

# Nolan McCarty

## **Work**

Woodrow Wilson School of Public  
and International Affairs  
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Princeton University  
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## **Home**

918 Princeton-Kingston Road  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
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## **Academic Employment**

Susan Dod Brown Professor of Politics and Public Affairs, Princeton University, 2007-present.

Professor of Politics and Public Affairs, Princeton University, 2003 – 2007.

Fellow, Center for the Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, 9/2004-7/2005.

Associate professor of Politics and Public Affairs (with tenure), Princeton University, 2001-2003.

Associate professor of Political Science (with tenure), Columbia University, 2000-2001.

Robert Eckles Swain National Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University 1999-2000.

Assistant professor of Political Science, Columbia University, 1996-2000.

Assistant professor, School of Business Administration, University of Southern California, 1993-1996.

Instructor, Graduate School of Industrial Administration, Carnegie Mellon University, 1993.

## **Administrative**

Associate Dean, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (2005 - ).  
Acting Dean, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (2007-2008).

Elected member, Princeton University Committee on Appointments and Advancements (C/3) 2009-2010.  
Chair, Resources Committee, Council of the Princeton University Community (2007 - 2008).  
Faculty Chair, PhD Program, Woodrow Wilson School, 2002-2004.  
Director, Graduate Program in Political Economy, 2001-2004.  
Executive committee, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, 2003-2004.  
Member, Task Force on the Changing Nature of Government Service (chaired by Paul Volcker and Anne-Marie Slaughter)

### **Honors, Awards, and Grants**

Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, Political Economy Program.  
Fellow, Center for the Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, 2004-2005.  
Robert Eckles Swain National Fellow, Hoover Institution 1999-2000.  
Patrick J. Fett Award for the best paper on the scientific study of Congress and the Presidency at the 1998 Midwest Political Science Association Meetings.  
John M. Olin Fellowship in Political Economy (1990-1993)  
Phi Beta Kappa (1990)  
Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, Columbia University, 1996-97 (\$6,000)  
National Science Foundation Grant, 1995-96 (\$87,500)  
Institute for Social and Economic Theory and Research, Columbia University (\$10,000)  
Russell Sage Foundation "Polarization, Inequality, and Public Policy in the American States," 2002-2003 (\$97,000)

### **Education**

Ph.D. Political Economy. Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. 1993.  
M.S. Political Economy. Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. 1992.  
A.B. Economics with Honors. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. 1990.

### **Books**

*Political Game Theory* (with Adam Meirowitz). 2006. Cambridge University Press.  
*Polarized America: The Dance of Political Ideology and Unequal Riches* (with Keith T. Poole and Howard Rosenthal). 2006. MIT Press.  
Named an "Outstanding Academic Title" by *Choice* in 2007.  
Critics Roundtables: 2005 APSA, 2006 MPSA  
Reviews: *American Prospect*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Chicago Tribune*, *American Review of Politics*, *Economic History Net*, *Independent Review*, *The*

*Week, Journal of Economic Issues, Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare, The Independent Review, Political Science Quarterly*

### **Monographs**

*The Realignment of National Politics and the Income Distribution* (with Keith T. Poole and Howard Rosenthal). 1997. American Enterprise Institute Studies on Understanding Economic Inequality.

### **Journal Articles**

“Does Gerrymandering Cause Polarization?” (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal) 2009. *American Journal of Political Science* 53(3):666-680.

“Presidential Vetoes in the Early Republic.” 2009. *Journal of Politics* 71(2): 369-384.

“[Bureaucratic Capacity, Delegation, and Political Reform](#),” (with John Huber). 2004. *American Political Science Review* 98(3): 481-494.

“[The Appointments Dilemma](#)”. 2004. *American Journal of Political Science* 48(3): 413-428.

“[Political Resource Allocation: The Benefits and Costs of Voter Initiatives](#),” (with John G. Matsusaka). 2001. *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*. 17(2): 413-448.

