

Michael P. Fix

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Political Science
Georgia State University
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Atlanta, GA 30303

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Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Georgia State University, 2018–
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Georgia State University, 2011–
2018

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of South Carolina, 2011
Master of Arts in Political Science, University of Kentucky, 2008
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Classics, University of Kentucky, 2006
Associate of Arts, Somerset Community College, 2004

Publications

Books

Fix, Michael P., and Benjamin J. Kassow. 2020. *U.S. Supreme Court Doctrine in the State High Courts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. *Forthcoming*.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Fix, Michael P. and Bailey R. Fairbanks. 2020. “The Effect of Opinion Readability on the Impact of U.S. Supreme Court Precedents in State High Courts.” *Social Science Quarterly*. 101(2): 811–824

Curry, Todd A., and Michael P. Fix. 2019. “May It Please the Twitterverse: The Use of Twitter by State High Court Judges.” *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*. 16(4): 379–393.

Fix, Michael P. 2018. “Understanding the Mechanisms Driving the Evolution of Obscenity Law in Five Common Law Countries.” *Journal of Comparative Law*. 13(2): 147–163.

Fix, Michael P., and Joshua L. Mitchell. 2017. "Examining the Policy Learning Dynamics of Atypical Policies with an Application to State Preemption of Local Dog Laws." *Statistics, Politics and Policy*. 8(2): 223–247.

Fix, Michael P., Justin T. Kingsland, and Matthew D. Montgomery. 2017. "The Complexities of State Court Compliance with U.S. Supreme Court Precedent." *Justice System Journal*. 38(2): 149–163.

Fix, Michael P. 2016. "The Evolution of Obscenity Standards in the Common Law World." *Journal of Comparative Law*. 11(2): 75–99

Franklin, Daniel P., and Michael P. Fix. 2016. "The Best of Times and the Worst of Times: Polarization and Presidential Success in Congress." *Congress and the Presidency*. 43(3): 377–394.

Fix, Michael P. 2016. "A Universal Standard for Obscenity? The Importance of Context and Other Considerations." *Justice System Journal*. 37(1): 72–88.

Butz, Adam M., Michael P. Fix, and Joshua L. Mitchell. 2015. "Policy Learning and the Diffusion of Stand-Your-Ground Laws." *Politics & Policy*. 43(3): 347–377

Fix, Michael P. 2014. "Does Deference Depend on Distinction? Issue Salience and Judicial Decision Making in Administrative Law Cases." *Justice System Journal*. 35(2):122–138.

Kassow, Benjamin, Donald R. Songer, and Michael P. Fix. 2012. "The Influence of Precedent on State Supreme Courts." *Political Research Quarterly* 65(June): 372–384.

Randazzo, Kirk A., Richard W. Waterman, and Michael P. Fix. 2011. "State Supreme Courts and the Effects of Statutory Constraint." *Political Research Quarterly* 64(Dec.): 790–802.

Reprinted in Randazzo, Kirk A. and Richard W. Waterman. 2014. *Checking the Courts: Law, Ideology, and Contingent Discretion*. Albany, NY: SUNY Press.

Fix, Michael P., and Kirk A. Randazzo. 2010. "Judicial Deference and National Security: Applications of the Political Question and Act of State Doctrines." *Democracy and Security* 6(1): 1–16.

Law Review Articles

Fix, Michael P. and Gbemende E. Johnson. 2017. "Public Perceptions of Gender Bias in the Decisions of Female State Court Judges." *Vanderbilt Law Review* 70(6): 1845–1886.

Book Reviews

Fix, Michael P. 2020. "Giving the Strawman a Brain: Integrating Law and Politics in Understanding the Supreme Court." *Journal of Politics*. *Forthcoming*.

Fix, Michael P. 2012. Review of *The Israeli Supreme Court and the Human Rights Revolution: Courts as Agenda Setters* by Assaf Meydani. *Law and Politics Book Review*. 22(Dec.) 536–538.

Other Publications

Fix, Michael P. 2020. "Hicklin Rule (U.K.)." In *The SAGE International Encyclopedia of Mass Media and Society*, ed. Debra L. Merskin. Sage. *Forthcoming*.

Fix, Michael P. and Justin T. Kingsland. 2020. "Miller Test (U.S.)." In *The SAGE International Encyclopedia of Mass Media and Society*, ed. Debra L. Merskin. Sage. *Forthcoming*.

