

ABBY BLASS

CONTACT

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(412) 370-9268

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Government
Ph.D. Political Science, May 2023

Daniel Brinks (chair), Zach Elkins, Gary Jacobsohn, Sean Theriault
Exam fields: Public Law, American Politics

The University of Oxford (Oxford, United Kingdom)
Visiting PhD student, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies

Sciences Po Institute of Political Studies (Paris, France)
Visiting Researcher, Center for European Studies

The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
BA, Political Science, with honors (2004)
James B. Angell Scholar 2003, 2004

BOOKS

The DNA of Constitutional Justice in Latin America: Politics, Governance and Judicial Design. 2018. Cambridge University Press (with Daniel Brinks)

Winner of the C. Herman Pritchett Award for Best Book on Law and Courts by the American Political Science Association
Reviewed in Perspectives on Politics

PUBLICATIONS

The DNA of Constitutional Justice in Latin America: Politics, Governance and Judicial Design. 2018. Cambridge University Press (with Daniel Brinks)

“Rethinking Judicial Empowerment: The New Foundations of Constitutional Justice.” 2017 *International Journal of Constitutional Law*, vol. 15 (2): 296-331. (with Daniel Brinks)

“Corruption, Political Participation, and Appetite for Reform: Americans’ Assessment of the Role of Money in Politics” *Election Law Journal*, December 2012. 11(4): 380-398. (peer-reviewed, with Brian Roberts and Daron Shaw)

“Roll-call Votes” In *The Oxford Handbook of the American Congress*. Frances Lee and Eric Schickler (eds.), New York: Oxford University Press. 575-597. 2011. (with Sean Theriault and Patrick Hickey)

AWARDS

Winner of the C. Herman Pritchett Award for Best Book on Law and Courts, awarded by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, for *The DNA of Constitutional Justice in Latin America: Politics,*

Governance and Judicial Design. 2018. Cambridge University Press (co-author Daniel Brinks)

International Journal of Constitutional Law prize for Best Paper published in the journal in 2017, for “Rethinking Judicial Empowerment: The New Foundations of Constitutional Justice.” International Journal of Constitutional Law, vol.15 (2): 296-331. (co-author, Daniel Brinks)

TRAINING

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Spatial and Dimensional Analysis

Longitudinal Analysis, Structural Equation Models

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-method Research (IQMR)

Syracuse University

Methodology Institute sponsored by Consortium on Qualitative Research

Methods, APSA Qualitative Methods section, and National Science Foundation

Summer Statistics Institute (SSI)

University of Texas at Austin

Hazard/Duration Analysis

French School Summer Language Program

Middlebury College

EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

Zachary Elkins, Comparative Constitutions Project (NSF funded)

Daniel Brinks, Judicial Institutional Design in Latin America

Bruce Buchanan, Public Perception of Presidential Performance (data analyst)

Assistant Instructor / Teaching Assistant

Supreme Court & Public Policy* (Powe)

Constitutional Law: Structure of Power (Jacobsohn)

Constitutional Interpretation (Perry)

American Presidency (Buchanan)

Legal Assistant, Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, PC (Austin, TX)

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Graduate School Named Continuing Fellowship (full tuition & stipend)

Graduate School Continuing Fellowship (full stipend, tuition, benefits)

Macdonald Long Research Fellowship (full stipend, tuition, benefits)

FLAS Dissertation Research Fellowship (full stipend, tuition, benefits)

FLAS Tuition Fellowship, Middlebury Summer Language Program

Macdonald Long Research Fellowship

Patterson Fellowship

Institute for Qualitative & Mixed Method Research (tuition and stipend)

University of Michigan Clogg Tuition Fellowship for ICPSR

Nominated, Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Assistant

PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco
“Weak Review, Strong Courts: Judicial Influence Reconsidered” (2015)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago
“Weak Review, Strong Courts: The Judicialization of Politics in the US and France” and “Polarizing Picks: The Conditional Effect of Divided Government on Judicial Confirmation Politics” (2013)

Ruling Politics, Chicago, Chicago *University of Chicago*
Beyond the Façade: Institutional Engineering and Potemkin Courts in Latin America (with Daniel Brinks) (2013)

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2013
“Hopes and Fears: the Politics of Judicial Design” (with Daniel Brinks)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, September 2012
“Hopes and Fears: the Politics of Judicial Design” (with Daniel Brinks)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, September 2011
“The Role of Diffusion and Domestic Politics in Judicial Design”
“The Conceptualization and Measurement of Formal Judicial Power” (both with Daniel Brinks)

How Autocracies Work: Beyond the Electoral Paradigm, Ann Arbor, April 2011
University of Michigan Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies
“Dictators, Democrats, and their courts: Judicial Institutions in Latin America” (with Daniel Brinks)

American Political Science Association, Washington DC, September 2010
“Americans’ Assessment of the Role of Money in Politics”
(with Brian Roberts and Daron Shaw)

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2010
“Advice and Consent: Separation of Powers, Partisanship and Judicial Ideology”
“Americans’ Assessment of the Role of Money in Politics”
(with Brian Roberts and Daron Shaw)

American Political Science Association, Toronto, September 2009
“The Role of Diffusion and Domestic Politics in Judicial Design” (with Daniel Brinks)

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2009
“A Science of the Possible: Judicial Tenure and Activism in Colombia and India”

SERVICE

Graduate Mentor, Intellectual Entrepreneur Program for First Generation and Minority Undergraduate Students
Co-President, Graduate Student Organization, Government Department
Project Assistant, Public Perception of Presidential Performance (PI: Buchanan)

LANGUAGES	English (native) French (advanced reading, oral comprehension, writing, speaking)
FIELDWORK	Paris, France 8 months, French Constitutional Council London, England 6 months UK Supreme Court Washington, D.C. 2 months, US Supreme Court
INTERESTS	Constitutional Law Judicial Politics (American, Comparative) American Politics Comparative Institutional Design