

DEREK A. EPP

Curriculum Vitæ

July 2026

Contact information

The University of Texas at Austin
Department of Government
Austin, TX 78712-1704

Phone: 301-385-1160
E-mail: depp@austin.utexas.edu

Education

- 2015: Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Political Science
 - American Politics (major), Public Policy (minor)
- 2011: M.A. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Political Science
- 2008: B.A. University of Maryland at College Park, Political Science
 - Phi Beta Kappa

Employment

- Associate Professor, Department of Government, *The University of Texas at Austin* (2023 – present)
 - Associate department chair (2023 – present)
 - Undergraduate studies director (2023 – present)
 - Courtesy appointment, LBJ School of Public Affairs, *The University of Texas at Austin* (2025 – present)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Government, *The University of Texas at Austin* (2017 – 2023)
- Postdoctoral Research Associate, Nelson A. Rockefeller Center, *Dartmouth College* (2015 – 2017)

Books

- Baumgartner, Frank R., **Derek A. Epp**, and Kelsey Shoub. 2018. *Suspect Citizens: What 20 Million Traffic Stops Tell Us About Policing and Race*. Cambridge University Press.
 - Co-winner of the C. Herman Pritchett Best Book Award from the APSA Organized Section on Law and Courts, 2019
- **Epp, Derek A.** 2018. *The Structure of Policy Change*. The University of Chicago Press.

Peer-reviewed publications

- **Epp, Derek A.** and Christopher Wlezien. 2026. Benchmarking in the Updating of Public Perceptions. *Political Science Research and Methods*, forthcoming.
- Cox, Christian, **Derek A. Epp**, and Ian Shapiro. 2025. The Political Economy of Fiscal Responsibility. *Public Choice*.
- Borghetto, Enrico, Luca Manucci, and **Derek A. Epp**. 2025. Is the Populist Robin Hood a Fairy Tale? Parliamentary Attention to Social Welfare. *Journal of European Public Policy* 33 (1): 40-73.
- Shepherd, Michael E., Christian Cox, and **Derek A. Epp**. 2025. Measuring Disparities to Emergency Medicine with 200 Million Voter Records. *The Journal of Rural Health* 41 (1).

- Verrilli, Allison, Marcel Roman, Hannah L. Walker, **Derek A. Epp**, Michael Finley, and Amy Liu. 2025. Policing Socio-Geographic Boundaries and Inequality. *Perspectives on Politics* 23 (4): 1286-1306.
- Roman, Marcel, Klara Fredriksson, Chris Cassella, **Derek A. Epp**, and Hannah L. Walker. 2025. The George Floyd Effect: How Protests and Public Scrutiny Changed Police Behavior. *Perspectives on Politics* 23 (4): 1250-1270.
- Cox, Christian, **Derek A. Epp**, and Michael E. Shepherd. 2024. Access to Healthcare and Voting: The Case of Hospital Closures in Rural American. *American Political Science Review* 119 (3): 1233-1244.
- Dias, Megan, **Derek A. Epp**, Marcel Roman, and Hannah L. Walker. 2024. Consent Searches: Evaluating the Usefulness of a Common and Highly Discretionary Police Practice. *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 21 (1): 35-91.
- **Epp, Derek A.** and Herschel F. Thomas. 2022. When bad news becomes routine: Slowly-moving problems moderate government responsiveness. *Political Research Quarterly* 76 (1): 3-13.
- Anoll, Allison, **Derek A. Epp**, and Mackenzie Israel-Trummel. 2022. Contact and Context: How Municipal Traffic Stops Shape Citizen Character. *Journal of Politics* 84 (4): 2272-2277.
- Quaglia, Laura, **Derek A. Epp**, and Katherine R. Madel. 2022. Does partisanship explain spending patterns in congressional bill proposals? *Party Politics* 28 (1): 38-47.
- Christiani, Leah, Kelsey Shoub, Frank R. Baumgartner, **Derek A. Epp**, and Kevin Roach. 2021. Better for Everyone: Black Descriptive Representation and Police Traffic Stops. *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 10 (5): 807-816.
- Shoub, Kelsey, Leah Christiani, Frank R. Baumgartner, **Derek A. Epp**, and Kevin Roach. 2021. Fines, Fees, Forfeitures, and Disparities: A Link Between Municipal Reliance on Fines and Racial Disparities in Policing. *Policy Studies Journal* 49 (3): 835-859.
- **Epp, Derek A.** and Enrico Borghetto. 2021. Legislative Agendas during Periods of Inequality: Evidence from Europe and the United States. *Journal of European Public Policy* 28 (4): 532-550.
- **Epp, Derek A.** and Macey Erhardt. 2021. The Use and Effectiveness of Investigative Police Stops. *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 9 (5): 1016-1029.
- **Epp, Derek A.** and Jay T. Jennings. 2020. Inequality, Media Frames, and Public Support for Welfare. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 84 (3): 629-653.
- Roach, Kevin, Frank R. Baumgartner, Leah Christiani, **Derek A. Epp**, and Kelsey Shoub. 2020. At the Intersection: Race, Gender, and Discretion in Police Traffic Stop Outcomes. *The Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* 7: 239-261.
- Shoub, Kelsey, **Derek A. Epp**, Frank R. Baumgartner, Leah Christiani, and Kevin Roach. 2020. Race, Place, and Context: The Persistence of Race Effects in Traffic Stop Outcomes. *The Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* 5 (3): 481-508.
- Jones, Bryan D., **Derek A. Epp**, and Frank R. Baumgartner. 2019. Democracy, Authoritarianism, and Policy Punctuations. *International Review of Public Policy* 1 (1): 7-26.