Dias, Clarissa, and Michael Fix. 2012. "Measuring Judicial Independence." *Law and Courts Newsletter* 22(Winter): 21–25.

Fix, Michael P., and Elizabeth E. Wheat. 2011. "Reevaluating Our Conceptualization of Upperdogs and Underdogs." *Law and Courts Newsletter* 21(Winter): 7–11.

Fix, Michael P. 2009. "Bailey v. Drexel Furniture Company" and "Yick Wo v. Hopkins." In *Encyclopedia of the United States Constitution*, ed. David Schultz. New York: Facts on File

Fix, Michael P. 2008. "Bantam Books v. Sullivan" and "U.S. v. 12 200-ft. Reels of Film." In *Encyclopedia of the First Amendment*, ed. David Hudson, Jr., David Schultz, and John R. Vile. Washington: CQ Press.

Working Papers

"The Politics of Judicial Reform: State Adoptions of Intermediate Appellate Courts" (with Joseph Ross and Justin Kingsland). *Currently being revised for journal submission*.

"Examining the Interconnectedness of State High Court Twitter" (with Todd Curry and Michael Romano). *Currently being revised for journal submission*.

"Rigid Rules and Slippery Standards: How the Nature of US Supreme Court Precedents Impacts Subsequent State Court Treatments" (with Matthew Montgomery and Justin Kingsland). *Currently being revised for journal submission*.

"Does US Supreme Court Precedent Affect the Text of Future Opinions?" (with Bailey Fairbanks and Robert Reese). *Currently being revised for journal submission*.

“State High Court Decision Making: Do Courts Defer to the Executive?” (with Ivanka Bergova and Natalie Rogol).

Grants and Awards

Georgia State Center for Human Rights and Democracy, Project Leader Award. “Examining Variation in State Punitiveness.” (with Mike Evans), 2012 [\$5000].

Southern Political Science Association, Artinian Award, 2012 [\$250].

Southern Political Science Association, Prestage-Cook Travel Award, 2011 [\$250].

Invited Talks

“Diffusion and Reinvention of U.S. Supreme Court Morality Policy,” Department Colloquium, Department of Political Science, University of Alabama, December 1, 2017.

“Perceptions of Gender Bias in Public Attitudes towards the Decisions of Female Judges” (with Gbemende Johnson), Vanderbilt Law Review Symposium, Vanderbilt Law School, March 31, 2017.

Conference Presentations

2020

“Does Precedent Affect the Text of Future Opinions? The Case of the *Miller* Test and Factual Descriptions in State High Court Decisions” (with Bailey Fairbanks and Robert Reese). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, at San Juan, PR.

2019

“Examining the Interconnectedness of State High Court Twitter” (with Todd Curry and Michael Romano). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, at Washington, D.C.

“How State High Courts Use (or not) U.S. Supreme Court 2nd Amendment Precedents” (with Benjamin Kassow). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, at Washington, D.C.

“Examining the Interconnectedness of State High Court Twitter” (with Todd Curry and Michael Romano). Presented at the State Politics and Policy Conference, University of Maryland.

“State High Court Usage of *Lemon v. Kurtzman*: Why Do State High Courts (Sometimes) Ignore Precedent?” (with Benjamin Kassow). Presented at the State Politics and Policy Conference, University of Maryland.

“Masters of Their Own Domain: Explaining Variation in State High Court Responses to *Atkins v. Virginia*” (with Benjamin Kassow). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Austin, TX.

“State High Court Decision Making: Do Courts Defer to the Executive?” (with Ivanka Bergova and Natalie Rogol). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Austin, TX.

2018

“Explaining State Adoptions of Intermediate Appellate Courts” (with Justin T. Kingsland and Joseph V. Ross). Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Boston, MA.

“May It Please the Twitterverse: The Use of Twitter by State High Court Judges” (with Todd Curry) Presented at the State Politics and Policy Conference, Pennsylvania State University.

“State Court Compliance with U.S. Supreme Court Precedents” (with Justin Kingsland). Presented at the Conference on Institutions and Law Making, Emory University.

