

# DAMON M. CANN

## Curriculum Vitae

Dept. of Political Science  
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### Academic Appointments

- Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Utah State University, 2017-present
- Interim Head, Dept. of Journalism & Communication, Utah State University, 2020-2021
- Interim Head, Dept. of Political Science, Utah State University, Calendar Year 2019
- Co-Director of Operations, Utah State University Institute of Government & Politics, 2013-2018
- Associate Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Utah State University, 2013-2017
- Director of Graduate Studies, Political Science Dept., Utah State University 2012-2013
- Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Utah State University, 2008-2013
- Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Georgia, 2004-2008
- Instructor, Dept. of Political Science, Stony Brook University, 2002-2004

### Education

- Ph.D., Political Science, Stony Brook University, 2004.
- M.A., Political Science, Stony Brook University, 2002.
- B.A., Political Science, Brigham Young University, 2000.

### Research Interests

- Methodology (esp. Surveys & Experiments)
- Representation and Elections
- Education Policy

## Awards & Honors

- 2016 Virginia Gray Best Book Award for the best book on State Politics in the preceding 3 years (for *Voters' Verdicts*, coauthored with Chris Bonneau), granted by the State Politics & Policy Section of the American Political Science Association.
- 2011-2013 Faculty Fellow, Utah State University Institute of Government & Politics
- 2011-2014 Faculty Fellow, Center for Persons with Disabilities, Utah State University
- 2009 Richard F. Fenno Prize for the best book on Legislative Studies written in 2008 (for *Sharing the Wealth*), granted by the Legislative Studies Section of the American Political Science Association.
- 2009 Artinian Travel Award to attend the 2009 Meetings of the Southern Political Science Association.
- 2008 Award for Excellence in Teaching, granted by the University of Georgia's School of Public and International Affairs
- 2002 Graduate Student Teaching Award, granted by the Stony Brook University Political Science Department.

## Publications

### Books:

- 2016. *These Estimable Courts: Understanding Public Perceptions of State Judicial Institutions and Policymaking*. (with Jeff Yates) Oxford University Press.
- 2015. *Voters' Verdicts: Citizens, Campaigns, and Institutions in State Supreme Court Elections* (with Chris Bonneau). University of Virginia Press. (Winner of the 2016 Virginia Gray Award for the best book in State Politics or Policy)
- 2008. *Sharing the Wealth: Member Contributions and the Exchange Theory of Party Influence in the U.S. House of Representatives*. Albany, NY: SUNY Press. (Winner of the 2009 Fenno Prize for the best book in Legislative Studies.)

### Articles and Other Items:

Note: \* denotes graduate student coauthor; \*\* denotes undergraduate coauthor

- 2021. "Evaluating Diffuse Support for State High Courts Among Individuals with Varying Levels of Policy Agreement." (with Jeff Yates) *Social Science Quarterly* 102(6):2824-2835. (<https://doi.org/10.1111/ssqu.13093>)

- \*2021. “The Implementation of Random Survival Forests in Conflict Management Data: An Examination of Power Sharing and Third Party Mediation in Post-Conflict Countries.” *PLOS One*  
<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0250963>
- 2020. “This Side of the Law: Evaluating Citizens’ Attitudes Toward Legal Compliance.” *Justice System Journal* 41(3): 244-258 (doi: 10.1080/0098261X.2020.1768184).
- 2020. “Electronic vs. Paper Voter Guides and Citizen Knowledge: A Randomized Controlled Trial.” *Journal of Information Technology and Politics* 17(3): 291-303 (doi: 10.1080/19331681.2020.1770661).
- 2018. “The Structure of Municipal Political Ideology.” *State & Local Government Review* 50(1): 37-45 (doi: 10.1177/0160323X18781456).
- \*\*2018. “Without Rhyme or Reason? Understanding Presidential Nomination Delegate Allocation Rules” (with Robert Ross and Jade Burt). *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 48(4): 804-816 (doi:10.1111/psq.12451).
- \*2016. “Divisive Primaries, Divided National Parties, and the Presidential Vote” (with Paul Gurian, Lonna Atkeson, Nathan Burroughs, and Audrey Haynes) *Political Behavior* 38: 689-711 (doi:10.1007/s11109-016-9332-1).
- 2015. “Party Identification and Vote Choice in Partisan and Nonpartisan Judicial Elections” (with Chris Bonneau). *Political Behavior* 37(1): 43-66 (doi:10.1007/s11109-013-9260-2).
- \*2014. “Ballot Titles and Voter Decision Making on Ballot Questions” (with Jeff Hastings), *State & Local Government Review* 46(2): 118-127 (doi:10.1177/0160323X14535410).
- \*\*2014. “Analyzing Text Complexity in Political Science Research” (with Greg Goelzhauser and Kaylee Johnson), *PS: Political Science & Politics* 47(3): 663-666 (doi:10.1017/S1049096514000808).
- 2014. “Judicial Independence and Opinion Clarity in State Supreme Courts” (with Greg Goelzhauser), *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 14: 123-141 (doi:10.1177/1532440013520241).
- 2013. “Judicial Ideology and the Selection of Disputes for U.S. Supreme Court Adjudication” (with Jeff Yates and Brent Boyea), *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 10(4): 847-865 (doi:10.1111/jels.12030).

