

Hillel David Soifer
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Last Update: July 6, 2024

Current Appointments:

Associate Professor of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

Previous Appointments:

Associate Professor of Political Science, Temple University (as of July 1, 2016)

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Temple University (Sept. 2009 – June 2016)

Peggy Rockefeller Visiting Scholar, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, 2012-13

Lecturer, Department of Politics & Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, 2008-2009

Assistant Professor of Politics (tenure-track) Bates College, 2006-2008

Education

Ph.D. (2006) and A.M. (2003) Harvard University Department of Government

M.A. (1998) Georgetown University Center for Latin American Studies, with distinction

B.A. (1995) Haverford College, Department of Growth & Structure of Cities

Additional Training:

Institute for Qualitative Research Methods, 2005

Graduate Coursework, Universidad Católica de Chile, Summer 1998

Publications and Research in Progress

Book

(2015) *State Building in Latin America* (Cambridge University Press) Paperback 2016.

Edited Volume

(2019) *Politics After Violence: Legacies of the Shining Path Conflict in Peru* University of Texas Press (co-edited with Alberto Vergara)

Peer reviewed journal articles

14. (accepted pending replication) ‘The MAUP as a threat to inference in political science’ (with Melissa Rogers and Dong Wook Lee) – R&R, *Political Analysis* (conditionally accepted pending replication, February 2024)

13. (2023) ‘Fiscal and information capacity in the developing world’ (with Matthias vom Hau and Jose Alejandro Peres Cajías) *Journal of Institutional Economics* vol.19 #3 pp. 426-443.

12. (2021) ‘The drug trade and state violence in internal conflicts: evidence from Peru’ (with Angelica Durán-Martínez) *Latin American Politics & Society* in vol.63 #4 (Winter) pp.96-123.

11. (2020) ‘Shadow cases in comparative research’ *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* vol. 18 #2 (Fall) pp.9-18.

10. (2020) ‘The indigenous inheritance: critical antecedents and state-building in Latin America and Southeast Asia’ (with Dan Slater) *Social Science History* vol. 44 #2 pp. 251-274.

9. (2017) 'The Bolivarian education reform in context' *Journal of Latin American Studies*, Volume 49 #4 (November) pp. 885-916. (with Jared Abbott & Matthias vom Hau)
*Lightly revised version published as vom Hau, Abbott, and Soifer (2018) 'Inculcating populist nationalism? Education and ideological change in Venezuela' in *Populist Nationalism in Europe and the Americas*, edited by Fernando López-Alves and Diane Johnson, Routledge Press, Chapter 14.
8. (2017) 'Capturing subnational variation in state capacity: a survey-based approach' *American Behavioral Scientist*, vol. 61 #8 (July) pp. 887-907 (with Juan Pablo Luna)
7. (2016) 'Regionalism, ethnic diversity, and variation in public good provision by national states' *Comparative Political Studies* vol.49 #10 (September) pp.1341-71.
6. (2013) 'State power and the redistributive threat' *Studies in Comparative International Development* vol.48 #1 (March) pp.1-22. (erratum published in vol.51 #4 pp.530-538, 2016)
5. (2012) 'The causal logic of critical junctures' *Comparative Political Studies* vol.45 #12 (December), pp.1572-1597. [earlier version published as Committee on Concepts and Methods Working Paper, Political Methodology Series #24, 2010]
*Recipient of the 2013 **Alexander George Award** from the Qualitative and Multi-Method Research Section of APSA for "the best article or book chapter developing or applying qualitative methods in the preceding calendar year."
4. (2012) 'Measuring state capacity in contemporary Latin America' *Revista de Ciencia Política* vol.32 #3 (November-December) pp.585-598.
3. (2009) 'The sources of infrastructural power: evidence from 19th century Chilean education' *Latin American Research Review* vol.44 #2, pp.158-180
2. (2008) 'State infrastructural power: conceptualization and measurement in empirical analysis' *Studies in Comparative International Development* vol.43 #3-4 pp.231-251 (November)
1. (2008) (with Matthias vom Hau) 'Unpacking the 'strength' of the state: the utility of state infrastructural power' *Studies in Comparative International Development* vol.43 #3-4 pp.219-230 (November)

