William D. Hicks

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Government & Justice Studies
Appalachian State University
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Boone, NC 28608

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Appalachian State University, Department of Government & Justice Studies, Boone, NC

Department Chair, 2026 to present
Interim Department Chair, 2025 to 2026
Assistant Department Chair, 2022 to 2025
Professor, 2025 to present
Associate Professor (with tenure), 2019 to 2025
Assistant Professor, 2014 to 2019

EDUCATION

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Ph.D., Political Science, May 2014

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL
M.A., Political Science, May 2008

University of Montana, Missoula, MT
B.A., Political Science, May 2005

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

ICPSR, University of Michigan, 2010
Advanced Topics in Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Time Series Analysis, and Matrix Algebra

PUBLICATIONS

[19] Holcomb, Jefferson E., William D. Hicks, and Melissa Alexander. 2024. "STARR Skill Use and Supervision Outcomes." *Federal Probation: A Journal of Correctional Philosophy and Practice* 88(4): 8-15.

[18] Ardoin, Phillip J. and William D. Hicks. 2024. "Fear and Loathing: ChatGPT in the Political Science Classroom." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 57(4): 583-593.

[17] Norris, Robert J., William D. Hicks, and Kevin J. Mullinix. 2023. *The Politics of Innocence: How Wrongful Convictions Shape Public Opinion.* New York: NYU Press.

[16] Hicks, William D. and Seth C. McKee. 2021. "Pennsylvania in 2018: How Redistricting Does and Doesn't Make a Difference." *State and Local Government Review* 53(2): 172-180.

[15] Hicks, William D., Kevin J. Mullinix, and Robert J. Norris. 2021. "The Politics of Wrongful Conviction Legislation." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 21(3): 306-325.

[14] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. 2021. "Contemporary Views of Liberal Democracy and the 2016 Presidential Election." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 54(1): 33-40.

[13] Bullock, Charles S., III, William D. Hicks, M.V. Hood, III, Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. 2020. "The Election of African American State Legislators in the Modern South." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 45(4): 581-608.

[12] Hicks, William D., Jefferson E. Holcomb, Melissa A. Alexander, and Tammatha A. Clodfelter. 2020. "Drug Testing and Community Supervision Outcomes." *Criminal Justice and Behavior* 47(4): 419-436.

[11] Gronke, Paul, William D. Hicks, Seth C. McKee, Charles Stewart III, and James Dunham. 2019. "Voter ID Laws: A View from the Public." *Social Science Quarterly* 100(1): 215-232.

[10] Hicks, William D., Carl E. Klarner, Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. 2018. "Revisiting Majority-Minority Districts and Black Representation." *Political Research Quarterly* 7(2):408-423.

[9] Hicks, William D. and Carol S. Weissert. 2018. "Home Rule Be Damned: Exploring Policy Conflicts between the Statehouse and City Hall" (Guest Editors' Introduction). *PS: Political Science & Politics* 51(1): 26-38.

[8] Holcomb, Jefferson E., Marian R. Williams, William D. Hicks, Tomislav V. Kovandzic, and Michele Bisaccia Meitl. 2017. "Civil Asset Forfeiture Laws and Police Legitimacy." *Criminology and Public Policy* 17(1): 101-127.

[7] Hicks, William D. and Adam J. Newmark. 2017. "Comparing Introductory State and Local Government Textbooks." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50(2): 542-548

[6] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. 2016. "The Determinants of State Legislator Support for Restrictive Voter ID Laws." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 16(4): 411-431

[5] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. 2016. "A Bipartisan Election Reform? Explaining Support for Online Voter Registration in the American States." *American Politics Research* 44(6): 1008-1036

[4] Hicks, William D. 2015. "Partisan Competition and the Efficiency of Lawmaking in American Legislatures, 1991-2009." *American Politics Research* 43(5): 743-770

[3] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, Mitchell D. Sellers, and Daniel A. Smith. 2015. "A Principle or a Strategy? Voter Identification Laws and Partisan Competition in the American States." *Political Research Quarterly* 68(1):18-33

[2] Hicks, William D. and Daniel A. Smith. 2014. "State Campaigns and Elections." In *Oxford Handbook of State and Local Government*. Donald Haider-Markel (ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

[1] Hicks, William D. 2013. "Initiatives Within Representative Government: Political Competition and Initiative Use in the American States." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 13(4): 471-494

Book Reviews

[3] Hicks, William D. 2022. Peverill Squire's "The Right of Instruction and Representation in American Legislatures, 1778 to 1900." *Congress & the Presidency* First View doi: https://doi.org/10.1080/07343469.2021.2016121

[2] Hicks, William D. 2021. Gilda R. Daniels' "Uncounted: The Crisis of Voter Suppression in America." *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* 6(1): 288-290.

