

David A. Hopkins

Professor
Department of Political Science
Boston College

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Boston College

Professor of Political Science, 2025–present
Associate Professor of Political Science, 2017–2025
Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2010–2017

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Political Science, 2010 (dissertation committee chair: Eric Schickler)
M.A., Political Science, 2002

Harvard University

A.B., *magna cum laude*, Government, 1999

RESEARCH AND TEACHING SPECIALTIES

American politics: political parties, elections, Congress, voting behavior, public opinion, media and culture, research methods

BOOKS

Polarized by Degrees: How the Diploma Divide and the Culture War Transformed American Politics (with Matt Grossmann). New York: Cambridge University Press, 2024.

Red Fighting Blue: How Geography and Electoral Rules Polarize American Politics. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Asymmetric Politics: Ideological Republicans and Group Interest Democrats (with Matt Grossmann). New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

Presidential Elections: Strategies and Structures of American Politics (with Steven E. Schier and founding authors Nelson W. Polsby and Aaron Wildavsky), 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th editions. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020, 2024.

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

"How Trump Changed the Republican Party—And the Democrats Too." In Steven E. Schier and Todd E. Eberly, eds., *The Trump Effect: Disruption and Its Consequences in U.S. Politics and Government* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2022), pp. 21–42.

"Placing Media in Conservative Culture" (with Matt Grossmann). In Sharon E. Jarvis, ed., *Conservative Political Communication: How Right-Wing Media and Messaging (Re)Made American Politics* (New York: Routledge, 2021), pp. 9–25.

"The Party Goes On: U.S. Young Adults' Partisanship and Political Engagement Across Age and Historical Time" (with Laura Wray-Lake and Erin H. Arruda). *American Politics Research* 47:6 (November 2019), pp. 1358–1375.

"Financing the 2016 Presidential General Election." In David B. Magleby, ed., *Financing the 2016 Election* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2019), pp. 187–216.

"From Fox News to Viral Views: The Influence of Ideological Media in the 2018 Elections" (with Matt Grossmann). *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics* 16:4 (December 2018), pp. 552–572.

"Televised Debates in Presidential Primaries." In Robert G. Boatright, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of Primary Elections* (New York: Routledge, 2018), pp. 307–319.

"The 2014 Election and the Culmination of Southern Realignment." In Christopher Galdieri, Jennifer Lucas, and Tauna Sisco, eds., *Political Communication and Strategy: Consequences of the 2014 Midterm Elections* (Akron, OH: University of Akron Press, 2017), pp. 99–112.

"Ideological Republicans and Group Interest Democrats: The Asymmetry of American Party Politics" (with Matt Grossmann). *Perspectives on Politics* 13:1 (March 2015), pp. 119–139.

"The Political Geography of Party Resurgence" (with Laura Stoker). In Peter K. Enns and Christopher Wlezien, eds., *Who Gets Represented?* (New York: Russell Sage, 2011), pp. 93–128.

"The 2008 Election and the Political Geography of the New Democratic Majority." *Polity* 41:3 (July 2009), pp. 368–387.

"The Empirical Implications of Electoral College Reform" (with Darshan J. Goux). *American Politics Research* 36:6 (November 2008), pp. 857–879.

"Nelson W. Polsby, Social Scientist." *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics* 5:1 (March 2007), article 18.

"Mapmaking at the Grassroots: The Legal and Political Issues of Local Redistricting" (with Bruce E. Cain). *Election Law Journal* 1:4 (2002), pp. 515–530.

MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

"The Diploma Divide" (with Matt Grossmann). *Governing*, Fall 2024, pp. 42–46.

"Will Biden and McCarthy Choose Compromise or Humiliation?" *Bloomberg Opinion*, May 8, 2023.

"Republicans Won't Win Back the Youth Vote With a Culture War." *Bloomberg Opinion*, April 17, 2023.

"The Gun Lobby's Strength Is Cultural, Not Financial." *Bloomberg Opinion*, March 30, 2023.

"Biden's Budget Reflects an Outdated Politics." *Bloomberg Opinion*, March 11, 2023.

"How Democrats Got Away from 'Third Way' Politics." *Bloomberg Opinion*, March 3, 2023.

"Why America's Schools Are Getting More Political." *Bloomberg Opinion*, February 14, 2023.

