

# Danielle M. Thomsen

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science  
University of California, Irvine  
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## APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Irvine, 2021–  
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of California, Irvine, 2018–21  
Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University, 2018–19  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Effective Lawmaking, UVA and Vanderbilt University, 2018–  
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public  
Affairs, Syracuse University, 2015–18. Senior Research Associate, Campbell Institute.  
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Political Institutions and Public Choice Program, Duke University,  
2014–15

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Government, Cornell University, 2014

- Dissertation: “Party Fit in the U.S. Congress”
- APSA E.E. Schattschneider Award for the best dissertation in American politics

B.A., Political Science and Spanish, Minnesota State University, Mankato, 2007

## BOOK

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2017. *Opting Out of Congress: Partisan Polarization and the Decline of Moderate Candidates*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Reviewed in *Choice*, *Congress & the Presidency*, *The Forum*, *Perspectives on Politics*, and *Political Science Quarterly*. Featured on C-SPAN BookTV.

## ARTICLES

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2023. “Competition in Congressional Elections: Money versus Votes.” *American Political Science Review* 117(2): 675-691.

Treul, Sarah, Danielle M. Thomsen, Craig Volden, and Alan E. Wiseman. 2022. “The Primary Path for Turning Legislative Effectiveness into Electoral Success.” *Journal of Politics* 84(3): 1714-1726.

Thomsen, Danielle M. and Aaron S. King. 2020. “Women’s Representation and the Gendered Pipeline to Power.” *American Political Science Review* 114(4): 989-1000.

Thomsen, Danielle M. and Bailey K. Sanders. 2020. “Gender Differences in Legislator Responsiveness.” *Perspectives on Politics* 18(4): 1017-1030.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2020. "Ideology and Gender in U.S. House Elections." *Political Behavior* 42(2): 415-442.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2019. "Which Women Win? Partisan Changes in Victory Patterns in U.S. House Elections." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 7(2): 412-428.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2017. "Joining Patterns Across Party Factions in the U.S. Congress." *The Forum* 15(4): 741-751.

Koch, Julianna and Danielle M. Thomsen. 2017. "Gender Equality Mood Across States and Over Time." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 17(4): 351-360.

Thomsen, Danielle M. and Michele L. Swers. 2017. "Which Women Can Run? Gender, Partisanship, and Candidate Donor Networks." *Political Research Quarterly* 70(2): 449-463.

Aldrich, John H. and Danielle M. Thomsen. 2017. "Party, Policy, and the Ambition to Run for Higher Office." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 42(2): 321-343.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2015. "Why So Few (Republican) Women? Explaining the Partisan Imbalance of Women in the U.S. Congress." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 40(2): 295-323.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2014. "Ideological Moderates Won't Run: How Party Fit Matters for Partisan Polarization in Congress." *Journal of Politics* 76(3): 786-797.

BOOK  
CHAPTERS

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2021. "Women Running, Women Winning: Voter Preferences in 2018." In *Congress Reconsidered*, 12th edition, eds. Lawrence C. Dodd, Bruce I. Oppenheimer, and C. Lawrence Evans. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2020. "Parties and Polarization in Congress." In *New Directions in Congressional Politics*, 2nd edition, eds. Jamie L. Carson and Michael S. Lynch. New York: Routledge.

Swers, Michele L. and Danielle M. Thomsen. 2020. "Building a Campaign Donor Network: How Candidate Gender and Partisanship Impact the Money Chase." In *Good Reasons to Run*, eds. Shauna L. Shames, Rachel I. Bernhard, Mirya R. Holman, and Dawn Langan Teele. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.

McDonagh, Eileen and Danielle M. Thomsen. 2020. "Gender and Political Citizenship." In *The Oxford Handbook of American Political History*, eds. Paula Baker and Donald T. Critchlow. New York: Oxford University Press.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2018. "When Might Moderates Win the Primary?" In *The Routledge Handbook of Primary Elections*, ed. Robert G. Boatright. New York: Routledge.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2018. "Republican Women, Then and Now: Ideological Changes in Congressional Candidates from 1980 to 2012." In *The Right Women*, eds. Malliga Och and Shauna L. Shames. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger Press.

