

Charles U. Zug

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Professional

2026-present	Donald and Beverly Freeman Senior Research Fellow, U.S. Naval Academy.
2023-present	Assistant Professor, Truman School of Government & Public Affairs, University of Missouri.
2021-2023	Assistant Professor, previously Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Political Science, University of Colorado - Colorado Springs.
2020-2021	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Williams College.

Education

2020	Ph.D., Government, University of Texas at Austin.
2015	B.A., Liberal Arts, St. John's College.

Academic publications

Peer-reviewed books

Under contract	<i>The Mythology of American Federalism</i> (Oxford University Press).
2026	<i>Beyond Checks and Balances</i> (University of Pennsylvania Press). Edited with Connor Ewing and Benjamin Kleinerman.
2024	<i>Dwight D. Eisenhower and the Federal Highway Act</i> , Landmark Presidential Decisions (University Press of Kansas). Foreword by Andrew Rudalevige. • Interviews: <i>Our American Stories</i> (iHeart Radio), Iowa Public Radio, <i>Government That Doesn't Suck</i>, <i>The Constitutionalist</i> • Book talk: Virginia Tech • Recommended title, "Grateful American Book Prize"
2022	<i>Demagogues in American Politics</i> (Oxford University Press).

- Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics, Choice, American Political Thought, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Lyceum Labs, Law & Liberty*
- Discussed in *The New York Times, The Free Press, Sun News Austin*
- Author-meets-critics panels: Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 2024
- Book talks: University of Oklahoma, SUNY Albany, University of Missouri, University of Texas at Austin, Virginia Tech, Kenyon College
- Podcasts: *The Political Theory Podcast; The Constitutionalist*

Peer-reviewed articles

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| 2025 | <p>"Contesting the Legal Constitution: Constitutional Agonism," <i>Political Research Quarterly</i> 78, 4 (December): 1302-1317.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject of invited Constitution Day lecture, Kansas City Public Library, 2025 |
| 2025 | <p>"Rethinking the Basic Models of Presidential Leadership: Eisenhower, Greenstein, and Federal Highway Expansion," <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> 140, 1 (Spring): 85-104.</p> |
| 2023 | <p>"'Giving Government to Business': Dwight Eisenhower and the Federal Highway Act," <i>Presidential Studies Quarterly</i> 53, 2 (March): 120-136.</p> |
| 2021 | <p>"Support for Nationalization and State Building in the Early American Republic: The Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen," <i>Journal of Law and Courts</i> 9, 2 (Fall): 283-304.</p> |
| 2021 | <p>"Creating a Demagogue: The Political Origins of Daniel Shays' Erroneous Legacy in American Political History," <i>American Political Thought</i> 10, 4 (Fall): 601-628.</p> |
| 2020 | <p>"The Republican Theories of Rousseau and the American Anti-Federalists," <i>Australian Journal of Politics & History</i> 66, 2: 181-199.</p> |
| 2019 | <p>"Could Political Science Become Diagnostic? Restoring a Forgotten Method," <i>Perspectives on Political Science</i> 48, 1: 56-63.</p> |

Peer-reviewed book chapters

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| Under contract,
submitted to
editors | <p>"The Rhetorical Presidency Thesis: How We Became What We Studied," in <i>The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary U.S. Presidential Rhetoric</i> (Routledge)</p> |
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- 2026 "The Constitutional Significance of the Eisenhower-McCarthy Standoff," in *Beyond Checks and Balances* (University of Pennsylvania Press).
- 2026 "Why Separation of Powers?" in *Beyond Checks and Balances* (University of Pennsylvania Press).
- 2024 "Good Conspiracism," in *American Conspiracism: An Interdisciplinary Exploration* (Routledge). First author, with Steven Pittz.

Symposia

- 2026 Editor, symposium on Stephen Skowronek's *The Adaptability Paradox*. Essays by Mariah Zeisberg, Kathleen S. Sullivan, Calvin Terbeek, and Charles U. Zug. Introduction and response by Stephen Skowronek. *American Political Thought* 15, 1 (Winter): 68-132.