“[The Hunt for Party Discipline](#)” (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal). 2001. *American Political Science Review*. 95(3):673-687.

“[Cabinet Decision Rules and Political Uncertainty in Parliamentary Bargaining](#)” (with John Huber). 2001. *American Political Science Review*. 95(2):345-360.

“[The Politics of Blame: Bargaining before an Audience](#),” (with Timothy Groseclose) 2000. *American Journal of Political Science*. 45(1):100-119.

“[The Time to Give: PAC Motivations and Electoral Timing](#),” (with Lawrence Rothenberg). 2000. *Political Analysis*. 8(3):230-259.

“[Coalitional Maintenance: Politicians, Parties, and Organized Groups](#),” (with Lawrence Rothenberg). 2000. *American Politics Quarterly*, 28(3):291-308.

“[Proposal Rights, Veto Rights, and Political Bargaining](#).” 2000. *American Journal of Political Science*, 44(3):506-522.

- [“Presidential Pork: Executive Veto Power and Distributive Politics.”](#) 2000. *American Political Science Review*, 94(1):117-129.
- [“Advice and Consent: Senate Response to Executive Branch Nominations 1885-1996”](#) (with Rose Razaghian). 1999. *American Journal of Political Science*, 43(3):1122-43.
- [“An Empirical Spatial Model of Congressional Campaigns”](#) (with Keith T. Poole). 1998. *Political Analysis*, 7(1):1-30.
- [“Presidential Reputation and the Veto.”](#) 1997. *Economics and Politics*, 9(1):1-26.
- [“Commitment and the Campaign Contribution Contract”](#) (with Lawrence Rothenberg). 1996. *American Journal of Political Science*, 40(3): 872-904.
- [“Veto Power and Legislation: An Empirical Analysis of Executive-Legislative Bargaining from 1961-1986”](#) (with Keith T. Poole). 1995. *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization*, 11(2):282-312.

### **Book Chapters**

- “The Political Economy of Inequality and Redistribution” (with Jonas Pontusson). 2009. Brian Nolan, Weimar Salverda, and Tim Smeeding eds. *Handbook of Economic Inequality*. Oxford University Press.
- “The Policy Consequences of Political Polarization.” 2007. Paul Pierson and Theda Skocpol eds. *The Transformation of the American Polity* Princeton University Press.
- “Does Bicameralism Matter?” (with Michael Cutrone). 2006. Donald Wittman and Barry Weingast eds. *Handbook of Political Economy*.
- “Models of Vetoes and Veto Bargaining,” (with Charles Cameron). 2005. *Annual Review of Political Science* 7:409-435.
- “Bureaucratic Capacity and Legislative Output,” (with John Huber). 2006. *The Macropolitics of Congress*. Eds: E. Scott Adler and John Lapinski.
- “Hitting the Ground Running: The Timing of Presidential Appointments in Transition,” (with Rose Razaghian) in *Presidential Power: Forging the Presidency for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Eds: Martha Joynt Kumar, Robert Y. Shapiro, and Lawrence R. Jacobs. New York: Columbia University Press.

“Congress and the Territorial Expansion of the United States” (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal) in *New Directions in Studying the History of the U.S. Congress*. Eds: David Brady and Mathew McCubbins. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

### Reviews and Comments

Review of Sean Theriault. *Party Polarization in Congress*. Forthcoming, *Political Science Quarterly*.

Review of Barbara Sinclair. *Party Wars: Polarization and the Politics of National Policymaking*. 2007. *Political Science Quarterly* 122(1):159-150.

“Congressional Studies and Political Economy” *The Political Economist* Volume XIII, Issue 3 Fall 2006.

Comment on Melissa Cully Anderson and Nathaniel Persily “Regulating Democracy Through Democracy: The Use of Direct Legislation in Election Law Reform.” 2005. *University of Southern California Law Review* 78(4):1035-1040.