- 2013. “Education and Amateurs: Changes to Education Finance by Petitioners” (with Teena Wilhelm) Ch. 7 in *Direct Democracy in the United States: Petitioners as a Reflection of Society* Routledge: New York.
- 2012. “Voter Response to Congressional Campaigns: New Techniques for Analyzing Aggregate Electoral Behavior” (with Scott Basinger and Michael Ensley), *Public Choice* 150(3): 771-792 (doi:10.1007/s11127-010-9730-6).
- 2012. “Campaign Contributions and Judicial Decisions in Partisan and Nonpartisan Elections.” (with Chris Bonneau and Brent Boyea), Ch. 3 in *New Directions in Judicial Politics*, Kevin T. McGuire, editor. New York: Routledge.
- 2011. “Campaign Spending, Diminishing Marginal Returns, and Campaign Finance Restrictions in Judicial Elections” (with Chris Bonneau), *Journal of Politics* 73(4): 1267-1280.
- 2011. “Exchange Theory, Political Parties, and the Allocation of Federal Distributive Benefits in the House of Representatives” (with Andrew Sidman), *Journal of Politics* 73(4): 1128-1141.
- \*2011. “Strategic Campaigning, Closeness, and Voter Mobilization in U.S. Presidential Elections” (with Bryan Cole), *Electoral Studies* 30: 344-352
- 2011. “Policy Venues and Policy Change: The Case of Education Finance Reform” (with Teena Wilhelm), *Social Science Quarterly* 92(4): 1074-1095.
- 2011. “Case Visibility and the Electoral Connection in State Supreme Courts” (with Teena Wilhelm), *American Politics Research* 39(3): 557-581.
- 2009. “The Motivated Processing of Political Arguments” (with Charles Taber and Simona Kucsova) *Political Behavior* 31(2): 137-155.
- 2009. “Religious Identification and Legislative Voting.” *Political Research Quarterly* 62(1): 110-119.
- 2008. “Modeling Committee Chair Selection in the U.S. House of Representatives.” *Political Analysis* 16: 274-289.
- 2008. “Homegrown Institutional Legitimacy: Assessing Citizens’ Diffuse Support for State Courts” (with Jeff Yates) *American Politics Research* 36(2): 297-329.
- 2007. “Justice for Sale? Campaign Contributions and Judicial Decisionmaking.” *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 7(3): 281-297.

- 2007. “Beyond Accountability and Independence: Judicial Selection and State Court Performance.” *Judicature* 90: 226-232. (Reprinted in *The Lanahan Readings in State & Local Government*, 2nd ed.)
- 2006. “Leadership PACs.” Entry in *The Encyclopedia of American Parties and Elections*. Howard Ernst and Larry Sabato, eds. Facts on File: New York.
- 2002. “Campaign Contributions and Judicial Behavior.” *American Review of Politics* 23 (Fall): 261-274.

