

Dr. Rachel M. Blum

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR · POLITICAL SCIENCE

University of Oklahoma

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Academic Employment

University of Oklahoma

Norman, Oklahoma

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE & CARL ALBERT CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES CENTER

2020 - present

- Associate Professor, 2025-present
- Assistant Professor, 2020-2025

Miami University

Oxford, OH

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

2016-2020

- Assistant Professor

Education

Georgetown University

Washington, D.C.

MA & PHD, GOVERNMENT

2010-2016

- Committee: Hans Noel (chair), Daniel Hopkins, Jonathan Ladd, and Clyde Wilcox

Patrick Henry College

Purcellville, VA

BA, POLITICAL THEORY

2006-2010

- Magna Cum Laude

Other Education

Ann Arbor, MA

ICPSR (UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN)

2014

Publications

BOOKS

Rachel M. Blum and Hans Noel. *Cooperating Factions: A Network Analysis of Party Divisions in U.S. Presidential Nominations* (November 2024: Cambridge University Press).

Rachel M. Blum, *How the Tea Party Captured the GOP: Insurgent Factions in American Politics* (October 2020: University of Chicago Press).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Nathan Barron, Peter McLaughlin, H. Benjamin Ashton, III, **Rachel Blum**, Charles Finocchiaro, and Michael Crespin. "Presidential Endorsements as Voter Cues: Evidence from the 2022 Midterm Elections." *Political Behavior* (July 2025).

Rachel Blum, "The Asymmetry of Movement-Factions in the Democratic and Republican Parties" in *Parties, Power, and Change: Developmental Approaches to American Party Politics*, eds. Adam Hilton and Jessica Hejny, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2025.

Christopher S. Parker and **Rachel M. Blum**, "Exploring the Motivations of the MAGA Movement" in *Connective Action and the Rise of the Far-Right: Platforms, Politics, and the Crisis of Democracy*, eds. Steve Livingston and Michael Miller, Oxford University Press, 2025.

Peter McLaughlin, Nathan Barron, Bennie Ashton, **Rachel Blum**, Chuck Finocchiaro, and Michael Crespin, "Ends Versus Means: Public Support for Congressional Redistricting," *Election Law Journal* (November 2024), doi.org/10.1089/elj.2023.0050.

- Rachel M. Blum**, Mike Cowburn, and Seth Masket, “Who Decides? Media, MAGA, Money, and Mentions in the 2022 Republican Primaries,” *Political Research Quarterly* (published online July 26, 2024), doi.org/10.1177/10659129241268820.
- Jon Green, Kelsey Shoub, **Rachel M. Blum**, Lindsey Cormack, “Cross-Platform Partisan Positioning in Congressional Speech,” *Political Research Quarterly* (published online March 2024), doi:10.1177/10659129241236685.
- Rachel M. Blum** and Mike Cowburn, “How Local Factions Pressure Parties: Activist Groups and Primary Contests in the Tea Party Era,” *British Journal of Political Science* (published online June 2023), doi:10.1017/S0007123423000224.
- Rachel M. Blum**, Lindsey Cormack, and Kelsey Shoub, “Conditional Communication: How Members of Congress Use Public Facing Communication,” *Political Science Research Methods* (September 2022), 1-8, doi:10.1017/psrm.2022.28.
- Rachel M. Blum** and Christopher S. Parker, “Trump-ing Foreign Affairs: The Role of Status Threat in Mass Foreign Policy Preferences,” *Perspectives on Politics* 17, no. 3 (2019): 737-755, doi:10.1017/S1537592719000999.
- Sarah E. Croco, Elizabeth Suhay, **Rachel Blum**, Lilliana Mason, Hans Noel, Jonathan Ladd, and Michael A. Bailey, “Student-Run Exit Polls 101,” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 52, no. 2 (2019): 361-366.
- Rachel M. Blum** and Clyde Wilcox, “A Tangled Web: Religion and the Regime in the US,” in *Religion and Regimes: Support, Separation, and Opposition*, eds. Ted Jelen and Tehran Tamadonfar (Lexington: Lexington Books, 2013).