Review of Keith L. Dougherty *Collective Action under the Articles of Confederation*, 2002. *Political Science Quarterly* 117(1):173-174.

Review of Patricia Heidotting Conley *Presidential Mandates: How Elections Shape the National Agenda*. 2001. *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, p. 747-749.

### Opinion Pieces

Blog: <http://nolanmccarty.com>

“McCain for President?: A Liberal Conservative Oscillation Cements His Maverick Reputation.” *San Diego Union Tribune* August 31, 2008 (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal)  
[http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20080831/news\\_1z1e31mccarty.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20080831/news_1z1e31mccarty.html)

“Obama for President?: Moderate and independent voters still must be convinced” *San Diego Union Tribune* August 24, 2008 (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal)  
[http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20080824/news\\_1z1e24obama.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20080824/news_1z1e24obama.html)

“Neither Candidate Likely to Reduce Rancor” *Politico*, July 24, 2008 (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal) <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0708/12013.html>

## Work Under Review

“A Bridge to Somewhere: Mapping State and Congressional Ideology on a Cross-Institutional Common Space” (with Boris Shor and Christopher Berry). Invited to revise and resubmit to *Legislative Studies Quarterly*.

## Other Work in Progress

*Political Bubbles: Financial Crises and the Failure of American Democracy* (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal)

“The Political Economy of Immigration and Redistribution” (with Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal).

“Polarization, Inequality, and Welfare Reform in the American States”

“Are Committees Powerful in the Confirmation Process?” (with Rose Razaghian)

“Welfare and Paternalism” (with Stu Jordan).

“Stronger Bridges: Putting Congress and State Legislatures in Common Ideological Space” (with Boris Shor).

“Methodological Issues in Bridging Ideal Points” (with Boris Shor and Chris Berry).

“Voting, Income Inequality, and Polarization” (with Jonas Pontusson and Teppei Yamamoto).

## Courses Taught

### Doctoral Level

Bureaucratic Politics. Princeton University.

Analysis of American Political Institutions. Princeton University.

Democratic Processes. Columbia University

Political Methodology Sequence. Columbia University

Colloquium on Political Organizations and Interest Groups. Columbia University

Research Controversies in American Politics. Columbia University

Mathematics for Political Science. Columbia University

The Politics of Inequality in the U.S. and Western Europe. Princeton University

Game Theory and Political Theory. Columbia University

## **Master's Level**

Legislative Politics. Princeton University. (Spring 2003)  
Advanced Econometrics and Public Policy. (Spring 2003)  
Business, Government, and Society. University of Southern California  
Business and Its Nonmarket Environment. University of Southern California

## **Undergraduate**

Polarized America: Polarization, Inequality and the Future of American Politics.  
Princeton University.  
Introduction to American Politics. Princeton University.  
The Development of American Political Institutions. Princeton University.  
The Politics of Reform. Columbia University  
Decline of the American Party System? Columbia University  
Introduction to American Government and Politics. Columbia University  
Public Finance. Carnegie Mellon University

## **Professional Activities**

### **Conference Participation**

American Economic Association (2002)  
American Political Science Association (various years)  
Challenges in Political Economy, Harvard University (2002)  
Comparative Political Economy Workshop, Harvard (2006)  
Designing Democratic Institutions, LSE (2008)  
Eric M. Mindich Encounter with Authors, Center for Basic Research in the Social  
Sciences, Harvard University (2005) (for *Polarized America*)  
Encounter with the Authors, Center for Basic Research in the Social Sciences, Harvard  
University (1999) (participant)  
History of Congress Conference, Columbia University (2001,2002)  
History of Congress Conference, Stanford University (1999,2004)  
Impact of Direct Democracy, University of Southern California and University of  
California at Irvine (2005)  
IGIER/PIER Conference on Political Economics, University of Pennsylvania (2002)  
Macro-Politics of Congress, University of Colorado (2001)  
Midwest Political Science Association (various years)  
Northeastern Political Science Association (2002)  
Political Accountability Conference, Princeton University (2002)  
Political Institutions and Economic Policy, Harvard University (2002)  
Public Choice Society (various years)  
Russell Sage Social Dimensions of Inequality Conference (2003)  
Social Science History Association (1998)  
Society for Political Methodology Summer Meetings (1997-1999)  
Southern California Political Economy Association (1995)