Editor-reviewed articles

- 2026 "The Long Road," *Law & Liberty*, July 23, 2026.
- 2026 Review of Richard Holtzman, *What Does the American Presidency Mean?* *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 56, 1.
- 2026 "Constitutions and Causation," *American Political Thought* 15, 1 (Winter).
- 2025 "Alt Higher Ed and the American Right," *Frontiers of American Reaction*, June 25.
- 2025 "Show Me Realignment: Party Development in Missouri," *Middle West Review* 11, 2 (Spring): 381-386.
- 2025 "Keeping the '90s Weird," *American Political Thought* 14, 2 (Spring): 277-289.
- 2023 "Thank God for the Deep State: Presidential Demagoguery and the 'Unitary Executive,'" *American Political Thought* 12, 1 (Winter): 113-140.
- 2020 "Conceptual Weaponization and the Study of the Presidency," *Interpretation* 47, 1 (Fall): 211-218.
- 2019 "Diagnosing the Blinding Effects of Trumpism," *Critical Review* 31, 2: 242-254.

2019	"Demagoguery as Pathology: Interpreting European Politics Today," <i>Perspectives on Political Science</i> 48, 3: 183-191.
2018	"The Rhetorical Presidency Made Flesh: A Political Science Classic in the Age of Donald Trump," <i>Critical Review</i> 30, 3-4: 347-368.
2018	"Nietzsche's Final Teaching," <i>Interpretation</i> 44, 3 (Spring): 425-449.

In progress

Commissioned review essay	"Diagnosing Why Covid Politics Failed Us," <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> .
Article project	"Demagoguery, Seditious Libel, and the Freedom of Speech"
Article project	"Studying Politics Rigorously When the State Suppresses Evidence"
Book project	<i>The Constitution of the Criminal State</i>

Courses

Spring 2025	Emergency Powers and the Constitution (undergraduate)
Fall 2024	American Political Development (graduate)
Spring 2024, Summer 2024, Fall 2025	Politics of Criminal Justice (undergraduate)
Fall 2020, Fall 2023, Spring 2025	Presidency (undergraduate)
Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Fall 2025	Constitutional Debates (undergraduate)
Fall 2021, Fall 2022	Political Parties (undergraduate)
Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023	American Political Thought (undergraduate)
Spring 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023	Introduction to American Politics (undergraduate)

Spring 2021	Demagoguery and Populism (undergraduate)
Spring 2021	American Political Development (undergraduate)
Fall 2020	Conspiracy Theories in American Politics (undergraduate)

Funding

2026-27	Research Fellowship, Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership, U.S. Naval Academy (year's salary)
2026	Derrick-Patman Award, University of Missouri (competitive course buyout, \$11,723)
2025	Department of Education Grant, \$2.9 million (co-PI, applied, not awarded)
2024	Jack Miller Center Constitution Day Funding, \$2,500
2022	Jack Miller Center Constitution Day Funding, \$2,654
2022	Jack Miller Center Summer Fellowship, \$1000 + travel and lodging
2021	University of Colorado - Colorado Springs Liberty Grant, \$1500
2020	UT Austin Departmental Fellowship, \$2,200
2019	UT Austin Graduate School Fellowship, \$19,906
2019	UT Austin College of Liberal Arts Summer Fellowship, \$7,640
2019	Jack Miller Center Summer Fellowship, \$1000 + travel and lodging
2018	University of Konstanz (Germany) Research Grant, €2,500
2018-19	Charles Koch Foundation Dissertation Grant, \$10,000
2015-2019	UT Austin Recurring Recruitment Fellowship, \$20,000
2018	UT Austin Summer Funding, \$4,207
2018	Center for European Studies Teaching Fellowship, \$2,000
2017	Jefferson Center Scholarship, \$1,500
2017	UT Austin Summer Funding, \$4,107
2017-2019	Clements Center Graduate Fellowship, \$3,000
2015	Hertog Political Studies Fellowship, \$3,000

Honors

2025	Derrick-Patman Award for Research, University of Missouri.
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2025	Assistant Professor Annual Award, University of Missouri College of Arts and Sciences. (finalist)
2022	George C. Edwards III Dissertation Award, APSA Presidents & Executive Politics Section. (nominated)
2020	E.E. Schattschneider Dissertation Award, APSA. (nominated)
2020	Walter Dean Burnham Dissertation Award, APSA Politics & History Section. (nominated)
2019	Best Teaching Assistant, Government Department, UT Austin. (runner up)
2017	Robert Wood Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper, NEPSA. (nominated)
2015	St. John's College Caritas Society Community Service Award.
2014	Annapolis, MD City Council Award for Public Service.