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Mike Cowburn, Amelia Malpas, and **Rachel Blum**, “Comparing Intra-Party Factional Conflict Using Leadership Contests,” (working paper, presented at the 2025 meeting of the EPSA).
- Rachel Blum**, Jon Green, Kelsey Shoub, Diana Jordan, and Nathan Barron, “Does the Medium Change the Message? Comparing Results Across Five Mediums of Congressional Text,” (working paper, presented at the 2025 meeting of PolMeth).
- Peter McLaughlin, Joy Rhodes, Nathan Barron, Bennie Ashton, **Rachel Blum**, Chuck Finocchiaro, and Michael Crespin, “Experimental Evidence on the Effects of Campaign Funds for Childcare” (under review).
- Rachel M. Blum** and Monica C. Schneider, “The Politics of Ableism and Support for Disability Policy,” (working paper and TESS proposal, presented at the 2025 meeting of the SPSA).
- Rachel M. Blum and Josh McCrain, “Unveiling Ableism: A Conjoint Experiment on Disability and Electability,” (working paper, presented at the 2025 meeting of the EPSA).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Rachel Blum** and Mike Cowburn, “The long shadow of the Tea Party and the Republican Party’s shift to the right,” *London School of Economics and Political Science Blog*, June 28, 2023.
- Rachel M. Blum**, “Review of *At War with Government: How Conservatives Weaponized Distrust from Goldwater to Trump*. By Amy Fried and Douglas B. Harris. New York: Columbia University Press, 2021. 305p. \$120.00 cloth, \$30.00 paper,” *Perspectives on Politics* 20, no 2 (2022), 739-740.
- Rachel M. Blum**, “Review of *African American Tea Party Supporters: Explaining a Political Phenomenon*. By Kirk A. Johnson. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2019. 218 pages, \$90, hardback,” *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* 6, no. 1 (2021): 282-285. Christopher Sebastian Parker and **Rachel M. Blum**, “Why the GOP Can’t Quit Trump,” *Monkey Cage* (*Washington Post*), March 2021.
- Rachel M. Blum**, “What Donald Trump’s rhetoric borrows from the Tea Party,” *Mischiefs of Faction*, February 9, 2017.
- Solomon Messing, Patrick Van Kessel, Adam Hughes, Nick Judd, and **Rachel M. Blum**, “Partisan Conflict and Congressional Outreach,” a Pew Research Center Report (February 2017).
- Rachel M. Blum** and Christopher S. Parker, “Is there such a thing as a Conservative Foreign Policy?” in the Brookings Governance Series (October 2014).
- Rachel M. Blum**, “Wait, the Tea Party’s Back? Lessons from Eric Cantor’s Defeat,” *Mischiefs of Faction*, June 11, 2014.

Presentations & Invited Talks

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- American Political Science Association (APSA), 2014-2018, 2024.
- APSA Pre-Conference on Politics and Computational Social Science, 2018-2019.

Cooperative Election Study Conference, 2023.
 European Political Science Association, 2025.
 Midwest Political Science Association, 2015-2025.
 Northeast Political Science Association, 2011.
 Political Networks Conference, 2014, 2016-2019.
 Society for Political Methodology, 2014, 2017-2018, 2024-2025.
 Southern Political Science Association, 2012-2017, 2025.
 St. Louis Area Methods Meeting (SLAMM), 2018.
 Visions in Methodology, 2024.

INVITED TALKS

Atlantische Forum Speaker Series, 2021.
 Cornell University, Government Department's Seminar Series, 2023.
 Florida International University, Department of Politics and IR's Speaker Series, 2021.
 Georgetown University, Government Department's Seminar Series, 2023.
 Georgetown University, Merthan Conference on Political Activists in a Polarized Age, 2015.
 Harvard University, Kennedy School's Stone Inequality and Social Policy Seminar Series, 2023.
 Indiana University, Center on American Politics Speaker Series, 2019.
 Miami University, Center for Data Analytics and Data Science, 2018.
 University of Wisconsin Madison, Election Research Center Symposium, 2020.

