

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

- *The First Amendment and Constitutive Rhetoric: A Policy Proposal*, 99 N.Y.U. L. REV. (forthcoming 2024).
- *American Exceptionalism and/in Affirmative Action*, 56 ARIZ. ST. L.J. 365 (2024).
- *Making A Mother: The Supreme Court and the Constitutive Rhetoric of Motherhood*, 102 N.C. L. REV. 395 (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

- *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

- "Law as Conflict: The Constitutive Rhetoric of America's Legal System." Accepted to present at 2024 Midwestern Political Science Association meeting, 2024 Western Political Science Association meeting, 2024 Law and Society Association meeting, and 2024 American Political Science Association meeting.
- "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 Admissions Committee (2023 – present).
- BYU Law Appellate Academy Faculty Sponsor (May 2023).
- 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
- 2L and 3L Professor of the Year, 2023-2024

AREAS OF INTEREST

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