

# Patricia A. Kirkland

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School of International and Public Affairs  
Columbia University

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## Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, 2024–Present

Assistant Professor of Politics and Public Affairs, Princeton University, 2018–2024

Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, 2017–2018

## Education

Ph.D., Political Science, Columbia University, 2017

M.Phil., Political Science, Columbia University, 2014

M.A., Political Science, Columbia University, 2013

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Political Science, Temple University, 2009

## Research and Teaching Interests

Urban Politics, State and Local Politics, Public Policy, Representation, Political Institutions, Budgeting

## Book Project

*Electing CEOs: How Business Owners and Executives Impact Representation in American Cities* (In Progress)

This book examines business owners and executives who serve as mayor in American cities, considering why they run for office, why voters elect them, and how they shape public policy.

## Publications

“Representation in American Cities: Who Runs for Mayor and Who Wins?” 2022. *Urban Affairs Review* 58(3): 635–670.

“Business Owners and Executives as Politicians: The Effect on Public Policy” 2021. *Journal of Politics* 83(4): 1652–1668.

“A Regression Discontinuity Design for Studying Divided Government” with Justin Phillips. 2020. *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 20(3): 356–89.

“Mayoral Candidates, Social Class, and Representation in American Cities” 2020. *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy* 1(1): 105–136. (Invited submission)

**JPIPE’s 2021 Kenneth A. Shepsle Prize**, awarded for the best article of the first volume (2020)

“Is Divided Government a Cause of Legislative Delay?” with Justin Phillips. 2018. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 13(2): 173–206.

“Candidate Choice without Party Labels: New Insights from Conjoint Survey Experiments” with Alexander Coppock. 2018. *Political Behavior* 40(3): 571–591.

## **Working Papers**

“The Democratic Dilemma among Elites: Do Legislators Make More Reasoned Choices than Voters?”  
with Adam Zelizer and Elizabeth Dorssom  
(under review)

“Representation and Revenue in U.S. Local Governments”

“Representing Business: Business Owners and Executives as Political Candidates”

“Imposing Deadlines: The Politics of State Budget Impasse” with Dan Alexander and Justin Phillips

“Lobbying in Divided and Unified Government” with Sebastian Thieme

“Group Bills and Polarized Policymaking: Evidence from Proposal Locations in the California State Legislature” with Jesse Crosson and Mary Kroeger

## **Teaching**

Race and Representation in American Cities, School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University (Fall 2022)

State Politics and American Federalism, Department of Politics, Princeton University (Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2019)

Social Class and Inequality in U.S. Politics, Department of Politics, Princeton University (Spring 2022)

Urban Politics and Policymaking, School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University (Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019)

## **Grants**

University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University, 2020

Data-Driven Social Science Initiative, Princeton University, 2020

Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation, 2017

Dissertation Development Grant, Department of Political Science, Columbia University, 2016

Dissertation Development Grant, Department of Political Science, Columbia University, 2015

Dissertation Development Grant, Department of Political Science, Columbia University, 2014

## **Awards & Fellowships**

Kenneth A. Shepsle Prize, *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*, 2021

Susan Clarke Young Scholars Award, Urban Politics Section, American Political Science Association, 2018

Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 2015, 2016

Teaching Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 2012-2015, 2016-2017

Summer Research Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 2012-2016

Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation, 2012  
Faculty Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 2011-2012

## Conference Presentations

“Representation and Revenue in U.S. Local Governments” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2023  
“Representation and Revenue in U.S. Local Governments” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2023  
“Representing Business: Business Owners and Executives as Political Candidates” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2022  
“Representing Business: Business Owners and Executives as Political Candidates”  
“Electing CEOs” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2021  
“Electing CEOs” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2021  
“Electing CEOs” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2020  
“Group Bills and Polarized Policymaking: Evidence from Proposal Locations in the California State Legislature” with Jesse Crosson and Mary Kroeger, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2020  
“Imposing Deadlines” with Dan Alexander and Justin Phillips. Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2019  
“Lobbying in Divided and Unified Government” with Sebastian Thieme. State Politics & Policy Conference, June 2019  
“Rationalist Explanations for Legislative Impasse” with Dan Alexander and Justin Phillips, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2019  
“Social Class and Representation in American Cities” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2019  
“Social Class and Representation in American Cities” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2018  
“A Regression Discontinuity Design for Studying Divided Government” with Justin Phillips. State Politics & Policy Conference, June 2018  
“Representation in American Cities: Who Runs for Mayor and Who Wins?” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2018  
“The Business of Being Mayor: Mayors and Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities” Local Political Economy Pre-Conference at Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2017  
“America’s Mayors: Descriptive Representation in U.S. Cities” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2017  
“The Business of Being Mayor: Mayors and Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2016  
“The Business of Being Mayor: Mayors and Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities” Politics and History Network Conference, June 2016  
“Does Divided Government Cause Legislative Gridlock?” with Justin Phillips. State Politics & Policy Conference, May 2016  
“The Business of Being Mayor: Mayors and Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2016  
“Candidate Choice in the Presence and Absence of the Party Heuristic” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2016  
“The Business of Being Mayor: Mayors and Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2015

