Studies Association

References

Dr. Peverill Squire- University of Missouri
Hicks and Martha Griffith Chair in American Political Institutions
squirep@missouri.edu

Dr. Ronnie Olesker- St. Lawrence University
Michael and Virginia Ranger Professor of Government
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
rolesker@stlawu.edu

Dr. Jay Dow- University of Missouri
Professor
Dow@missouri.edu

Tobias Gibson

Tori Mondelli