Fellowships & Grants

2025 **Research Grant**, TESS (with Monica Schneider)
 2024 **Visiting Fellowship in Assessment**, College Board's AP Program
 2021 **Research Grant**, Russell Sage Foundation (with Bill Bianco, PI and Josh McCrain, Co-PI)
 2019 **Manuscript Preparation Grant**, Miami University
 2018 **Online Course Development Grant**, Miami University
 2018 **College of Arts and Sciences Summer Grant**, Miami University
 2017 **Committee on Faculty Research Grant**, Miami University
 2015 **Summer Collaborative Research Grant**, Georgetown University
 2014 **ICPSR Summer Program Fellowship**, Georgetown University
 2014 **Jill Hopper Memorial Fellowship and Teaching Award**, Georgetown University
 2014 **Summer Dissertation Research Fellowship**, Georgetown University
 2014-2015, 2017-2018 **Conference Travel Fund Fellowship**, National Science Foundation

Teaching Experience

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Community Scholars (PSC 4023), Fall 2020-2025
 Political Science Internship (PSC 3910), Fall 2020-2025
 Problems in American Government: Democracy in America (PSC 3020)
 Congress in the Political System (PSC 5263), Spring 2023, 2025

Capstone: Political Parties (PSC 4093), Spring 2025
 Graduate Seminar: Political Parties (PSC 5263), Spring 2024
 American Political Parties (PSC 3413), Spring 2022
 American Federal Government (PSC 1113), Fall 2024
 Introduction to Political Analysis (PSC 2013), Fall 2020-Spring 2022

MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Introduction to the American Political System (POL 241)
 Public Opinion Laboratory (POL 307)
 Political Parties (POL 358)
 Foundations of Political Analysis (POL 601)
 Public Policy Research (POL 604)
 Thesis Writing Workshop (POL 605)
 Center for Data Analytics Data Awareness Micro-credential Instructor

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Introduction to the U.S. Political System
 Politics of the Tea Party
 Fundamental Techniques of Debate and Public Speaking (School of Continuing Studies)

OTHER TEACHING

Composure Under Fire (Foreign Service Institute of the U.S. Department of State)

Mentoring

ongoing	Joy Rhodes , Dissertation Advisor	<i>OU</i>
ongoing	Nathaniel Reeves , Doctoral Advisor	<i>OU</i>
ongoing	Kaitlin Diodosio, Nathan Barron, J.J. Ames , Dissertation committee member	<i>OU</i>
2023	B. Henry Ashton (Senior Decision Analyst) , Dissertation committee member	<i>OU</i>
2021, 2023	Carl Albert Center Undergraduate Fellows , Mentor	<i>OU</i>
2023, 2025	Honors Thesis , Advisor	<i>OU</i>
2024	Directed Readings , Supervisor	<i>OU</i>
2018-2020	M.A. Students , Thesis Committee Chair	<i>Miami</i>
2018-2020	M.A. Students , Thesis Committee Member	<i>Miami</i>

Service

SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

2024-2027 **American Political Science Association**, Disability Status Committee Member
 2025 **Midwest Political Science Association**, Section Chair
 2021 **Southern Political Science Association**, Section Chair
 2019– **Society for Political Methodology**, Nominations Committee Member
 2021 **Society for Political Methodology**, Conference Paper Selection Committee
 2018-2023 **Political Networks Section**, Executive Council Member
 2017-2020 **Political Networks Section**, Program Chair and award committees
 2019-2022 *The Forum Journal*, Book Review Editor
 2014– **Conference discussant**, Various

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

- 2024– **Network of Enlightened Women**, Faculty Advisor
- 2025 **Public Service for First Gen College Students**, Event Organizer
- 2020-2024 **National Education for Women's Oklahoma Leadership Program**, Faculty Advisor
- 2021 **OU Foundation Women's Philanthropy Network**, Panelist
- 2020-2021 **Vaccine Misinformation Big Idea Challenge Proposal Working Group**, Member

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT

- 2020– **Graduate Studies Committee, American Politics Field Committee, Methods Field Committee, and RRT American Politics Search Committee**, Member OU
- 2016-2020 **Various Departmental Committees**, Member Miami
- 2016-2020 **Undergraduate Advisor**, 100 students per year Miami
- 2013-2015 **Quantitative Models Working Group**, President, Treasurer Georgetown
- 2012-2013 **Graduate Political Science Association**, President, Officer Georgetown

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- 2024-2026 **Norman Public Schools**, Gifted and Talented Advisory Board Member Norman, OK

