

Daniel S. Moak

Associate Professor, Connecticut College

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Academic Affiliations

Connecticut College, New London, CT. August 2022 –

Associate Professor of Government 2024-

Assistant Professor of Government 2022-2024

Department of Government & International Relations

Ohio University, Athens, OH. August 2016 – July 2022.

Assistant Professor of African American Studies 2016-2022.

Tenured Spring of 2022.

Education

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Ph.D. Political Science, 2016.

Dissertation: “Supply Side Education: Race, Inequality, and the Rise of the Punitive Education State.”

Committee: Adolph Reed (chair), Marie Gottschalk (chair), Rogers Smith, Sigal Ben-Porath.

M.A. Political Science, 2012.

Willamette University, Salem, OR.

B.A. Political Science, 2008. Honors Thesis.

B.A. Philosophy, 2008. Honors Thesis.

Research Interests

American Political Development; Race and Ethnic Politics; Public Policy; Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Book

From the New Deal to the War on Schools: Race, Inequality, and the Punitive Education State (2022), University of North Carolina Press.

Best Book on Education Politics and Policy from the American Political Science

Association section on Education Politics and Education Policy (2023)

Reviews: *History of Education Quarterly*, *American Historical Reviews*, *Historical Studies in Education*, *Jacobin*, *Journal of American History*, *North Carolina Historical Review*

Journal Articles/Book Chapters

“The Interpretive Pathologies of the School-To-Prison Pipeline,” with Sarah Cate, *The Rise and Fall of Neoliberal Black Politics*, Routledge (Forthcoming 2026).

“The School-to-Prison Pipeline and the Limits of Metaphor,” with Sarah D. Cate. 2023. *New Political Science*. September: 1-28.

“The Political Development of Schools as Cause and Solution to Delinquency,” with Sarah D. Cate. 2022. *Journal of Policy History* 34(2): 180-212.

“Thurgood Marshall: The Legacy and Limits of Equality Under the Law,” (2021) in *African American Political Thought: A Collected History*, eds. Melvin Rogers and Jack Turner, Chicago University Press.

“Who’ll stop the rain? Repeated disasters and attitudes towards government.” With Joshua P. Darr and Sarah D. Cate. 2019. *Social Science Quarterly* 100(7): 2581-2593.

Works in Progress

“Punitive Extraction & Private Profiteering: Welfare Reform 30 years on.”

The Origins and Pitfalls of the School-to-Prison Pipeline Consensus. Book manuscript in progress with Sarah Cate.

Book Review

Moak, Daniel S. Marc Mojr  Howard. (2018). *Unusually Cruel: Prisons, Punishment, and the Real American Exceptionalism*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017. *Perspectives on Politics* 16(3): 860-862.

Teaching and Advising

Connecticut College

Analysis of U.S. Public Policy, Constitutional Law: Civil Rights & Civil Liberties, Constitutional Law: Powers & Institutions, Senior Seminar in Community Action, Race and the Criminal Justice System, African American Political Thought, U.S. Government & Politics.

Ohio University

Undergraduate: Black Political Economy, Race and the Criminal Justice System, African American Political Thought, Affirmative Action: A Political History, Introduction to African American Studies, Seminar in Wealth and Poverty (co-taught).

Graduate: Research in Law, Justice, and Culture.

University of Pennsylvania

As Instructor: Politics of Poverty and Urban Development.

As Teaching Assistant: Introduction to American Politics, Civil Rights & Civil Liberties, Public Policy Process.

Graduate advising

Master’s committees: Alicia Lawrence, 2019 (Ohio University, chair); Elizabeth Lattner, 2020 (Ohio University); Aissatou Boye, 2021(Ohio University).

Undergraduate advising

Honors thesis: Olivia MacDonald, 2026 (Connecticut College); Zoe Davin, 2026 (Connecticut College); Emma Pyles, 2024 (Connecticut College).

Senior Integrative Project Advisor: Charlotte Houghton, 2026; Bella Castellanos Pallacios, 2025; Lyndon Inglis, 2024; Imogen Bohen, 2024; Miranda Van Mooy, 2024; Serena Prince, 2024.

Certifications

Certified Instructor, The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. 2019.

Reimagining the Research Project, Ohio University. 2018.

Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate, University of Pennsylvania. 2015.