"Biden's Successes Were Made Possible by Obama." *Bloomberg Opinion*, February 3, 2023.

"Democrats Are Now United, and It's Likely to Last." *Bloomberg Opinion*, January 23, 2023.

"The House's Republican Rebels Have a Point." *Bloomberg Opinion*, January 9, 2023.

"Independent Voters Are More Important Than Ever." *Bloomberg Opinion*, December 27, 2022.

"The One Lesson for Both Parties from Georgia's Runoff." *Bloomberg Opinion*, December 10, 2022.

"Americans Love to Hate Their Politics." *Bloomberg Opinion*, December 3, 2022.

"To Defeat Trump, Stop Calling Him a Loser." *Bloomberg Opinion*, November 26, 2022.

"Republicans' Problems Run Deeper Than Candidate Quality." *Bloomberg Opinion*, November 12, 2022.

"The Party Label Is What Matters Most to Voters." *Bloomberg Opinion*, November 7, 2022.

"Did You Miss the Debate? It Didn't Matter Anyway." *Bloomberg Opinion*, October 30, 2022.

"Are Republicans and Big Business Headed for a Breakup?" *Bloomberg Opinion*, October 20, 2022.

"This Republican 'Commitment' Is an Exercise in Redundancy." *Bloomberg Opinion*, September 30, 2022.

"Trump's Surprising Legacy: More Female Candidates—In Both Parties." *Bloomberg Opinion*, September 26, 2022.

"Biden's Achievements May Not Matter Much This Year." *Bloomberg Opinion*, September 18, 2022.

"So Long to Anthony Fauci, Unlikely Avatar of Polarization." *Bloomberg Opinion*, September 5, 2022.

"In U.S. Politics, Moderates Still Run the Show." *Bloomberg Opinion*, August 22, 2022.

"What the Kamala Harris Pick Tells Us About Joe Biden." *New York Times*, August 12, 2020.

"This 37-Year-Old Book Helps the Long Democratic Primary Make Sense." The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, March 21, 2020.

"The G.O.P. Can Win the Suburbs." *New York Times*, November 20, 2019.

"The Democrats Don't Have the Suburbs Sewn Up Yet." *New York Times*, September 23, 2019.

"What Roy Moore Tells Us About the Republican Party." The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, June 29, 2019.

"Why Trump Didn't Build the Wall When Republicans Controlled Congress." *Washington Post*, January 25, 2019.

"No, Democrats Aren't Ruining Their Midterm Chances" (with Matt Grossmann). *New York Times*, July 12, 2018.

"Where's the Tea Party of the Left?" (with Matt Grossmann). *New York Times*, April 18, 2018.

"Who's Winning the Culture War? Corporate America." *New York Times*, December 27, 2017.

"Republican Elites Cheered the Right-Wing Insurgency. Now It's Coming for Them." *Vox*, October 26, 2017.

"Trump's War with Congress Is Just Getting Started." *Fannin Sentinel* (Georgia), August 17, 2017.

"Trump Isn't Changing the Republican Party. The Republican Party Is Changing Trump" (with Matt Grossmann). The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, August 2, 2017.

“How Information Became Ideological” (with Matt Grossmann). *Inside Higher Ed*, October 11, 2016.

“In Last Night’s Debate, Clinton Went Specific—Like a Democrat. Trump Stayed Broad—Like a Republican” (with Matt Grossmann). The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, September 27, 2016.

“Why the Republican Party Will Survive After Donald Trump” (with Matt Grossmann). *Detroit Free Press*, September 18, 2016.

“Why Democrats Have No ‘Freedom Caucus’” (with Matt Grossmann). Polyarchy blog, *Vox*, September 15, 2016.

“Why Primary Elections Scare Republican Politicians More Than Democrats” (with Matt Grossmann). Polyarchy blog, *Vox*, September 14, 2016.

“The Mess of Health Reform: Trying to Achieve Democratic Goals Through Republican Means” (with Matt Grossmann). Polyarchy blog, *Vox*, September 13, 2016.

“The Liberal Failure of Political Reform” (with Matt Grossmann). Polyarchy blog, *Vox*, September 12, 2016.

“How the Conservative Media Is Taking Over the Republican Party” (with Matt Grossmann). The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, September 9, 2016.