[1] Hicks, William D. 2019. Scott R. Meinke's "Leadership Organizations in the House of Representatives: Party Participation and Partisan Politics." *Perspectives on Politics* 17(3): 890-892.

Conference Presentations

[23] Norris, Robert, Kevin J. Mullinix, and William D. Hicks. "The Politics of Wrongful Conviction Reform." Presented at *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL, November 17–20, 2021.

[22] Hicks, William D., Melissa Alexander, and Jefferson Holcomb. "STARR Skill Usage and Supervision Outcomes." Presented at *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL, November 17–20, 2021.

[21] Hicks, William D. "Messy Democracy: The Politics of Disagreement." Keynote address presented at the annual conference for the *Florida Council for History Education*, July 30–31, 2021.

[20] Hicks, William D., Kevin J. Mullinix, and Robert J. Norris. "Reforming Innocence: The Politics of Wrongful Conviction Reforms in the American States, 1989-2018." Presented at the annual *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, August 29–September 1, 2019.

[19] Hicks, William D., Kevin J. Mullinix, and Robert J. Norris. "The Political Roots of Wrongful Conviction Reforms in the American States, 1989-2018." Presented at the annual *State Politics & Policy Conference*, College Park, MD, May 30–June 1, 2019.

[18] Bullock, Charles S., III, William D. Hicks, M.V. Hood, III, Seth C. McKee, Adam Myers, and Daniel A. Smith. "A History and Analysis of Black Representation in Southern State Legislatures." Presented at the biennial meeting of the *Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics*, Charleston, SC, March 1–2, 2018.

[17] Hicks, William D. "Roundtable: NC Gerrymandering Cases." Panelist at the annual meeting of the *North Carolina Political Science Association*, Raleigh, NC, February 23, 2018.

[16] Holcomb, Jefferson, William D. Hicks, Tammatha Clodfelter, and Melissa Alexander. "The Impact of Probation Officer Training on Supervision Outcomes." Presented at *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA, November 15–18, 2017.

[15] Clodfelter, Tammatha, Jefferson Holcomb, and William D. Hicks. "What Can We Learn from 30,000 Drug Tests?" Presented at *Southern Criminal Justice Association*, New Orleans, LA, September 27–30, 2017.

[14] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. "The Erosion of Liberal Democracy: Dissensus and Ideology in America." Presented at *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, August 31 – September 3, 2017.

[13] Holcomb, Jefferson, Marian Williams, William D. Hicks, Tomislav Kovandzic, and Michele Bisaccia Meitl. "The Impact of Asset Forfeiture Laws on Police Forfeiture Activity." *Southern Criminal Justice Association*, Savannah, GA, September 7–10, 2016.

[12] Hicks, William D., Carl Klarner, Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. "Revisiting Majority-Minority Districts and Black Representation." Presented at *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA, September 1–4, 2016.

[11] Hicks, William D., Carl Klarner, Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. "Sorting Dixie and the Election of Black State Legislators" Presented at *State Politics & Policy Conference*, Dallas, TX, May 19–21, 2016.

[10] Paul Gronke and William D. Hicks. "State Adoption of Online Voter Registration: Patterns and Processes." Presented at *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 7–9, 2016.

[9] Ardoin, Phillip and William D. Hicks. "The Spoils of Partisan War: Power and Polarization in State Legislatures." Presented at *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, September 3–6, 2015.

[8] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. "Looks Can Be Deceiving: Explaining Support for Online Voter Registration in the American States." Presented at *State Politics & Policy Conference*, Sacramento, CA, May 28–30, 2015.

[7] Gronke, Paul, William D. Hicks, Seth C. McKee, Charles Stewart III, and James Dunham. "Voter ID Laws: A View from the Public." Presented at *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, April 16–19, 2015.

[6] Hicks, William D., Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith. "The Context of Support for Restrictive Voter ID Laws." Presented at *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, January 15–17, 2015.

