

Sarah F. Anzia

Goldman School of Public Policy
University of California, Berkeley
2607 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94720-7320

Email: sanzia@berkeley.edu
Phone: 510.642.5431
Fax: 510.643.9657

Academic employment and affiliations

University of California, Berkeley	
Chancellor's Professor of Public Policy & Political Science	2024-present
Professor of Public Policy & Political Science	2023-2024
Associate Professor of Public Policy & Political Science	2021-2023
Michelle Schwartz Associate Professor of Public Policy & Political Science	2017-2021
Michelle Schwartz Assistant Professor of Public Policy	2015-2017
Assistant Professor of Public Policy	2012-2015
Niskanen Center, Senior Fellow	2019-present
Hoover Institution	
Senior Fellow (adjunct)	2024-present
Visting Fellow	2023-2024

Education

Stanford University	2007-2012
Ph.D. in Political Science, June 2012	
Dissertation: "Election Timing and the Political Influence of the Organized"	
- Winner of APPAM Award for the Best Dissertation in Public Policy & Management	
- Winner of APSA E.E. Schattschneider Award for the best dissertation in American politics and Harold D. Lasswell Award for the best dissertation in the field of policy studies	
University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy	2005-2007
Master of Public Policy, with Honors	
Santa Clara University	1997-2001
Bachelor of Science in Economics, Summa Cum Laude	

Books

- Anzia, Sarah F. 2022. *Local Interests: Politics, Policy, and Interest Groups in US City Governments*. The University of Chicago Press.
- Reviewed by *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, *Mobilization*, *City Journal*, *Choice*, and *Journal of Public Administration*, *Public Affairs*, and *Management*

Anzia, Sarah F. 2014. *Timing and Turnout: How Off-Cycle Elections Favor Organized Groups*. The University of Chicago Press.

- Winner of the APSA Virginia Gray Award for the Best Book on State Politics and Policy
- Winner of the APSA Dennis Judd Award for the Best Book on Urban Politics
- Named a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title, American Library Association
- Reviewed by *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, and *Choice*

Peer-reviewed articles

Anzia, Sarah F., and Jessica Trounstein. Forthcoming. "The Growth of Public-Sector Unions in Early Twentieth-Century America." *Studies in American Political Development*.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Jessica Trounstein. 2025. "Civil Service Adoption in America: The Political Influence of City Employees." *American Political Science Review* 119(2): 549-565.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Mark Spindel. 2025. "Labor's Capital: Public Pensions and Private Equity." *The Forum* 22(4): 433-466.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2024. "Public Schools and Their Pensions: How Is Pension Spending Affecting U.S. School Districts?" *Education Finance and Policy* 19(4): 586-611.

Trachtman, Samuel, Sarah F. Anzia, and Charlotte Hill. 2023. "Age-Group Identity and Political Participation." *Research and Politics* 10(2).

Anzia, Sarah F., Jake Alton Jares, and Neil Malhotra. 2022. "Does Receiving Government Assistance Shape Political Attitudes? Evidence from Agricultural Producers." *American Political Science Review* 16(4): 1389-1406.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Rachel Bernhard. 2022. "How Does Gender Stereotyping Affect Women Candidates? New Evidence from Local Elections in California." *British Journal of Political Science* 52(4): 1544-1563.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2022. "Interest Groups in US Local Politics: Introduction to the Special Issue." *Interest Groups & Advocacy* 11: 179-188.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2022. "Pensions in the Trenches: How Pension Spending is Affecting US Local Government." *Urban Affairs Review* 58(1): 3-32.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2021. "Party and Ideology in American Local Government: An Appraisal." *Annual Review of Political Science* 24: 133-150.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2020. "The Backlash Against School Choice and Accountability Policies: The Organizations and Their Politics." *Urban Affairs Review* 56(3): 981-993.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Terry M. Moe. 2019. "Interest Groups on the Inside: The Governance of Public Pension Funds." *Perspectives on Politics* 17(4): 1059-1078.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2019. "When Does a Group of Citizens Influence Policy? Evidence from Senior Citizen Participation in City Politics." *Journal of Politics* 81(1): 1-14.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Terry M. Moe. 2017. "Polarization and Policy: The Politics of Public-Sector Pensions." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 42(1): 33-62.

