Christina M. Kinane

Contact Information

Department of Political Science
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Academic Appointment

Yale University, New Haven, CT

Assistant Professor, Political Science, 2019 –
(Medical leave and cancer treatment, 2022 – 2023)
Faculty Fellow, Center for the Study of American Politics
Faculty Fellow, Institution for Social and Policy Studies
Faculty Director, Millstone Fellowship in Public Service, 2022 –

Affiliations

Good Authority Fellow, 2026 – 2027
Faculty Fellow, Miller Center for Public Affairs, University of Virginia, 2026 –

Education

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Ph.D., Political Science, 2019
Dissertation: "Control without Confirmation: The Politics of Vacancies in Presidential Appointments"
E.E. Schattschneider Award for best dissertation in American government, APSA, 2021
George C. Edwards III Award for best dissertation in executive politics, APSA, 2020

M.A., Political Science, 2018

London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK

M.P.A., Public and Economic Policy, with Merit, 2010

University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

B.A., Political Science, with Highest Honors, 2007
B.A., Economics-International Area Studies, 2007

Book

Unconfirmed Power: Unilateral Governance at the Pleasure of the President

Articles

Kinane, C. M. and Mattioli, L. (2022). "Serving the Law or Playing Politics? The Strategic Use of U.S. Attorney Appointments." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 52(1), 107-139.

Kinane, C. M. (2021). "Control without Confirmation: The Politics of Vacancies in Presidential Appointments." *American Political Science Review*, 115(2), 599-614.

Malcolm Jewell Award, SPSA, 2020

Founders Award, Presidents and Executive Politics, APSA, 2019

Rodriguez JM, Geronimus AT, Bound J, Wen R and Kinane CM. (2021). "Partisan Control of US State Governments: Politics as a Social Determinant of Infant Health." *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 62(1).

Roby DH, Watson G, Jacobs K, Graham-Squire D, Kinane CM, Gans D, and Needleman J. (2013). "Modeling the Impact of the Affordable Care Act and the Individual Mandate on Californians." *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 34(1).

Working Papers

"Hollow Consent: A Theoretical Analysis of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act" (with Lindsey Gailmard, Under Review)

"Who Remains: Vacancies and Rulemaking at Independent Commissions" (Under Review)

"Oversight of Whom? Personnel Politics and Congressional Monitoring"

"Acting Appointees and Agency Performance in the Federal Government" (with Julia Crainic)

"Delaying Democracy: Capacity and Political Control at the Federal Election Commission" (with Kevin Xiao and Julia Crainic)

"The Political Origins of Inferior Administration" (with Jin K. Park)

"Balancing Power and Efficiency: Dual Pathways for Reforming the U.S. Appointment Process"

Work in Progress

Book Project: Administrative Ambition: The Revolving Door of Congressional Influence in the Executive Branch

"Power Concentration in the American Bureaucracy"

Awards and Research Grants

Institution for Social and Policy Studies Conference Grant ($40,000), "Politics and Law in the Administrative State," 2025
Levin Center Oversight Fellowship ($20,000), 2022
E.E. Schattschneider Award for best dissertation in the field of American government, American Political Science Association, 2021
George C. Edwards III Award for best dissertation on executive politics, APSA Presidents and Executive Politics Section, 2020
Malcolm Jewell Award for best graduate student paper, Southern Political Science Association, 2020
Founders Award for best graduate student paper on executive politics, APSA Presidents and Executive Politics Section, 2019
Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2019
Honorable Mention, Founders Award for best graduate student paper, APSA Presidents and Executive Politics Section, 2018
Vivian Fell Sangunett Summer Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2018
Gerald R. Ford Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2016-2017, 2017-2018
Thomas M. Carsey Scholar, APSA's State Politics and Policy Section, 2017
Ford Research Grant ($6710), University of Michigan, 2016
Rackham Spring/Summer Research Grant ($9675), University of Michigan, 2016
Roy Pierce Award ($6000), University of Michigan, Center for Political Studies, 2014
Graduate Merit Award, London School of Economics, 2008, 2009
Graduate Support Scheme Scholarship (£8000), London School of Economics, 2008 - 2010
Sylvia Sorkin Greenfield Memorial Prize for best honors thesis in Political Science, UCLA, 2007
Phi Beta Kappa, UCLA, 2007

