Sean Gailmard

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Academic Positions

University of California, Berkeley. Charles & Louise Travers Department of Political Science.
- *Herman Royer Professor of Political Economy*, 2024-present. Professor, 2015-2024. Associate Professor, 2010-2015. Assistant Professor, 2007-2010.
- *Faculty Director:* Berkeley Liberty Initiative, 2024 - present.
- *Faculty Affiliate:* Institute of Governmental Studies, Institute of International Studies, Berkeley Center for Economics & Politics, Berkeley Center for American Democracy.

Northwestern University. Department of Political Science. *Assistant Professor*, 2004-2007.

University of Chicago. Harris School of Public Policy Studies. *Assistant Professor*, 2001-2004.

Education

Ph.D., California Institute of Technology, 2002 (Social Science: Economics & Political Science). Dissertation: *Principal-Agent Models of Bureaucratic Decision-Making.*

M.S., California Institute of Technology, 1999 (Social Science: Economics & Political Science).

M.P.A., Indiana University, Bloomington, 1997 (Public Policy Analysis).

B.S. with High Distinction, Indiana University, Bloomington, 1996 (Public Policy, Economics, and Mathematics).

Publications

Books

Sean Gailmard (2024). *Agents of Empire: English Imperial Governance and the Making of American Political Institutions.* Cambridge University Press (Political Economy of Institutions and Decisions).

Sean Gailmard (2014). *Statistical Modeling and Inference for Social Science.* Cambridge University Press (Analytical Methods in Social Research).

Sean Gailmard and John W. Patty (2012). *Learning While Governing: Expertise and Accountability in the Executive Branch.* University of Chicago Press (Chicago Studies in American Politics).
- Winner, Herbert A. Simon prize, APSA public administration section
- Winner, William H. Riker prize, APSA political economy section

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

28. Sean Gailmard (2025). Three Facets of Causal Inference: Identification, Explanation, and Generalization. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* (forthcoming).

27. Janna King, Sean Gailmard, and Abby Wood (2023). Decentralized Legislative Oversight of Bureaucratic Policy Making. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 35(4).

26. Sean Gailmard (2021). Imperial Governance and the Growth of Legislative Power in America. *American Journal of Political Science* 65(4): 912-925.

25. Sean Gailmard (2021). Theory, History, and Political Economy. *Journal of Historical Political Economy* 1(1): 69-104.

24. Sean Gailmard (2020). Game Theory and the Study of American Political Development. *Public Choice* 185 (3-4): 335-357.

23. Sean Gailmard (2019). Imperial Politics, English Law, and the Strategic Foundations of Constitutional Review in America. *American Political Science Review* 113(3): 778-795.

22. Sean Gailmard and John Patty (2019). Preventing Prevention. *American Journal of Political Science* 63(2): 342-352.

21. Sean Gailmard and John Patty (2019). Giving Advice vs. Making Decisions: Transparency, Information, and Delegation. *Political Science Research and Methods: The Journal of the European Political Science Association* 7(3): 471-488.

20. Sean Gailmard and Jeffery Jenkins (2018). Distributive Politics and Congressional Voting: Public Lands Reform in the Jacksonian Era. *Public Choice* 175: 259-275.
    - Winner, Duncan Black Prize for best paper by a senior scholar in this journal, 2018

19. Sean Gailmard (2017). Building a New Imperial State: The Strategic Foundations of Separation of Powers in America. *American Political Science Review* 111(4): 668-685.

18. Sean Gailmard and John Patty (2017). Politics, Policy, and Process: The Informational Value of Politicized Judicial Review. *Journal of Public Policy* 37(3): 233-260.

17. Sean Gailmard and John Patty (2013). Stovepiping. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 25(3): 388-411.

16. Frederick Boehmke, Sean Gailmard, and John Patty (2013). Business as Usual: Interest Group Access and Representation Across Policy Making Venues. *Journal of Public Policy* 3(1): 3-33.

15. Sean Gailmard and John Patty (2012). Formal Models of Bureaucratic Politics. *Annual Review of Political Science* 15: 353-377.

14. Sean Gailmard and Thomas Hammond (2011). Intercameral Bargaining and Intracameral Organization in Legislatures. *Journal of Politics* 73(2): 535-546.

13. Elizabeth M. Penn, John Patty, and Sean Gailmard (2011). Manipulation and Single Peakedness: A General Result. *American Journal of Political Science* 55(2): 436-449.

12. Sean Gailmard (2010). Politics, Principal-Agent Problems, and Public Service Motivation. *International Public Management Journal* 13(1): 35-45.

11. Timothy Feddersen, Sean Gailmard, and Alvaro Sandroni (2009). Moral Bias in Large Elections: Theory and Experimental Evidence. *American Political Science Review* 103(2): 175-192.

10. Sean Gailmard and Jeffery Jenkins (2009). Agency Problems, the 17th Amendment, and Representation in the Senate. *American Journal of Political Science* 53(2): 324-342.

9. Sean Gailmard (2009). Discretion Rather Than Rules: Choice of Instruments to Constrain Bureaucratic Policy-Making. *Political Analysis* 17(1): 25-44.

