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Curriculum Vitae

JAMES F. SPRIGGS II

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Current Appointments

Sidney W. Souers Professor of Government, WashU, 2009-present.

Professor, Department of Political Science, WashU, 2006-present.

Professor, School of Law (by courtesy), WashU, 2006-present.

Previous Appointments

Chair, Department of Political Science, WashU, 2011-2020.

Associate Chair, Department of Political Science, WashU, 2010-2011.

Professor, Department. of Political Science, University of California, Davis, 2006.

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis, 2000-06.

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, U.C. Davis, 2000-2003.

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis, 1994-2000.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Washington University in St. Louis, 1994.

M.A., Political Science, Washington University in St. Louis, 1991.

B.A. Political Science, Westminster College (Fulton, MO), 1989.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Books

2006. *The Politics of Precedent on the U.S. Supreme Court*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press (with Thomas G. Hansford).

2000. *Crafting Law on the Supreme Court: The Collegial Game*. New York: Cambridge University Press (with Forrest Maltzman and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

[Winner of the C. Herman Pritchett Award for the best book published on Law and Courts, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2001]

[Winner of the Lasting Contribution Award for a book or article, 10 years or older, that has made a lasting impression on the field of Law and Courts, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2017]

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2026. "The Effect of Angler Education Materials on the Practice of Selective Harvest: Evidence from a Survey Experiment." *Aquaculture, Fish, and Fisheries* Forthcoming (with Michael Allen, Gregory Sass, and Nate Monroe).

2025. "The Curious Case of the Migrating Seat: Understanding the Role of Senate Norms in Confirming Judges on the U.S. Courts of Appeals." *Political Research Quarterly* 79(1):295-308. (with Nick Waterbury, Josh Boston, and Patrick Rickert).

2021. "Agenda Setting and Attention to Precedent in the U.S. Federal Courts." *Journal of Law and Courts* 9(2):233-260 (with J.B. Duck-Mayr and Thomas G. Hansford).

2019. "The Influence of Unique Information in Briefs on Supreme Court Opinion Content." *Justice System Journal* 40(2): 126-157 (with Morgan Hazelton and Rachael Hinkle).

2014. "The Influence of Congressional Preferences on Legislative Overrides of Supreme Court Decisions." *Law and Society Review* 48(4):921-945 (with Alicia Uribe and Thomas G. Hansford).

2013. "The Information Dynamics of Vertical *Stare Decisis*." *Journal of Politics* 75(4):894-906 (with Thomas G. Hansford and Anthony A. Stenger).

2013. "The Citation and Depreciation of U.S. Supreme Court Precedent." *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 10(2):325-358 (with Ryan C. Black).

2009. "Courting the Public: The Influence of Decision Attributes on Individuals' Views of Court Opinions." *Journal of Politics* 71(3):909-925 (with John T. Scott and James R. Zink).

2007. "Network Analysis and the Law: Measuring the Legal Importance of Precedents at the U.S. Supreme Court." *Political Analysis* 15(3):324-346 (with James Fowler, Timothy Johnson, Paul Wahlbeck, and Sangick Jeon).

2006. "The Cold War on Ice: Friends, Rivals, and Enemies in Olympic Figure Skating Judging." *Perspectives on Politics* 5(1):17-29 (with John T. Scott and Brian R. Sala).

2006. "The Influence of Oral Arguments on the U.S. Supreme Court." *American Political Science Review* 100(1):99-113 (with Timothy R. Johnson and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

[Winner of the Lasting Contribution Award for a book or article, 10 years or older, that has made a lasting impression on the field of law and courts, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2025]

2005. "Passing and Strategic Voting on the Supreme Court." *Law and Society Review* 39(June):349-377 (with Timothy R. Johnson and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

2004. "Designing Tests of the Supreme Court and the Separation of Powers." *Political Research Quarterly* 57(June):197-208 (with Brian R. Sala).

2002. "The U.S. Supreme Court's Incorporation and Interpretation of Precedent." *Law and Society Review* 36(1):401-422 (with Thomas G. Hansford).

2002. "Ghostwriters on the Court? A Stylistic Analysis of U.S. Supreme Court Opinion Drafts." *American Politics Research* 30(March):166-192 (with Paul J. Wahlbeck and Lee Sigelman).

2001. "Explaining the Overruling of U.S. Supreme Court Precedent." *Journal of Politics* 63(August): 1091-1111 (with Thomas G. Hansford).