- Winner of the Jewell-Loewenberg Award for the best article in *Legislative Studies Quarterly* in 2017

Anzia, Sarah F., and Terry M. Moe. 2016. "Do Politicians Use Policy to Make Politics? The Case of Public-Sector Labor Laws." *American Political Science Review* 110(4): 763-777.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Terry M. Moe. 2015. "Public Sector Unions and the Costs of Government." *Journal of Politics* 77(1): 114-127.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Terry M. Moe. 2014. "Collective Bargaining, Transfer Rights, and Disadvantaged Schools." *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 36(1): 83-111.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Molly C. Jackman. 2013. "Legislative Organization and the Second Face of Power: Evidence from U.S. State Legislatures." *Journal of Politics* 75(1): 210-224.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2012. "The Election Timing Effect: Evidence from a Policy Intervention in Texas." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 7(3): 209-248.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2012. "Partisan Power Play: The Origins of Election Timing as an American Political Institution." *Studies in American Political Development* 26(1): 24-49.

Anzia, Sarah F. and Christopher R. Berry. 2011. "The Jackie (and Jill) Robinson Effect: Why Do Congresswomen Outperform Congressmen?" *American Journal of Political Science* 55(3): 478-493.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2011. "Election Timing and the Electoral Influence of Interest Groups." *Journal of Politics* 73(2): 412-427.

Other publications

Anzia, Sarah F. 2025. "When Political Parties Undermine Themselves." *Hypertext*. January 23.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2025. "The Politics of Problem Solving: Housing, Pensions, and the Organization of Interests." Yale University ISPS working paper.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2025. Book review of Christian Breunig and Chris Koski's *Means, Motives, and Opportunities: How Executives and Interest Groups Set Public Policy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024. *Perspectives on Politics*.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2024. "Local Governments Have Limited Ability or Incentive to Control Spending on Union Wages and Benefits." *ProMarket*.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2023. "Stranglehold." *City Journal*.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2020. "When Is the Election?" *City Journal*.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2019. "A silent pension crisis is eating away local government services. Here's what you need to know." Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*, August 5.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2019. "After the Teacher Walkouts: Statewide Strikes Are a Shot Across the Bow." *Education Next* 19(1): 52-59.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2019. "Looking for Influence in All the Wrong Places: How Studying Subnational Policy Can Revive Research on Interest Group Influence." *Journal of Politics* 81(1): 343-351.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2015. "The Underrepresentation of Women in Elective Office." In *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*.

Anzia, Sarah F., and Terry M. Moe. 2014. "Focusing on Fundamentals: A Reply to Koski and Horng." *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* 36(1): 120-123.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2014. "Missouri's unfair election rules stack the deck against Ferguson's black residents." *Washington Post* (online), August 29, 2014.

Anzia, Sarah F. 2013. Book review of Peter H. Argersinger, *Representation and Inequality in Late Nineteenth-Century America: The Politics of Reapportionment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012. *Perspectives on Politics* 11(4): 1179-1181.

Work in progress

"Business, Labor, and City Government"

Business and the City (book manuscript)

Electoral Systems, Suburbanization, and Representation (with Matthew Gabel and Jonathan Rodden)

Awards, fellowships, and grants

National Science Foundation, Electoral Systems, Suburbanization, and Representation 2023-25
(with Matthew Gabel and Jonathan Rodden)

Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Research Grant 2022-23

American Political Science Association's Jewell-Loewenberg Award from the 2018
Legislative Studies Section for best article in *Legislative Studies Quarterly* in 2017

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, Research Award 2018

Prytanean Faculty Award, University of California, Berkeley	2016
Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Research Grant	2016-17
American Political Science Association's Virginia Gray Award for the best book on state politics and policy	2015
American Political Science Association's Dennis Judd Award for the best book on urban politics	2015
Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Research Grant	2015-16
American Political Science Association's E.E. Schattschneider Award for the best dissertation in American politics	2014
American Political Science Association's Harold D. Lasswell Award for the best dissertation in the field of policy studies	2014
Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Research Grant	2014-15
UC Berkeley Faculty Research Grant	2014
Dipaola Foundation, research grant	2014
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management's Award for the Best Dissertation in Public Policy and Management	2012-13
Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Research Grant	2013-14
Regents' Junior Faculty Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley	2013
Westview Press Award for best paper delivered by a graduate student at the 2009 Midwest Political Science Association National Conference	2010

Teaching

Local Politics and Policy in the United States (PhD students)	2023
The Politics of Public Policy in the United States (undergraduates)	2022-2025
Research Methods for Policy Leaders (MPA students)	2017-2025
The Politics of Public Policy (formerly called Political and Agency Management Aspects of Public Policy, MPPs and MPAs)	2013-2025
American Government and Politics (Field Seminar, PhD students)	2020, 2022, 2025