“Rigid Rules and Slippery Standards: How the Nature of US Supreme Court Precedents Impacts Subsequent State Court Treatments” (with Justin Kingsland and Matthew Montgomery). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

“Citizens Suits under the Clean Air Act: Does Increased Access Level the Playing Field?” (with Elizabeth Wheat). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

2017

“Understanding the Mechanisms Driving the Evolution of Obscenity Law in Five Common Law Countries.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

“Perceptions of Gender Bias in Public Attitudes towards the Decisions of Female Judges” (with Gbemende Johnson). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

2016

“Does Obfuscation Breed Obscurity? The Relationship between Opinion Readability and Citations on the U.S. Supreme Court” (Bailey Fairbanks). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“Testing the Miller Test: Evaluating Its Impact on Obscenity Cases in State High Court” (with Matthew Montgomery and Justin Kingsland). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

2014

“Does Obfuscation Breed Obscurity? The (Non) Relationship between Opinion Readability and Citations” (Bailey Fairbanks). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“Measuring the Influence of American States in Congress” (with Daniel Franklin and Brian Webb). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“Innovation and Diffusion of Stand-Your-Ground Policies in the U.S. States” (with Adam Butz). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

2013

“Measuring the Punitive Intentions of State Governments” (with Michael Evans). Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, at Boston, MA.

“Innovation and Diffusion of Self-Defense Policies in the U.S. States” (with Adam Butz). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

2012

“Conservative Framing of Right Claims in U.S. Supreme Court Cases, 1950-2010” (with Susanne Schorpp). Prepared for Presentation at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

“The Dangers of Stargazing: Why Too Much Focus of Statistical Significance Distracts from the Substantive Significance in Presenting Empirical Results” (with Ian Smith). Prepared for Presentation at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

“A Universal Standard for Obscenity? The Importance of Context and Other Considerations” (with Natalie Jackson). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“Taking a Hint: Strategic Crafting of Briefs in Response to Supreme Court Treatment of Rights Claims” (with Susanne Schorpp). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“The Language of Rights at the U.S. Supreme Court” (with Susanne Schorpp and Shenita Brazelton). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

2011

Fix, Michael P. 2011. “Identifying Shifts in Judicial Deference to Administrative Agencies over Time.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“Addressing Potential Imbalance in Multilevel Data Due to Variation in Observations Per Group” (with Lee Walker). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

“Are All Agencies Equal: An Examination of Variation in Agency Success Rates in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

2010

“Are We Testing What We Think We’re Testing? A Theoretical Evaluation of Methods for Testing Hypotheses About Temporal Changepoints.” Presented at the Saint Louis Area Methods Meeting, at Saint Louis, MO.

“A Signaling Game of Judicial Review and Agency Implementation.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Atlanta, GA.

2009

“The Strategic Presidency During Confirmation: Rhetoric, Uncertainty, and the Selling of Supreme Court Nominees” (with Daniel Morey and Kirk Randazzo). Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Toronto, ON, Canada.

“State Supreme Courts and the Effects of Statutory Constraint: A Test of the Model of Contingent Discretion” (with Kirk Randazzo and Richard Waterman). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

“The Influence of Precedent on State Supreme Courts” (with Benjamin Kassow and Donald Songer). Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at New Orleans, LA.

2008

“Public Trust in Courts as a Facilitating Mechanism in Democratization” (with Kirk Randazzo). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

2007

“Statutory Constraint and State Supreme Court Judges: A Test of the Contingent Attitudinal Model” (with Kirk Randazzo and Richard Waterman). Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, at Chicago, IL.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Courses Taught

Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2019)

Advanced Quantitative Methods (Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019)

Special Topics in Research Methods: Game Theory and Its Application (Summer 2014, Spring 2017)

State Politics and Policy (Fall 2018)

Undergraduate Courses Taught

American Constitutional Law (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Summer 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Spring 2020)

Civil Liberties and Rights (Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Summer 2019)

Judicial Process and Courts (Spring 2012, Summer 2012, Summer 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014, Summer 2015, Summer 2016, Summer 2017, Fall 2018)

Honors Seminar: Outer Limits of Free Speech, GSU Honors College (Fall 2019)

American Government (Summer 2013, Summer 2015)

Senior Seminar: Scientific Study of Law and Courts (Fall 2012)

Dissertation Committees

Co-Chair, Bailey Fairbanks, in-progress.

Member, Reagan Pritchett, in progress.

Member, Alban Lauka, in progress.