Book chapters and other publications

9. (2021) 'Comparative methods and process tracing' (with Andrew Bennett and Tasha Fairfield) part of the Qualitative Transparency Deliberations report, summary published in *Perspectives on Politics* vol.19 #1 pp.171-208 and our report available in the supplementary material.
8. (2019) 'Units of analysis in subnational research' chapter 3 in *Inside Countries: Subnational Research in Comparative Politics* edited by Agustina Giraudy, Eduardo Moncada, and Richard Snyder (Cambridge University Press) pp.92-112
7. (2019) 'Introduction: leaving the path behind' (with Alberto Vergara) in *Politics After Violence: Legacies of the Shining Path Conflict in Peru* (Texas Press) pp.1-16
6. (2019) 'The internal armed conflict and state capacity' (with Everett A. Vieira III – graduate student co-author) Chapter 4 in *Politics After Violence: Legacies of the Shining Path Conflict in Peru* (Texas Press) pp. 109-131
5. (2018) vom Hau, Abbott, and Soifer 'Inculcating populist nationalism? education and ideological change in Venezuela' in *Populist Nationalism in Europe and the Americas*, edited by Fernando López-Alves and Diane Johnson, Routledge Press, Chapter 14. (Revised version of 2017 JLAS article)
4. (2017) 'New scholarship on Peru's internal conflict: a review essay' *Latin American Politics and Society* vol.59 #1 (Spring) pp.143-153.
3. (2016) 'The development of state capacity' in Falleti, Fioretos, and Sheingate, eds. *Oxford Handbook of Historical Institutionalism* Chapter Ten pp.181-194.

2. (2013) 'Elite preferences, administrative institutions, and educational development during Peru's Aristocratic Republic 1895-1919' in Miguel Centeno and Agustín Ferraro, eds. *State and Nation Making in Latin America and Spain: Republics of the Possible* (Cambridge University Press) Chapter Twelve pp.247-269. (Active citation version available at <http://doi.org/10.5064/F6NP22C9>)
1. (2009) 'The redistributive threat: state power and the effect of inequality on democracy' Brooks World Poverty Institute Working Paper #93.

Reviews and other short publications

- (2023) 'Emerging Methodologists Workshop: Introduction' (with Diana Kapiszewski) Introduction to a symposium on the Emerging Methodologists Workshop for *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* vol.21 #2 pp.36-37
- (2023) 'Bayesian challenges to conventional wisdom and practice?' Contribution to a symposium on Fairfield & Charman *Social Inquiry and Bayesian Inference* for *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* vol.21 #2 pp.63-66
- (2023) Review of Lee *Crippling Leviathan* in *Governance* vol.36 #4 (October) pp.1335-37
- (2022) 'Two views of within-case analysis: ambiguities about process tracing in *The Logic of Social Science* and beyond' Contribution to a symposium on Mahoney *Logic of Social Science* for *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* vol.19.2/20.1, pp.51-3.
- (2022) Review of Mazzuca *Latecomer State Formation* in *Governance* vol.35 #1 pp. 338-341.
- (2018) Review of Handlin *State Crisis in Fragile Democracies* in *Latin American Politics & Society* vol.60 #3 (August) pp.122-124.
- (2017) Review of Hough & Grier *The Long Process of Development* in *Journal of Latin American Studies* vol.49 #2 (May) pp.386-9.
- (2017) Review of Kurt Weyland's *Making Waves: Democratic Contention in Europe and Latin America* in *Journal of Latin American Studies* vol.49 #1 (February) pp.195-7.
- (2016) Review of Fairfield *Private Wealth and Public Revenue in Latin America* in *Perspectives on Politics* vol. 14 #2 (June) pp.538-40.
- (2015) 'Surveying State Capacity' (with Juan Pablo Luna) (*LAPOP Insights* #119, July)
- (2014) Review of Schneider *State Building and Tax Regimes in Central America* in *Journal of Politics* vol.76 #2 (April).
- (2012) Review of Dargent *Demócratas Precarios* in *Apuntes* (Lima, Peru) vol.71 pp.256-258.
- (2012) 'The Expectations States Create: How State Capacity Shapes the Scope of Politics' in *LASA Forum* vol.43 #4, pp.27-29, part of a forum on 'Stateness in Latin America'
- (2011) Review of Slater *Ordering Power* in *Comparative Political Studies* vol.44 #9 pp.1303-1307.
- (2010) 'What to Read on State-Building' Published Online at *Foreign Affairs* (February) <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/features/readinglists/what-to-read-on-state-building-0>
- (2007) Review of Snyder *Politics After Neoliberalism* in *Political Studies Review* vol.5 #3, pp.437-8.