[5] McKee, Seth C., Daniel A. Smith, William D. Hicks, and Mitchell D. Sellers. "Evolution of an Issue: Voter ID Laws in the American States." Presented at *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago, August 29–September 1, 2013.

[4] McKee, Seth C., Daniel A. Smith, William D. Hicks, and Mitchell D. Sellers. "Evolution of an Issue: Voter ID Laws in the American States." Presented at *13th Annual State Politics & Policy Conference*, University of Iowa, May 23–25, 2013.

[3] Martin, Kimberly, Hans Schmeisser, and William D. Hicks. "Online Self-Selection: The Influence of Social Networking Sites on Political Participation." Presented at *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Orlando, FL, January 3–5, 2013.

[2] Hicks, William D. "Political Competition and the Frequency of Statewide Ballot Initiatives." Presented at *State Politics & Policy Annual Conference*, Springfield, IL, June 3–5, 2010.

[1] Hicks, William D. and Daniel A. Smith. "Do Parties Matter? Explaining Legislative Productivity in the American States." Presented at *State of the Parties: 2008 & Beyond*, Akron, OH, October 15–16, 2009.

Teaching Experience

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
Assistant Professor (2014 to 2019)
Associate Professor (2019 to present)

American National Government & Politics (undergraduate)
American Legislative Politics (undergraduate)
Methods & Statistics (graduate)
Political Analytics (undergraduate)
Politics of Sports (honors undergraduate)
Practical Research (graduate)
Public Opinion (undergraduate)
Research Methods (undergraduate)
Scope & Methods (graduate)
Southern Politics (undergraduate)
State & Local Politics (undergraduate)

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Instructor of Record (2011-2013)

American Federal Government (undergraduate)
Research Methods in Political Science (honors undergraduate)

Teaching Assistant (2010-2011)

Political Data Analysis (graduate)
American State & Local Government (undergraduate)

THESIS SUPERVISOR

Anderson, Candace. 2025. "The Influence of Abortion-related Ballot Measures on Political Participation." Undergraduate Honors

Warren, Smith. 2024. "The Art of Redistricting Race: Why Majority-Minority Districts?" Undergraduate Honors

Kukral, Zannah P. 2023. "Polarization & Retirements: How the Current Political Climate Impacts the Makeup of Congress." Undergraduate Honors.

Castillo, Alexander J. 2022. "A Difference in Perspective: How Differing Nationalities Affect Hispanic Voters' Partisanship, Ideology, and Political Participation." Undergraduate Honors.

Thomas, Molly. 2020. "Social Media and Racial Resentment: Racial Threat Hypothesis Extended." Undergraduate Honors.

Rentz, Brad. 2020. "Amicus Curiae Briefs in the United States Supreme Court." Undergraduate University Honors

Oshnock, Kevin. 2019. "Recent Republican Dominance in Appalachia." Master of Arts.

Blakesmith, Julie. 2016. "America's Moral Persuasion: How Moral Frames Shape Citizens' Attitudes" Undergraduate Honors.

THESIS MEMBER

Mead, Sophie. 2024. "Political Marketing in Watauga County: A Case Study of the Williamson's." Undergraduate Honors.

Kohn, Joshua. 2023. "Judicial Decision Making Models and Redistricting Jurisprudence." Undergraduate Honors.

Valentine, Jackson. 2020. "Marijuana Policy Diffusion in the United States." Masters of Arts.

Tovar, Henning. 2020. "The Health Impact of Coal Mining: A Regression Analysis." Masters of Arts.

Dovel, Ryan. 2018. "Not Just a Game: The Impact of Football on Judicial Sentencing in Pennsylvania." Undergraduate Honors.

Nield, Liam. 2018. "Examining the Relationship between Decision-Making Styles and Job Search Behaviors: A Test of the Individual Differences Hypothesis." Undergraduate Honors.

Walls, Austin. 2016. "Decriminalized Sex Work: A Deliberation of the Possible Effects in the United States." Undergraduate Honors.