8. Sean Gailmard (2009). Multiple Principals and Oversight of Bureaucratic Policy-Making. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 21(2): 161-186.

7. Sean Gailmard and John Patty (2007). Slackers and Zealots: Civil Service, Policy Discretion, and Bureaucratic Expertise. *American Journal of Political Science* 51(4): 873-889.

6. Sean Gailmard and Jeffery Jenkins (2007). Negative Agenda Control in the Senate and House of Representatives: Fingerprints of Majority Party Power. *Journal of Politics* 69(3): 689-700.

5. Daniel Diermeier and Sean Gailmard (2006). Self-Interest, Inequality, and Entitlement in Majoritarian Decision-Making. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 1(4): 327-350.

4. Frederick Boehmke, Sean Gailmard, and John Patty (2006). Whose Ear to Bend? Information Sources and Venue Choice in Policy-Making. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 1(2): 139-169.

3. Sean Gailmard and Thomas Palfrey (2005). An Experimental Comparison of Collective Choice Procedures for Excludable Public Goods. *Journal of Public Economics* 89(8): 1361-1398.

2. Sean Gailmard (2002). Expertise, Subversion, and Bureaucratic Discretion. *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* 18(2): 536-555.

1. Barry Rubin, Sean Gailmard, Duncan Marsh, and Alan Septoff (1997). Assessing the State Level Consequences of Global Warming: Economic and Energy Demand Impacts. *World Resource Review* 9(3): 379–398.

Editor Reviewed Chapters and Articles

Sean Gailmard (2023). Formal Modeling in Historical Political Economy. *Oxford Handbook of Historical Political Economy*, Jeffery Jenkins and Jared Rubin (eds.), Oxford University Press.

Sean Gailmard (2019). Optimism, Pessimism, and Dialogue in Electoral Accountability Research. *PS: Political Science and Politics* (symposium on *The Democratic Dilemma* after 20 years) 52(4): 630-633.

Sean Gailmard (2015). McNollgast, "Administrative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control." *Oxford Handbook of Classics in Public Policy*, Steven Balla, Martin Lodge, and Edward Page (eds.), Oxford University Press.

Sean Gailmard (2014). Accountability and Principal-Agent Theory. *Oxford Handbook of Public Accountability*, Mark Bovens, Robert Goodin, and Thomas Schillemans (eds.), Oxford University Press.

Sean Gailmard and Jeffery Jenkins (2012). Coalition Structure and Legislative Innovation in American National Government, in *Living Legislation: Political Development and Contemporary American Politics*, Jeffery Jenkins and Eric Patashnik (eds.), University of Chicago Press.

Sean Gailmard, John Patty, and Elizabeth M. Penn (2009). Arrow's Theorem on Single Peaked Domains, in *The Political Economy of Democracy*, Enriqueta Aragonés, Carmen Beviá, Humberto Llavador, and Norman Schofield (eds.), Fundación BBV.

Sean Gailmard and Jeffery Jenkins (2008). Minority Party Power in the Senate and House of Representatives, in *Why Not Parties? Party Effects in the United States Senate*, Nathan Monroe, Jason Roberts, and David Rohde (eds.), University of Chicago Press.

Book Reviews

Review of *The Price of Empire: American Entrepreneurs and the Origins of America's First Pacific Empire*, by Miles Evers and Eric Grynaviski. *Perspectives on Politics* (2025).

Review of *Repugnant Laws: Judicial Review of Acts of Congress from the Founding to the Present*, by Keith Whittington. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 51(1): 162-164 (2020).

Review of *The American Presidency: An Analytical Approach*, by Irwin L. Morris. *Political Science Quarterly* 126(3): 540-541 (2011).

Review of *From Nature to the Lab: Experimental Political Science and the Study of Causality*, by Rebecca Morton and Kenneth Williams. APSA Experimental Methods section newsletter, Spring 2011.

Review of *The CIA and Congress: The Untold Story from Truman to Kennedy*, by David M. Barrett. *Political Science Quarterly* 121(2): 339-340 (2006).

Review of *Deliberate Discretion? The Institutional Foundations of Bureaucratic Autonomy*, by John D. Huber and Charles R. Shipan. *Public Choice* 120(1-2): 228-233 (2004).

Awards, Grants, and Honors

National Science Foundation, Summer Institute on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM), co-Principal Investigator, 2018-2023 (Director, 2022)

Duncan Black Prize for best article in *Public Choice* by a senior scholar in the previous year (awarded for Distributive Politics and Congressional Voting: Public Lands Reform in the Jacksonian Era), 2018.