“How Different Are the Democratic and Republican Parties? Too Different to Compare” (with Matt Grossmann). The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, September 8, 2016.

“Republicans and Democrats Can’t Even Agree About How They Disagree” (with Matt Grossmann). The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, September 7, 2016.

“This One Chart Shows Which Republicans Bashed Hillary Clinton in Tuesday Night’s Debate. We Explain Why.” The Monkey Cage blog, *Washington Post*, November 11, 2015.

Honest Graft, personal blog on American politics, 2015–present,
<http://www.honestgraft.com>.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Samuel Merrill III, Bernard Grofman, and Thomas L. Brunell, *How Polarization Begets Polarization: Ideological Extremism in the U.S. Congress* (Oxford University Press, 2024), *Congress and the Presidency* 52:2 (May–August 2025), pp. 216–217.

Review of Ryan D. Enos, *The Space Between Us: Social Geography and Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 2017), *Perspectives on Politics* 17:2 (June 2019), pp. 566–568.

Review of Adam J. Ramey, Jonathan D. Klingler, and Gary E. Hollibaugh Jr., *More Than a Feeling: Personality, Polarization, and the Transformation of the U.S. Congress* (University of Chicago Press, 2017), *Congress and the Presidency* 45:1 (January–April 2018), pp. 117–119.

Review of Nella Van Dyke and David S. Meyers, eds., *Understanding the Tea Party Movement* (Ashgate, 2014), and Robert B. Horwitz, *America's Right: Anti-Establishment Conservatism from Goldwater to the Tea Party* (Polity Press, 2013), *Party Politics* 23:2 (March 2017), pp. 173–174.

“Can American Political Parties Disagree But Still Get Along?” Review of Russell Muirhead, *The Promise of Party in a Polarized Age* (Harvard University Press, 2014), *Tulsa Law Review* 51:2 (Spring 2016), pp. 349–358.

CONFERENCE PAPERS (*last 10 years only*)

“Is the American Party Divide Becoming More Gendered?” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 3–6, 2025.

“Solving Problems or Imposing Values?” (with Matt Grossmann). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, CA, August 31–September 3, 2023.

“The Politics of Party Expertise: Democratic Deference and Republican Resentment” (with Matt Grossmann). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Montreal, QC, September 15–18, 2022.

“Still the Party of Business? How the Diploma Divide and the Culture War Have Complicated Republicans’ Alliance with Corporate America” (with Matt Grossmann). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 7–10, 2022.

- “The Diploma Divide and Constituency Change in the American Party System: Evolution or Revolution?” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA (held virtually), September 10–13, 2020.
- “The Suburbanization of the Democratic Party, 1992–2018.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, August 29–September 1, 2019.
- “Leading the Leaders—Or Leaving Them Behind: Party Politicians and the Independence of Public Opinion on the Culture War.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 4–7, 2019.
- “Youthful Donkeys and Elderly Elephants: Roots of the New Generation Gap.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, August 30–September 2, 2018.
- “Placing Media in Conservative Culture” (with Matt Grossmann). Paper presented at New Directions in Communication: Conservatively Speaking conference, Moody College of Communication, University of Texas, Austin, TX, April 19–21, 2018.
- “Who’s Really Winning the Culture War?” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 5–8, 2018.
- “The New Generation Gap in American Politics.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 31–September 3, 2017.
- “Party Coalitions in the 2016 Election.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 6–9, 2017.
- “Party Asymmetry in the 2016 Presidential Nomination Contest.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 1–4, 2016.
- “Unequal Demands: Policy, Polarization, and Party Asymmetry in American Politics” (with Matt Grossmann). Paper presented at Hewlett Foundation–University of Maryland Conference on Parties, Policy Demands and Polarization, College Park, MD, June 9–10, 2016.
- “The Not-So-Great Debate: Party Asymmetry and the News Media in American Politics” (with Matt Grossmann). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 7–10, 2016.