“Does Divided Government Cause Legislative Gridlock?” with Justin Phillips. Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2015  
“Mayors and Fiscal Health” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2015  
“Does Divided Government Cause Legislative Gridlock?” with Justin Phillips. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2015  
“The Business of Being Mayor” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January 2015

## **Invited Talks and Presentations**

“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives in Local Politics.” Department of Political Science, Temple University, October 2023  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives in Local Politics.” American Politics Conference, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, September 2023  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives in Local Politics.” Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University, September 2023  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” American Politics Research Group, Department of Political Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, September 2022  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” Research Workshop in American Politics, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, May 2022  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” The Spatial Dimension of Economic and Political Inequality Workshop, The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, Princeton University, April 2022  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” American Politics Workshop, Department of Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles, March 2022  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” American Politics Speaker Series, Department of Politics, University of Virginia, January 2022  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” American Politics Speaker Series, Political Science Department, University of California Irvine, November 2021  
“Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” American Politics Speaker Series, Political Science Department, University of California San Diego, May 2021  
Nicholas Carnes, Duke University, Discusses Patricia Kirkland, Princeton University: “Electing CEOs: Business Owners and Executives on the Ballot.” Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University, April 2021  
“Executive Politics: Business Executives as Politicians.” American Politics Speaker Series, Political Science Department, University of Pennsylvania, February 2020  
“Social Class and Representation in American Cities.” Political Economy of Executive Politics Symposium, University of Southern California, October 2019  
Discussant (“The Primary Electorate and Party Polarization” by David Doherty, Conor M. Dowling, and Michael G. Miller), Yale Center for the Study of American Politics Summer Workshop, June 2019  
“The Business of Being Mayor: Mayors and Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities.” Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, September 2017  
“Regression Discontinuity Designs.” Columbia Political Science Methods Workshop, December 2015  
“The Business of Being Mayor.” Graduate Student Seminar, Department of Political Science, Columbia University, October 2015  
“Mayors with Money.” Political Economy Breakfast, Columbia University, March 2015  
“Topics in Experimental Methods: Advanced Blocking.” Political Science Methods Workshop, April 2014.  
“List Experiments.” Columbia Political Science Methods Workshop, November 2013

## Departmental Service

Certificate Advisor, Urban Policy, SPIA (2023-2024; 2022-2023; 2021-2022)  
Juniors Advisor, Department of Politics (2023-2024; 2022-2023; 2021-2022)  
Presenter, “Race, Poverty and Inequality in the Americas,” SPIA 500: Race, Power and Inequality (2022)  
MPA Admissions Committee, SPIA (2022, 2021)  
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, SPIA (2021-2022; 2020-2021)  
Senior Thesis Prize Committee, Department of Politics (Spring 2020)  
American Politics Graduate Research Seminar, Department of Politics (Fall 2022, Spring 2021, 2019-2020)  
Senior Thesis Research Funding Committee, Department of Politics, Princeton University (2019)  
Undergraduate Advising Committee, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University (2019-2020)  
Senior Thesis Poster Session Committee, Department of Politics (Spring 2019)  
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University (2018-2019)

## University Service

Faculty Fellow, Scholars Institute Fellows Program, Emma Bloomberg Center for Access and Opportunity (2023-2024; 2022-2023; 2021-2022)

## Professional Service

Editorial Board, *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*, 2023  
Selection Committee, Best Paper on Class and Inequality, APSA Class and Inequality Section, 2022  
Member, Executive Council, APSA Urban and Local Politics Section, 2021-2022  
Selection Committee, Career Achievement Award, APSA State Politics and Policy Section, 2021  
Committee on Financial Assistance, APSA Class and Inequality Section, 2020-2021  
Pandemic Response Committee, APSA Class and Inequality Section, 2020  
Selection Committee, Susan Clarke Young Scholars Award, Urban and Local Politics Section, American Political Science Association, 2019  
Member, Conference Committee, APSA Class and Inequality Section, 2017  
Co-coordinator, Political Science Graduate Student Seminar, Columbia University, 2015-2016

Manuscript Referee, *American Politics Research*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, *Urban Affairs Review*