GRANTS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

Grants

Appalachian State University, University Academic Assessment Council Grant, $500 (2025)

CETLSS at Appalachian State University, Teaching Quality Framework Grant, $500 (2025

Appalachian State University, Student and Faculty Excellence Grant, $1,000 (2021)

Appalachian State University, Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning Grant, $1,000 (2021)

Awards

Richard H. Henson Outstanding Advisor Award (Nominee), College of Arts & Sciences, Appalachian State University, Fall 2024

Richard H. Henson Outstanding Advisor Award (Nominee), College of Arts & Sciences, Appalachian State University, Fall 2023

William Strickland Outstanding Junior Faculty (Nominee), College of Arts & Sciences, Appalachian State University, Fall 2016

Professor of the Year, College of Arts & Sciences, Appalachian State University, Spring 2015

Best Graduate Student Teacher Award, Political Science, University of Florida, Spring 2013

H. Douglas Price American Government Research Award, University of Florida, Spring 2012

High Pass, American Politics Qualifying Exam, University of Florida, Spring 2011

High Pass, Political Methodology Qualifying Exam, University of Florida, Fall 2010

Rae Raskin Memorial Scholarship, Florida Atlantic University, Spring 2008

Fellowships

Gibson Dissertation Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, University of Florida, Summer 2013

ICPSR Academic Scholarship and Travel Award, University of Florida, Summer 2010

Alumni Graduate Fellowship, University of Florida, Fall 2008–Spring 2011

College & Department Service

Presentations

The Justice Studies Association, "Gerrymandering by Party: How Legislative Maps Shape Elections," Fall 2026

Boone/Blowing Rock Torch Club, "Talking Political Science in a Political World," Fall 2025

Boone/Blowing Rock Torch Club, "2024 Elections in NC and Beyond: What do we know, and what don't we know?" Fall 2024

Boone/Blowing Rock Torch Club, "What Happened in 2020, and What to Expect in 2022?", Fall 2021

Appalachian State Chapter of the American Correctional Association, "Who Votes and Why Does it Matter?", Fall 2020

High Country Lifelong Learners, "Who's Winning, Who's Losing, and How Do We Know?", Fall 2020

High Country Lifelong Learners, "Partisan Gerrymandering: What is it, and how do we capture it?", Summer 2018

High Country Lifelong Learners, "Majority-Minority Districts", Spring 2017

Presidential Debate Viewing Party, Fall 2016

High Country Lifelong Learners, "The 2014 Midterm Elections", Fall 2014

Committee Work

CJ Corrections Search Committee, 2024
Department Scholarship Committee, Chair, 2019-
Department Bylaws Committee, Chair, 2023-
CJ Policing Search Committee, 2022
Department Bylaws Committee, 2022
Department PTR Committee, 2021-
PS Comprehensive Exam Committee, 2021
SP&P Section Award Committee, Best Conference Paper, 2020
PS Senior Visiting Professorship Committee, 2020
Department Honors Committee, 2020
PS IR Search Committee, 2020
CJ Policing Search Committee, 2019
University Honors Council, 2019
Department Scholarship Committee, 2019
Department Events & Lectures Committee, 2018
PS Political Pysch Search Committee, 2018
Department Teaching Evaluation Review Committee, 2018
PS Graduate Program Strategic Planning Committee, 2018
Department Strategic Planning Committee, 2018
Department Tenure & Promotion Process Committee, 2017
Department Fellows Committee, 2016
Department Personnel Committee, 2015–2016
Allan & Sutton Scholarship Committee, Spring 2015–2016
PS Curriculum Committee, 2014–present

The Junior Fellows Program

Adviser, University of Florida, Spring 2013

Political Science Graduate Student Council

Vice President, University of Florida, 2009–2010

Professional Service

Guest Editor

Guest Editor with Carol S. Weissert, *PS: Political Science & Politics* (January 2018), special issue on "Home Rule Be Damned: Exploring Policy Conflicts between the Statehouse and City Hall"

Reviewer

American Political Science Review; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *National Science Foundation*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*; *PS: Political Science & Politics*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Policy Studies Journal*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*; *American Politics Research*; *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*; *Politics and Governance*; and *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.

Panel Chair/Discussant

Discussant, American Political Science Association, 2017
Chair, American Political Science Association, 2017
Discussant, Appalachian Spring Conference in History & Economics, 2016
Chair, American Political Science Association, 2015

Discussant, American Political Science Association, 2015
Discussant, Appalachian Spring Conference in History & Economics, 2015
Chair, Southern Political Science Association, 2013
Discussant, Research Frontiers in African Politics, 2010

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association
Legislative Studies Section
State Politics & Policy Section
Southern Political Science Association

Programming & Computing

R, Stata, SPSS/PASW, LaTeX and *Mathematica*

References

Available upon request.