

Breanna C. Gray

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Maryland, College Park, 2023-present
Assistant Professor, Department of Government and Politics

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Political Science (American Politics)
Graduated: 2022
Dissertation Title: *The Historic Rise of the Rules Committee and the Restrictive Special Rule Revolution in the Contemporary U.S. House of Representatives*
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Daniel J. Hopkins (Chair), Dr. Daniel Q. Gillion, Dr. John S. Lapinski, and Dr. Marc N. Meredith

University of Virginia (UVA), Charlottesville, VA
Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy
Degree: Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.)
Graduated: 2012

Degree: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
Graduated: 2011
Undergraduate Majors: 1) Foreign Affairs 2) French Language and Literature

FELLOWSHIPS and AWARDS

- **John W. Kluge Center Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Library of Congress, 2022-2023**
- **Dissertation Research Award, University of Pennsylvania, \$4600, 2021**
- **University of Pennsylvania's Provost Office and Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Fellowship Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation** with Christopher W. Blair, \$6,000, Fall 2020
- **University of Pennsylvania's Graduate Student Government of the School of Arts and Sciences Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania, \$2,000, Spring 2020**
- **University of Pennsylvania's Provost Office and Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Fellowship Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation** with Christopher W. Blair, \$6,000, Fall 2019
- **University of Michigan's Inter-University Consortium of Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Scholarship, Summer 2018**
- **Dr. William Fontaine Fellow** (full tuition scholarship), University of Pennsylvania, 2016-2022
- **Benjamin Franklin Fellow** (full tuition scholarship), University of Pennsylvania, 2016-2022
- **Perry World House Graduate Associate, University of Pennsylvania, 2017-2018**
- **U.S. Department of Homeland Security Joint Awards Committee Award Recipient, 2012-2014**
- **Ralph Bunche International Society Scholarship Recipient, Morocco, Summer 2009**

PROJECTS and WORKING PAPERS

- *Legislating With Privilege: The Power and Influence of Special Rules in the U.S. House of Representatives* (book project)
- “Examining the Post-1990 Shift in the Use of Restrictive Special Rules in the U.S. House of Representatives” (Accepted to University College London’s Centre on U.S. Politics Working Paper Series in American Politics, June 2022)
- [Congressional Special Rules Data Project](#) (original data collection)
- [Freedman’s Education During Reconstruction Data Project](#) (original data collection)
- “40 Acres and a School: Legacies of Freedmen’s Education on Black Civic Engagement” (work in progress with Christopher W. Blair)

PRESENTATIONS and CONFERENCES

John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress, Work in Progress Lecture, 2023

University of Georgia, Department of Political Science Speaker Series Presenter, August 2021

- “The Restrictive Rule Revolution in the U.S. House of Representatives”

University of Virginia, Public Service Week Research Talk and Keynote Speaker, March 2021

- “The Restrictive Rule Revolution in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Impending Challenges that Special Rules Pose for Deliberative Democracy”

National Society of Black Engineers Meeting Guest Speaker, 2020, Philadelphia, PA

- “40 Acres and a School: Legacies of Freedmen’s Education on Black Civic Engagement”

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting Paper Presenter, 2019, Washington, DC

- “40 Acres and a School: Legacies of Freedmen’s Education on Black Civic Engagement” (co-authored with Christopher W. Blair)

Political Science Guest Lecturer, Spring 2019, University of Pennsylvania

- PSCI 231 (with Professor Daniel Gillion): Race and Ethnic Politics: “The Freedmen’s Bureau: Black Education During Reconstruction”

Fontaine Society Research Colloquium Presenter, 2018, University of Pennsylvania

- “Linking Fates to Boost Commitment to Political Participation”

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS and TRAINING

Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania, 2017-2019

Taught three weekly recitations and graded all student work for approximately 200 students

- Race and Ethnic Politics (Spring 2019) with Professor Daniel Gillion
- Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2018) with Professor Edward Mansfield
- Modern American Constitutional Law (Spring 2018) with Professor Rogers Smith
- International Political Economy (Fall 2017) with Professor Mark Pollack

Certificate in College and University Teaching, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, 2019

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS and TRAINING (continued)

Certificate in Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM), University of Michigan, Summer 2018, Ann Arbor, MI

Inter-University Consortium of Political and Social Research, University of Michigan, Summer 2018, Ann Arbor, MI (two university credits received for course work completed)

- Regression Analysis II
- Math for Social Scientists II
- Mathematical Models for Rational Choice Theories of Politics and Society
- Introduction to Computing (SPSS, STATA, Python, and R)
- R Statistical Computing Environment

University of Pennsylvania, 2016-2018, Philadelphia, PA

- Statistical Analysis for Political Science
- Statistics for Public Policy
- Mixed Methods Research

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress, Article One Post-Doctoral Fellowship
July 2022-present, Washington, DC

