

CURRICULUM VITAE
BRITTANY R. LEACH

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EDUCATION

PhD, Politics, University of Virginia – 2020.

Dissertation Title: “Death Before Birth: Theorizing Pregnant Embodiment, Reproductive Autonomy, and the Politics of Abortion.”

Committee: Lawrie Balfour (Chair), Stephen K. White, Denise Walsh, Murad Idris, Allison Pugh.

MA, Political Science and International Affairs, University of Georgia – 2014.

Thesis Title: “Beyond the Identity Quandary: A Relational Theory of Subjectivity.”

Committee: Alexander Kaufman (Chair), Sean Ingham, Cas Mudde.

BA, Political Science, University of Texas at Dallas – 2012.

POSITIONS

2022-present	Assistant Professor, School of Anthropology Political Science & Sociology, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.
2020-2022	Lecturer, Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Virginia.
Summer 2020	Digital Pedagogy Intern, University of Virginia.
2019-2020	Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellow, Citizens & Scholars Foundation (formerly the Woodrow Wilson Foundation).
2018-2019	Instructor, Department of Politics, University of Virginia.
2016-2018	Assistant Editor, <i>Political Theory</i>.
2015-2019	Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Virginia.
2012-2014	Research Assistant, University of Georgia.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS (ALL SOLO-AUTHORED)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2022	“At the Borders of the Body Politic: Fetal Citizens, Pregnant Migrants, and Reproductive Injustices in Immigration Detention.” <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 116(1): 116-130.
2021	“Abjection and Mourning in the Struggle over Fetal Remains.” <i>Contemporary Political Theory</i>, 20(1): 141-164.
2020	“Who’s Backlashing Against Whom? Feminism, Backlash, and the American Pro-Life Movement’s ‘Mother-Child Strategy.’” <i>Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society</i>, 45(2): 319-328.

Scholarly Book Reviews

Forthcoming	Book Review on Lorna Bracewell’s <i>Why We Lost the Sex Wars: Sexual Freedom in the #MeToo Era in Politics & Gender</i>. Online First: https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X22000368
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INVITED TALKS

“Reproductive Justice Without Borders: Notes on Abortion Rights and the Nation.” Illinois State University, Department of Politics and Government, Post-Roe Reproductive Justice Speaker Series. October 25, 2022.

COURSES TAUGHT

Southern Illinois University (Carbondale):

- **Politics of Diversity in the United States** (POLS 215) – Fall 2022
- **Gender and Global Politics** (POLS 456/WGSS 446) – Fall 2022
- **Women & the Law** (POLS 438/WGSS 438) – Spring 2023
- **Seminar in Race and Ethnic Relations** (SOC 552) – Spring 2023

University of Virginia:

- **“Feminist Theory”** (WGS 3810) – Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2020, Fall 2021.
- **“Reproductive Justice”** (WGS 3559) – Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022.
- **“Feminism, Capitalism, & Alternatives”** (WGS 3559) – Spring 2022.
- **“Topics in Political Theory: Intersectionality & Identity”** (PLPT3500) – Summer 2019.
- **“Transnational Feminism”** (WGS 3340) – Fall 2020, Spring 2021.
- **“Political Theory & Identity Politics”** – Summer 2018. Short course for the Mellon Foundation’s LAMI FYRE graduate preparatory program for students from underrepresented backgrounds.
- Teaching assistant for PLPT 3020 “Modern Political Thought” (Fall 2015 & Spring 2019) and PLPT 1010 “Introduction to Political Theory (Spring 2016 & Fall 2018).

Guest Lecturing:

- **University Honors 351M, “Honors Seminar Multicultural: Snapshots of U.S./Mexico Border: Politics of Care & Resistance”** (Prof. Francesca Dennstedt) – Topic: Reproductive injustices on the border. SIUC, 2022.
- **COMM 1916, “Reproductive Justice”** (Prof. Emily Winderman) –Topic: Reproductive injustice against immigrants. University of Minnesota, Communication Studies, 2022.
- **HBIO 4820, “Human Biology Capstone II”** (Prof. Michael Timko) – Topic: Feminist perspectives on human biology. University of Virginia (UVA), Department of Biology, 2022.
- **WGS 3810, “Feminist Theory”** (Prof. Denise Walsh) – Topic: Co-editing the Backlash Symposium. UVA, Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGS), 2019.
- **WGS 7559 “Approaches to Gender & Sexuality Studies”** (Prof. Denise Walsh, UVA) – Topic: Feminist Theories of Embodiment. UVA, WGS, 2017.
- **PLCP 3500, “Democracy and Party Formation”** (Instructor Marina Omar, VA) – Topic: Political Parties in Advanced Industrial States. UVA, Department of Politics, 2017.
- **INTL 1100H, “Introduction to Global Issues (Honors)”** (Instructor Melanie Kolbe) – Topic: Feminist Theories of International Relations. University of Georgia, International Affairs, 2013.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2023 “Reproducing Empire: Decolonial Feminist Critique & US/Global Pro-Life Discourses,” Accepted for presentation at the 2023 *American Political Science Association*.