BOOK  
REVIEWS

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2022. Review of *Life in the Middle*, by Neilan S. Chaturvedi. *Perspectives on Politics* 20(4): 1466-1467.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2019. Review of *The Cash Ceiling*, by Nicholas Carnes. *Perspectives on Politics* 17(2): 576-577.

Thomsen, Danielle M. 2018. Review of *Building the Bloc*, by Ruth Bloch Rubin. *The Forum* 16(2): 365-366.

WORK IN  
PROGRESS

*Money as Muscle in American Elections*. Book manuscript.

“Money and Candidate Exit in U.S. House Elections.” Under review.

“What Do Republican Women Want? Understanding the Policy Priorities of Republican Women.” With Michele L. Swers. Under review.

“Counting Candidates.”

“The Subprime Political Consultant Market.” With Alina Dunlap.

“Legislative Effectiveness, Progressive Ambition, and Electoral Outcomes in the American States.” With Sarah Treul, Craig Volden, and Alan E. Wiseman.

“Gender Differences in Candidate Reemergence.”

FELLOWSHIPS,  
GRANTS, AND  
AWARDS

QUery On Inc. Money in Politics Research Grant, 2021-22

Center for Effective Lawmaking Research Grant, 2020-21

Congressional Research Grant, Dirksen Congressional Center (with Ruth Bloch Rubin), 2019-22

Emerging Scholar Award, American Political Science Association, Political Organizations and Parties Section, 2019

Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University, 2018-19

Center for Effective Lawmaking Research Grant (with Sarah Treul), 2018-19

Negotiating Agreement in Congress Research Grant, Anxieties of Democracy Program, Social Science Research Council, 2018

Campbell Institute Research Grant, Syracuse University, 2016, 2017

E.E. Schattschneider Award for the Best Dissertation in American Politics, 2015

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Political Institutions and Public Choice Program, Duke University, 2014-15

Janice N. and Milton J. Esman Dissertation Prize, Cornell University, 2015

Congressional Research Grant, Dirksen Congressional Center, 2014-15

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2013-14

American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship, 2012-13

Malcolm Jewell Award for the Best Graduate Paper, SPSA Conference, 2013

Dean's Prize for Distinguished Teaching, Cornell University, 2012

Janet Box-Steffensmeier Award for Women to Attend the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, 2011

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

University of California, Irvine: Introduction to American Government, American Politics Core Seminar (Graduate), U.S. Congress, Gender and Politics (Undergraduate, Graduate)

Syracuse University: Introduction to American Government, Campaign Analysis, Gender and Politics (Undergraduate, Graduate)

Duke University: Campaigns and Elections, Women and Politics

Instructor, Auburn Correctional Facility, Auburn, NY, Cornell Prison Education Program: Gender and Politics in the United States

Teaching Assistant, Cornell University: Introduction to American Politics, American Political Thought, American Prison System, Politics of the European Union

Awarded the 2012 Dean's Prize for Distinguished Teaching, Cornell University

ADDITIONAL  
TRAINING

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, Princeton University, 2012

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan, 2011

Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Stanford University, 2010

OTHER  
WRITING

"A record number of women are serving in Congress. That's good news for constituents." With Bailey K. Sanders. Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*. January 2021.

"Women are less than a quarter of all U.S. House candidates this year, but that's still record breaking." Center for American Women and Politics blog. June 2018.

"Member joining patterns across party factions in the 115th Congress." LegBranch.com blog. April 2018.

"This is why Charlie Dent and other moderates are disappearing from Congress." Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*. September 2017.

"This explains why there are so few Republican women in Congress." With Michele L. Swers. Monkey Cage, *Washington Post*. June 2017.

"Where have all the moderate candidates gone?" *Raleigh News & Observer*. August 2014.

"Fed up with Congress? Then help elect more Republican women." *Washington Post*. December 2013.

