

LUCY WILLIAMS

Associate Professor
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Associate Professor, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University (May 2021 – present).

Courses: Criminal Procedure, Structures of the Constitution, First Amendment

Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University, Department of Political Science (Aug. – Dec. 2018, Jan. 2020 – Apr. 2021).

Courses: Constitutional Law, Western Political Heritage

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Law Clerk, The Honorable Scott M. Matheson, Jr., United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (Dec. 2018 – Dec. 2019).

Summer Associate, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, Los Angeles, CA (May – Aug. 2016).

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles (2018).

Dissertation: “Aspirational Exceptionalism: Rhetoric, Politics, and the Pursuit of American Greatness.”

Subfields: Political theory; public law; race, ethnicity, politics.

Honors: Distinction on first Field Paper.

J.D. University of California, Los Angeles (2017).

Activities: UCLA Law Review Podcast Editor, 2016 – 2017; UCLA Law Review Staff Member, 2015 – 2016.

Honors: Order of the Coif; Masin Family Academic Silver Award in Constitutional Law II; Masin Family Academic Award Runner-Up in Lawyering Skills.

M.A. Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles (2014).

B.S. Political Science, University of Utah (2012).

Honors: *Summa cum laude*, Elbert Thomas Award for most outstanding student in the Department of Political Science.

RESEARCH

Articles

- *American Exceptionalism and/in Affirmative Action*, 56 ARIZ. ST. L.J. (forthcoming 2024).
- *Making A Mother: The Supreme Court and the Constitutive Rhetoric of Motherhood*, 102 N.C. L. REV. (forthcoming 2024).
- *American Exceptionalism as/in Constitutional Interpretation*, 57 GA. L. REV. 1071 (2023).
- *Grieving Critically: Barack Obama and the Counter-Eulogy* (peer-reviewed article), 75 POL. RES. Q., 307 (2021).
- *Blasting Reproach and All-Pervading Light: Frederick Douglass’s Aspirational American Exceptionalism* (peer-reviewed article), 9 AM. POL. THOUGHT 369 (2020).

- * Winner of the American Political Science Association's 2020 section award for best article in the journal *American Political Thought*

Book Reviews

- *American Exceptionalism as Religion: Postmodern Discontent*, 10 AM. POL. THOUGHT 656 (2021) (reviewing JORDAN CARSON, AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM AS RELIGION: POSTMODERN DISCONTENT (2020)).

Other Scholarship

- *The McCain Eulogies Fit a Long, Classic Tradition of Political Funeral Orations*, THE MONKEY CAGE – WASH. POST (Sep. 4, 2018).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Constitutive Rhetoric as First Amendment Policy* (article manuscript, in progress).
- *Hidden Bias in U.S. Case Law: Evidence from Two Centuries of Judicial Opinions* (article manuscript, with Matthew Jennejohn and Carolina Nunez, preparing for submission).
- *An Experimental Analysis of "Evolving Standards of Decency"* (article manuscript with Dane Thorley and Mitchell Roundy, preparing for submission).
- *Aspirational Politics: Rhetoric, Ritual, and the Quest for a More Perfect Union* (book manuscript, in progress).

PRESENTATIONS

- "American Exceptionalism and Civil Rights." Presented at 2023 Midwestern Political Science Association meeting.
- "A *Miranda* for Title IX." With Sophie Williams. Presented at 2023 Midwestern Political Science Association meeting.
- "Hidden Bias in U.S. Case Law." With Matthew Jennejohn, Sam Nelson, and Carolina Nunez. Presented at 2022 Law and Society Association meeting.
- "American Exceptionalism as/in Constitutional Interpretation." Presented at 2022 Midwestern Political Science Association meeting.
- "Civil Rights Exceptionalism." Invited presentation given at the Jack Miller Center's Tocqueville Lecture Series, Jacksonville State University, February 2022.
- "(en)Acting Law: Oral Argument and Rhetorical Performance in *Roe v. Wade*." Presented at 2021 Western Political Science Association meeting.
- "Patriotism and Dissent." Invited presentation given at University of Wisconsin-Madison's Political Economy, Philosophy, and Politics Roundtable, February 2021.
- "Frederick Douglass' Aspirational American Exceptionalism." Invited presentation given at University of Richmond's Marshall Center for International Statesmanship, September 2020.
- "Unattained but Attainable: Emerson's Aspirational Exceptionalism." Presented at 2018 Western Political Science Association meeting.
- "Hidden Dualities: Citizenship and the Rhetoric of American Exceptionalism." Presented at 2017 Western Political Science Association meeting.
- "Give Us Your Poor, or, How Immigration Sustains American Exceptionalism." Presented at 2015 Western Political Science Association meeting.
- "Elevated by Laudation: The Political and Ideological Import of Obamaian Funereal Oratory." Presented at 2014 Western Political Science Association meeting.

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- BYU Law Appellate Academy Faculty Sponsor (May 2023).
- BYU Law Admissions Committee (2023 – present).
- BYU Law External Speakers Committee (2022 – present).
- BYU Law Student Awards Committee (2022 – 2023).
- BYU Law Clerkship Committee (2021 – 2023).
- BYU Law Curriculum Committee (2021 – 2022).
- BYU Political Affairs Society Co-Advisor (2020 – 2021).
- FHSS Diversity Collaboration and Inclusion Gender Subcommittee (2020 – 2021).
- Political Science Research & Academic Life Committee (2018 – 2021).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit Bar, admitted May 2019.
- State Bar of California, admitted December 2017.
- American Political Science Association
- Western Political Science Association
- Midwestern Political Science Association
- Association for Political Theory

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- 1L Professor of the Year, 2022-2023

AREAS OF INTEREST

Law and rhetoric, criminal procedure, constitutional law, First Amendment, American political thought.