

# Amanda B. Edgell

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## Academic Appointments

- Assistant Professor, University of Alabama, Aug 2020–present
- Research Associate, V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, June 2019–present

## Education

- Ph.D. Political Science, University of Florida, May 2019  
M.A. Political Science, University of Florida, May 2015
- M.A. International Affairs, Texas A&M University, May 2011
- B.S. Political Science, Appalachian State University, Aug 2008

## Research

† Current/former student co-author

### *Books & Monographs*

1. Democracy in Trouble: Democratic Resilience and Breakdown from 1900 to 2022 (with Myles Williamson<sup>†</sup> and Christopher Akor<sup>†</sup>). In Press. *Cambridge Elements in Political Economy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
2. Why Democracies Develop and Decline (co-editor with Michael Coppedge, Carl Henrik Knutsen, and Staffan I. Lindberg). 2022. New York: Cambridge University Press.
  - *Honorable mention for the Juan Linz Best Book Prize in the Comparative Study of Democracy & Autocracy, American Political Science Association, 2023*

### *Journal Articles*

1. Substantive Representation, Women's Health, and Regime Type (with Valeriya Mechkova). Online First. *Comparative Political Studies*.
2. Conceptual and Measurement Issues in Assessing Democratic Backsliding (with Michael Coppedge, John Gerring, Carl Henrik Knutsen, Staffan I. Lindberg, Kyle Marquardt, Juraj Medzihorsky, Dan Pemstein, Brigitte Seim, and Jan Teorell). FirstView. *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

3. Episodes of Regime Transformation (with Seraphine F. Maerz, Matthew C. Wilson, Sebastian Hellmeier, and Staffan I. Lindberg). Online First. *Journal of Peace Research*.
4. Episodes of Liberalization in Autocracies: A New Approach to Quantitatively Studying Democratization (with Matthew C. Wilson, Juraj Medzihorsky, Seraphine F. Maerz, Patrik Lindenfors, Vanessa A. Boese, and Staffan I. Lindberg). 2023. *Political Science Research and Methods*, 11(3), 501–520.
5. Electoral Management and Vote Buying (with Martin Lundstedt<sup>†</sup>). 2022. *Electoral Studies* 79, 1–10.
6. The Institutional Order of Liberalization (with Vanessa A. Boese, Seraphine F. Maerz, Patrik Lindenfors, and Staffan I. Lindberg). 2022. *British Journal of Political Science* 52(3), 1465–1471.
7. Tribeless and Democratic Youth? Political Attitudes of Kenyan Students toward Ethnicity and Democracy (with Narrelle Gilchrist<sup>†</sup> and Sebastian Elischer). 2022. *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, 56(3), 689–615.
8. Pandemic Backsliding: Violations of Democratic Standards During Covid-19 (with Jean Lachapelle, Seraphine F. Maerz, and Anna Lührmann). 2021. *Social Science and Medicine* 285, 1–10.
9. How Democracies Prevail: Democratic Resilience as a Two-stage Process (with Vanessa A. Boese, Sebastian Hellemeier, Seraphine F. Maerz, and Staffan I. Lindberg). 2021. *Democratization* 28(5), 885–907.
10. Institutionalizing Electoral Uncertainty and Authoritarian Regime Survival (with Michael Bernhard and Staffan I. Lindberg). 2020. *European Journal of Political Research* 59(2), 465–487.
11. Judicial Independence and Civil Liberties in Transitional Democracies: The Case of Kenya (with Mumo Nzau). 2019. *Human Rights Quarterly* 41(2), 465–496.
12. Vying for a Man Seat: Gender Quotas and Sustainable Representation in Africa. 2018. *African Studies Review* 60(1), 185–214.
13. When and Where Do Elections Matter? A Global Test of the Democratization by Elections Hypothesis, 1900–2010 (with Valeriya Mechkova, David Altman, Michael Bernhard, and Staffan Lindberg). 2017. *Democratization* 25(3), 422–444.
14. Foreign Aid, Democracy, and Gender Quota Laws. 2017. *Democratization* 24(6), 1103–1141.

### *Book Chapters*

1. Identifying Episodes of Autocratization (with Vanessa Boese-Schlösser, Sebastian Hellemeier, Seraphine F. Maerz, Yuko Sato, Matthew C. Wilson, and Staffan I. Lindberg) in *The Routledge Handbook of Autocratization*. In Press. New York: Routledge.

2. Autocratization – Not an “Illiberal Turn” (with Matthew C. Wilson, Yuko Sato, Vanessa Boese-Schlosser, and Staffan I. Lindberg) in *The Oxford Handbook of Illiberalism*. In Press. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
3. How Democracies Prevail: Democratic Resilience as a Two-stage Process (with Vanessa A. Boese, Sebastian Hellemeier, Seraphine F. Maerz, and Staffan I. Lindberg) in *Resilience of Democracy: Responses to Illiberal and Authoritarian Challenges*. 2023. Boulder, CO: Routledge. (reprint from article listed above)
4. V-Dem Reconsiders Democratization (with Michael Coppedge, Carl Henrik Knutsen, and Staffan I. Lindberg) in *Why Democracies Develop and Decline*. 2022. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1-28.
5. Democracy and Social Forces (with Michael Bernhard) in *Why Democracies Develop and Decline*. 2022. New York: Cambridge University Press, 185-214.
6. Causal Sequences in Long-Term Democratic Development and Decline (with Michael Coppedge, Carl Henrik Knutsen, and Staffan I. Lindberg) in *Why Democracies Develop and Decline*. 2022. New York: Cambridge University Press, 215-260.

### *Book Projects*

1. Women, Quotas, & Autocracy.
2. Liberalization and Democratization: Explaining When Political Openings Lead to Democracy (with Matthew C. Wilson and Staffan I. Lindberg).

### *Working Papers*

\* *Under review*, \*\* *Revise and resubmit*, \*\*\* *Conditional acceptance*

1. Achieving Transparency, Reproducibility, and Readability with Human-Coded Data: A Review (with Jean Lachapelle and Seraphine F. Maerz). V-Dem Working Paper No. 145.\*\*
2. From ‘Political Manipulation’ to ‘Positive Discrimination’: The Norm Life Cycle of Gender Quotas.
3. Political Animals: Allegory and Nonviolent Action in Kenya (with Mumo Nzau).
4. **demstock**: An R Package for Calculating Stock using the Varieties of Democracy Data (with Matthew C. Wilson and Vanessa A. Boese-Schlosser).
5. Electoral Management and Democratization: A Causal Analysis (with Juraj Medzihorsky, Matthew C. Wilson, Sebastian Hellmeier, Vanessa Boese-Schlosser, Adam N. Glynn, and Staffan I. Lindberg).
6. Foreign Aid, Democratization, and Democratic Resilience (with Kelly Morrison).
7. Democratic Experience and Terrorism (with Eric J. Lake and Matthew C. Wilson).

8. Poll Workers and Public Trust: The Role of the National Youth Service in Nigeria's 2023 Elections (with Narrelle Gilchrist<sup>†</sup> and Nicholas Kerr).

### *Book Reviews*

1. The Moral Economy of Elections in Africa: Democracy, Voting, and Virtue by Nic Cheeseman, Gabrielle Lynch, and Justin Willis, 2020. 259p. \$36.99 paper. *African Studies Review* 66(4), 1064–1065.
2. Democracy in Hard Places. Edited by Scott Mainwaring and Tarek Masoud. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022. 330p. \$99.00 cloth, \$29.95 paper. 2023. *Perspectives on Politics* 21(3), 1121–1122.
3. Rachel Beatty Riedl. 2014. Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 265 pp. 2015. *African Studies Quarterly* 16(1), 131–132.
4. Jean-Michel Severino and Olivier Ray. 2012. Africa's Moment. David Fernbach (transl.). Malden, MA: Polity Press. 317 pp. 2013. *African Studies Quarterly* 13(4), 142–143.

### *Other Recent Publications*

1. Thinking about Regime Transformation (with Matthew C. Wilson and Staffan I. Lindberg). 2023. APSA Democracy and Autocracy Newsletter, 21(1).
2. Measuring Gender Quotas. 2022. APSA Comparative Politics Newsletter, 32(2).
3. Kenya's Young Voters Have a Dilemma: They Dislike Ethnic Politics but Feel Trapped In It (with Narrelle Gilchrist and Sebastian Elischer). 2022. *The Conversation*.
4. "Pandemic Backsliding" – Demokratien im Ausnahmezustand während COVID-19 (with Seraphine F. Maerz and Jean Lachapelle). 2022. *DeFacto: Belegt, Was Andere Meinen*.
5. Pandemic Backsliding: A Year of Violations and Advances in Response to Covid-19 (with Palina Kolvani, Martin Lundstedt, and Jean Lachapelle). 2021. *V-Dem Institute Policy Brief*, No.32.
6. Episodes of Regime Transformation: Assessing Democratization and Autocratization since 1900 (with Matthew C. Wilson and Seraphine F. Maerz). 2021. *APSA Comparative Politics Newsletter*, 31(1).
7. Democratic Legacies: Using Democratic Stock to Assess Norms, Growth, and Regime Trajectories (with Matthew C. Wilson, Vanessa A. Boese, and Sandra Grahn). *V-Dem Working Paper No.* 100.
8. Pandemic Backsliding: Democracy Nine Months into the Covid-19 Pandemic (with Palina Kolvani, Shreeya Pillai, Sandra Grahn, Stefanie Kaiser, Jean Lachapelle, and Anna Lührmann). 2020. *V-Dem Institute Policy Brief*, No.26.

9. Pandemic Backsliding: Democracy and Disinformation Seven Months into the Covid-19 Pandemic (with Palina Kolvani, Martin Lundstedt, Seraphine F. Maerz, Anna Lührmann, Jean Lachapelle, and Sandra Grahn). 2020. *V-Dem Institute Policy Brief*, No.25.
10. An Update on Pandemic Backsliding: Democracy Four Months After the Beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic (with Sandra Grahn, Jean Lachapelle, Anna Lührmann, and Seraphine F. Maerz). 2020. *V-Dem Institute Policy Brief*, No.24.
11. Does the Coronavirus Endanger Democracy in Europe? (with Anna Lührmann, Sandra Grahn, Jean Lachapelle, and Seraphine F. Maerz). 2020. *Carnegie Europe*.
12. Pandemic Backsliding: Does Covid-19 Put Democracy at Risk? (with Anna Lührmann and Seraphine F. Maerz). 2020. *V-Dem Institute Policy Brief*, No.23.

### *Datasets, packages, and repositories*

- Pandemic Backsliding Project: [www.github.com/vdeminstitute/pandem](http://www.github.com/vdeminstitute/pandem)
- Episodes of Regime Transformation (ERT) Dataset: [www.github.com/vdeminstitute/ERT](http://www.github.com/vdeminstitute/ERT)
- The vdemdata R package: [www.github.com/vdeminstitute/vdemdata](http://www.github.com/vdeminstitute/vdemdata)

### *Selected Grants & Accolades*

- College Academy of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (CARSCA), 2024-2025
- SEC Travel Grant (University of Tennessee) , 2023-2024
- SEC Travel Grant (University of South Carolina), 2021-2022
- APSA Women and Politics Section, Small Grant, 2021
- African Studies Conference Group (APCG) Lynne Rienner Best Dissertation Award, 2020
- APSA, Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs Research Grant, 2020-2021
- African Studies Association, Graduate Student Paper Award, 2017
- Dissertation Fellowship Award (University of Florida), Su. 2016, Sp. 2019
- Dauer Fellowship (University of Florida), 2017
- O. Ruth McQuown Fellowship (University of Florida) 2015/2016
- U.S. Department of Education, FLAS Fellow (Kiswahili), 2012/2013, 2013/2014

### *Invited Talks and Guest Lectures*

- Democratic Erosion Consortium, 6–7 June 2024
- University of Tennessee-Knoxville, 24 April 2024
- Texas A&M University (virtual), 29 March 2024
- Evidence in Governance and Politics, Mexico City, 05–06 Oct 2023

- The Lincoln School (virtual), 19 January 2023
- University of South Carolina, 18 March 2022
- Flagler College (virtual), 03 March 2022
- University of Gothenburg (virtual), 22 November 2021
- US Agency for International Development (virtual), 23 March 2021
- V-Dem Institute (virtual), 03 November 2020
- Tulane University (virtual), 01 October 2020
- US Agency for International Development (virtual), 10 July 2020

### *Conferences and Workshops*

(P)resenter, (C)hair, (D)iscussant

- American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, 03–08 September 2024 (P, D)
- Demscore Conference, Gothenburg (Sweden), 13–14 June 2024 (P)
- Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, 11–14 Jan 2024 (P)
- American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, 30 Aug–03 Sep 2023 (P)
- Why Democracies Develop and Decline Conference, Kellogg Institute, 5–6 Mar 2023 (P)
- Southern Political Science Association, St. Pete Beach, 11–15 Jan 2023 (P,D,C)
- African Studies Association, Philadelphia, 16–20 Nov 2022 (P)
- Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, Kellogg Institute, 27–28 Oct 2022 (P)
- Electoral Integrity Project Global Workshop (virtual), 04–08 July 2022 (D)
- Southern Political Science Association, San Antonio (virtual), 13–16 Jan 2022 (P,D,C)
- American Political Science Association, Seattle (virtual), 29 Sep–01 Oct 2021 (P)
- APSA Women Mentoring Workshop (virtual), 28–29 June 2021 (P)
- American Political Science Association, San Francisco (virtual), 30 Sep–03 Oct 2020 (P)
- African Research Development Group (virtual), 01 Sep 2020 (D)
- Best Practices in Academic Research workshop, Essex, 17–18 Oct 2019 (P,D)
- ECPR Empirical and Theoretical Approaches to Parliaments, Konstanz 26–28 Sep 2019 (P,D)
- V-Dem Research Conference, Gothenburg 23–24 May 2019 (P,D,C)
- International Studies Association, Toronto 27–30 Mar 2019 (P)
- Southern Political Science Association, Austin 17–20 Jan 2019 (P)
- African Studies Association, Atlanta 28 Nov–02 Dec 2018 (P)
- American Political Science Association, Boston 30 Aug–02 Sep 2018 (P)
- African Women in Politics Workshop, Berkeley, 04–05 Sep 2017 (P)

- American Political Science Association, San Francisco, 30 Aug–03 Sep 2017 (P)
- Policy Dialogue Day, Gothenburg 10 May 2017 (P)
- V-Dem Research Conference, Gothenburg 8–9 May 2017 (P)
- Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago 5–8 Apr 2017 (P,D)
- African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. 1–3 Dec 2016 (P)
- American Political Science Association, Philadelphia 1–4 Sep 2016 (P)
- African Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Diego 19–21 Nov 2015 (P)
- American Political Science Association, San Francisco 3–6 Sep 2015 (P)
- African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Indianapolis 20–23 Nov 2014 (P)
- Florida Political Science Association, St. Augustine 08 Mar 2014 (P)
- Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans 9–11 Jan 2014 (P)

## Teaching and Supervision

### *Thesis/Dissertation Supervision*

- Christopher Akor (PhD), University of Alabama, Aug 2022–present
  - Dissertation: “Authoritarian Enclaves or Decentralized Despotism? Democracy and Accountability at the Grassroots in Nigeria”
- Myles Williamson (PhD), University of Alabama, Aug 2021–May 2024
  - Dissertation: “A Global Analysis of Transgender Rights”
  - Awards: EGEN Prize (2023), University of Alabama Best Graduate Student Research in the Department of Political Science (2023, 2024), University of Alabama LGBTQ Alumni Association Award (2022)
  - Placement: Lecturer, University of Baltimore
- Alexander Lindenfelser (MA), University of Alabama, Aug 2021–May 2022
  - Thesis: “Campaigns, Classes, and Constraints: How Economic Sanctions Affect Protest Campaign Success”
  - Awards: University of Alabama Randall Research Award (2022), University of Alabama College of Arts and Sciences MA Thesis Award (2022)
  - Placement: University of Minnesota Law School
- Martin Lundstedt (MA, with distinction), University of Gothenburg, Aug 2019–June 2020
  - Thesis: “Clientelism and Electoral Integrity: Exploring the Role of Electoral Management in Deterring Clientelistic Practices”
  - Placement: Research Assistant, Varieties of Democracy Institute

*Undergraduate Courses*

- African Politics (W) - S2021, S2022, S2024
- Authoritarianism - F2020, F2022, S2024, F2024
- Democratization (W) - F2021
- Political Science Methods - F2022

*Graduate Courses*

- African Politics - S2022, F2024
- Authoritarianism - S2021
- