

Rachael K. Hinkle

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Employment

Professor, Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo, 2024-present

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo, 2019-2024

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo, 2014-2019

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 2013-2014

Law Clerk, The Honorable David W. McKeague, USCOA, Sixth Circuit, 2005-2006

Law Clerk, The Honorable Robert C. Broomfield, USDC, District of Arizona, 2003-2005

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, Washington University in St. Louis (May 2013)

- Dissertation: The Role of U.S. Courts of Appeals in Legal Development: An Empirical Analysis (co-chairs: James F. Spriggs, II and Andrew D. Martin)
- Major Field: American Politics (high pass)
- Minor Field: Quantitative Political Methodology

M.A., Political Science, University of Toledo (December 2007)

- Thesis: “Does Advocacy Matter? Examining the Impact of Attorney Expertise in Federal Courts” (chair: Samuel P. Nelson)

J.D., with high distinction, Ohio Northern University College of Law (May 2003)

B.A., summa cum laude, History, Huntington University (January 2000)

Books

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2024. *Selective Publication in the U.S. Courts of Appeals: The Invisible Norm that Perpetuates Inequality*, Oxford University Press.

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., Rachael K. Hinkle, and Michael J. Nelson. 2023. *The Elevator Effect: Contact and Collegiality in the American Judiciary*. Oxford University Press.

- 2024 Pritchett Award for the Best Book in Law & Courts
- Book Review by Randy Maniloff in *American Bar Association Journal*
- Featured in: New Books Network Podcast

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., and Rachael K. Hinkle. 2022. *Persuading the Supreme Court: The Significance of Briefs in Judicial Decision-Making*. University of Kansas Press.

- 2023 Pritchett Award for the Best Book in Law & Courts, Honorable Mention
- Featured in: Side Bar Podcast and New Books Network Podcast
- Reviewed in: *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, *Perspectives on Politics*, and *Political Science Quarterly*

Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2024. “The Ghosts of Empirical Legal Studies Past, Present, and Future” 180 *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 277-280.

Hazelton, Morgan L.W. and Rachael K. Hinkle. 2024. “What Social Science Can Teach Us Regarding Briefing” 28 *Legal Writing* 305-351.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2023. “Publication and Strategy in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” 179(1) *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 121-145.

Nelson, Michael J., Morgan L.W. Hazelton, and Rachael K. Hinkle. 2022. “How Interpersonal Contact Affects Appellate Review.” 84(1) *Journal of Politics* 573-577.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2021. “How Policy Influence Varies with Race and Gender in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” 8 *Research and Politics* 1-7.

Hinkle, Rachael K., Michael J. Nelson, and Morgan L.W. Hazelton. 2020. “Deferring, Deliberating, or Dodging Review: Explaining the Determinants of Counterjudge Success in the US Courts of Appeals.” 8(2) *Journal of Law and Courts* 277-300.

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., Rachael K. Hinkle, and James F. Spriggs II. 2019 “The Influence of Unique Information in Briefs on Supreme Court Decisionmaking.” 40(2) *Justice System Journal* 126-157.

Hinkle, Rachael K. and Michael J. Nelson 2018. “The Intergroup Foundations of Policy Influence.” 71(4) *Political Research Quarterly* 729-742.

Hinkle, Rachael K. and Michael J. Nelson 2018. “How to Lose Cases and Influence People.” 8 *Statistics, Politics, and Policy* 195-221.

- Profiled on SCOTUSBlog.
- Profiled on Quartz.

Tillman, Elizabeth A. (graduate student), and Rachael K. Hinkle. 2018. “Of Whites and Men: How Gender and Race Impact Authorship of Published and Unpublished Opinions in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” 5 *Research and Politics* 1-7.

Nelson, Michael J. and Rachael K. Hinkle. 2018. “Crafting the Law: How Opinion Content Influences Legal Development.” 39 *Justice System Journal* 97-122.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2017. “Panel Effects and Opinion Crafting in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” 5 *Journal of Law and Courts* 313-336.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2016 “Strategic Anticipation of En Banc Review in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” 50 *Law & Society Review* 383-414.

