

Tess Elizabeth Wise

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I study everyday political, economic, and social life in the contemporary United States at the intersection of economic inequality and race and ethnic politics. My dissertation, *Economic Insecurity and American Political Culture*, was an ethnographic study of Americans going through Chapter 13 personal bankruptcy, which I am turning into a book. Currently, I am working on a project on modern-day redlining and am building a dataset to study the relationship between household debt and voter turnout. I am passionate about undergraduate education and love teaching courses in American Politics and Research Methods.

Current Employment

Visiting Professor 2019-2020, Amherst College Department of Political Science

Courses: Race and US Politics (Fall 2019), The Politics of Consumer Finance (Fall 2019), Identity Politics (Spring 2020), Political Ethnography (Spring 2020).

Education

Ph.D., Department of Government, Harvard University 2019

Dissertation: *Economic Insecurity and American Political Culture*, Defended November 2018

Advisors: Jennifer Hochschild (chair), Daniel Carpenter, Andrea Campbell (MIT)

B.S. Political Science, French, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2011.

Thesis: *How Direct Democracy Affects Local Naturalization Rates: Evidence from Switzerland*.

Winner of the Stephen M. Meyer Outstanding Undergraduate Political Science Thesis Award

Publications

"Criminal Justice or Public Health: A Comparison of the Representation of the Crack Cocaine and Opioid Epidemics in the Media," forthcoming in the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law* with Andrea Campbell, Carmel Shachar, and Gali Katznelson.

"Gender, Diversity, and Methods in Political Science: A Theory of Selection and Survival Biases," in *PS: Political Science & Politics* (July 2017) with Shauna Shames

Fellowships, Awards, Honors

Scholarship for the 2017 Political Psychology Pre-Conference — Fall 2017

Joint Center for Housing Studies Student Research Assistance Support — Spring 2017

Tobin Project Graduate Fellow — Spring 2017

Recipient of Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize — Spring 2015

Center For American Politics (CAPS) Research Fellow — Fall 2015

Conference Papers

The Social Meaning of Credit/Debt. Presented at the American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference.

September 1, 2019.

Household Debt and Voter Turnout in the United States. Presented at the Midwestern American Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference

April 4, 2019.

People or Drugs: A Comparison of the Representation of the Crack Cocaine and Opioid Epidemics in the Media with Carmel Shachar (Harvard), Andrea Campbell (MIT), and Gali Katznelson, (Western University School of Medicine). Presented at The Politics of the Opioid Epidemic, a conference sponsored by the Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy and the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law* (JHPPL).

February 1, 2019.

The Politics of Personal Responsibility, Credit, and the Welfare State: New Survey Evidence from the U.S. with Andreas Wiedemann. Presented at the American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference

September 1, 2018.

The Politics of the Struggling Middle Class: Americans in Chapter 13 Bankruptcy. Presented at the Midwestern American Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference

April 5, 2018.

Living Underwater: The Political Effects of Over-Indebtedness (Poster). Presented at the Political Psychology APSA Pre-Conference.

August 30, 2017.

Household Debt and the Politics of Personal Responsibility. Presented at the American Political Science Association (ASPA) Annual Conference.

September 11, 2016.

The Limits of Causal Inference: How the distinction between causal dependence and production highlights deficiencies in the potential outcomes framework and the essential role of descriptive inference in the study of causal processes. Presented at the Visions in Methodology (VIM) Annual Conference

May 18, 2016.

How shall we open the 'black box?' Approaches to the study of mechanisms in the social sciences

Presented at the Annual Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology.

July 24, 2014.

Star Trek and the culture of free-market capitalism

Presented at Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference

April 18, 2014.

Playing with Race: How racial diversity affects redistributive behavior in simulated public goods games with Justin de Benedictis-Kessner and Daniel de Kadt.

Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference

April 12, 2013.

Do naturalizations cause right-wing backlash? Mixed evidence from Switzerland

Presented at the MIT Symposium on Border Crossing: Citizenship, Race, Gender.

October 12, 2012.

Maps in our Heads: Socio-political Attitudes and Demographic Awareness

Was to be presented with Professor Ryan Enos at the 2012 APSA Annual Meeting and Exhibition.

[Conference was cancelled]

August 30, 2012.

Occupy Wall Street and Local Outcomes: How does the message of a national movement travel in an online era?

Presented with Christopher Lucas at the Annual Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology.

July 19, 2012.

Revisiting Determinants of Migration in the Context of Violence with Kara Ross Camarena.

Presented at the Harvard-MIT-Yale Graduate Student Conference on Civil Conflict.

May 4, 2012.