Invited talks

2026	Baylor University (upcoming), University of Heidelberg, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, University of Colorado – Colorado Springs
2025	Virginia Tech, Kansas City Public Library
2024	Michigan State University, Fairfield University, Virginia Tech
2022	University of Missouri, Kenyon College, University of Texas at Austin
2021	University of Oklahoma, SUNY Albany, University of Colorado – Colorado Springs, Rotary Club of Williamstown, MA
2017	St. John's College, Annapolis, MD

Essays and commentary (selected)

2024	"Why it's important to take Donald Trump's statements about state violence literally," <i>London School of Economics American Politics Blog</i> .
2023	"Congress is not the only lawmaking authority under the U.S. Constitution," <i>London School of Economics American Politics Blog</i> .
2022	"Demagogues in American Politics," <i>The Constitutionalist</i> , October 3.

- 2022 "Justice Alito Needs to Stop Demagogic Post-Roe Comments," *RealClear Public Affairs*, August 9.
- 2022 "President Biden Need a Covid Plan," *The Constitutionalist*, April 27.
- 2021 "A Trumpian Third Party?" *The Constitutionalist*, May 24.
- 2021 "Rhetorical Duty and the Constitutional Order," *The Constitutionalist*, February 18.
- 2020 "Will the Real Justice Thomas Please Stand Up? The Endurance and Power of Erroneous Political Narratives," *A House Divided*, January 14.
- 2019 (with Elayne Allen) "Demagoguery, 'Cov-Cath,' and Public Discourse in the Trump Era," *A House Divided*, November 4.
- 2019 "Between Demagoguery and Populism," *Law & Liberty*, October 3.
- 2018 "Toward a More Perfect Originalism," *Law & Liberty*, October 31.
- 2018 "Against Senate Resolution 355," *Claremont Review of Books Online*, September 10.
- 2018 "Constitutional Bureaucracy? Exchange with John Marini," *Claremont Review of Books* 18, 2 (Spring): 3-4.
- 2018 (with Connor M. Ewing) "What happened to the State of the Union address?" *The Washington Post*, January 30.
- Included in online AP curriculum for Anne Arundel County Public Schools (MD).
- 2017 "Flake's exit from Senate won't fix GOP hyperpartisanship," *Austin American-Statesman*, November 1.

Conference activity (since 2019)

- 2026 Organizer and chair, book panel on Laura Field, *Furious Minds*, APSA Conference, Boston, MA. With Anne Norton, Shep Milnick, Susan McWilliams Barndt, Russell Muirhead.
- 2026 Panelist, "Parties, Groups, and Institutional Development," APSA Conference, Boston, MA.
- 2026 Invited participant, Program on Institutional Renewal (PAIR), Purdue University.

- 2026 Invited chair and moderator, book panel on Jean Becker, *Don't Tell the President*, Unbound Book Festival, Columbia, MO.
- 2025 Panel organizer, chair, and co-discussant (with Sidney Milkis), "New Directions in APD," Policy History Conference, Charlotte NC.
- 2025 Invited discussant and chair, author-meets-critics on Richard Holtzman, *What Does the Presidency Mean?*, APSA Conference, Vancouver BC. With Anne Norton, David Zarefsky, Jeffrey Tulis.
- 2025 Invited participant, Program on Institutional Renewal (PAIR), Purdue University.
- 2025 Invited chair, Southern Workshop on Empirical Political Science (SoWEPS), University of Kentucky.
- 2025 Invited discussant, author-meets-critics on Jordan Cash, *The Isolated Presidency*, MPSA Conference. With Will Howell, John Dearborn, Ben Kleinerman.
- 2025 Co-organizer and participant, retirement conference in honor of Jeffrey Tulis, University of Texas - Austin.
- 2024 Chair and organizer, panels (2) on American political development and constitutional law/theory, Shawnee Trail Conference, Austin TX.
- 2024 Chair, paper panel, "Electocracy" Conference, Kinder Institute.
- 2024 Invited discussant, author-meets-critics on Saladin Ambar, *Stars and Shadows*, SPSA Conference.
- 2023 Invited presenter, Politics and History Conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.
- 2022 Panel presentation, Shawnee Trail Conference, Baylor University.
- 2021 Attended, APSA Conference, September, Seattle, WA.
- 2019 Invited discussant, UT Law School Works-in-Progress Roundtable in Comparative Law, Austin, TX.