Manuscripts in review process

The history of another American Frontier: Chilean Araucanía in northern perspective' (paper submitted April 2024)

Working papers and projects

Spatial Units and Political Analysis (book manuscript – tentative title) full manuscript drafted and presented to various audiences. Book workshop held May 2022 at Princeton University. In preparation for 'Strategies of Social Inquiry' series at Cambridge UP.

'Information capacity and the state's economies of scope' - early draft of paper for conference in Gothenburg, Sweden, presented June 2024.

Surveying State Capacity (with Juan Pablo Luna) (book manuscript) 4 chapters drafted and presented to various audiences; cleaning data for last component of analysis.

‘Do states impose or provide, and why should we care?’ (with Federico Tiberti) – paper presented at APSA 2020 and REPAL 2021.

‘The mechanisms of state legibility: evidence from DHS surveys’ (with Lu s Garc a, graduate student co-author) – paper presented at APSA 2020.

‘Opening the black box of the military: evidence from 19th century Chile’ (large project in early stages – cleaning and digitizing personnel records and designing analyses)

Presentations

Invited Talks and Workshops:

2024-2025 (includes scheduled): HPE workshop at USC

2023-24: Emerging Methodologists Workshop (co-organizer), Harvard (book workshop), MIT (book workshop), Gothenburg (conference on state information capacity)

2022-23: Georgetown CRITICS seminar, Johns Hopkins (conference on ‘Rethinking Political Democracy and Development in the Americas’), Georgetown (book workshop), IQMR (session on archival methods).

2021-22: Tulane (book workshop), Harvard (book workshop), Princeton (conference on state capacity), Syracuse (IQMR authors’ workshop).

2020-21: UNU-WIDER, UCLA Luskin School (book workshop), Princeton (Qualitative Methods Colloquium), Temple LAS (roundtable on Philip Berryman book), University of Illinois-Chicago (book workshop).

2019-20: LSE (book workshop), Tulane (book workshop), Colgate (book workshop).

2018-19: Northwestern, Duke, Princeton, Johns Hopkins (book workshop).

2017-18: Princeton (CP seminar), Syracuse (IQMR), Stanford (book workshop), Cornell (book workshop), SUNY Albany, La Cat lica (Chile), Harvard.

2016-17: MIT, Yale, La Cat lica (Peru), Trinity College (book workshop), La Cat lica (Peru) (book workshop), Southwest Mixed Methods Research Workshop (discussant).

2015-16: University of Wisconsin (via Skype), Penn, Princeton (Qualitative Research Seminar), Harvard (WCFIA).

2014-15: Asociaci n Chilena de Ciencia Pol tica (keynote address), Syracuse (IQMR), Harvard (book workshop), Political Instability Task Force Winter Workshop, Trinity College.

2013-14: University of New Mexico, The College of New Jersey, Stanford (CDDRL), La Cat lica (Chile), Harvard (book workshop), Harvard Academy, Stanford (Governance project), ESID/Johns Hopkins SAIS.

2012-13 and earlier: La Cat lica (Peru), Harvard, Michigan, Brown, LAPOP, SUNY Stonybrook, Oxford, Dartmouth, Princeton (PLAS), Columbia, Syracuse (IQMR), Harvard (Radcliffe), La Cat lica (Chile), CFR, Harvard (WCFIA) (book workshop).

Selected Professional Association Conferences: (P=paper presented, D=discussant, C=chair)

EMW 2024 (co-organizer), 2023 (co-organizer)

APSA 2022 (2 roundtables) 2021 (Px2, D, C), APSA 2020 (Px3), 2018 (Px2, C, roundtable), 2017 (P), 2016 (Px2), 2014 (Px2, D/C), 2013 (D/Cx2), 2011 (Px2), 2010 (P, D), 2009 (P, D/C), 2008 (Px2), 2007 (P), 2006 (P)

LASA 2015 (D), 2013 (P, D), 2012 (P), 2010 (P), 2004 (P), 2001 (P)

REPAL 2021 (P), 2019 (D), 2018 (P, C), 2015 (author-meets-critics panel on my book)

MPSA 2020 (P – cancelled for COVID), 2009 (P, D), 2008 (P, D)

ASA 2013 (D)

Professional Service

Service to the Academic Community

External Tenure and Promotion Reviews: 2023 (2), 2021, 2020, 2018 (2)

Invited discussant for book workshops:

Steve Levitsky & Lucan Way *Competitive Authoritarianism* (Cambridge UP)

Melani Cammett & Lauren Morriss MacLean, eds. *The Politics of Non-state Social Welfare* (Cornell UP)

