

Nathan A. Ilderton

Academic Record:

Ph.D., Texas A&M University-College Station, December 2009
Fields: American Politics, Political Theory
Committee: Jon R. Bond (chair), Patricia A. Hurley, Cary J. Nederman,
William West
Dissertation: *The Institutional Consequences of Congressional
Polarization*

B.A., Clemson University, 2002

Academic Appointments:

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Criminology and Political Science, Texas A&M
University- San Antonio, 2025-

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Political Science, St. Mary's University, 2025-

Associate Lecturer, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs,
University of Central Florida, 2023-2025.

Lecturer, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of
Central Florida, 2017-2023

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Central
Florida, 2010-17

Administrative Appointments:

Undergraduate Coordinator, School of Politics, Security, and International
Affairs, University of Central Florida, 2018-2023.

Teaching:

Courses Taught:

Undergraduate:

Texas A&M University- San Antonio, 2025-

“Texas Government”

“Federal Government”

University of Central Florida, 2010-2025

“American National Government” (Honors)

“Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern Political Theory” (face-to-face)

“Congress and the Legislative Process” (face-to-face and virtual)
 “Judicial Politics and Process” (face-to-face and virtual)
 “The American Presidency” (face-to-face)
 “Scope and Methods of Political Science” (face-to-face and virtual)
 “Presidential Campaigning” (virtual)
 Texas A&M University- College Station, 2008-2010
 “Congressional Politics”
 “State and Local Government”

Graduate:
 St. Mary’s University, 2025-
 “American Political Institutions”
 “American Political Thought”
 University of Central Florida, 2010-2025
 “Congress and the Legislative Process”

Teaching Interests:

American Politics
 Political Theory- Classic, Modern, and American Political Thought
 American Political Institutions- Congress, Presidency, Judiciary
 Research Methods

Student Research Supervision:

Student Research Committee Service, University of Central Florida (As Lecturer 2017- present)

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees: 1
 Master’s Thesis Committees: 1
 Undergraduate Honor’s Thesis Committees: 7

Student Research Committee Service, University of Central Florida (As Assistant Professor 2010-2017)

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees:1
 Master’s Thesis Committees: 6
 Undergraduate Honor’s Thesis Committees: 3

Other Activities:

Coordinator of Model U.S. Senate Team, University of Central Florida, 2018-2025.
 Duties are to recruit and prepare students for the annual Patrick L. Smith Model Senate at Stetson University, Deland, Florida, with the eventual goal of establishing a permanent student organization.
 Team Member Awards: Best Senator, 2018 and 2025 Floyd M. Riddick Model Senate, Stetson University.

Professional Service:

University Committees:

Member, Undergraduate Committee, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, 2010-2012, 2013-14, 2015-2025, (Chair, 2018-2023).

Chair, Undergraduate Assessment Committee, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, 2018-2025

Member, College of Sciences Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards Committee, University of Central Florida, 2021-2023.

Chair, DFW Taskforce, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, Summer 2022.

Member, AESP (Annual Evaluation Standard and Procedures) Committee, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, 20221-22.

Member, Graduate Committee, Department of Political Science, University of Central Florida, 2012-2013, 2014-15

Member, Methods Committee, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, 2010-18

Member, Awards Committee, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, 2015-18

Member, American Politics Regional Campus Assistant Professor Search Committee, Department of Political Science, 2010-2011

Member, American Politics Regional Campus Lecturer Search Committee, Department of Political Science, 2011-2012

Member, Visiting Instructor Search Committee, Department of Political Science, 2015

Member, Political Science Department Computer Resources Committee, Texas A&M University 2006- 2007.

Professional Association Memberships:

Midwest Political Science Association

Other Appointments

Assessment Coordinator, School of Politics, Security and International Affairs, University of Central Florida, 2018-present

Senior Scholar Advisor, School of Politics, Security and International Affairs,
University of Central Florida, 2019-2023

Scholarly Activity:

Publications:

Thomas Dolan and Nathan A. Ilderton. 2017. "Scared into Demanding Action: Perceived Threat from Terrorism and Policy Salience" *Polity* 49 (April) 245-69.

Erik K. Godwin and Nathan A. Ilderton. 2014. "Presidential Defense: Decisions and Strategies to Preserve the Status Quo." *Political Research Quarterly* 67 (December): 715-28.

Jon R. Bond, Richard Fleisher, and Nathan A. Ilderton. 2012. "Was the Tea Party Responsible for the Republican Victory in the 2010 House Elections?" *The Forum*.

Working Papers:

"The Tools of Control: U.S. House Committees in a Polarized Congress"

"Has *Citizens United* Won Elections? The Impact of Super PACs on Congressional Election Outcomes."

"Analyzing Mixed Government in the U.S. Congress"

Research Interests:

Congressional Politics
American Political Institutions
Institutional Interactions
Representation

Conference Presentations (Since 2014):

"Party Leadership Control of Committees in a Polarized U.S. House of Representatives." Paper presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

"Does One Chamber Matter? Legislative Success in a Split Congress." Paper presented at the 2023 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

"Analyzing Mixed Government in the U.S. Congress." Paper presented at the 2022 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Super PACs and Congress? The Impact of Dark Money on Elections.” Paper presented at the 2021 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Convened Virtually.

“The Tools of Control: U.S. House Committees in a Polarized Congress” Paper presented at the 2019 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

“Has *Citizens United* Won Elections? The Impact of Super PACs on Congressional Election Outcomes.” Paper presented at the 2018 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

“Partisanship and Cross Chamber Gridlock in the U.S. Congress.” Paper presented at the 2017 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Understanding Gridlock: Interactions between a Polarized Congress and the President.” Paper presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Super PACs in U.S. Senate Elections, 2010-14.” Paper presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“The Effects of Super PACs on Elections to the U.S. House of Representatives.” Paper presented at the 2014 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“The Effects of Polarization on Committees in the U.S. House of Representatives.” Paper presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“The Political Consequences of Presidential Defense.” With Erik K. Godwin. Paper presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Do Term Limits in State Legislatures Create More Quality Challenges to U.S. House Incumbents?” Paper presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Orlando, FL.

“Polarization, Divided Government, and Gridlock in the House and Senate.” Paper presented at the 2012 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Strategic Presidential Position Taking.” Paper presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA.

“Was the Tea Party Responsible for the Republican Victory in the 2010 House Elections?” With Jon Bond and Richard Fleisher. Paper presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA.

“The President in Various Policy Arenas.” With Erik K. Godwin. Paper presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Divided Government, Gridlock, and Polarization.” Paper presented at the 2010 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“The President and the Polarized Congress.” Paper presented at the 2009 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Party Polarization and the Legislative Productivity of Congress.” Paper presented at the 2008 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA.

“Congressional Polarization and the Legislative Agenda.” Paper presented at the 2008 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Elite Democracy: Representation, Participation and Citizenship in an Expanding Electorate.” With Jesse Chupp. Presented at the 2008 annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA.

“Throwing in the Towel: Retirements from the U.S. House of Representatives in a Partisan Era.” Presented at the 2008 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA.

“Candidates and Voter Turnout in Congressional Elections: The Case of 1992.” Presented at the 2007 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Explaining Challenger Quality in Congressional Elections Reconsidered.” With Jon R. Bond. Presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA.

“Congressional Realignment and the 1994 Elections.” Presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the Southwest Political Science Association, San Antonio, TX.