2000. "Measuring Legal Change: The Reliability and Validity of *Shepard's Citations*." *Political Research Quarterly* 53(June):327-341 (with Thomas G. Hansford).

1999. "The Politics of Dissents and Concurrences on the U.S. Supreme Court." *American Politics Quarterly* 27(October):488-514 (with Forrest Maltzman and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

1999. "Bargaining on the U.S. Supreme Court: Justices' Responses to Majority Opinion Drafts."

Journal of Politics 61(May): 485-506 (with Forrest Maltzman and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

1998. "Marshalling the Court: Bargaining and Accommodation on the Supreme Court." *American Journal of Political Science* 42(January):294-315 (with Forrest Maltzman and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

[Excerpted in Walter F. Murphy, C. Herman Pritchett, and Lee Epstein. 2001. *Courts, Judges, and Politics* 5th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.]

1997. "Explaining Federal Bureaucratic Compliance with Supreme Court Opinions." *Political Research Quarterly* 50(September):567-593.

1997. "Amicus Curiae and the Role of Information at the U.S. Supreme Court." *Political Research Quarterly* 50(June):365-386 (with Paul J. Wahlbeck).

1996. "The Supreme Court and Federal Administrative Agencies: A Resource-Based Theory and Analysis of Judicial Impact." *American Journal of Political Science* 40(November):1122-1151.

1995. "Calling it Quits: Strategic Retirement on the Federal Courts of Appeals, 1893-1991." *Political Research Quarterly* 48(September): 573-597 (with Paul J. Wahlbeck).

[Excerpted in Lee Epstein. 2013. *The Economics of Judicial Behavior*. Edward Elger Publishing.]

Law Review Articles

2017. "The Long and Short of it: The Influence of Briefs on Outcomes in the Roberts Court." *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy* 54:123-136 (with Morgan Hazelton and Rachael Hinkle) [Invited].

2011. "Explaining Plurality Opinions" *Georgetown Law Journal* 99(2): 515-570 (with David Stras).

2010. "The Most Important (and Best) Supreme Court Opinions and Justices." *Emory Law Journal* 60(2):409-502 (with Frank Cross).

2010. "Citations in the U.S. Supreme Court: An Empirical Study of their Use and Significance." *University of Illinois Law Review* 2010(2): 489-576 (with Frank Cross, Timothy R. Johnson, and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

2009. "An Examination of Strategic Anticipation of Appellate Court Preferences by Federal District Court Judges." *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy* 29:37-81 (with Christy Boyd) [Invited].

2008. "An Empirical Analysis of the Length of U.S. Supreme Court Opinions." *Houston Law Review* 45(3): 621-683 (with Ryan C. Black).

2007. "Supreme Court Oral Advocacy: Does it affect the Justices' Decisions." *Washington University Law Review* 85(3):457-527 (with Paul J. Wahlbeck and Timothy R. Johnson).

[Excerpted in Richard Seamon et al. 2013. *The Supreme Court Sourcebook*. Aspen Publishers.]

Non-Refereed Articles & Chapters in Edited Books

2021. "We Compared the Supreme Court with other Democracies High Courts. More Justices would Improve its Work." *The Washington Post, The Monkey Cage*, 10 May (with Cliff Carrubba, Matt Gabel, Jay Krehbiel, and Sivaram Cheruvu).

2012. "The Origin and Development of Stare Decisis at the U.S. Supreme Court." In *New Directions in Judicial Politics*. ed. Kevin T. McGuire. New York: Routledge (with Timothy R. Johnson and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

2005. "A Letter from the Section Chair. *Law and Courts Newsletter* 15(3):1, 4.

2005. "A Letter from the Section Chair. *Law and Courts Newsletter* 15(2):1, 4.

2005. "A Letter from the Section Chair. *Law and Courts Newsletter* 15(1):1, 5-6.

2003. "The Attitudinal Model: An Explanation of Case Dispositions, Not Substantive Policy Outcomes." *Law and Courts Newsletter* 13(3):23-26.

1999. "Strategy and Judicial Choice: New Institutional Approaches to Supreme Court Decision-Making." In *Supreme Court Decision-Making: New Institutional Approaches*. ed. Cornell Clayton and Howard Gillman. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press (with Forrest Maltzman and Paul J. Wahlbeck).

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

WORKING PAPERS

"How People Perceive the Ideology of their State Supreme Court and Why it Matters for the U.S. Supreme Court" (with Reagan Dobbs, Thomas G. Hansford, and Ricardo Robles)

"Public Responses to Legal Justifications in Court Decisions" (with Reagan Dobbs and Thomas G. Hansford)

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Research Grant, National Science Foundation (SES-1155066): Doctoral Dissertation Research: The Role of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Legal Development: An Empirical Analysis," (Dissertation Advisor of Rachael K. Hinkle), \$12,400.

Research Grant, The Weidenbaum Center, Washington University in St. Louis: "Legal Citations in the European Court of Justice" (with Matthew Gabel), 2007.

Research Grant, Time Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences (TESS 81-SCOTT): "Courting the Public: Judicial Behavior and Public Views of Court Decisions" (with John T. Scott and James R. Zink).

Research Grant, National Science Foundation (Law and Social Science, SES-0550451): Collaborative Research: The Establishment of Stare Decisis in the American Legal System," \$102,344.

U.C. Davis Institute of Governmental Affairs, Faculty Research Grant, 2005-2006.

Research Grant, National Science Foundation (Law and Social Science): "Research Experience for Graduates," \$6,250.

Research Grant, National Science Foundation (Law and Social Science, SES-9906811): "Collaborative Research: Documenting Collegial Interaction in Opinion Writing on the U.S. Supreme Court, 1969-1985 Terms," \$49,961.

U. C. Davis Institute of Governmental Affairs Junior Faculty Research Grant, 1998-99.

U.C. Davis Faculty Research Grants, 1994-95, 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06.

U.C. Davis Program on Economy, Justice, and Society Grant, 1995-96.

U.C. Davis Washington Center Grant, 1995, 1997.

U.C. Davis Junior Faculty Research Fellowship, Summer 1996.

U.C. Davis Undergraduate Instructional Improvement Grant, Summer 1995.
Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, Washington University, St. Louis, 1993-1994.

University Fellowship, Washington University in St. Louis, 1989-1990.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Lasting Contribution Award for a book or article, 10 years or older, that has made a lasting impression on the field of law and courts, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2025

Lasting Contribution Award for a book or article, 10 years or older, that has made a lasting impression on the field of law and courts, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2017

Lifetime Alumni Achievement Award, Westminster College (Fulton, MO), 2014.

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, Washington University in St. Louis, 2009.

American Judicature Society Award for the best paper presented the previous year at an annual meeting, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2002.

C. Herman Pritchett Award for the best book published on law and courts, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2001.

Edward S. Corwin Award for the best doctoral dissertation in the field of Public Law, presented by the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 1995.

Antoinette Dames Prize for the best graduate student paper, Washington University, St. Louis, 1990.

DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Chair of Committee:

<i>Name (Year)</i>	<i>First Position</i>	<i>Current Position</i>
J.B. Duck-Mayr (2022)	Asst., University of Texas at Austin	---
Josh Boston (2019)	Asst., Bowling Green State Univ.	Assoc., Bowling Green St.
Morgan Hazelton (2015)	Asst., Saint Louis University	Assoc., St. Louis U.
Alicia Uribe-McGuire (2014)	Asst., Univ. of IL, Urbana-Champaign	---
Rachael K. Hinkle (2013)	Asst., Univ. of MD, Baltimore County	Assoc., U. at Buffalo
Ryan Black (2009)	Asst., Michigan State University	Full, Michigan St. U.
Ryan Owens (2008)	Asst., Harvard University	Full and Director of the Florida Institute on Civics and Governance, Florida State University.

Thomas Hansford (2001) Asst., University South Carolina Full, U. of CA, Merced

Member of Committee:

<i>Name (Year)</i>	<i>First Position</i>	<i>Current Position</i>
Nick Waterbury (2022)	Asst. Dir., Legal, Legislative, & Policy Studies, U. of IL Springfield	
Jay Krehbiel (2016)	Asst. Prof, West Virginia U.	Assoc. Prof., West VA. U.
Michael Nelson (2014)	Asst. Prof, Penn. State U.	Full Prof. & Dept. Head PA. St. U.
Benjamin Bricker (2013)	Asst Prof., SIU-Carbondale	Assoc. Prof., SIU, Carbondale
Michael Malecki (2010)	Senior Analyst, Yougov	Dir. of Stats., Crunch Cloud
Christy Boyd (2009)	Asst. Prof., U. at Buffalo	Full Prof., WashU Law & Pol. Sci.
Mike Rocca (2004)	Asst. Prof., U. of New Mexico	Assoc. Prof., U. of New Mexico
Steven R. Routh (2001)	Asst Prof., Cal. St. U., Stanislaus	Full Prof., CA St., Stanislaus
David F. Damore (2000)	Asst. Prof, U. of NV. Las Vegas	Full Prof., U. of NV., Las Vegas
Stacy Gordon (1997)	Asst. Prof., U. of Nevada, Reno	Senior Director, Foundation for CA Community Colleges

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AT CONFERENCES

American Political Science Association: 1992-1994, 1996-2011, 2013, 2021.

Midwest Political Science Association: 1993, 1995-2003, 2005-2011, 2013, 2015, 2021, 2022, 2026.

Southern Political Science Association: 1991, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2013, 2016, 2021, 2025.

Western Political Science Association: 1996, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2010.

Law and Society Association: 1997.

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies: 2006, 2007, 2009, 2015.

COURSES TAUGHT (Washington University)

Topics in American Politics: Judicial Politics, graduate course.

American Political Institutions, graduate course

Comparative Judicial Politics, graduate course

The Politics of the U.S. Supreme Court, undergraduate course

Constitutional Politics in the U.S., undergraduate course.

Defendants' Rights, undergraduate course.

The U.S. Supreme Court and Legal Change, undergraduate course

The U.S. Supreme Court in the Time of Trump, undergraduate course

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Purdue University, Forum on American Institutional Renewal, 2025; Westminster College (Fulton, MO), 2014; Conference on Institutions and Lawmaking, Emory University, 2011; Westminster College (Fulton, MO), 2010; University of Rochester, 2010; University of California, Merced, 2009; University of Texas School of Business, 2009; Northwestern University School of Law, 2008; University of Pittsburgh, 2008, Texas A&M University, 2008; University of Texas School of Law School, 2006; Vanderbilt University Law School, 2006; Washington University in St. Louis 2006; New York University School of Law (Modeling Law Conference), 2005; University of California, San Diego, 2004; University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, 2003; Center for the Study of Law and Society, U.C. Berkeley, 2002; University of Arizona, 2001; Indiana University, Bloomington, 2001; State University of New York, Stony Brook, 2001; Scientific Study of Judicial Politics Conference, Washington University in St. Louis, 1996; U.C. Conference on Research Initiatives in American Politics, 1999; U.C. Davis Institute of Governmental Affairs Supreme Court Series, 1997; U.C. Davis Quantitative Social Science Symposium, 1997; U.C. Berkeley Law and Society Speaker Series, 1997; U.C. Davis Quantitative Analysis in Economics and Related Disciplines series, 1997; George Washington University, 1997; U.C. Davis Economy, Justice, and Society Speaker Series, 1996; State University of New York at Stony Brook, 1994; U.C. Davis, 1994.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Chair of the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2004-2005.

Member of the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Political Science, 2005-2010.

Panel Chair: APSA (2004, 2013); MPSA (2002, 2010, 2022); WPSA (2010); SPSA (2004, 2006).

Panel Discussant: SPSA (2015); CELS (2006, 2009, 2015); MPSA (1995, 1996, 2000, 2003, 2021, 2026); WPSA (2001, 2002); “Conference on Preferences, Choice, and Uncertainty: Analyzing Choice in Political and Social Settings,” University of California, Davis (2001).

Association Award and Service Committees: MPSA (2010); Law & Courts APSA (2009, 2008, 2002, 1999, 1997).

Member, Advisory Panel for the Law and Social Science Section of the National Science Foundation.

Book review of *Majority Rule or Minority Will: Adherence to Precedent on the U.S. Supreme Court*. By Harold J. Spaeth and Jeffrey A. Segal. 1999. *Law and Politics Book Review* 9(December):563-565.

Book review of *American Constitutional Law* 5th ed. by Louis Fisher. *Law and Politics Book Review* 15(August):673-674.

Book review of *Environmental Change: Federal Courts and the EPA*. by Rosemary O'Leary. 1996. *Governance-An International Journal of Policy and Administration* 9(January):101-102.

Manuscript referee for: American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Politics, Journal of Law and Courts, Judicature, Southeastern Political Review, American Politics Review, American Politics Quarterly, Political Behavior, Law and Society Review, Journal of Legal Studies, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Journal of Theoretical Politics, Justice System Journal, State Politics and Policy Quarterly, University of Michigan Press, Oxford University Press, Political Behavior, Princeton University Press, and Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization.

Proposal referee for National Science Foundation's Law and Social Science Section and Political Science Sections.