Juan Pablo Luna *Segmented Representation: Political Party Strategies in Unequal Democracies* (Oxford UP)

Alisha Holland *Forbearance as Redistribution: the Politics of Informal Welfare in Latin America* (Cambridge)

Reo Matsuzaki *Statebuilding by Imposition* (Cornell UP)

Alberto Vergara *La Danza Hostil* (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos)

Gustavo Flores-Macías *Elite Pacts and Security Taxation in Latin America* (Cambridge UP)

Eduardo Dargent et al, eds. *Resource Booms and Institutional Pathways: The Case of Peru* (Palgrave)

Emily Clough *Learning and Latitude for the State: How NGOs shape PGP in India*

Juan Fernando Ibarra *Paths out of Patrimonialism*

Sebastián Mazucca *State Formation in Latin America* (Yale UP)

Tasha Fairfield & Andrew Charman *Social Inquiry and Bayesian Inference* (Cambridge UP)

Rachel Schwartz *Institutional Legacies of Civil War in Central America* (Cambridge UP)

Veronica Herrera *Slow Harms and Citizen Action* (Oxford UP)

Andreas Feldmann *The Evolution of Terrorism in Colombia*

Jared Abbott *The Paradox of Participatory Institutions*

Jenny Guardado *The Venal Origins of Underdevelopment in Spanish America*

Alisha Holland *Creative Construction: The Rise and Stall of Infrastructure in Latin America*

James Mahoney *Explaining Political Revolutions: Latin America in World-Historical Perspective* (Cambridge)

Reviews for journals and working paper series: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, *Colombia Internacional*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics*, *Democratization*, *Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID) Working Paper Series*, *Electoral Studies*, *European Political Science Review*, *Global Policy*, *Governance*, *International Migration Review*, *International Organization*, *International Political Science Review*, *International Theory*, *Journal of Institutional Economics*, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Politics in Latin America*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Política y Gobierno*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Geography*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Political Studies*, *Politics*, *Polity*, *Public Administration*, *Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research*, *Revista de Ciencia Política (Chile)*, *Security Studies*, *Social Problems*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Sociological Methods & Research*, *Sociological Theory*, *Studies in Comparative International Development*, *Third World Quarterly*, *Third World Thematics*, *World Development*, *World Politics*, and *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*.

Proposal and book reviews for presses: Anthem Press, Brill Press, Cambridge UP, Polity Press, Princeton UP, University of Michigan Press, and Yale UP.

Grant application reviews: NSF Accountable Institutions and Behavior Program, NSF Law and Science Program, Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, FONDECYT (Chile)

Member, Research evaluation advisory group, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2014-

Service to Professional Associations

Chair, Gabriel Almond Award for best dissertation in Comparative Politics, APSA, 2024

Member, Best Data Set Award Committee, CP section of APSA, 2023

Chair, Nominating Committee, QMMR section of APSA, 2021-22
Member, Walter Burnham Dissertation Prize Committee, APSA Politics & History section, 2019
Chair, Giovanni Sartori Book Prize Committee, QMMR section of APSA, 2017
Member, APSA Qualitative Transparency Deliberations Working Group on Process Tracing and Comparative Case Study Research, 2016-17
Section Chair, Comparative Politics and International Relations Poster Sections, MPSA 2013
Chair, Alexander George Article/Book Chapter Award Committee, QMMR section of APSA, 2012
Member, Bryce Wood Best Book Award Committee, Latin American Studies Association, 2010
Track Co-chair, QMMR section of APSA, 2008

Service to Temple University

CENFAD workshop mentor, Spring 2021
Elected member, Graduate Committee, College of Liberal Arts, 2018-2021. Chair 2019-2020
Affiliated Faculty, Global Studies Program, 2019-
CARAS Grant mentor for Alexis Lauver, Summer 2020
Second Reader, Senior Honors Thesis, Cassandra Emmons (defended December 2013; winner of the 2014 Temple University Library Prize)
Member, Temple Japan Semester Scholarship Committee, 2011
Member, Steering Committee, Program in Latin American Studies, 2009-2011

Service to the Temple University Political Science Department

Graduate Chair (DGS), July 2018 – June 2021
Search committees: 2019 (CP), 2016 (CP), 2013 (REP), 2011 (CP)
Field Coordinator, Comparative Politics, 2015-2017
Member, Graduate Program Committee, 2010-2011, 2015-2017
Member, Undergraduate Program Committee, 2009-2010, 2014-2015
Member, Sabbatical and Merit Committee (elected), 2011-2012, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2023-24
Coordinator, Comparative Politics Graduate Student Workshop 2010-2014