Standing Group on Political Economy of the ECPR (2009)  
Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics (1995)  
*State of the Parties: 1996 and Beyond*, Ray C. Bliss Institute for Applied Politics (1997)  
*Transformations of American Politics*, Harvard University (2003,2004)  
W. Allen Wallis Political Economy Conference, Rochester University (1996,2002)

### **Invited Workshops**

California Institute of Technology, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (1992)  
Center for the Advance Study in the Behavioral Sciences (2005)  
Columbia University, Department of Political Science (1994, 1996, 2009)  
Harvard University, Department of Government (1998)  
Harvard University, Center for American Political Studies (2006)  
Hoover Institution, Stanford University (2000, 2005)  
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (2002)  
London School of Economics and Political Science (2009)  
Michigan State University, Department of Political Science (2002)  
New York University, Department of Politics (1998, 2001)  
New York University, School of Law (2002)  
Northwestern University (2003)  
Nuffield College, Oxford University (2009)  
Ohio State University (1993, 2007)  
Princeton University (1992, 1998, 2000)  
Stanford University Graduate School of Business (1992,1994,1995,1999)  
Stanford University Law School (2005)  
Universidad Extranada de Bogota (2000)  
University of California at Berkeley, Department of Political Science (2000,2004)  
University of California at Berkeley, Goldman School (2007)  
University of California at Los Angeles, Department of Political Science (1995,1999)  
University of California at San Diego, Department of Political Science (2000)  
University of Chicago, Department of Political Science (2005)  
University of Essex, Department of Government (2009)  
University of Essex, Political Economy (2009)  
University of Kentucky, Department of Political Science (2000)  
University of Minnesota, Department of Political Science (2006)  
University of Oregon, Department of Political Science (1996)  
University of Pittsburgh, Department of Political Science (2007)  
University of Rochester, Department of Political Science (1995,1996,1998,1999)  
University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business (1993, 2000)  
Washington University, Department of Political Science (1999)  
Yale University, Department Political Science (1992, 2002)  
Yale University School of Management (1993)

## **Referee Service**

Academic Press, *American Economic Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Politics Quarterly*, *British Journal of Political Science*, Cambridge University Press, Columbia University Press, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economics and Politics*, *European Economic Review*, *Governance*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, *Journal of Human Capital*, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, MIT Press, National Science Foundation, Oxford University Press, *Political Analysis*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Quarterly*, Princeton University Press, *Rand Journal of Economics*, *Social Choice and Welfare*, University of Chicago Press, University of Michigan Press.

## **Outside Professional Activities**

Founding Editor-in-Chief, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*  
Council member, *Midwest Political Science Association*.  
Editorial committee, *Annual Review of Political Science*  
Executive committee, Section on Political Economy, American Political Science Association (2004-2007)  
Program co-chair, 2005 Midwest Political Science Association Meetings.  
Editorial Board, *American Journal of Political Science*  
Editorial Board, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*  
Section Head, Political Economy, American Political Science Association Conference, 2002.  
Instructor, *Political Game Theory*, European Consortium of Political Research Summer School, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2009)  
Instructor, National Science Foundation Program on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, University of Michigan (2006)  
Instructor, National Science Foundation Program on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, Harvard University (2002)  
Instructor, National Science Foundation Program on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, Washington University, St. Louis (2004, 2006)  
Section Head, Parties and Interest Groups, Midwest Political Science Association, 2003.

## **Professional Memberships**

American Political Science Association  
Midwest Political Science Association