PEER REVIEW

Journals: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Congress and the Presidency*, *Journal of Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Midsouth Journal of Political Science*, *Party Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *PNAS*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Communication*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Research & Methods*, *Politics and Religion*, *Politics and Governance*, *Politics Groups and Identities*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, *Science Advances*

Grants: Carrie Chapman Catt Research Prize in Women and Politics, Israel Science Foundation

Publishers: Kansas University Press, Oxford University Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, W.W. Norton Press

Other Professional Experience

- 2016, 2020 **Content Consultant**, Red Line Press
- 2015-2016 **Data Labs Fellow**, Pew Research Center
- 2015 **Research Assistant on Michael Bailey's *Real Stats* textbook**, Georgetown University
- 2014 **Editorial Assistant for Clyde Wilcox's *Women in Elected Office* (3rd edition)**, Georgetown University

Media Outreach

SELECT INTERVIEWS & EDITORIALS

- Interview, "Donald Trump and the Far Right," LSE's *The Ballpark* podcast, March 2025
- Interview, "The MAGA Coup: Trump's Takeover of the GOP," *Deep Dive with Sean Fetting* podcast, December 2024
- Interview, "Blame Capitalism," Vox's *Today Explained* Podcast, September 2023.
- Interview, "The House Speaker battle has roots in the Tea Party Movement," NPR: All Things Considered, January 2023
- Contributor of political commentary, *Fox 5 New York*, 2021-2022
- Interview on book, *New Books in Political Science Podcast*, August 2021
- Interview on book, *Kudzu Vine Political Podcast*, May 2021
- Interview on book, *Mischiefs of Faction*, The Tea Party and the rise of a Conservative Insurgency, May 2021
- Interview on future of the Republican Party, *Muslim Network TV*, January 2021 and June 2021
- Political commentary on inauguration, *Al Jazeera*, January 2021

Interview on Capital insurrection, *CBC Radio Vancouver*, January 2021, February 2021

Interview, *Politics in Question Podcast*, January 2021

Political commentary on civil unrest and contemporary politics, *ATTN*, Fall 2020-Spring 2021

Regular contributor to “The Political Junkie” show, Cincinnati Edition (NPR affiliate WXXU), Fall 2019–Spring 2021

Interview on book, *Indivisible Chicago Podcast*, November 2020

Interview on book, *Doomed Podcast*, September 2020

Interview on book, *Cincinnati Edition (NPR)*, September 2020

Interview, *Niskanen Center*, “How the Tea Party Paved the Way for Donald Trump,” September 2018.

TV commentary on Midterm Elections, CTV News Channel of Canada, November 2018

Video commentary, *SAGE Research Methods*, “Data Science, Big Data Analytics, & Digital Methods,” Summer 2018.

COMMENTARY AND RESEARCH FEATURED IN

- *Roll Call*, June 2025.
- *PopSugar*, January 2025.
- *ProPublica*, November 2024.
- *La Presse*, September 2024 and November 2017
- *OU Daily*, March 2021 and October 2024.
- *Pravda*, July 2024.
- *Knack*, February 2024.
- *Newsweek*, January 2023.
- *Time Magazine*, November 2022.
- *The Hill*, November 2022.
- *USA Today*, November 2022.
- *The Oklahoman*, January 2022 & November 2022.
- *Daily Kos*, January 2022.
- *Weekendavisen*, January 2022.
- *Efe News*, November 2021.
- *New York Times*, February 2021, August 2021
- *Tulsa World*, July 2021
- *Norman Transcript*, June 2021,
- *Public Seminar*, June 2021
- *Washington Post*, May 2021
- *Vox*, March 2021
- *Mic*, March 2021
- *Boston Globe*, February 2021
- *CNN*, February 2021
- *University of Washington News*, February 2021
- *The Atlantic*, January 2021
- *Dziennik Gazeta Prawna* (Polish Newspaper), January 2021

- *El Nuevo Herald*, December 2020.
- *Denver Post*, July 2020
- *Wallet Hub*, March 2020
- *Ohio Capital Journal*, March 2020
- *Governing Magazine*, January 2019
- *Reuters*, September 2018.
- *The Daily Beast*, April 2017