Invited Talks and Small Conference Participation

2026: Political Economy and Public Law, Texas A&M School of Law; Princeton Problem Solving Workshop Series: The Future of the Civil Service, Washington D.C.; Nuffield College Political Science Seminar, Oxford University; Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Speaker Series, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill; PEPCON 2026, Stanford University

2025: Conference on the American Presidency, University of Virginia Miller Center; Politics and Law in the Administrative State, Yale Law School; NYU Law Forum, New York University Law School; NYU Politics Workshop, New York University

2024: "Transitions: Planning and Staffing a Presidency," Brookings Institution; Yale-Columbia Workshop on Executive Action; "Democracy in the Balance: An Examination of Biden's Pres-

idency, the 2024 Election, and Presidential Leadership," University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy; Department of Political Science, University of California, San Diego

2023: Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley; Department of Political Science, Stanford University; "*Politics of Unconfirmed Power* Book Conference" (organizer); American Politics Colloquium, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University; American Politics Conference, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Presidents and Executive Politics Conference, Chapman University; Levin Center for Congressional Oversight Fellows Webinar, Wayne State Law School; American Politics Speaker Series, Columbia University; American Politics Workshop, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley; Politics Across Borders, Department of Political Science, Yale University

2022: Future of the Senate Roundtable, The Brookings Institution; Executive Politics Conference, University of Michigan; American Politics Speaker Series, Department of Politics, University of Virginia (canceled due to cancer treatment); Evaluating the Presidency in the Twenty-First Century, Presidents & Executive Politics Conference (could not attend due to health)

2021: President Biden's First 100 Days: The Future of the Administrative Presidency, Presidential Appointments, and Administrative Reform, University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy; Political Institutions and Political Economy (PIPE) Workshop, University of Southern California; Department of Health Policy and Management, University of Maryland School of Public Health; American Politics Workshop, Washington University in St. Louis; Responding to the Attack on the US Capital, Invited Panel, Junior Americanist Workshop Series

2020: American Politics Workshop, The Ohio State University (virtual); American Politics Conference, University of California, San Diego (canceled due to COVID-19); The Imperial Presidency in the Twenty-First Century, University of Texas Law School (canceled due to COVID-19)

2019: Political Economy Workshop, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy; American Politics Speaker Series, Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University; Interdisciplinary Workshop on Politics and Policy, Center for Political Studies, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan; Governance Lunch Workshop, University of Michigan Law School

2018: Department of Political Science, Yale University; Department of Government, Georgetown University; CSAP Annual American Politics Conference, Yale University; Political Appointments Roundtable, UC Berkeley School of Law; Frontiers of Formal Political Theory Conference, Vanderbilt University; American Political Economy Workshop, Columbia University

2017: Varieties of Backlash: Distributional Conflict and Political Order in the New World of Work, University of Michigan

Association Conference Presentations	American Political Science Association	2014, 2015, 2017-2021, 2023, 2024, 2026
	Midwest Political Science Association	2015, 2017-2019, 2023-2026
	Southern Political Science Association	2018, 2019, 2020, 2025
	State Politics and Policy Conference	2017

Advising and Mentoring

Ph.D. Dissertations

Gabe Batista, Committee Member, 2028 (expected)
Jack Greenberg, Committee Member, defended 2025
Collin Schumock, Reader, defended 2024

Undergraduate Year-long Senior Theses

Zach Pan, 2026-2027
Kyle Thomas Ramos, 2025-2026 (winner of the Percival Wood Clement Prize)
Jasmine Garcia, 2025-2026
Sita Kottilil, 2024-2025 (honorable mention, Frank M. Patterson Prize)
Patrick Chappel, 2022-2023
Nader Granmayeh, 2022-2023
Kevin Xiao, 2022-2023 (winner of the Frank M. Patterson Prize)
Kate Kushner, 2020-2021

Undergraduate Semester-long Senior Essays: Fatou M'Baye (Spring 2026); Reece Kirkpatrick (Spring 2025, winner of the Percival Wood Clement Prize); Sean Guyton (Spring 2025); Michelle Girouard (Spring 2025); Chris Lyons (Spring 2025); Katie Donahey (Fall 2024); Sari Kaufman (Spring 2024); Ana Capiro (Spring 2024); Brett Jennings (Spring 2022); Paola Jimenez-Read (Spring 2022); Dav Lindo (Spring 2022)