Coordinator, Research Workshop in American Politics	2018-19
Introduction to Public Policy Analysis (undergraduates)	2013-2017
Government Employees and Public Sector Unions in Politics and Policy	2013-2014

PhD advising

Natalie Ahn (Public Policy, chair), Ari Benkler (Political Science, committee member), Annie Benn (Political Science, committee member, 2nd-year MA paper primary advisor), Rachel Bernhard (Political Science, committee member), Eric Biber (Political Science, committee member), David Broockman (Political Science, committee member), John Brooks (Political Science, committee member), Matt Brundage (Political Science, committee member), Jacqueline Colao (2nd-year MA paper primary advisor), Pia Deshpande (Political Science, committee member), Gabrielle Elul (Political Science, committee member), Makoto Fukumoto (Political Science, co-chair), Jake Grumbach (Political Science, committee member), Charlotte Hill (Public Policy, committee member), Jake Alton Jares (Stanford GSB, committee member), Rebekah Jones (Political Science, committee member), Sara Jozer (Political Science, 2nd-year MA paper primary advisor), Thomas Kelly (Political Science, committee member), John Konicki (Political Science, committee member), Katherine Michel (Political Science, committee member), Rhea Myerscough (Political Science, co-chair), Neil O'Brian (Political Science, committee member), Stephanie Peng (Political Science, chair, 2nd-year MA paper primary advisor), Melanie Phillips (Political Science, committee member), Alexander Sahn (Political Science, committee member), Brenda Sciepure (Public Policy, committee member), Sarang Shah (Political Science, committee member), Casey Ste Claire (Political Science, committee member), Samuel Trachtman (Political Science, committee member), Shad Turney (Political Science, committee member), Anna Weissman (Political Science, chair), Alan Yan (Political Science, committee member)

Invited talks

University of Chicago, American politics workshop, May 6, 2025
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, American Politics Research Group, March 28, 2025
 Yale ISPS Workshop on Government as a Problem-Solving Institution, December 5-6, 2024
 League of California Cities Annual Conference & Expo, City Clerks Workshop, October 16, 2024
 Northwestern University, American politics workshop, October 1, 2024
 Vanderbilt University, CSDI Seminar, April 19, 2024
 Alameda County Special District Association, Keynote Speaker, March 21, 2024
 New York University, American Politics Workshop, February 27, 2024
 Princeton University, Mini-Conference on Interest Groups & State Parties, February 16, 2024
 Yale University, American Politics & Public Policy Workshop, February 7, 2024
 MIT, April 19, 2023
 University of Michigan, IWAP, March 17, 2023
 Stanford University, American Politics Workshop, January 10, 2023
 Princeton University, American Politics seminar, October 13, 2022
 Harvard Kennedy School, Stone Inequality & Social Policy Seminar, May 2, 2022
 Princeton, Spatial Dimension of Economic and Political Inequality workshop, April 1-2, 2022

UC San Diego, Integrated Speaker Series, March 10, 2022
 Rice University, Hudspeth Lecture Series, March 4, 2022
 UC San Diego, Political Economy Lunch Group, January 11, 2022
 University of Virginia, Batten School, September 17, 2021
 Policy for Progress, A Conversation for Progress, April 27, 2021
 Penn/Yale Conference on Federalism and Polarization, April 23, 2021
 Stanford GSB, Conference on Frontiers in Money in Politics, September 8-9, 2020
 BYU, Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy, May 22, 2020 (cancelled due to Covid)
 California Society of Municipal Analysts, November 9, 2019
 NYU Wagner Research Seminar, October 17, 2019
 UC Center Sacramento, July 31, 2019
 National Federation of Municipal Analysts, plenary session at annual meeting, May 9, 2019
 Princeton University, Workshop on Lobbying and Institutional Performance, May 3, 2019
 Stanford University, American politics workshop, February 13, 2019
 Bishop Ranch Fall Speaker Series, November 13, 2018
 Prytanean Homecoming Lecture, UC Berkeley, October 12, 2018
 Studying Subnational Policy Making Symposium, USC, June 5, 2018
 Political Institutions and Political Economy Conference, USC, March 15-16, 2018
 First Friday Forum, Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, March 2, 2018
 American Political Economy Conference, Columbia University, February 16, 2018
 Urban Political Economy Conference, Vanderbilt University, March 17, 2017
 University of California, Merced, February 22, 2017
 Stanford University, American politics workshop, February 1, 2017
 Pacific Coast American Politics Conference, January 20-21, 2017
 Emory University, Political Institutions and Methodology Colloquium, December 13, 2016
 UCLA, American politics workshop, October 17, 2016
 Indiana University, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, September 30, 2016
 Hewlett Conference on Parties, Policy Demanders, and Polarization, June 9-10, 2016
 Yale University, American Politics and Public Policy Workshop, February 17, 2016
 Columbia University, American Politics Workshop, February 2, 2016
 Scholars Strategy Network and Ford Hall Forum event, November 5, 2015
 University of California, Berkeley, Policy Research Seminar, October 19, 2015
 Vanderbilt University, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, September 25, 2015
 Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, September 16, 2015
 University of California, Berkeley, Research Workshop on American Politics, September 9, 2015
 Center on Governing & Investing in the Future, Pensions Roundtable Discussion, July 22, 2015
 Stanford University, American politics workshop, May 13, 2015
 University of Virginia, Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, March 20, 2015
 Harvard University, Center for American Political Studies, March 6, 2015
 UC Center Sacramento, December 4, 2014
 Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, October 28, 2013
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, American Politics Conference, September 20, 2013
 EITM, University of California, Berkeley, June 19, 2013
 Berkeley Breakfast Club, May 31, 2013
 The Commonwealth Club of California, May 1, 2013
 Public Policy Institute of California, March 8, 2013
 Princeton University, CSDP American Politics Colloquium, September 27, 2012