Assistant Professor Teaching

Fall 2019

Race and US Politics (POSC 257)

The Politics of Consumer Finance (POSC 426)

Graduate Student Teaching

Spring 2019

Course Assistant for *The American Presidency (DPI 115)*

Professor Roger Porter

Teaching Fellow for *Senior Thesis Writers' Workshop (Gov 99)*

Course does not have evaluations

Fall 2018

Course Assistant for *The Business-Government Relationship in the United States (BGP 100)*

Professor Roger Porter

Teaching Fellow for *Senior Thesis Writers' Workshop (Gov 99)*

Course does not have evaluations

Spring 2017

Teaching Fellow for *Senior Thesis Writers' Workshop (Gov 99)*
Course does not have evaluations

Course Assistant for *Political Institutions and Public Policy: American Politics (DPI 101)*
Professor Matt Baum

Fall 2016

Teaching Fellow for *The American Presidency (Gov 1350)*
Professor Roger Porter, due to an error Q-scores were not collected.

Spring 2016

Teaching Fellow for *The Road to the White House (Gov 1359)*
Professor Carlos Díaz Rosillo, Q-score: 4.6/5

Course Assistant for *Political Institutions and Public Policy: American Politics (DPI 101)*
Professor Matt Baum

Spring 2015

Teaching Fellow for *Mass Media, Public Opinion, and Foreign Policy (Gov E- 1793/GOV 1793)*
Professor Matt Baum, Q-score: 4.4/5 (Gov 1793), Q-score 4.9/5 (Gov E-1793)

Teaching Fellow for *Research Practice in Quantitative Methods (Gov 61)*
Professor Arthur Spirling, Q-score: 5/5
Recipient of Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize

Teaching Fellow for *Government Sophomore Tutorial (Gov 97)*
Professors Nancy Rosenblum and Stephen Ansolabehere, Q-score: 4.4/5

Teaching Fellow for *Senior Thesis Writers' Workshop (Gov 99)*
Course does not have evaluations

Fall 2014

Teaching Fellow for Harvard Extension School *Political Communication (Govt E- 1362)*
Professor Matt Baum, Q-score: 4.4/5

Teaching Fellow for *Is the American Racial Order Being Transformed? (USW-15)*
Professor Jennifer Hochschild, Q-score: 4.3/5

Teaching Fellow for *Survey Research Methods (Gov 1010)*
Professor Chase Harrison, Q-score: 4.2/5

Teaching Fellow for *Senior Thesis Writers' Workshop (Gov 99)*
Course does not have evaluations

Spring 2014

Teaching Fellow for *Political Psychology (Gov 1372)*
Professor Kris-Stella Trump, Q-score: 4.81/5
Gave guest lecture on "Obedience and Authority."
Nominated for Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize
To watch a video of my section, [click here](#).

Adjunct Faculty at Brandeis University teaching *Quantitative Methods for Social Science (POL 200B)*
To read the syllabus I developed, [click here](#).

To read original class notes I developed, click [here](#).

Fall 2013

Teaching Fellow for *Introduction to Quantitative Methods I (Gov 2000)*

Professor Adam Glynn, Q-scores: 4.73/5 (for graduate version), 5/5 (for undergraduate version)

Invited Lectures

Invited Speaker: *Text as Data in Legal Research*
Seminar on empirical methods for legal research
Harvard Law School
April 11, 2014.

Invited Speaker: *Text as Data: Introduction*
Brandeis University
WMGS 208b – Research Methods in Women’s and Gender Studies
March 19, 2014.

Invited Speaker: *Text as Data: The Emperor’s New Methods?*
Brandeis Politics Department Proseminar
March 7, 2014.

Other Academic

Graduate student coordinator for the *Applied Statistics Workshop* at Harvard University
Fall 2013 and Spring 2014

Graduate student coordinator for the conference, *The Impact of Ethnicity on State Capacity*, under the direction of Professor Perna Singh
Fall 2013

Skills

Programming

R, STATA, Python

Methods

MIT Classes: Calculus (I&II), Differential Equations, Quantitative Research Methods (I,I&III), Introduction to Computer Science (Python)

Harvard Classes: Topics in Quantitative Methods (Gov 2002), Advanced Quantitative Research Methodology (Gov 2001), Machine Learning (CS 181), Experimental Political Science (Gov 2008)

Qualitative Methods: Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Summer 2016, Methods of Political Analysis (Gov 2009)

RA Work

Research Assistant for Andrea Campbell at MIT (2016 – 2019)

Research Assistant for Daniel Carpenter at Harvard University (2013 – 2015)

Research Assistant for Adam Berinsky at MIT (2012 – 2013)

Research Assistant for Gary King at Harvard University (2013 – 2014)

Research Assistant for Stephen Ansolabehere at Harvard University (2012 – 2013)

Research Assistant for Prerna Singh at Harvard University (2012 – 2014)

Research Assistant for Ryan Enos at Harvard University (2011 – 2013)

Research Assistant for IMPALA (The International Migration Policy and Law Analysis Database) under the direction of Michael Hiscox at Harvard University. (2011 – 2012)

Research Assistant for Jens Hainmueller at MIT (2009 – 2011)

Research Assistant for the Comédie Française Registers Project under the direction of Jeffrey Ravel at MIT (2007 – 2011)

Last updated: August 31, 2019