

Robin A. Taboni

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin

Assistant Professor, Department of Government

2026-Present

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Government

2025-2026

Affiliate: Center for Law and Democracy

EDUCATION

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

◦ PhD, Politics

2025

◦ Dissertation: “Essays on Uncertainty in American Political Institutions”

◦ Committee: Charles Cameron, Jonathan Kestelec, and Gleason Judd

◦ Fields: American Politics, Formal and Quantitative Methods, Public Law

◦ M.A., Politics

2021

SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY

2019

◦ B.A., Political Science, Mathematics (High Distinction)

◦ *summa cum laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*, *Honors College*

PUBLICATIONS

“A Database of the United States Supreme Court’s Shadow Docket, 1993-2025,” with Jonathan Kestelec. 2026. *Journal of Law and Courts*. 14(1): 220–237

“The Path of Law: Legal Uncertainty and Issues of First Impression in the US Courts of Appeals.” 2026. *American Political Science Review*. 120(2): 624-640

“Reviewing Fast or Slow: A Theory of Summary Reversals in the Judicial Hierarchy,” with Alexander Hirsch and Jonathan Kestelec. 2025. *American Journal of Political Science*

WORKING PAPERS

“Delegating Representation: The Influence of Lobbyists on Client Legislative Behavior”
(with Alina Dunlap)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Legislative Divisiveness and the Supreme Court’s Policy Agenda”
(with Christine Bird)

“What Can We Learn from Trial Court Decisions? Settlement as an Obstacle to Inference”

“A Theory of Conflict in the Judicial Hierarchy”

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models Fellowship (NSF) 2022

Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Student Research Grant (\$3,000) 2021

Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Student Research Grant (\$3,000) 2021

(with Alina Dunlap)

Princeton University Fellowship 2019-2025

AWARDS AND HONORS

Law & Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, Best Journal Article (<i>Honorable Mention</i>)	2026
Law & Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, Best Conference Paper (<i>Honorable Mention</i>): “The Path of Law: Legal Uncertainty and Issues of First Impression in the U.S. Courts of Appeals”	2025
SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence	2019
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (<i>Honorable Mention</i>)	2019
Outstanding Senior, Department of Political Science	2019

TEACHING

<i>The University of Texas at Austin</i> GOV355M: Judicial Politics	2026
<i>Princeton University</i> POL 502: Introduction to Mathematics for Political Science (Graduate) <i>Preceptor (Instructor for Prof. Kris Ramsay (2021) and Prof. Gleason Judd (2022))</i>	2021, 2022
POL 329: Policymaking in America <i>Preceptor (Instructor for Prof. Charles Cameron)</i>	2023
POL 220: American Politics <i>Preceptor (Instructor for Prof. Paul Frymer (2022) and Prof. Sarah Staszak (2024))</i>	2022, 2024

PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Meeting	2024, 2025
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies	2025
Emerging Scholars in Public Law	2024
Midwest Political Science Meeting	2018, 2022-2025
Southern Political Science Meeting	2023

WORK EXPERIENCE

Stokes Visualization Hub <i>Data Consultant</i>	2023-2024
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SERVICE

Reviewer: <i>Journal of Law and Courts</i>	
American Political Institutions Working Group <i>Student Coordinator</i>	2022-2025
Center for the Study of Democratic Politics <i>Social Event Lead</i>	2022-2025

OTHER SKILLS

Python, R, STATA, L^AT_EX, Webscraping