Graduate student advising, Temple University: (*=chair/principal advisor)

Current students

1. *Jared Pentz (dissertation stage)
2. *Félix Puémape (dissertation stage) - VAP at Washington & Lee University starting Fall 2024)
3. *Luis Garcia (dissertation stage)
4. *Felipe Ribeiro (dissertation stage - VAP at Macalester College starting Fall 2024)
5. *Ilyssa Yahmi (dissertation stage) (co-chair with Jessica Stanton - awarded XCEPT Fellowship by the Carnegie Foundation and USIP fellow for 2024-25)
6. *Souradeep Banerjee (dissertation stage) (co-chair with Adam Ziegfeld)
7. Fariha Ahmed (prospectus stage)
8. Casey VanSise (history department) (prospectus stage)

Dissertations supervised – completed and post-graduate employment

1. Sean Harris, PhD 2023, Visiting Assistant Professor, Eastern University
2. Amanda M. Alvarez, PhD, 2019, OGC Global
3. Joel Blaxland, PhD 2018, Assistant Professor, Western New Mexico University
4. Everett A. Vieira III PhD 2018, Assistant Professor, California State University – Fresno
5. Nicolaos Catsis, PhD 2014, Assistant Teaching Professor, Temple University

Dissertation committee service – completed

1. Sevdnur Koru, PhD 2024
2. Walter James, PhD 2023
3. Alyona Sokolova, PhD 2016
4. Ashish Vaidya, PhD 2015

Dissertation Committees outside Temple

Committee member:

1. Max Vejares, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science, PhD 2024.
2. Laura García Montoya, Northwestern University, Department of Political Science, PhD 2020.
3. Nicolas Guillén Velasquez, Univ. of Miami, Department of International Studies, PhD 2018.
4. Antoine Maillet, Pontificia Univ. Católica de Chile, Department of Political Science, PhD 2013.

Outside Examiner/Reader for PhD dissertation:

1. Min Jung Kim, American University, PhD 2023.
2. Rodrigo Medel, Pontificia Univ. Católica de Chile, PhD 2020.

Undergraduate senior honors thesis outside examiner:

Bates College, 2009 & 2012
Ursinus College, 2014

Teaching Experience

Qualitative Methods (graduate)

Prospectus Workshop (graduate) and Second Year Paper (graduate)

The State in Comparative Politics (undergraduate, MPP, and graduate)

Comparative Politics Core Seminar (graduate)

Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate lecture)

Comparative Politics in Latin America (undergraduate lecture)

Social Revolutions: Causes and Consequences (undergraduate capstone seminar)

Cocaine and Society in the Americas (undergraduate seminar)

Inequality, Violence, and Democracy in Contemporary Latin America (undergraduate seminar)

Competitive Research Funding Obtained

External

Co-Principal Investigator ‘Emerging Methodologists Workshop-Qualitative and Multi-Method Explanatory Research’ (Funded for approximately \$49,700 over three years 2022-2025) (with Diana Kapiszewski, Georgetown University)

Research Team Member, ‘Ethnic Policies and Development: A Comparative Analysis of the Cases of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile’ (PIs Matthias vom Hau, IBEI and Guillermo Wilde, Universidad de San Martín, Argentina) Funded for €52,000 from the Ministry of Science and Innovation, Government of Spain. Renewed 2016-18 for an additional €44,000.

Internal

Temple University Summer Research Award 2021, 2019 (\$7,000 each)

Temple University Faculty Senate Seed Money Grant 2012-13 (\$8,300)

Bates College Schmutz Family Faculty Development Fund 2007 (\$7,500)

Awards and Fellowships

2021 David Collier Mid-Career Achievement Award, Qualitative and Multi-method section of APSA
Consultant, UNU-WIDER, 2020-2021 (commissioned to co-author a paper for the 'Fiscal States in
Developing Economies' project)

2013 Alexander George Best Article Award, Qualitative and Multi-Method section of APSA, for
'The Causal Logic of Critical Junctures'

Peggy Rockefeller Visiting Scholar, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard
University (2012-13) (competitive year-long funded fellowship)

Visiting Scholar, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Brown University (2012-13)

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2005-2006)

U.S. Department of Education FLAS Fellowship for Dissertation Research (2002-3, 2003-4)

Committee on Undergraduate Education Teaching Award, Harvard University (2002, 2005)