Selected recent service roles

Chair, APSA William Anderson Award Committee	2025
Chair, APSA Political Organizations & Parties Emerging Scholar Award Committee	2025
Editorial Board Member, <i>American Political Science Review</i>	2024-
Editorial Board Member, <i>American Journal of Political Science</i>	2023-
Co-chair, Political Science Department Strategic Planning Committee	2024-2025
Member, UC Berkeley Haas School of Business Dean Search Committee	2025
Chair, GSPP PhD Admissions Committee	2024
Member, GSPP MPP Admissions Committee	2024
Advisory Board Member, Cambridge Studies in American Legislatures	2023-
Steering Committee Member, Berkeley Economy and Society Initiative	2023-
APSA Women's Mentoring Workshop	2023
Faculty Director, Baxter Liberty Initiative	2022-2024
Chair, Faculty Search Committee [GSPP]	2022-2023
Program Chair, APSA Section on American Political Economy	2022-2023
Presenter, UC Davis panel on graduate school for first generation students	2022
Member, UC Center Sacramento Faculty Council [UC system]	2022-
Member, Graduate Studies Committee [political science department]	2021-2022
Member, Faculty Workload Committee [GSPP]	2021-2022
Guest Editor, <i>Interest Groups & Advocacy</i>	2021-2022
Member, American Political Economy advisory board	2021-2022
Member, GSPP Dean's Search Committee [university, GSPP]	2020-2021
Member, Faculty Search Committee [GSPP]	2020
Editorial Board Member, <i>Journal of Political Institutions & Political Economy</i>	2020-2022
Editorial Board Member, <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i>	2020-2022
Member, IGS Faculty Advisory Committee [university]	2020-2022
Member, Political Science PhD Admissions Committee [political science dept.]	2019-2020
Program Chair, APPAM section on Politics, Media, & the Policy Process	2020
UC Academic Senate Task Force on Investments and Retirement [UC system]	2019-2023
Member, Baxter Liberty Initiative advisory committee [university]	2018-2022
Division Chair, APSA Public Policy section	2018-2019
Member, APSA Jewell-Loewenberg Award Committee	2019
Chair, faculty search committee [GSPP]	2018-2019
Editorial Board Member, <i>Political Research Quarterly</i>	2018-2019
Editorial Board Member, <i>Urban Affairs Review</i>	2018-2020
Annual Meeting Program Chair, APSA Public Policy Section	2017-2018
Editorial Board Member, <i>Journal of Politics</i>	2015-2019
Editorial Board Member, <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i>	2016-2018
Member, APSA Virginia Gray Book Award Committee	2017
Member, Prytanean Faculty Award selection committee	2017
Member, SPSA V.O. Key Award Committee	2016-2017
Member, MPSA Breckinridge Award Committee	2016-2017
Member, APSA Gladys M. Kammerer Award Committee	2016
Member, Admissions Committee, Goldman School of Public Policy	2014-2015

Reviewer for *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *Urban Affairs Review*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Social Forces*, *Politics & Gender*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Research and Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *Journal of Public Economics*, and more.

Other work experience

Individual Travel Sales Manager, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL	2003-2005
Corps de Ballet Dancer, Oakland Ballet, Oakland, CA	2001-2002