

# Leah Rosenstiel

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## Academic Appointments

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2021–present

AFFILIATIONS

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Effective Lawmaking, 2022–present

Faculty Affiliate, Vanderbilt Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, 2021–present

## Education

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Ph.D., Politics and Social Policy, 2016–2021

Committee: Nolan McCarty (chair), Brandice Canes-Wrone, Frances Lee

M.A., Politics, 2018

CARLETON COLLEGE

B.A., Political Science, 2014

*Magna Cum Laude*

## Research

BOOK

*Politics by Formula: How Congressional Policymaking Creates Disparities*. Forthcoming with the University of Chicago Press in Spring 2026.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Curry, James M. and Leah Rosenstiel. “Unorthodox Lawmaking and the Value of Committee Assignments.” Forthcoming at the *Journal of Politics*.

Furnas, Alexander C., Nic Fishman, Leah Rosenstiel, and Dashun Wang. 2025. “Partisan disparities in the funding of science in the United States.” *Science* 389(6766): 1195–1200.

Rosenstiel, Leah. 2025. “The Distributive Politics of Grants-in-Aid.” *American Political Science Review* 119(1): 152–164.

Rosenstiel, Leah. 2023. “Congressional Bargaining and the Distribution of Grants.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 48(3): 471–501.

Hammond, Ben and Leah Rosenstiel. 2020. "Measuring the Influence of Political Actors on the Federal Budget." *American Political Science Review* 114(2): 603–608.

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Electoral Geography and the Distribution of Resources"

"The Southern Roots of Social Welfare Programs"

"The Politicization of Congressional Capacity" with Nathan Gibson and Ben Hammond

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"Allocation of Funds Under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act" with Rebecca R. Skinner. *Congressional Research Service*. September 17, 2018.

"Analysis of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I-A Allocation Formulas: Factors, Design Elements, Allocation Patterns" with Rebecca R. Skinner. *Congressional Research Service*. May 22, 2018.

"FY2016 State Grants Under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)" with Rebecca R. Skinner. *Congressional Research Service*. July 21, 2017.

"History of the ESEA Title I-A Formulas" with Rebecca R. Skinner. *Congressional Research Service*. July 17, 2017.

## Teaching Experience

#### LEAD INSTRUCTOR

PSCI 2256: Politics of Public Policy (Undergraduate)  
Vanderbilt University, Spring 2022–2024

PSCI 2244W: Congress, the President, and Public Schools (Undergraduate)  
Vanderbilt University, Spring 2022–2024, Fall 2025

PSCI 2260: Politics of Government Assistance (Undergraduate)  
Vanderbilt University, Fall 2025

PSCI 3244: The Legislative Process (Undergraduate)  
Vanderbilt University, Fall 2021–2023

#### TEACHING ASSISTANT

Text Analysis (Graduate)  
Institute for Qualitative and Mixed-Method Research, Instructor: Will Lowe, Summer 2019

POL329: Policy Making in America (Undergraduate)  
Princeton University, Professor: Charles Cameron, Spring 2019

POL345: Introduction to Quantitative Social Science (Undergraduate)  
Princeton University, Professor: Marc Ratkovic, Fall 2018

## Awards and Fellowships

Robert H. Birkby Award for Teaching Excellence in Political Science, 2025. *Awarded to a Vanderbilt University professor of political science who exemplifies excellence in teaching marked by a commitment to inspiring undergraduate students in their pursuit for intellectual growth in the field of Political Science.*

Prize Fellowship in the Social Sciences (formerly known as the Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars), 2019-2021

Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Graduate Student Research Grant with Ben Hammond, 2021

Princeton University Fellowship, 2016-2019

Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Graduate Student Research Grant with Nathan Gibson and Ben Hammond, 2018

## Selected Invited Talks and Conferences

American Politics Research Group, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2025 (scheduled)

Congress and History Conference, Brown University, 2025

Center for the Study of American Politics (CSAP) Conference, Yale University, 2025

Women in Legislative Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin, 2024

Congress and History Conference, Princeton University, 2024

American Politics Workshop, George Washington University, 2024

American Politics and Public Policy Workshop, Yale University, 2023

Parties in American Legislatures Conference, University of Houston, 2023

Women in Legislative Studies Conference, Rice University, 2022

National Budget Roundtable, Brookings Institution, 2021

American Politics Workshop, Columbia University, 2021

Junior Americanist Workshop Series, 2020

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2020–2025

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2024

Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2024

European Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2024

## Advising

PhD Dissertation Committee Member: Lucas Helms (2023 PhD), Shelby Shumard (2025 PhD), Patrick Buhr (in progress)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor: Dylan Garwick, Stanley Zhao

## Service

### DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

Political Science Department at Vanderbilt University: Graduate Committee (Fall 2022); American Politics Faculty Coordinator (Spring 2023); Undergraduate Committee (2021–2024); Faculty Research Workshop Coordinator (2025)

Vanderbilt University Committee Member: Rogers Center Steering Committee (2021–2022)

Panelist/Guest at Vanderbilt University: Post-Midterm Election Panel for Vanderbilt College Democrats (2022); Explore Nashville Guest Speaker (2023); Affirmative Action Panel for Vanderbilt College Democrats (2023)

### DISCIPLINE

Program Committee, Midwest Political Science Association, 2024 Conference

Program Committee, Southern Political Science Association, 2027 Conference

Journal Referee: *American Political Science Review*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Journal of Politics*; *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*; *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, and Financial Management*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*

Discussant: American Political Science Association Annual Conference (2020, 2023–2025); Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (2023, 2024); Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference (2024); The Evolving Executive Conference at Vanderbilt University (2022); Women in Legislative Studies Conference at Brown University (2023); Women in Legislative Studies Virtual Workshop (2025)

## Other Professional Experience

### CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Education Policy Analyst, Summer 2017

Research Assistant, 2014–2016