“Feminism Against the Political? Rethinking Social Reproduction Theory and the State/Society/Economy Distinction.” Accepted for presentation at the 2023 *Western Political Science Association*.

- 2022** “From Survival, Vitality and Autonomy: Mutual Aid as Prefigurative Social Reproduction.” *Western Political Science Association*.
- 2019** “Enacting Reproductive Autonomy, Prefiguring Feminist Futures: Safe but Illegal Abortions as Feminist Counterpractice.” *Western Political Science Association, American Political Science Association, and University of Virginia Political Theory Colloquium*.
- 2018** “Mourning, Abjection, and Pregnant Embodiment in Debates Over Fetus Funeral Laws.” *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*.
- Dissertation project presented at the Interpretation & Methods short course on “Activism, Advocacy, and/vs. Scholarship.” *American Political Science Association*.
- “Deliberation and Embodied Confrontation in Charlottesville: Contesting White Supremacy in Local Public Forums and the Streets.” *Western Political Science Association*. Also presented in 2023 at the SIU SAPPs Brown Bag.
- 2017** “Rethinking Articulation Theory Through the Podemos Party’s Activist Praxis.” *Southern States Communication Association*.
- “Intersectionality and the Politics of Miscounting: A Feminist Reconstruction of Jacques Rancière’s Political Subject.” *University of Virginia Politics Graduate Conference and University of Pennsylvania Political Science Graduate Student Conference*.
- 2016** “Marginalized Bodies, Unimaginable Lives: Cultivating a Habit of Ethical Imagination in Emergencies.” *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*.
- 2015** “Weak Ontology, Strong Politics: Ontopolitical Strategy for Agonistic Democrats.” *University of Virginia Politics Graduate Conference*.
- “Ask Me What I’m Asking For: SlutWalk, Feminism, and Transnational Protest.” *University of Virginia Politics Graduate Conference*.
- 2014** “Feminism and the Identity Quandary: Possibilities for Articulating a Post-Subjective Politics.” *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*.
- 2013** “SlutWalk and Sovereignty: Transnational Protest as Emergent Global Democracy.” *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, the University of Georgia Interdisciplinary Research Conference, and the Friday Forum at the University of Georgia Center for the Study of Global Issues*.
- “After Sovereignty: Theorizing Transnational Pluralism as Post-National Democratic Practice.” *Georgia State University’s Political Science Graduate Student Research Conference*.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2019** **Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship**, Citizens & Scholars Foundation (previously the Woodrow Wilson Foundation).
- 2016** **Prestage-Cook Travel Award**, Southern Political Science Association.
- 2015** **UVA Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Fellowship.**
Awarded to finance attendance at the Bologna-Duke Summer School.
- 2013** **Travel funding for the Public Choice Outreach Conference**, George Mason University.
- Winner of Best Paper Award (MA & First Year PhD Division) & Nominee for Best Paper (Open Division)**, Georgia State University Political Science (Graduate) Research Conference.
- 2012** **Peter Mekis Memorial Scholarship**, University of Georgia.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- **Speaker at “Visions of a Post-Roe Carbondale.”** Event organized by SIU YDSA, Rainbow Café, University Honors, and the Southern Illinois Reproductive Justice Network. Sept. 2022.
- **Interviewed by journalist Joseph Winters of *The Grist*** on reproductive justice and policy responses to protect bodily autonomy. August 3, 2022. Quoted in this article: <https://grist.org/accountability/the-problem-with-corporate-pledges-to-protect-abortion-access-and-the-climate/>
- **Invited Blog Post: “Feminist Futures: Reimagining Arguments for Abortion.”** *The Gender Policy Report*, University of Minnesota, July 2022. <https://genderpolicyreport.umn.edu/feminist-futures-reimagining-arguments-for-abortion/>
- **Invited Blog Post: “A world without Roe v. Wade: understanding the Supreme Court’s likely ruling and what to do about it.”** *USAPP American Politics and Policy Blog*, London School of Economics, May 2022. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2022/05/10/a-world-without-roe-v-wade-understanding-the-supreme-courts-likely-ruling-and-what-to-do-about-it/>
- **Invited Blog Post: “‘Fetal Citizens’ or ‘Anchor Babies’? Explaining reproductive injustice against immigrants & what feminists should do about it.”** *London School of Economics USAPP American Politics and Policy Blog*, September 2021. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2021/09/24/fetal-citizens-or-anchor-babies-explaining-reproductive-injustice-against-immigrants-and-what-feminists-should-do-about-it/>
- Selected for the **APSR Public Scholarship program** (a graduate student fellow summarized my article for APSA’s public-facing website, with my guidance), September 2021. <https://politicalsciencenow.com/unborn-citizens-or-anchor-babies-reproductive-injustice-in-immigrant-detention/>
- **“Foucault, Butler, and Post-Structuralist Feminist Theory,”** guest appearance on UVA student podcast, May 2021.
- **“From Socialist Feminist Rabble-Rouser to Ally of the Eugenics Movement: Confronting the Complexities of Margaret Sanger’s Legacy,”** invited talk with Planned Parenthood Generation Action (student organization), April 2021.
- **Interview on Reproductive Justice with student NARAL Pro-Choice Advocacy Fellows**, April 2021.