Dahl Scholar Advisor: Kyle Thomas Ramos, 2024-2025; Kevin Xiao, 2021-2022; Paolo Jimenez-Read, 2020-2021

Teaching

Yale University

Advanced Topics in American Political Institutions (G)
The Chief and the Bureaucrats: Power Dynamics in the U.S. Executive Branch (U)
Research and Writing (G)
Policymaking under Separation of Powers (UG/G)
Introduction to American Politics (UG)

University of Michigan

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, Mentor, 2015-2017
Advanced Game Theory (ICPSR), Graduate Student Instructor, 2016
Introduction to American Politics, Graduate Student Instructor, 2015
Politics of Income Inequality in the U.S., Graduate Student Instructor, 2014

Additional Training

Mentoring Faculty-in-Residence, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models 2018, University of Michigan
Student, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models 2015, University of Michigan

Service

To the discipline

Referee for *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *Journal of Politics*: *Political Science Research and Methods*; *Political Science Quarterly*; *Congress & The Presidency*; *Presidential Studies Quarterly*
Co-Organizer, PEPCON (Presidency & Executive Politics Conference) at Stanford University, 2026
Founders Award Committee Member, APSA PEP Section, 2024, 2025
Herbert Simon Award Committee, Midwest Caucus on Policy Administration, 2023
Bureaucratic Politics Section Head, 2023 MPSA Annual Conference, 2022
Legacy Award Committee Member, APSA PEP Section, 2021
Founders Award Committee Member, APSA PEP Section, 2020
Member, APSA PEP Section Steering Committee, 2018-2020

Yale University

Co-Organizer, Yale Conference on Politics and Law in the Administrative State, 2025
American Politics Search Committee, Political Science, 2024-2025
Co-Organizer, Yale-Columbia Workshop on Executive Action, 2024
Faculty Co-Organizer, American Politics and Public Policy Workshop, Center for the Study of American Politics, 2023-2024
American Politics Graduate Exam Committee, Political Science, 2023-2024
Selection Committee, James C. Gaither Junior Fellowship at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2022
American Politics Graduate Exam Committee, Political Science, 2021-2022
Graduate Admissions Committee, Political Science, 2021-2022
Faculty Organizer, American Politics and Public Policy Workshop, Center for the Study of American Politics, 2020-2021
Selection Committee, Henry Fellowship, 2020
Selection Committee, Class of 1960 John Heinz Government Service Fellowship, 2020

University of Michigan

Co-President, Women's Caucus, Political Science, 2018-2019
Coordinator, American Institutions Group, 2016-2018
Co-President, Graduate Association of Political Scientists, 2016-2017
Undergraduate Senior Honors Thesis Committee (Jake Rothenberg, 2016; Emma Benninghoff, 2019)
Graduate Admissions Committee, Political Science, 2015
Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Workshop on American Politics, 2014-2015
Graduate Affairs Committee, Political Science, 2012-2013

Other Publications

"Assessing Pent-Up Demand in California's Uninsured Population: Preliminary Findings." California Program on Access to Care, August 2012. (Coauthored).

"Achieving Equity by Building a Bridge from Eligible to Enrolled." UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, February 2012. (Coauthored).

"Newly Insured Californians Would Fall by More than 1 Million under the Affordable Care Act without the Requirement to Purchase Insurance." UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, January 2012. (Coauthored).

"Proposed Regulations Could Limit Access to Affordable Health Coverage for Workers' Children and Family Members." University of California, Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education, December 2011. (Coauthored).

"Who Can Participate in the California Health Benefit Exchange? The Profile of Subsidy-Eligible Uninsured and Individually Insured." UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, May 2011. (with Naderah Pourat and Gerald F. Kominski).

Non-Academic Professional Experience

Center for Health Policy Research, University of California, Los Angeles
Research Associate and Project Manager 2010 - 2012

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Consultant 2009 - 2010

Hillary Clinton for President Primary Election Campaign
Campaign Staff - Regional Field Director 2007 - 2008

Sumitomo Electric Industries
International Intern, Overseas Contracts and Legal Affairs, Osaka, Japan 2006