Member, Matthew Montgomery, PhD awarded Spring 2019.

Member, Kurt Hitzeman, PhD awarded Fall 2018.

Member, Shenita Brazelton, PhD awarded Summer 2014.

Member, Clarissa Dias, PhD awarded Fall 2013.

MA Non-Thesis Committees

Chair, Adam Smiley, MA awarded Spring 2016.

Chair, Bailey Fairbanks, MA awarded Fall 2015.

Member, Diana White, MA awarded Spring 2015.

MA Thesis Committees

Member, Eric Harrison, MA awarded Spring 2013.

Undergraduate Supervision

Robert Reese, Humanities Research Center, Humanities Inclusivity Program Mentor, Fall 2019–

Savannah Rogers, GSU Honors College, Presidential Assistantship Supervisor, Fall 2018–

Kreshae Green, Internship Supervisor, Spring 2020

Rose Newell, Internship Supervisor, Summer 2019

Rhonda Frost, Directed Readings, Spring 2019

Savannah Rogers, Internship Supervisor, Spring 2019

Justin Townsend, Internship Supervisor, Spring 2019

Balean Reid, Internship Supervisor, Summer 2017

Payton Reed, Directed Readings, Summer 2017

Bailey Fairbanks, GSU Honors College, Presidential Assistantship Supervisor, Fall 2012–Spring 2013

University, College, & Department Service

Georgia State University

Member, University Senate, 2018–

GSU College of Arts & Sciences

Program Coordinator, BIS–Law and Society, 2018–

Member, Interdisciplinary Studies Subcommittee, 2018–

Political Science Department

Field Coordinator, Research Methods Comprehensive Exam Committee, 2020–

Member, Ad hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, 2019–

Member, Identity Politics Search Committee, 2019–2020

Member, Executive Committee, 2015–2016, 2017–2018

Member, Lecturer Search Committee, 2014–2015

Member, Graduate Committee, 2012–2014

Member, Public Law Search Committee, 2011–2012

Member, Research Methods Comprehensive Exam Committee, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019

Member, Public Law Comprehensive Exam Committee, 2017, 2018

Professional Service

Professional Association Service

Moderator, Law and Courts Listserv, Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association, 2020–

Chair, Nominations Committee, Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association, 2020

Section Chair, Judicial Politics, Southern Political Science Association, 2020.

Member, Diane Blair Award Committee, Southern Political Science Association, 2020

Member, Best Conference Paper Award Committee, Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association, 2018

Member, Ad Hoc Committee to Explore Endowment of Section Awards, Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association, 2013

Conference Panel Service

Chair, “Problems and Promises: Confronting Questions of Inclusivity in Judicial Politics Research,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Jan. 9–11, 2020.

Chair, “State of the Field: Judicial Politics Research in 2020,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Jan. 9–11, 2020.

Chair and Discussant, “State Courts and Officials,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Jan. 9–11, 2020.

Discussant, “State Courts,” State Politics and Policy Conference, Pennsylvania State University, June 7–9, 2018.

Discussant, “Exploring Constitutional Topics,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Jan. 12–14, 2017.

Chair and Discussant, “Groups and Interests,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Apr. 7–10, 2016.

Discussant, “Judicial Institutions and Bureaucratic Decision Making,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Apr. 3–6, 2014.

Chair, Roundtable, “Advances in Court–Bureaucracy Research,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, Jan. 3–5, 2013.

Chair, “Dissertation Mini Conference: Judicial Politics in the U.S.,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, Jan. 3–5, 2013.

Chair and Discussant, “The U.S. Supreme Court,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, Jan. 3–5, 2013.

Discussant, “Judicial Decision Making in Comparative Context,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Apr. 12–15, 2012.

Discussant, “Advances in Measurement and Pond Crossing,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Jan. 12–14, 2012.

Discussant, “Decisionmaking on State Supreme Courts,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Jan. 12–14, 2012.

Reviewer

National Science Foundation

Time-sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences

American Journal of Political Science

American Politics Research

American Review of Politics

Journal of Economics and Politics

Journal of Politics

Journal of Law and Courts

Justice System Journal

Law & Society Review

Policy Studies Journal

Research and Politics

Policy & Politics

Politics & Policy

State Politics & Policy Quarterly

University of California Press

Oxford University Press

Pearson

Sage Press

Westview Press

References

Available upon request.