

# JOEL B. KERSTING

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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**Address** Department of Political Science  
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**Pronouns** He/him/his

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2024 – present **Assistant Professor of Political Science**  
*Washington & Jefferson College | Washington, PA*

2022 - 2024 **Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science**  
*Washington & Jefferson College | Washington, PA*

## EDUCATION

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2022 **Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science**  
*Syracuse University | Syracuse, NY*  
Fields: American Politics; Comparative Politics

**Dissertation:** *The Effect of the Education Realignment on Party Position Taking in the U.S. Congress*

**Committee:** Christopher Faricy (Chair); Maraam Dwidar; Seth Jolly; Sarah Pralle; Steven White

2017 **Master of Arts in Political Science**  
*Syracuse University | Syracuse, NY*

2015 **Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science**  
*The College of Saint Rose | Albany, NY*  
Minor in Sociology

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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2024 “An Environmental Education: How the Education Realignment Polarized Congress on the Environment.” *Environmental Politics* 33(4): 612-634.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2023.2251373>

- 2023 "Schooling the Parties: The Effect of the Education Realignment on LGBTQ+ Party Position Taking in the U.S. House of Representatives." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 11(2): 267-286. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21565503.2021.1946100>
- 2014 "An Evolving Struggle: The Political Incorporation of Gays and Lesbians in Urban Politics." *Journal of Undergraduate Research of the College of Saint Rose*.

## BOOK PROJECTS

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**Under Contract** *Education Realignment and Congressional Representation: Electoral Coalitions, Position Taking, and Polarization in American Party Politics*

## WORKING PAPERS

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- In Progress** "My Blue Heaven: Explaining Growth in Democratic Support in the American Suburbs" with Christopher G. Faricy
- In Progress** "Intraparty Conflict over Abortion and Gun Control Policy in the 103<sup>rd</sup> Congress"

## TEACHING

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### **W & J Instructor**

- Processes of American Government (*Fall 2022; Spring 2023; Fall 2023; Spring 2024; Fall 2024*)
- Political Parties (*Fall 2022; Fall 2023; Fall 2024*)
- The Legislative Process (*Fall 2022; Fall 2024*)
- Democratic Backsliding in the U.S. (*Spring 2023*)
- Political Behavior (*Spring 2023*)
- Politics on Film (*Fall 2023*)
- The American Presidency (*Spring 2024*)
- Gender & Sexuality Politics (*Spring 2024*)

### **Syracuse Instructor**

- American National Government and Politics (*Summer 2018; Summer 2019; Fall 2020 [ONLINE]; Spring 2021 [ONLINE]; Spring 2022 [ONLINE]*)
- Critical Issues for the United States (*Fall 2020; Spring 2021*)

### **Teaching Assistant**

- Constitutional Law (*Fall 2015*)
- Modern American Presidency (*Spring 2016*)

- American National Government and Politics (*Fall 2016; Spring 2017; Fall 2017; Fall 2018; Fall 2019; Fall 2021*)
- Politics of Income Inequality (*Spring 2018*)
- Introduction to Comparative Politics (*Spring 2019*)
- The Judicial Process (*Spring 2020*)
- Introduction to Political Analysis (*Spring 2022*)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**2024** Paper: “My Blue Heaven: Explaining Growth in Democratic Support in the American Suburbs” with Christopher G. Faricy. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA.

**2022** Paper: “Blue Dogs to New Dogs: The Transformation of Congressional Economic Moderates in the Democratic Party.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Discussant: Congressional Polarization. Panel at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

**2020** Paper: “A Queer Education: The Effect of the Education Realignment on LGBTQ+ Party Position Taking in the U.S. Congress.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. *\*Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.*

**2019** Paper: “A Queer Education: The Effect of the Education Realignment on LGBTQ+ Party Position Taking in the U.S. Congress” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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**2023** Kenneth M. Mason, Sr. Grant for Faculty Research (*Washington & Jefferson College*)

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

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Washington & Jefferson College | Washington, PA

**2022 – present** Symposium on Democracy Committee

**2024 - present** W&J Political Association Faculty Advisor

Syracuse University | Syracuse, NY

**2016 – 2021** Executive Board of Political Science Graduate Student Association

**2019** Graduate Representative for American Politics Faculty Job Search

**2018 – 2019** Political Science Undergraduate Studies Committee Member

2017 – 2018 Graduate Assistant for Political Science Research Workshop

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2022 - *present* Referee, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*

## MEMBERSHIPS

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2019 - *present* Midwest Political Science Association

2018 - *present* American Political Science Association

## REFERENCES

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### **Christopher Faricy**

Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Syracuse University  
(315) 443-8828  
[cgfaricy@syr.edu](mailto:cgfaricy@syr.edu)

### **Seth Jolly**

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### **Steven White**

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### **Maraam Dwidar**

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