## **Grants/Sponsored Research**

- \$16,443 for the 2016 Voter Experience Research using the Utah Colleges Exit Poll study (co-principal investigator with David Magleby), State of Utah Lieutenant Governor’s Office (Elections Division)
- \$20,000 for the 2014 Utah Vote by Mail Feasibility Study (co-principal investigator with Thad Hall & Quin Monson), State of Utah Lieutenant Governor’s Office (Elections Division)
- \$18,602,720 for the 2010-2015 New Mexico K-3 Plus Extended School Year Validation Study (co-investigator with Cyndi Rowland, principal investigator, and Linda Goetze, Mustafa Karakaplan, and Margaret Lubke, co-investigators)
  - \$15,282,720 from the U.S. Department of Education’s Investing in Innovation (i3) Grant Program
  - \$1,000,000 in matching funds from the Kellogg Foundation
  - \$650,000 in matching funds from JP Morgan
  - \$1,000,000 in matching funds from The Rural School and Community Trust
  - \$500,000 in matching funds from the Annie E. Casey Foundation
  - \$150,000 in matching funds from Innovate Educate New Mexico
  - \$20,000 in matching funds from Sandia National Laboratories
  - Additional in-kind support from Pearson Publishing and Riverside Publishing and the Albuquerque, Gadsden, Gallup-McKinley, and Las Cruces School Districts
- 2010 Incentives and Voter Turnout: A Field Experiment (lead investigator with my Fall 2010 POLS 6010/4990 Research Methods Seminar students): Over \$800 worth of coupon incentives provided by local businesses including Texas Roadhouse, Domino’s Pizza, Arby’s, Logan Lanes, Westates Theaters, Bajio, Zeppe, Wingers, and Arctic Circle.

- \$13,211 for 2012 Voter Guides, Citizen Knowledge, and Electoral Participation project, State of Utah Lieutenant Governor’s Office (Elections Division)

### **Conference Participation (last 5 years)**

Note: \* denotes graduate student coauthor; \*\* denotes undergraduate coauthor  
 “Coverage Error in Registration Based Sampling.” Poster presented at the Annual Meetings of the Midwest Political Science Science Association, Chicago, IL April 4-7, 2019.

- “Evidence of a Trump Effect on Voter Confidence in 2016.” (with David B. Magleby). Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 5-8 2018.
- “Voter Reaction to a Shift to Vote-By-Mail: The Trump Effect?” (with David B. Magleby). Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, Aug. 31-Sept. 3 2017
- “Who Obeys? Evaluating Citizens’ Attitudes Toward Legal Compliance.” (with Jeff Yates). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL April 6-9 2017.
- “Voter Response to Senate Scandals: Newer Techniques for Analyzing Aggregate Electoral Behavior.” (with Scott Basinger and Michael Ensley). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL April 6-9 2017.
- “(What’s So Funny ’Bout) Policy Agreement, Legitimacy, and Understanding? Evaluating Diffuse Support for State High Courts Among Individuals with Varying Levels of Policy Agreement.” (with Jeff Yates). Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, Sept. 1-4, 2016.
- “The Structure of Municipal Ideology.” Paper presented at the BYU Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy Spring Workshop, Provo, UT June 2-3, 2016

### **Testimony/Presentations to Government Entities**

- Utah State Legislature (Political Subdivisions Committee), September 2019. Testimony on the pros and cons of electing vs appointing county executive offices.
- New Mexico State Legislature (Legislative Education Study Committee), Dec. 2015. Testimony on the findings of the New Mexico K-3 Plus Validation Study.

- Utah State Legislature (Government Operations Committee), September 2014. Testimony on the Feasibility of a Vote-by-Mail system for Utah.
- Western States Legislative Fiscal Officers Association (about 30 leading state legislative staff members from across the U.S.), September 2014 on early childhood education.
- New Mexico State Legislature (Legislative Education Study Committee), July 2014. Testimony on the K-3 Plus summer program's effectiveness.
- New Mexico State Legislature (Legislative Finance Committee), May 2014. Testimony on the K-3 Plus summer program's effectiveness.
- Utah 3rd Judicial District Bench Meeting (about 20 judges from Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele Counties), June 2012. Presentation on judicial selection and retention.
- Providence, UT City Council, January 2012. Testimony on public opinion regarding the acquisition of a historic property.
- New Mexico State Legislature (Legislative Finance Committee), December 2011. Testimony on the K-3 Plus summer program's effectiveness.
- Mongolian Legislative Staff, August 2010. Presentations to senior staffers of the Mongolian State Great Khural (national legislature) covering comparative electoral systems and American politics.