- **“Social Reproduction,”** public educational talk for the local chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America, January 2021.

SERVICE & OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Discipline

- **Panel Chair**, 30.04 “Body Talk: Embodied Feminist Politics.” *Western Political Science Association*. March 2023.
- **Selection Committee Member for the Okin-Young Award in Feminist Political Theory**, sponsored by the American Political Science Association’s Women, Gender, and Politics Research Section, Foundations of Political Theory, and the Women’s Caucus for Political Science. 2023.
- Invited to the **Contemporary Feminist Theory Virtual Community** (affiliated with WPSA) to discuss my article and the process of publishing in the APSR as a feminist researcher. May 2, 2022.
- **APSR “Conversations with Authors” interview**, April 2022.
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/blog/2022/04/03/conversations-with-authors-at-the-borders-of-the-body-politic/>
- **Peer Reviewer** for the *American Political Science Review*, *Politics & Gender*, and *Language Sciences*.

University

- SIUC
 - Mentored graduate students in Sociology & Political Science, 2022-present.
 - **Political Science Committee**, 2022-present.
 - **Sociology Committee**, 2022-present.
 - **Graduate Committee (Sociology)**, 2022-present.
 - **Penny Severns Women’s Public Service Scholarship Committee** member, Spring 2023.
 - Organized **Pre-Tenure Faculty Writing Group on Race, Gender, & Sexuality**. 2022-present.
 - **Undergraduate Advisor**, Sociology, 2022-present.
 - **Search Committee** member, Sociology, 2022-2023.
- Previous
 - **Panelist, Admitted (Graduate) Students Visit Day**, UVA Politics, 2018-2021.
 - **Assistant Coordinator, Political Theory Colloquium**. 2016-2018.
 - **Discussant for the Political Theory Colloquium and the Political Philosophy, Politics and Law Colloquium**, UVA. Commented on papers by Linda Zerilli, Heath Fogg Davis, Roxanne Euben, and Lia Yu. 2016-2018.
 - **Assistant Coordinator and Roundtable Panelist, Diversity Visit Day**. Recruitment event for students from historically under-represented groups. UVA, 2015-2016.
 - **President, Political Theory Reading Group and Speaker Series**, University of Georgia. 2013-2014.
 - **Co-Chair, Editorial Committee, University of Georgia Interdisciplinary Research Conference**. Organized conference and reviewed submissions. 2012-2013.

Other Professional Training & Activity

- **The Duke-Bologna Summer School on Global Studies and Critical Theory**, University of Bologna, June-July 2015.
- **Panel Moderator Training**, University of Georgia Center for Teaching & Learning, May 2013.
- **Participant in the American Founding Reading Group and Political Theory Reading Group & Speaker Series**, University of Georgia, 2012-2014.
- **Member of the Intercollegiate Policy (NDT/CEDA) Debate Team**, University of Texas at Dallas. Fall 2008-Fall 2010.

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (proficient reading/writing, basic speaking/listening)

[Updated 03-19-2023]