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., Rachael K. Hinkle, and Jee Seon Jeon. 2016. “Sound the Alarm? Judicial Decisions Regarding Publication and Dissent.” 44 *American Politics Research* 649-681.

Hinkle, Rachael K. and Michael J. Nelson. 2016. “The Transmission of Legal Precedent Among State Supreme Courts in the 21st Century.” 16(4) *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 391-410.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2015. “Into the Words: Using Statutory Text to Explore the Impact of Federal Courts on State Policy Diffusion.” 59 *American Journal of Political Science* 1002-1021.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2015. “Legal Constraint in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” 77 *Journal of Politics* 721-735.

- Best Journal Article Award, APSA Law and Courts Section, 2016

Hinkle, Rachael K., Andrew D. Martin, Jonathan David Shaub, and Emerson H. Tiller. 2012. “A Positive Theory and Empirical Analysis of Strategic Word Choice in District Court Opinions.” 10 *Journal of Legal Analysis* 407-444.

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., Rachael K. Hinkle, and Andrew D. Martin. 2010. “On Replication and the Study of the Louisiana Supreme Court.” 10 *Global Jurist* 85-91.

Articles in Other Journals

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2022. “How to Extract Legal Citations using Python (for the Complete Beginner).” 32 (1) *Law and Courts Newsletter* 12-14.

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., Rachael K. Hinkle, and James F. Spriggs, II. 2017. “The Long and the Short of It: The Influence of Briefs on Outcomes in the Roberts Court.” 54 *Washington University Journal of Law & Policy* 123-136.

Wiedenbeck, Peter J., Rachael K. Hinkle, and Andrew D. Martin. 2013. “Invisible Pension Investments.” 32 *Virginia Tax Review* 591-702.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2004. "Sex, Race and Sour Grapes: A Look at the Sixth Circuit's Summary Judgment Jurisprudence in Title VII Hostile Work Environment Claims," 30 *Ohio Northern Univ. Law Review* 85.

Hinkle, Rachael K. 2002. "INS v. St. Cyr," 28 *Ohio Northern Univ. Law Review* 815.

Grants

Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, Annual Research Grant, University at Buffalo, SUNY. 2017-2018 (\$2,700).

Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, Annual Research Grant, University at Buffalo, SUNY. 2015-2016 (\$3,045).

National Science Foundation Grant SES-1155066. "Doctoral Dissertation Research: The Role of the U.S. Courts of Appeals in Legal Development: An Empirical Analysis." 2012-2013 (\$12,308).

Work in Progress

Hazelton, Morgan L.W., Rachael K. Hinkle, Shane A. Gleason, and John J. Szmer, "A Fresh Perspective: Legal Team Diversity and Brief Quality at the Supreme Court." (under review)

Matthews, Abigail A., and Rachael K. Hinkle, "The Effect of Demographics and Ideology on Citation in the U.S. Courts of Appeals."

Invited Talks

"Why and How Judicial Collegiality Matters." Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeals 45th Annual Conference, November 2024.

"Judges in the Dugout: Why and How Judicial Collegiality Matters." National Foundation for Judicial Excellence 20th Annual Symposium, July 2024.

"The Elevator Effect: Contact and Collegiality in the American Judiciary." University of Georgia, December 2022.

"Measuring Judicial Ideology and Law in the American Judiciary." University of Nevada, Las Vegas, January 2022.

"Invisible Losers: The Fate of 'Have-nots' in the U.S. Courts of Appeals" Pennsylvania State University, November 2021.

“Invisible Losers: The Fate of ‘Have-nots’ in the U.S. Courts of Appeals” Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, Bonn, Germany, June 2021.

“Deferring, Deliberating, or Dodging Review: Explaining the Determinants of Counterjudge Success in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” University of Illinois, October 2017.