National Science Foundation, Summer Institute on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM), co-Principal Investigator, 2016-2018 (Director, 2017)

Herbert Simon Prize for best book on public administration published 5 or more years prior, Public Administration section, American Political Science Association (awarded for *Learning While Governing*), 2017

William H. Riker Prize for best book on political economy in the previous year, Political Economy section, American Political Science Association (awarded for *Learning While Governing*), 2013

UC Berkeley School of Law, Faculty Fellow, Berkeley Center on Empirical Legal Studies, 2012-2016

UC Berkeley, Judith E. Gruber Chair in Political Science, 2008-2011

National Science Foundation, Summer Institute on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM), co-Principal Investigator, 2011-2015 (Director, 2013)

National Science Foundation, Summer Institute on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM), Director and co-Principal Investigator, 2010

The Searle Social Science Research Fund, Entitlements, Equity, and Resource Allocation in Groups, July 2004-June 2005

National Science Foundation, A Theoretical and Empirical Investigation of the Returns to Legislative Oversight, co-Principal Investigator, August 2003-July 2005

John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation, Dissertation Fellowship, September 2000-June 2001

California Institute of Technology, Institute Fellowship, September 1997-August 1998

Teaching Experience

Courses

Teaching Interests: Public Organizations as systems of incentives; Formal political theory; American politics; executive branch development and organization; political economy of institutions

UC Berkeley courses: Introduction to Empirical Research Methods (ug.); Game Theory in the Social Sciences (ug.); Free Speech and American Democracy (ug.); The US Executive Branch and its Political Environment (ug.); New World Empires: Institutions, Development, and Legacies (ug.); Formal Models in Political Science I (Ph.D.); Formal Models in Political Science II (Ph.D.); Formal Models of Political Development (Ph.D.); Formal Models in American Politics (Ph.D.); American Bureaucratic Politics (Ph.D.); Quantitative Analysis in Political Research I (Ph.D.)

Northwestern University courses: Statistics for Political Research (ug.), Social Science Theories and Methods (ug., Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences program), Probability and Statistics (Ph.D.), Advanced Quantitative Methods (Ph.D.)

University of Chicago courses: Organization Theory and Public Management (M.P.P.), Economic Incentives in Environmental Policy (M.P.P.), Formal Models in the Politics of Policy-Making (Ph.D.), Political Economy and Institutional Analysis (Ph.D.)

Doctoral dissertation committees; * denotes dissertation chair or co-chair

UC Berkeley: Donghui Li (in progress); Ari Benkler (in progress); Eric Biber* (in progress); Jacqueline Calao (in progress); Daniel Spokojny (in progress); Tak-Huen Chau (Ph.D. 2025); Annie Benn* (Ph.D. 2024); Otto Kienitz (Ph.D. 2024); Alex Huang (Ph.D. 2024); Joseph Warren* (Ph.D. 2021); David Foster* (Ph.D. 2021); Jieun Kim* (Ph.D. 2021); Andrew McCall* (Ph.D. 2019); Jason Poulos* (Ph.D. 2019); Gabrielle Elul (Ph.D. 2019); Mahendra Prasad* (Ph.D. 2018); Jake Grumbach (Ph.D. 2018); Shinhye Choi (Ph.D. 2017); Laurel Eckhouse (Ph.D. 2017); Ryan Hubert* (Ph.D. 2016); Janna King Rezaee* (Ph.D. 2016); John Brooks* (Ph.D. 2016); Morris Levy (Ph.D. 2013); Adrienne Hosek (Ph.D. 2013); Jason Anastasopolous* (Ph.D. 2013); Jongkon Lee* (Ph.D. 2013); Theocharis Grigoriadis (Ph.D. 2012); Abby Wood* (Ph.D. 2012)

Northwestern University: Sourav Battacharya (Ph.D. 2007, Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences); Tapas Kundu, (Ph.D. 2007, Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences); Sylvia Gaylord, (Ph.D. 2006, Political Science); Razvan Vlaicu, (Ph.D. 2006, Economics)

University of Chicago: Malay Majmundar (Ph.D. 2007, Public Policy); Stephanie Waldhoff, (Ph.D. 2007, Public Policy)

Service

University service

Travers Department of Political Science:
- Vice-chair for Personnel, 2010-present.
- Tenure and promotion ad hoc committees, various years.
- Faculty Search Committee (multiple fields), 2008, -09, -12, -13, -14, -16, -18, -23, - 25.
- Ph.D. Admissions Committee, 2008, -09, -10.
- Department Bylaws Drafting Committee, 2024.

Berkeley Campus:

- Berkeley Liberty Initiative. Faculty Director, 2024-present.
- Academic Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation, 2025-pres.
- Academic Senate Committee on Academic Freedom. Chair, 2021-23. Member, 2016-23.
- Campus Ad Hoc Review Committees, various years.

UC system:

- Academic Senate Committee on Academic Freedom. Chair, 2024-25. Vice-chair, 2023-24. Member, 2021-25.

Discipline Service

Associate Editor, *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy* (2019-present)

Editorial Boards:

- *Journal of Historical Political Economy* (2024-present)
- *Perspectives on Public Management and Governance* (2016-present)
- *Journal of Public Policy* (2014-present)
- *Journal of Theoretical Politics* (2014-present)
- *Journal of Politics* (2019-2020)
- *Public Administration Review* (2017-2020)
- *Political Science Research and Methods: The Journal of the EPSA* (2013-2018)
- *Journal of Experimental Political Science* (2015-2017)
- *American Journal of Political Science* (2010-2013)

Field Editor for Formal theory and Methodology, *Journal of Politics*, 2015-2018

Conference Program and Award Committees: Various years