- **Epp, Derek A.** 2018. Policy Agendas and Economic Inequality in American Politics. *Political Studies* 66 (4): 922-939.
- **Epp, Derek A.** 2017. Public Policy and the Wisdom of Crowds. *Cognitive Systems Research* 43: 53-61.
- Baumgartner, Frank R., Marcello Carammia, **Derek A. Epp**, Ben Noble, Beatriz Rey, and Tevfik Murat Yildirim. 2017. Budgeting in Authoritarian and Democratic Regimes. *Journal of European Public Policy* 24 (6): 792-808.
- Baumgartner, Frank R., **Derek A. Epp**, Bayard Love, and Kelsey Shoub. 2017. Targeting Young Men of Color for Search and Arrest during Traffic Stops: Evidence from North Carolina, 2002-2013. *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 5 (1): 107-131.
- **Epp, Derek A.** and Frank R. Baumgartner. 2017. Complexity, Capacity, and Budget Punctuations. *Policy Studies Journal* 45 (2): 247-264.
- **Epp, Derek A.** 2015. Punctuated Equilibria in the Private Sector and the Stability of Market Systems. *Policy Studies Journal*, 43 (4): 417-436.
- **Epp, Derek A.**, John Lovett, and Frank R. Baumgartner. 2014. Partisan Priorities and Public Budgeting. *Political Research Quarterly* 67 (4): 864-878.

Other publications

- **Epp, Derek**, Hannah Walker, Megan Dias, and Marcel Roman. 2024. ‘Consent’ Searches Don’t Stop Drug Trafficking. They Threaten Privacy Rights. *Scientific American*.
- **Epp, Derek A.** 2023. Review of *Captive Market: Accountability and State Prison Privatization* by Anna Gunderson. *Perspectives on Politics* 21 (4): 1466-1468.
- Baumgartner, Frank R., Leah Christiani, **Derek A. Epp**, Kevin Roach, and Kelsey Shoub. 2017. Racial Disparities in Traffic Stop Outcomes. *Duke Forum for Law and Social Change* 9: 21-53.

Funding

- 2023–2025: Russell Sage Trustee Grant in Social, Political and Economic Inequality, “Policing socio-geographic change and displacement” (with Hannah L. Walker, Marcel Roman, Mike Findley, and Amy Liu) \$187,136
- 2018: Center for Enterprise and Policy Analytics, UT Austin McCombs School of Business \$35,000
- 2009–2014: Thomas M. Uhlman Scholarship, UNC Department of Political Science \$5,000 per annum
- 2009–2014: American Political Research Group Summer Fellowship, UNC Department of Political Science \$3,000 per annum

Ph.D. Student Mentoring

- Christine Guo (PhD 2025, UT Austin, Tenure track at The University of Tampa; Dissertation chair)
- Chris Cassella (PhD 2025, UT Austin; Researcher at Texas Appleseed; Dissertation co-chair)

- Cody Kuhn (PhD 2024, UT Austin; Tenure track at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona; Dissertation chair)
- Megan Dias (PhD 2024, UT Austin; Post-doc at Cornell University; Dissertation co-chair)
- E.J. Fagan (PhD 2020, UT Austin; Tenure track at University of Illinois at Chicago; Committee member)

Conference participation

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2025, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2018, 2017, 2013
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2024, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012
- Comparative Agendas Project Conference: 2025, 2024, 2023, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013

Teaching

- GOV 312: Race, Law, and Policy in America, UT Austin Department of Government
- GOV 384: Policy Evaluation, UT Austin Department of Government
- GOV 370: Research on the US Congress, UT Austin Department of Government
- GOV 384: Policy Processes, UT Austin Department of Government
- GOV 358: Introduction to Public Policy, UT Austin Department of Government
- GOV 370: Race, Policing, and Incarceration, UT Austin Department of Government
- GOV 310: American Government, UT Austin Department of Government
- POLI 101: State and Local Politics, UNC Department of Political Science
- POLI 100: Introduction to Government in the United States, UNC Department of Political Science