ANNUAL  
MEETINGS

American Political Science Association conference (2011, 2012, 2014-18, 2020-22)

Midwest Political Science Association conference (2011-19, 2021-23)

Southern Political Science Association conference (2013, 2014, 2016, 2017)

INVITED  
TALKS AND  
CONFERENCES

2024: University of Michigan, Center for Political Studies (scheduled)

2023: Columbia University, American Politics Speaker Series; University of Chicago, American Politics Workshop; Florida State University, Department of Political Science; UCLA, American Politics Workshop; UC Davis, Department Speaker Series; University of Houston, Politics of Gender, Diversity, and Representation Conference; Vanderbilt University, Center for Effective Lawmaking Conference

2022: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, American Politics Research Group; Women in Legislative Studies Research Workshop (virtual); University of Oklahoma, Carl Albert Center Legislative Studies Conference; University of Virginia, Center for Effective Lawmaking Conference; Rice University, Women in Legislative Studies Conference; SoCal Political Economy and Institutions Workshop; University of Wisconsin–Madison, American Politics Workshop; Yale University, American Politics and Policy Workshop

2021: UC Berkeley, Travers Conference; University of Tennessee, Department Speaker Series; Vanderbilt University, Center for Effective Lawmaking Conference; Texas A&M University, Department Speaker Series

2020: UC San Diego, American Politics Workshop; UC Berkeley, Travers Conference (cancelled); Duke University PIPC Book Seminar (cancelled); Vanderbilt University, Center for Effective Lawmaking Conference (cancelled)

2019: University of Maryland, Conference on the Organizational Climate of Congress; National Institute for Civil Discourse Conference, Tucson, AZ; University of Southern California, PIPE Workshop; Harvard/MIT, Congress & History Conference; University of Virginia, Center for Effective Lawmaking Conference; University of Georgia, Visions in Methodology Conference; Yale University, Workshop on Party Discipline; Wesleyan University; CIDE, Mexico City, Empirical Study of Gender Research Network; Rutgers University, Women and Politics Workshop; Vanderbilt University, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions

2018: Princeton University, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics; UC Berkeley, American Politics Workshop; Social Science Research Council, Anxieties of Democracy Program, Workshop on Negotiating Agreement in Congress; Duke University, Aldrich Celebration Conference; Stanford University, American Politics Workshop; Saint Anselm College, New Hampshire Institute of Politics

2017: University of Pennsylvania, Gender and Candidate Recruitment Conference; University of Notre Dame, Rooney Center for the Study of American Democracy; Social Science Research Council, Anxieties of Democracy Program, Workshop on Polarization and Legislative Institutions, Berlin, Germany; University of Pittsburgh, American Politics Workshop; Hartwick College; Stony Brook University, Visions in Methodology Conference

2015: Brigham Young University, Gender and Candidate Emergence Conference; Duke University, Parties as Micro-Polities Conference; Duke University, Political Institutions and Public Choice 20th Anniversary Conference

2014: Case Western Reserve University, Women, Gender, and Conservative Parties Conference

2013: SUNY-Binghamton, Political Parties and Party Systems Conference

DEPARTMENT  
SERVICE

University of California, Irvine: American Politics Field Coordinator (2020-23); Women's Caucus Faculty Co-Advisor (2020-22); School of Social Sciences Committee on Faculty Diversity, Inclusion, and Development (2020-23); American Politics Speaker Series Co-Organizer (2021-22)

Syracuse University: Political Science Research Workshop Coordinator (2017-18); American Politics Field Coordinator (2016-18); Graduate Admissions Committee (2017); American Politics Search Committee (2016-17)

PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE

Editorial Board Member, Cambridge Studies in Gender and Politics

Editorial Board Member, *Politics & Gender* (2019-22)

Committee, Carl Albert Dissertation Award (2021)

Committee, *Politics & Gender* Best Article Award (2021)

Committee, Emerging Scholar Award, Political Organizations and Parties Section (2020)

Program Committee, Midwest Political Science Association Conference (2018)

Program Committee, Visions in Methodology Conference (2017)

Reviewer, *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *American Politics Research*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Congress and the Presidency*; *Electoral Studies*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*; *Journal of Experimental Political Science*; *Journal of Politics*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*; *Political Behavior*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Politics & Gender*; *Public Choice*; *Public Opinion Quarterly*; *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*; *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*; Cambridge University Press.