INVITED LECTURES, CONFERENCES, INTERVIEWS, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

Outside Boston College: Boston Athenaeum; Brandeis University; Brown University; University of Chicago; Clark University; Cornell University; Elon University; Harvard University; Harvard-Radcliffe Club of Rochester (NY); John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum; University of Maryland, College Park; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Middlebury College; Milton Academy; University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; Muhlenberg College; University of the Pacific; University of Pennsylvania; Reset Dialogues (John Cabot University); SUNY Albany; Syracuse University; University of Texas at Austin; Texas Tech University

At Boston College: Admitted Eagles Weekend; AHANA+ Leadership Council (Undergraduate Government of Boston College); Alumni Reunion Weekend; Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life; Boston College Alumni Association; Boston College Association of Retired Faculty; Boston College Democrats; Boston College Republicans; Center for Teaching Excellence; Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy; Continuing Education (Office of the Provost); Department of Mathematics; Department of Political Science; Division of University Advancement; Eagle Political Society; Intersections Common Room; Intersections Research Forum; Intersections Villa; Irish Institute; Junior Scholars in Conversation (Jesuit Institute); Latinos/Latinas at Boston College; Office of International Students and Scholars; Organization of Latin American Affairs; Research and Scholarship Integrity Program (Office of the Vice Provost for Research)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Leon Epstein Outstanding Book Award, Political Organizations and Parties section, American Political Science Association (for *Asymmetric Politics: Ideological Republicans and Group Interest Democrats*, with Matt Grossmann), 2018.

Outstanding Academic Title, *Choice Magazine*, American Library Association (for *Red Fighting Blue: How Geography and Electoral Rules Polarize American Politics*), 2018.

Book Conference Award, Vice Provost for Research, Boston College, 2015.

Undergraduate Research Fellowship Award, Boston College, multiple students, 2012–2024.

Departmental Nominee, Carl Albert Prize (awarded by American Political Science Association for best dissertation on the U.S. Congress), Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2010.

Nelson W. Polsby Memorial Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2008–2009.

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2008–2009.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of California, Berkeley, 2007–2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Boston College, 2010–present:

- Parties and Elections in America (undergraduate)
- The U.S. Congress (undergraduate)
- Political Behavior and Participation (undergraduate)
- Conflict and Polarization in American Politics (undergraduate)
- The Politics of Party Nominations (undergraduate)
- The Changing World of American Politics (undergraduate)
- Independent Study in State Party Organizations (undergraduate)
- Research Methods in Political Science (graduate)
- Quantitative Methods in Political Science (graduate)
- Independent Study in Statistical Methods (graduate)

University of California, Berkeley, 2007–2009:

- Introduction to American Politics (undergraduate)
- American Political Parties (undergraduate)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY AND SERVICE

Co-Editor, *The Forum: A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics*, 2019–2024.

Chair, Award Committee, E. E. Schattschneider Award (for best Ph.D. dissertation in American politics), American Political Science Association, 2020.

Member, Award Committee, Jack Walker Award (for recent article making an outstanding contribution to scholarship on political organizations and parties), Political Organizations and Parties section, American Political Science Association, 2019.

Member, Award Committee, CQ Press Award (for best paper presented on legislative politics at the 2016 Annual Meeting), Legislative Studies section, American Political Science Association, 2017.

Chair, American Politics section, Annual Meeting, New England Political Science Association, 2013, 2016.

Peer reviewer for refereed academic journals: *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *American Politics Research*; *American Review of Politics*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Congress and the Presidency*; *Environmental Politics*; *Journal of American Studies*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*; *Journal of Politics*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*; *Nature*; *New England Journal of Political Science*; *Party Politics*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Political Behavior*; *Political Communication*; *Political Geography*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Political Science Quarterly*; *Political Studies Review*; *Politics and Policy*; *Presidential Studies Quarterly*; *Public Opinion Quarterly*; *Publius*; *Research and Politics*; *Review of Economics and Statistics*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Studies in American Political Development*

Peer reviewer for refereed academic book publishers: Bloomsbury; Cambridge University Press; University of Chicago Press; De Gruyter; Oxford University Press; Palgrave Macmillan; Princeton University Press; Rowman & Littlefield

UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY AND SERVICE

Chair, American Politics Search Committee, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2018.

Member, American Politics Search Committee, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2014, 2016, 2019, 2024.

Member, Comparative Politics Search Committee, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2022.

Member, Departmental Promotion Committee, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2022, 2025.

Member, Undergraduate Committee, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2018–present.

Member, Faculty Technology Committee, Boston College, 2011–2012.

Appointed senior mentor to junior faculty colleagues, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2019–present.