- Collecting data from primary and secondary source congressional rules materials at the largest and most comprehensive library in the world
- Reviewing, coding, and analyzing archived special rules bills assigned by the House Committee on Rules to better understand the rise in restrictive special rule assignments in the 1990s
- Engaging members of Congress and congressional staff through formal and informal meetings to develop a repository of information about special rules while documenting members' experiences working with the House Committee on Rules

Congressional Special Rules Data Project (CSRDP), 2020-present

- Creating an original database of more than 2,500 House bills that the House Committee on Rules assigns special rules from the 107th-116th Congresses
- Collecting data using a variety of sources including, but not limited to, the House Committee on Rules' archives, the *Policy Agendas Project* (E. Scott Adler and John Wilkerson), the Library of Congress' Congress.gov repository of House bills, GovTrack.us (Joshua Tauberer), and the *Legislative Effectiveness Scores* dataset (Craig Volden and Alan Wiseman)
- Data collection efforts received University of Pennsylvania Dissertation Research Award, 2021

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (continued)

Freedmen's Education During Reconstruction (FEDR) Dataset, 2019-present

Co-authored work with Christopher W. Blair

- Creating an original database containing more than 5,000 datapoints detailing the educational opportunities provided to African American freedmen (and freedwomen) during Reconstruction
- FEDR research has been generously funded by the Office of the University Provost, the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) and the Graduate School Government of the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) at the University of Pennsylvania

Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service (CRS), Social Science Research Assistant,
Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division, International Trade & Finance Branch,
May-August 2018, May-August 2017, Washington, DC

- Researched alongside CRS experts to develop non-partisan, data-driven policy products that equipped congressional members and their staffs with the necessary tools to create, support, and/or reject legislative proposals
- Assisted CRS specialists in preparing for briefings with congressional staff and attended hearings and briefings on relevant topics pertaining to legislative procedures, immigration, and international trade

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP),
December 2011-May 2012, Washington, DC

- Evaluated the efficiency of the Importer Self-Assessment (ISA) and Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) programs—two CBP initiatives launched to recognize and afford benefits to pre-screened, trade-compliant companies and to minimize security risks through trade
- Conducted a policy analysis project regarding the aforementioned CBP programs and documented this research in a report for the Office of International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP),
May 2010-May 2012, Washington, DC

- Conducted a multi-year research project for the International Trade Data System (ITDS) Branch
- Created an impact analysis report, with a team of CBP experts, to implement the ITDS. The implementation of ITDS resulted in massive CBP and PGA cost savings, expedited entry processing, paperwork reduction, and increased reliability of information from the trade community
- Collected and analyzed trade data that Field Officers report from U.S. Customs and Border Protection's 300 ports of entry
- Provided statistical analyses to better determine high volume U.S. ports and the types of products entering these ports

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- *American Political Science Association*
- *National Conference of Black Political Scientists*
- *National Capital Area Political Science Association*

REFERENCES

- Daniel J. Hopkins, Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, danhop@sas.upenn.edu
- Daniel Q. Gillion, Julie Beren Platt & Marc E. Platt Presidential Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, dgillion@sas.upenn.edu
- Marc N. Meredith, Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, marcmere@sas.upenn.edu

WORK EXPERIENCE

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Congressional Liaison Specialist, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, February 2014-August 2016, Washington, DC

- CBP liaison responsible for preparing U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) senior leaders for congressional engagements (e.g., congressional hearings and briefings)
- Coordinated more than 50 congressional member and staff delegations to CBP facilities to provide insight on CBP operations at official U.S. Ports of Entry and along U.S. borders

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, International Trade Specialist, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of International Trade (OT), July 2012-February 2014, Washington, DC

- CBP liaison responsible for working with importers from various industries to evaluate and build upon their systems of internal control to reduce risk in business transactions and to achieve trade compliance with CBP laws and regulations
- Participated on the strategic policy team to draft Federal Register Notices (FRNs) for two new Trade Initiatives: 1) Focused Assessment (FA) to Importer Self-Assessment (ISA) Transition Program and 2) Broker ISA Pre-Certification Pilot Program

Office of (former) U.S. Congressman Albert R. Wynn (D-MD), Publicity Staff & Office Manager, May 2005-June 2005, Upper Marlboro, MD

- Conducted independent research and prepared executive summaries to assist Congressman Wynn and his Chief of Staff in developing policy proposals for constituent inquiries.
- Collected and managed responses that were provided to constituent letters, telephone calls, and general correspondence for Congressman Wynn
- Attended district meetings and events for Congressman Wynn as a representative of his office

Office of Associate County Attorney Eugene Pickett, Office of the Chief of Police Melvin C. High, Administrative Assistant, July 2005-August 2005, Hyattsville, MD

- Reviewed incoming cases assigned to County Attorney Pickett and assisted in analyzing police department evidence in preparation for use in court proceedings
- Provided weekly memorandums to Attorney Pickett to advise him on the status of his current workload, meetings, and obligations related to court proceedings
- Attended police department meetings and designed trial notebooks to help prepare Attorney Pickett for cases/court