

Vanessa S. Williamson

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- EMPLOYMENT** Brookings Institution
Senior Fellow, Governance Studies. January 2019 to present.
Fellow, Governance Studies. July 2015 to December 2018.
- EDUCATION** Harvard University
Ph.D. in Social Policy. May 2015.
- New York University
M.A. Institute of French Studies, high honors. 2004.
B.A. in French, magna cum laude. 2003.
- BOOKS** Vanessa Williamson. 2017. *Read My Lips*. Princeton University Press.
- Theda Skocpol and Vanessa Williamson. 2012. *The Tea Party and the Remaking of Republican Conservatism*. Oxford University Press.
- ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS** Vanessa Williamson. 2018. "Who are 'The Taxpayers'?" *The Forum* 16(3): 399-418.
- Vanessa Williamson. 2018. "Public Ignorance or Elitist Jargon? Americans' Overestimates of Government Waste and Foreign Aid." *American Politics Research* 47(1): 152-173.
- Vanessa Williamson, Kris-Stella Trump, and Katherine Levine Einstein. 2018. "Black Lives Matter: Evidence that Police-Caused Deaths Predict Protest Activity." *Perspectives on Politics* 16(2): 400-415.
- Katherine Einstein, Kris-Stella Trump, and Vanessa Williamson. 2016. "The Polarizing Effect of the Stimulus: Partisanship and Voter Responsiveness to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*: 46(2): 264-283.
- Vanessa Williamson. 2016. "On the Ethics of Crowdsourced Research." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 49(1): 77-81.
- Vanessa Williamson. 2012. "The Tea Party." *The Oxford Companion to American Politics*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Vanessa Williamson, Theda Skocpol, and John Coggin. 2011. "The Tea Party and the Remaking of Republican Conservatism." *Perspectives on Politics* 9(1): pp. 25-44.
- Theda Skocpol and Vanessa Williamson. 2010. "Obama and the Transformation of U.S. Public Policy: The Struggle for Health Care Reform." *ASU Law Journal* 42(Winter): pp. 1203-1331.
- REPORTS** "The 'Tax Cuts and Jobs Act' and the 2018 midterms: Examining the potential electoral impact." Brookings. August 27, 2018.
- "What Makes Taxes Seem Fair?" Tax Policy Center. March 29, 2017.

“The impact of open government: Assessing the evidence.” Brookings. December 7, 2016.

POPULAR MEDIA
ARTICLES

“The Philanthropy Con.” *Dissent*. Winter 2019.

“Right-to-Work Laws Have Devastated Unions – and Democrats.” James Feigenbaum, Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, and Vanesa Williamson. *New York Times*. March 8, 2018.

“How tax cuts for the wealthy became Republican orthodoxy.” *Washington Post*. December 21, 2017.

“How much do the poor actually pay in taxes? Probably more than you think.” *PBS Newshour*. June 8, 2017.

“What can (or should) activists learn from the tea party?” Theda Skocpol and Vanessa Williamson. *Washington Post*. May 11, 2017.

“Americans are proud to pay taxes – except when they think others are cheating.” *Washington Post*. April 18, 2017.

“Tax Day brings out the revolutionary in us.” *CNN*. April 14, 2017.

“Could this be the left’s tea party moment?” *CNN*. February 12, 2017.

“How the Women’s March could have a lasting historical impact.” *Teen Vogue*. January 19, 2017.

“Tax Me. Please.” *New York Times*. October 8, 2016.

“Getting federal stimulus money turned blue U.S. counties bluer and red counties redder. How can that be?” Katherine Einstein, Kris-Stella Trump and Vanessa Williamson. *Washington Post*. June 2, 2016.

“Bernie Sanders, black lives matter, and the political wisdom of holding allies accountable.” *Newsweek*. August 15, 2015.

“Americans Love Paying Taxes.” *The Atlantic*. April 15, 2015.

“Is the Tea Party healthy for democracy?” *Sacramento Bee*. June 3, 2012.

“Whose Tea Party is it?” Theda Skocpol and Vanessa Williamson. *New York Times*. December 26, 2011.

WORKING
PAPERS

“Progressive Tax Policy from a Political Perspective.”

“From the Bargaining Table to the Ballot Box: Political Effects of Right to Work Laws.” James Feigenbaum, Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, and Vanessa Williamson.

“Inequality, Precarity, and Perceptions of Deservingness.” Kris-Stella Trump and Vanessa Williamson.

“State Earned Income Tax Credits: Does Polarization Matter for the Passage of Compromise Policies?” Alexander Hertel-Fernandez and Vanessa Williamson.

GRANTS AND
FELLOWSHIPS

New Venture Fund, 2017-2018. \$316,000.

Arnold Foundation, 2016-2019. \$325,000.

Tides Center, 2016. \$150,000.
Blossom Fund, 2016. \$5,000.
Tobin Project Grant for Research on Inequality and Decision Making, 2016. \$3,500.
The Washington Center for Equitable Growth, fellowship, 2014-2015.
Blue Mountain Center, summer residency, June-July 2014.
Center for American Political Studies, Program on the American Republic Fellowship, Fall 2013.
Institute for Global Law and Policy, Program on the Study of Capitalism Research Fellowship, Fall 2013.
Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation Fellowship, 2012-2013 (declined).
Scholars Strategy Network Graduate Fellow, 2012-2013.
Multidisciplinary Program Grant in Inequality and Social Policy, 2012.
Tobin Project Democracy and Markets Fellowship, 2012.
National Science Foundation IGERT Inequality and Social Policy Fellowship, 2011.

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

Johns Hopkins University
"Making Social Change." Fall 2015, 2016, 2017.

San Quentin State Prison, Patten College
"Introduction to American Government." Fall 2013.

Harvard University (Teaching Fellow)
"Sophomore Tutorial in Government." Spring 2012.
"Foundations of Comparative Politics." Fall 2012.

SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS

"Populism and Religion: The American Case." Columbia University. March 2018.

Oklahoma Policy Institute Annual Conference, keynote speech. January 2018.

"Tax Policy and Regulation." Taubman Forum on Public Policy, April 2017.

The Tobin Project Conference on Inequality and Decision Making, August 2016.

"The 2016 Elections: Trump, Sanders and Political Transformation." UCLA Center for Social Theory and Comparative History, April 2016.

"Democracy and Its Discontents," Central European University, October 2015.

Columbia University, Graduate School of Journalism, October 2012.

"Polarized Politics." Berlin Colloquium, Europäische Akademie Berlin. May 2012.

"Voter Mobilization: The Impact of the Occupy Wall Street and Tea Party Movements," Columbia University, Institute for Social and Economic Research, March 2012.

"Forum on Occupy Wall Street." Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Institute of Politics, October 2011.

“The Tea Party.” Allegheny College, Center for Political Participation, September 2011.

House of Representatives Committee on Veterans Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, July 2008.

APSA 2018, 2016, 2013. MPSA 2017, 2016, 2013, 2012. SSHA 2017, 2012. Policy History 2014.

PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE

California Community Foundation, 2009.

Author, *Supporting Our Troops, Veterans, and their Families: Future Opportunities for Philanthropy*, an analysis of over \$250 million in grant making.

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

Research and Policy Director, 2006-2009.

Led DC office, with primary responsibility for legislative agenda. Author of seven reports on issues facing new veterans, including traumatic brain injury, unemployment and homelessness.

Field Director, 2005-2006.

Wrote successful proposals for over \$1 million in grants. Built a base of members for media, events, and advocacy. Organized multiple online legislative campaigns.