

Alex Garlick

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Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, University of Vermont	2022-
Assistant Professor, The College of New Jersey	2017-2022
Congressional Fellow, The American Political Science Association	2016-2017

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Pennsylvania	2016
M.A. Political Science, University of Pennsylvania	2015
B.A. Political Science, Middlebury College	2009

Research

Book

Garlick, A. (2025, expected) *Pre-Existing Conditions: How Lobbying Makes American Health Care More Expensive*, Oxford University Press. New York.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Garlick, A., Junk, W.M. and Brown, H.. (2025) "How Lobbying Matters" *Annual Review of Political Science*, volume 28.

Garlick, A., Kroeger, M. and Pellaton, P. (2025) "Legislative Capacity Limits Interest Group Influence: Evidence from California's Proposition 140" *Legislative Studies Quarterly* [\[html \(open access\)\]](#)

Brown, A. and Garlick, A. (2024) "Bicameralism Hinges on Legislative Professionalization". *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 49 (1), p. 165-181. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2023) "Laboratories of Politics: There is Bottom-up Diffusion of Policy Attention in the American Federal System" *Political Research Quarterly*, 76(1), 29-43. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2022) "Interest Group Lobbying and Partisan Polarization in the United States: 1999–2016" *Political Science Research and Methods*, 10(3), 488-506. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. and Cluverius, J. (2020) "Automated Estimates of State Interest Group Populations" *Interest Groups & Advocacy* 9 (3), 396-409. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2017) "National Policies, Agendas, and Polarization in American State Legislatures: 2011 to 2014" *American Politics Research*, 45(6), 939-979. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2015) "'The Letter After Your Name': Party Labels on Virginia Ballots." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, 15(2), 147-170. [\[html\]](#)

Invited

Garlick, A. (2023) “The Legacy of Lobbying on the Affordable Care Act” *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 12 (1), 109–111. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2021). “The Battle over Health Care.” In *Under the Iron Dome: Congress from the Inside*. P. Herrnson, Campbell, C. & Dulio, D. (Eds.), pp. 128-141. Routledge. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2021) “Interest Groups and the Evolution of Gun and Racial Politics in the USA” *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 10(1), 91-94. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2020) “A New Wave of Pluralism in the Study of Environmental Policy in the United States” *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 9(2), 244–247. [\[html\]](#)

Garlick, A. (2018) “Mercy and Malice: An Inside View of the Push to Repeal and Replace Obamacare.” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 51(2), 491-493. [\[html\]](#)

Works in Progress

Measuring American State Legislative Policy Agendas Using Machine Learning

This paper uses a machine learning method to code the universe of state legislation since about 2009 by policy area (with Ethan Dee, Amazon, Inc.).

Timing the Influence of Lobbying in the American State Legislatures

This paper uses bill-level lobbying reports to observe when in the legislative process interest groups exert influence (with Abby Matthews and Shawna Metzger, University at Buffalo, SUNY).

Conference Participation*Research Presentations*

Vanderbilt University	2025
American Political Science Association	2024, 2022, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015
State Politics and Policy Conference	2024, 2021*, 2020 [†] , 2019, 2017, 2015, 2014
Princeton University	2024
University of Wisconsin	2023
Consortium on American Political Economy	2023*, 2022*, 2020*
American Political Science Association	2022, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015
Midwest Political Science Association	2021*, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2013
Northeastern Political Science Association	2019, 2017
TCNJ Interdisciplinary Forums	2019, 2018
Dartmouth College	2016, 2015
Philadelphia region American politics conference at Temple University	2015, 2013
University of Pennsylvania Graduate Student Conference	2014, 2013
Annenberg School for Communication Colloquium	2012

Other engagements (as chair, discussant or invited speaker)

APSA Congressional Fellowship Orientation	2023*, 2022*, 2021*, 2020*
Open States Summit and Hackathon	2023*
Data and Society: The Datafied State	2022*
Midwest Political Science Association	2021*
Consortium on American Political Economy	2021*
Election Sciences, Reform, & Administration Conference	2019
Northeastern Political Science Association	2019
TCNJ Political Science Independent Research Showcase	2019

State Politics and Policy Conference

2015

*virtual, †canceled.

Teaching

University of Vermont

American Political System
Congress
Health Politics and Policy

Summer 2024, Fall 2023
Spring 2024, Spring 2023
Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

The College of New Jersey

American Political Economy (Jr. Tutorial)
American Legislative Politics (Jr. Tutorial)
Congress and the Presidency
Data Science in State Politics
Introduction to American Government
Political Communication (Sr. Seminar)
The Presidency

Spring 2021, Spring 2020
Spring 2019, Spring 2018
Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019
Spring 2020
Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2017
Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
Fall 2017

Service & Professional Activities

Reviewer: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Politics Research*, *Election Law Journal*, *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, *Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Journal of Social Computing*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Research & Methods*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Policy & Internet*, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*

Alumni Editor Roosevelt Institute's *10 Ideas for Social Justice* 2016

Graduate student committee member: Ethan Dee, University of Illinois; Paige Pellaton, University of California, Davis

Member: American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association

Commentary

Garlick, A. (2023) "Here's why rare bills that fail are as interesting as the ones that succeed" [3 Streams](#), 26 May.

Garlick, A. (2022) "The end of Roe v. Wade moves abortion to the states" [LSE USAPP](#) — American Politics and Policy, 4 May.

Garlick, A. (2021) "Impeachment Puts Presidential Power on Trial" [Mischiefs of Faction](#), 18 January.

Garlick, A. (2020) "How the pandemic has changed the value of lobbying" [3 Streams](#), 14 December.

Garlick, A. (2019) "Ambitious state legislators are pushing abortion bans to please interest groups who sense an end to Roe v. Wade" [LSE USAPP](#) — American Politics and Policy, 17 September.

Garlick, A. (2018) "Missing party labels could matter in the Mississippi Senate special election" [Vox](#), 9 July.

Garlick, A. (2017) "In considering Judge Gorsuch's nomination, the Senate should take the long view" [LSE USAPP](#) — American Politics and Policy, 28 March.

Garlick, A. (2016) "Gridlock Won." [US News and World Report](#), 11 November.

Garlick, A. (2015) "Including party labels on ballots increases voting in local elections, especially among minorities" [LSE USAPP](#) — American Politics and Policy, 1 May.

Garlick, A. (2014) “A Method to the Gridlock Madness.” “A Method to the Gridlock Madness.” [US News and World Report](#), 2 Dec.

Other Professional Experience

Political Experience

Office of Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy, III	Foreign Policy Fellow	2016-2017
Denise Garlick for State Representative	Communications Director	2010
John Kerry for President: Colorado Victory	Communications Intern	2004
Needham, MA Town Meeting	Elected Member, Precincts F & A	2003, 2009, 2021

Professional Experience

Staples, Inc.	Sr. Communications Specialist	2009-2011
Magic Falls Rafting Company	Whitewater guide	2005-2009
Blitz Media, Inc.	Operations and Information Technology Intern	2007-2009
Needham Times	Sports Correspondent	2001-2004

Miscellaneous

Software Competencies: STATA, R, MS Excel (VBA), \LaTeX .

Interests: Maine Registered Whitewater Rafting Guide (Class II, 2005-2011); Danish Institute for Study

Abroad: Blogger of the Year (Copenhagen, Denmark. 2007); Eagle Scout (2003).

Last updated: February 2025