Undergraduate senior thesis advisor, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2010–present (15 students).

Member, Ph.D. dissertation committees, Department of Political Science, Boston College, 2014–present (4 students).

Faculty mentor, Gabelli Presidential Scholars, Boston College, 2024–present (2 students).

Student member, American Politics Search Committee, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2006.

Research assistant, Prof. Nelson W. Polsby, Institute of Governmental Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2001–2006.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Print: Associated Press; *The Atlantic*; *Bloomberg News*; *Boston Globe*; *Boston Herald*; *Business Insider*; CBS News; *Chicago Tribune*; *Christian Science Monitor*; *Chronicle of Higher Education*; CNBC; CNN; *Cook Political Report*; *The Economist*; *FiveThirtyEight*; *The Forward*; *Governing*; *Grid*; *Harvard Crimson*; *The Heights*; *The Hill*; *HuffPost*; *International Business Times*; *Miami Herald*; MSNBC; *National Catholic Register*; *National Journal*; *New Boston Post*; *The New Republic*; *New York Daily News*; *New York Times*; *Newsday*; *Philadelphia Inquirer*; *Politico*; Reuters; *Roll Call*; *Salon*; *San Francisco Chronicle*; *The Signal*; *Slate*; *Time*; United Press International; *USA Today*; *U.S. News and World Report*; *Vox*; *Wall Street Journal*; *Washington Examiner*; *Washington Post*; *Washington Times*; *Yale Daily News*; *Clarín* (Argentina); *Australian Financial Review* (Australia); *O Estado de Sao Paulo* (Brazil); *Folha de Sao Paulo* (Brazil); CBC (Canada); *Diario El Mercurio* (Chile); *Raesón* (Denmark); *Dagbladet Information* (Denmark); *Weekendavisen* (Denmark); *USAPol* (Denmark); *Helsingin Sanomat* (Finland); Agence France-Presse (France); *Atlantico* (France); *Marianne* (France); *Le Nouvel Observateur* (France); *Politis* (France); *Stern* (Germany); *Nikkei* (Japan); *L'Orient-Le Jour* (Lebanon); *Público* (Portugal); *La Vanguardia* (Spain); *Aftonbladet* (Sweden); *Upsala Nya Tidning* (Sweden); *NV* (Ukraine); *Asharq News* (UAE); *The New Statesman* (UK); *The Times* (UK); *Diario El Nacional* (Venezuela)

Television & Radio: Bloomberg Radio; CNBC; KCRW (89.9 FM in Santa Monica, CA); KPFA (94.1 FM in Berkeley, CA); KQED (88.5 FM in San Francisco, CA); Marketplace; National Public Radio; New England Cable News; New England Public Radio; Texas Public Radio; Voice of America; WBTS (Channel 10 in Boston, MA); WBUR (90.9 FM in Boston, MA); WBZ (1030 AM in Boston, MA); WCVB (Channel 5 in Boston, MA); WERS (88.9 FM in Boston, MA); WFXT (Channel 25 in Boston, MA); WGBH Radio (89.7 FM in Boston, MA); WGBH Television (Channel 2 in Boston, MA); WHDH (Channel 7 in Boston, MA); WRHU (88.7 FM in Hempstead, NY); WXXI (1370 AM in Rochester, NY); CBC-TV (Canada); Arte (France); RTE-TV (Ireland); 938 Live (Singapore); BeFM (South Korea); Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen (Switzerland)

Podcasts: The Odd Years Podcast with Amy Walter (*Cook Political Report*); FiveThirtyEight Politics Podcast (ABC News); Why Is This Happening? with Chris Hayes (MSNBC); Created Equal (Detroit Public Radio); Factually! with Adam Conover; Co-Authored with Heath Brown; Have You Heard with Jennifer Berkshire; Deep Dive with Shawn C. Fettig; Future Trends Forum with Bryan Alexander; New Books in Political Science; The Government Affairs Institute: Congress, Two Beers In (Georgetown University); Politics and Polls (Princeton University); Primary Concerns (*The New Republic*); The Science of Politics (Niskanen Center); The Vital Center (Niskanen Center); Exchanges (Cambridge University Press); The Correspondent (Netherlands)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Scholars Strategy Network

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE

Legislative Analyst, Monroe County Legislature, Rochester, NY, 1999–2001.