Awards and Competitive Fellowships

John S. King Teaching Award from the Connecticut College Student Government Association, awarded to the professor the student body has deemed to have shown an extraordinary commitment to students, 2025.

Best Book in Education Politics & Policy from the American Political Science Association Education Politics and Policy Section, 2023.

Penn Program on Democracy, Constitutionalism, and Citizenship Graduate Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2015-2016.

Pew Presidential Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2010.
Samuel Preston Graduate Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 2010.
Phi Beta Kappa, Willamette University, 2008.
National Tuition Exchange Fellowship, Willamette University, 2004-2008.

Grants and Support

Centennial Center Research Grant, American Political Science Association, 2023.
Faculty Research Support Award, Ohio University, 2022.
Research Apprenticeship Award, Ohio University Honors Tutorial College, 2021.
Tuition Scholarship, Inside-Out training at Macomb Correctional Facility, 2019.
Artinian Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association, 2018.
California Endowment Grant for field research in Kern County, CA, 2017.
Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education, Doctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 2015-2016.
Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Political Science, 2012.
Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2009-2014.

Research Presentations

Association meetings

American Political Science Association: 2014, 2020, 2023
Western Political Science Association: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
Southern Political Science Association: 2018, 2019
Midwest Political Science Association: 2012
Law & Society Association: 2021
History of Education Association: 2025

Invited presentations

University of Massachusetts, Boston, Political Science Forum on White Supremacy and Academic Freedom, 2025.
Illinois State University, History Social Science Symposium, 2023.
Newberry Library, History of Capitalism Seminar, 2023.
University of Maryland Carey School of Law, University of Maryland Discussion Group on Constitutionalism, 2018.
University of Southern Mississippi, Political Science Forum, 2017.

Popular Writing

“Criminalization Can’t Solve Homelessness,” *Connecticut Insider*.
<https://www.ctinsider.com/opinion/article/criminalization-homelessness-ct-housing-20355669.php>,
June 2nd, 2025.
“Structural Dimensions of School Discipline in Kern County,” with Sarah Cate, Think Piece for California Endowment (March 31, 2017).

Professional Service

2025 Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting: Co-Section Chair, Judicial Policy, Legal Politics, & Public Law.
New Editor Selection Committee member for *Law & Politics Book Review*. Summer 2021.
Panel chair or discussant
WPSA: 2017, 2018, 2023, 2026;
Invited reviewer
American Journal of Political Science, *American Political Science Review*, *Studies in American Political Development*, *Politics, Groups & Identities*, *Local Government Studies*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Oxford University Press*, *SUNY Press*, *De Gruyter Press*.

Professional association memberships: APSA, WPSA, History of Education Society.

University Service

Connecticut College

Member of the Faculty Steering and Conference Committee. 2026-Present.
President of Connecticut College AAUP. 2026-Present.
Holleran Center Public Policy Fellow. 2026-Present
Interim Director of the Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy. 2026.
Member of the Academic Policy and Procedures Committee. 2025.
Member at Large for Connecticut College AAUP, 2024-2026.
Member of the Information Service Committee. 2023-2026.
Search Committee member for Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Policy. 2023. 2024.
Search Committee member for Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Education. 2023.

Ohio University

Director of the African American Studies Research and Service Institute. 2020-2022.
Graduate Curriculum Committee for Center for Law, Justice, and Culture. 2020-2022.
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for Center for Law, Justice, and Culture. 2017-2020.
Co-Chair of Curriculum Committee for African American Studies Department. 2017.
Core Faculty Member for “Wealth and Poverty” University Academic Theme. 2017-2022.
Core Faculty Member for “Between Love and Hate” University Academic Theme. 2016- 2022.

University of Pennsylvania

Graduate Workshop Organizer. Penn Program Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism. 2015-2016.
Chair. Political Science Graduate Student Organization. 2012-2013.
SASgov Representative for the Political Science Department: 2011 – 2012.
Graduate Coordinator, American Politics Workshop. 2010-2011.

Willamette University

President. Philosophy Club. 2007-2008.
Founding member. Philosophy Club. 2006.

Relevant Experience

Research Assistant for Dr. Adolph Reed, University of Pennsylvania, 2014-2015.
Research Assistant for Dr. John Lapinski, University of Pennsylvania, 2010-2011.
Intern for Oregon State Representative Arnie Roblan, Oregon House of Representatives. 2007-2008.

References

Available upon request.

Updated June 1, 2026.