Service to the profession

- 2025-present Jury member, APSA American Political Thought Section award committee, best article in *American Political Thought*.

2023-present	Executive Council Member, APSA American Political Thought Section.
2024-25	Jury member, APSA American Political Thought Section award committee, best book.
2024-present	Editorial Board, <i>American Political Thought</i> .
2023-24	Jury member, APSA American Political Thought Section award committee, best APSA paper.
2023-24	Division Co-Chair, APSA American Political Thought Section, APSA annual conference.

University service

2026	Legacy Graduate Student Award Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Missouri.
2026	Search committee, Griffiths Chair in American Politics, Truman School, University of Missouri.
2026	Search committee, political science & history postdocs (2 searches, 4 hires), Kinder Institute, University of Missouri.
2025-present	Executive Committee (elected by faculty, 2-year term), Truman School, University of Missouri.
2024-present	Executive Committee on University of Missouri Open Minds Initiative, Truman School.
2025	Working group on tenure-track faculty affairs, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Missouri.
2025	Legacy Graduate Student Award Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Missouri.
2024-25	Joint political science and history hiring committee (2 searches, Truman School/Kinder Institute).
2024-present	Undergraduate Committee, Truman School, University of Missouri.
2023-24	Political Science Post Doc Hiring Committee (2 hires, Kinder Institute).
2023-24	Truman School Committee on Legislative Internship and Academy.

Spring 2023	Chair, hiring committee, Political Science Instructors, CU – Colorado Springs.
Fall 2022 – Spring 2023	Social Science Symposium Series Committee, CU – Colorado Springs.
Fall 2022	Member, hiring committee, Director of Outreach, CSGI, CU – Colorado Springs.
Fall 2022	Member, hiring committee, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, CU – Colorado Springs.
Spring 2022	Member, hiring committee, Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Political Science, CU – Colorado Springs.

Peer reviewer

Oxford University Press, Bloomsbury Press, SUNY Press, University of Missouri Press, Routledge Press

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Thought, Presidential Studies Quarterly, Journal of Policy History, Congress and the Presidency

Graduate advising & research

2026-present	Anayetur Rahaman, PhD committee member (Missouri – journalism)
2025-26	Daniel Egemo, PhD committee member (Missouri – political science)
2024-25	Brendon Floyd, PhD committee external member (Missouri - history)
2024-present	Ethan Schumate, PhD committee member (Missouri - political science)
2024-present	Nele Thomann, PhD committee co-chair (University of Heidelberg - American studies)
2024-25	Jordan Pellerito, PhD committee external member (Missouri - history)
2023-25	Annabella Saikum-Dadzie, research assistant (Missouri – political science)
2023-25	Borhan Borhan, PhD committee member (Missouri – political science)
2023-25	David Jackson, PhD committee member (Missouri – political science)

Undergraduate advising & research

2026-present	Nadea Tikhanovich, honors thesis (Missouri)
2025-present	Silas Bloch, Honors College research assistant (Missouri)
2025	Harry Armstrong, undergraduate research assistant (Missouri)
2024	Elise Milburn, undergraduate research assistant (Missouri)
2022-2023	Lauren Pauly, undergraduate research assistant (UCCS)
2021	Jack McGovern, undergraduate thesis (Williams)

Professional Associations

American Political Science Association (APSA); Presidency and Executive Politics Section (APSA);
American Political Thought Section (APSA); Politics and History Section (APSA)

Government service

2025-26	Citizens Police Review Board, City of Columbia, MO.
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References

Available on request.