“An Overview of Computational Text Analysis Tools.” University of Illinois, October 2017.

“The Relational Foundations of Judicial Impact.” Binghamton University, October 2016.

“An Overview of Computational Text Analysis Tools.” Binghamton University, October 2016.

“The Influence of Unique Information in Merit Briefs on Supreme Court Decisionmaking.” St. Louis University School of Law, March 2016.

“The Influence of Unique Information in Merit Briefs on Supreme Court Decisionmaking.” Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, University at Buffalo School of Law, March 2016.

“Crafting the Law: How Opinion Content Influences Legal Development.” Ohio State University, October 2015.

“The Execution of Judicial Discourse: A Positive Theory and Empirical Analysis of Pragmatic Linguistic Operators in District Court Opinions.” Northwestern University School of Law, February 2012.

Invited Workshops

Discussant, Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics Symposium on Machine Learning and the Law, Segovia, Spain: June 2023.

“Publication and Strategy in the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics Symposium: Stralsund, Germany, June 2022.

Discussant, Text Analysis in Law Conference, UC Berkeley School of Law: February 2020.

Discussant, Conference on Text Analysis and Law, Northwestern University School of Law: April 2019.

“The Influence of Unique Information in Briefs on Supreme Court Decisionmaking.” Political Economy of the American Judiciary Conference, Northwestern University School of Law: September 2016.

“Into the Words: Using Statutory Text to Explore the Impact of Federal Courts on State Policy Diffusion.” New Frontiers in the Study of Policy Diffusion, University of Iowa: March 2014.

“A Positive Theory and Empirical Analysis of Pragmatic Linguistic Operators in District Court Opinions.” Conference on Judicial Collegiality: Positive Theories and Empirical Analyses, University of Southern California School of Law: November 2011.

Blog Posts and Podcasts

Morgan L.W. Hazelton, Rachael K. Hinkle, and Michael J. Nelson. June 3, 2024. “Tiny Chat 143: The Elevator Effect” National Center for State Courts. Available [here](#).

Morgan L.W. Hazelton, Rachael K. Hinkle, and Michael J. Nelson. August 21, 2023. “The Elevator Effect: Contact and Collegiality in the American Judiciary” New Books Network Podcast. Available [here](#).

Morgan L.W. Hazelton and Rachael K. Hinkle. July 10, 2023. “Persuading the Supreme Court” New Books Network Podcast. Available [here](#).

Morgan L.W. Hazelton and Rachael K. Hinkle. June 6, 2023. “Who is ‘Whispering’ in the Supreme Court’s Ears?” Sidebar Podcast. Available [here](#).

Morgan L.W. Hazelton and Rachael K. Hinkle. October 3, 2022. “What Influences the Supreme Court? Here’s What We Learned.” The Monkey Cage. Available [here](#).

Rachael K. Hinkle. March 2, 2022. “Rachael Hinkle Discusses how Briefs and Lawyer Experience can Influence Supreme Court Decisions.” Baldy Center Podcast, Episode 26. Available [here](#).

Morgan L.W. Hazelton, Rachael K. Hinkle, and Michael J. Nelson. January 2022. “Appeals Judges Only Rely on Ideology When Reviewing Judges They Don’t Know Well.” Journal of Politics Blog. Available [here](#).

Rachael K. Hinkle. February 16, 2021. “Unintended Consequences: How the Publication Norm as a Tool of Compromise Reduces the Influence of Female and Minority Judges.” Baldy Center Blog. Available [here](#).

Rachael K. Hinkle and Michael J. Nelson. March 13, 2018. “Trump Appoints Lots of White Men to be Federal Judges. Here’s Why it Matters.” The Monkey Cage. Available [here](#).

Rachael K. Hinkle, Morgan L.W. Hazelton, and Michael J. Nelson. May 26, 2017. “Getting to Know You – The Unifying Effects of Membership Stability.” SCOTUSBlog. Available [here](#).

Morgan L.W. Hazelton, Rachael K. Hinkle, and Jee Seon Jeon. July 6, 2016. “How One Circuit Court Judge Can Stop a Higher Court from Establishing a Legal Precedent.” London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog. Available [here](#).

Rachael K. Hinkle. January 13, 2016. “How States Learn from the Success or Failure of other States’ Laws in Federal Courts.” London School of Economics United States Politics and Policy Blog. Available [here](#).

Conference Presentations

Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association: 2013, 2016-18, 2020-21, 2023.

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association: 2012, 2013, 2019, 2022, 2023.

Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association: 2007, 2010, 2012-2019, 2022-23.

Conference on Political Economy and Public Law, Princeton: 2019.

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies: 2015, 2017, 2022.

Visions in Methodology Conference, Florida State University: 2013.

Summer Methods Meeting, University of North Carolina: 2012.

Awards and Honors

Pritchett Award for the Best Book in Law & Courts, 2024

Pritchett Award for the Best Book in Law & Courts, Honorable Mention, 2023

Lisa Hertel Memorial Political Science Teaching Award, University at Buffalo, 2018-2019

Best Conference Paper Award, APSA Law and Courts Section, 2018

Milton Plesur Excellence in Teaching Award, University at Buffalo, 2017-2018

Lisa Hertel Memorial Political Science Teaching Award, University at Buffalo, 2017-2018

GSA Award for Exceptional Dedication to the Department, 2016-2017

Lisa Hertel Memorial Political Science Teaching Award, University at Buffalo, 2016-2017

Best Journal Article Award, APSA Law and Courts Section, 2016

Edward S. Corwin Award (for the best doctoral dissertation in the field of public law), 2014

First Place, Women’s Equity Action League Graduate Writing Contest, 2007

Service

Professional Service

Referee, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *American Politics Research*, *Journal of Law & Courts*, *Justice System Journal*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Law & Society Review*, *Laws*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *Cognition and Language*, *Journal of Health Politics Policy and Law*, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (2015), and National Science Foundation.

Research & Politics Associate Editor: 2024-present

National Science Foundation Law and Science panel member (four times)

APSA Law and Courts section: Chair of Best Journal Article Award Committee: 2024

Advanced Placement (AP) Visiting Fellow in U.S. Government and Politics: 2023

Justice System Journal Editorial Board: 2018-2022

APSA Law and Courts section: Chair of Best Conference Paper Award Committee: 2022

SPSA Annual Conference: Conference-Within-a-Conference co-organizer: 2018

APSA Law and Courts section: Best Journal Article Award Committee: 2018

SPSA Annual Conference Section Chair (Judicial Politics): 2017

APSA Law and Courts section: Best Journal Article Award Committee: 2017

APSA Law and Courts section: Best Conference Paper Award Committee: 2016

University Service

Baldy Center Advisory Committee Member: 2018 - present

UB Presidential Scholarship application review: 2023

Faculty Mentor for Assistant Professor Cassandra Jacobs (Linguistics): 2021 - present

University at Buffalo Style Guide Advisory Group Member: 2021 - present

Outside Member of Linguistics Department Search Committee: 2019

University at Buffalo Faculty Senate: 2017-2019

Department Service

Director of Undergraduate Studies: 2022 - present

Faculty Mentor for Assistant Professor Abigail Matthews (Political Science): 2020 - present

Chair of Public Law Field Examination Committee: 2016 - present

Chair of Disciplinary Excellence Search Committee: 2023

Chair of Methods Search Committee: 2021

Chair of Public Law Search Committee: 2019

Member of Methods Search Committee: 2014

Political Science Graduate Committee: 2016 - 2021

Political Science Advisory Committee: 2017 - present

Graduate Recruitment and Retention: 2015 - 2019

Public Law Field Examination Committee: 2015 - 2016

Community Service

Three-part lecture series, Garrett Club: 2019

Certifications

Member of the Bar, State of Illinois since 2004 (retired)

Member of the Bar, United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals since 2005