

SIMON ZSCHIRNT



Associate Professor & Chair
Department of Social Sciences
Texas A&M International University
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor of Political Science	Texas A&M International University (2019 – present)
Assistant Professor of Political Science	Texas A&M International University (2013 – 19)
Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science	Texas A&M International University (2012 – 13)
Instructor of Political Science	Washington State University (2008 – 12)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Political Science)	Washington State University (2013)
J.D. (Law)	Tulane University (2005)
M.A. (Political Science)	Tulane University (2005)
B.A. (Political Science)	Auburn University (2001)

TEACHING / RESEARCH FIELDS

American Politics
Constitutional Law
Human Rights
International Law
Judicial Politics

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Zschirnt, Simon. 2021. "Justice for All in the Americas? A Quantitative Analysis of Admissibility Decisions in the Inter-American Human Rights System." *Laws* 10 (3): 56-78.

- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2020. "Opening the Doors to Justice in Africa: Analyzing State Acceptance of the Right of Individual Petition to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights." *Transnational Human Rights Review* 7 (1): 1-39.
- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2018. "Locking In Human Rights in Africa: Analyzing State Accession to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights." *Human Rights Review* 19 (1): 97-119.
- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2017. "Is the Inter-American Human Rights System Biased? A Quantitative Analysis of Regional Human Rights Litigation in the Americas." *International & Comparative Law Review* 17 (1): 51-81.
- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2016. "Gay Rights, the New Judicial Federalism, and State Supreme Courts: Disentangling the Effects of Ideology and Judicial Independence." *Justice System Journal* 37 (4): 348-66.
- Zschirnt, Simon** and Mark Menaldo. 2014. "International Insurance? Democratic Consolidation and Support for International Human Rights Regimes." *International Journal of Transitional Justice* 8 (3): 452-75.
- Zschirnt, Simon** and Blake M. Randol. 2014. "Institutionalizing the Culture of Control: Modeling the Changing Dynamics of U.S. Supreme Court Death Penalty Decisions." *International Criminal Justice Review* 24 (4): 319-44.
- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2011. "The Origins and Meaning of Liberal/Conservative Self-Identifications Revisited." *Political Behavior* 33 (4): 685-701.

BOOK

- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2015. *Legal Intellectual Movements in Political Time: Reconstructive Leadership and Transformations of Legal Thought and Discourse.* LFB Scholarly Publishing.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS

- Bernat, Frances P., **Simon Zschirnt**, and Nicholas Godlove. 2014. "The Implications of Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Claims." In Craig Hemmens, ed., *Current Legal Issues in Criminal Justice.* Oxford University Press.
- Zschirnt, Simon**, J. Mitchell Pickerill, and Carl McCurley. 2011. "The Washington State Judiciary: Decentralization, Responsiveness, and Independence." In Cornell W. Clayton and Nicholas P. Lovrich, eds., *Governing Washington: Politics and Government in the Evergreen State.* Washington State University Press.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2019. "Bourbon Democrats." In Scott H. Ainsworth and Brian M. Harward, eds., *Political Groups, Parties, and Organizations that Shaped America: An Encyclopedia and Document Collection.* ABC-CLIO.
- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2019. "Constitution Party (1991 –)." In Scott H. Ainsworth and Brian M. Harward, eds., *Political Groups, Parties, and Organizations that Shaped America: An Encyclopedia and Document Collection.* ABC-CLIO.
- Zschirnt, Simon.** 2019. "Copperheads." In Scott H. Ainsworth and Brian M. Harward, eds., *Political Groups, Parties, and Organizations that Shaped America: An Encyclopedia and Document Collection.* ABC-CLIO.

- Zschirnt, Simon** and Heeuk D. Lee. 2016. "Bill Haywood Trial." In Steven Chermak and Frankie Bailey, eds., *Crimes of the Centuries: Notorious Crimes, Criminals, and Criminal Trials in American History*. ABC-CLIO.
- Zschirnt, Simon** and Heeuk D. Lee. 2016. "John Peter Zenger Sedition Trial." In Steven Chermak and Frankie Bailey, eds., *Crimes of the Centuries: Notorious Crimes, Criminals, and Criminal Trials in American History*. ABC-CLIO.
- Lee, Heeuk D. and **Simon Zschirnt**. 2016. "Omar Shariff Thornton." In Steven Chermak and Frankie Bailey, eds. *Crimes of the Centuries: Notorious Crimes, Criminals, and Criminal Trials in American History*. ABC-CLIO.
- Lee, Heeuk D. and **Simon Zschirnt**. 2016. "Quantrill's Raiders." In Steven Chermak and Frankie Bailey, eds., *Crimes of the Centuries: Notorious Crimes, Criminals, and Criminal Trials in American History*. ABC-CLIO.
- Zschirnt, Simon**. 2008. "Racial Discrimination in Voting." In David S. Tanenhaus, ed., *Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the United States*. Macmillan Reference U.S.A.

CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- Zschirnt, Simon**. "Consolidating the African Human Rights System: Accession to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and Models of Judicial Empowerment." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 18-20, 2019
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "Opening the Doors to Justice in Africa: Analyzing State Acceptance of the Right of Individual Petition to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights." Pacific Northwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Bend, OR, November 8-10, 2018
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "Justice for All in the Americas? Analyzing the Jurisprudence of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, April 13-15, 2017.
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "Is the Inter-American Human Rights System Biased? Analyzing Regional Human Rights Litigation in the Americas." Pacific Northwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, November 10-12, 2016.
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "Gay Rights, the New Judicial Federalism, and State Supreme Courts: Reconsidering the Roles of Judicial Ideology and Independence." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, April 2-4, 2015.
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "Party, Ideology, or Situational Constitutionalism? Explaining the Supreme Court's Separation of Powers Jurisprudence." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, April 17- 19, 2014.
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "International Insurance? Democratic Consolidation and Support for International Human Rights Tribunals." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, March 28-30, 2013.
- Zschirnt, Simon**. "The Political Foundations of Legal Theory: Political Realignment and the Legal Marketplace of Ideas." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, March 22-24, 2012.

Zschirnt, Simon. “The Political Foundations of Originalism: Political Realignment and Legal Scholarship.” Pacific Northwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, October 13-15, 2011.

Supreme Court Politics Roundtable, Pacific Northwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Victoria, Canada, October 15-17, 2009.

Zschirnt, Simon. “The Separation of Powers and Models of Supreme Court Decision-Making.” Pacific Northwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, November 6-8, 2008.

Zschirnt, Simon, Cornell W. Clayton, and J. Mitchell Pickerill. “The Unitary Executive Meets Judicial Supremacy: How the New Right Regime Has Shaped the Supreme Court’s Separation of Powers Jurisprudence.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, August 27-31, 2008.

COURSES TAUGHT

UNDERGRADUATE

American National Government
Comparative Law & Constitutionalism
Congress & The Presidency
The Constitution & Civil Liberties
The Constitution & Government Powers
Globalization
International Law & Organizations
The Judicial Process
Law & Society
The Political System of the U.S.

GRADUATE

American Political Behavior
American Political Institutions
Constitutional Law
International Law
The Judicial Process
Law & Courts

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY

Pre-Law Advisor, 2017 – present

Faculty Advisor, Pre-Law Chapter of the Laredo-Webb County Bar Association, 2017 – present

Member, Texas A&M International University Team, American Democracy Project Digital Polarization Initiative, 2018 – 19

Faculty Advisor / Coach, Texas A&M International University Forensics Forum (Speech and Debate Team), 2014 – 17

Invited Speaker, Cultural Awareness Day, 2014, 2016, 2017

Judge, Lamar Bruni Vergara Academic Conference, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

COLLEGE

College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee

Co-Chair, 2018 – 21

Member, 2014 – 18

Member, College of Arts & Sciences Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2019 – 20

Member, History Search Committee, 2021

Member, Rhetoric and Composition Search Committee, 2019 – 20

DEPARTMENT

Chair, 2022 – present

Program Coordinator, Political Science, 2019 – present

Assessment Coordinator, Pre-Law Minor, 2019 – present

Assessment Coordinator, Political Science B.A. Program, 2016 – 18

Chair, Political Science Search Committee, 2018

Member, Criminal Justice Search Committee, 2018 – 19

Member, Political Science Search Committee, 2014 – 15

Member, Public Administration Search Committee

2014 – 15

2019

STUDENT

Supervisor, Sophomore Thesis:

Daniel Villalobos, 2013

Supervisor, Undergraduate Honors Thesis:

Daniel Villalobos, 2014 – 15

Daisie Urdiales, 2016 – 17

Chair, Master's Committee (Thesis)

Saliha Garcia, 2022

Chair, Master's Committee (Non-Thesis):

Raymundo De Hoyos, 2021

Eliseo Rojas, 2020

Maria Elena Pérez, 2018

Member, Master's Committee (Non-Thesis):

Loretta Moreland, 2020

Selina Agredano, 2019

Alejandro De Leon, 2019

Freddy Fernández, 2019

Ariel González, 2019

Brenda González, 2018

Ibrahim Kero, 2018

José Loredó, 2018

Rolando Medrano, 2018

Andreas Nielsen, 2017

Óscar Martínez, 2016

Arlene Hurtado, 2015

Selina Lugo, 2015

Manuel Maciel, 2015

Member, Master's Committee (Thesis):

Andrew Carranco, 2020 – 21

Jackelyne Briseño, 2018 – 19

Melissa Saenz, 2018

PROFESSIONAL

Member, Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee (Law & Courts), American Political Science Association, 2014 – 15

Manuscript Reviewer:

Justice System Journal (2017 – present)

Political Behavior (2013 – present)

Political Research Quarterly (2009 – present)

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Texas A&M International University Research Grant, Immigration in the Federal District Courts (w/ Frances P. Bernat, Elizabeth Tomsich, and Clint Osowski), \$5,000, 2013

Charles H. Sheldon Public Law Fellowship, \$2,500, 2011

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

Pacific Northwest Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

German (native)

Spanish (proficient)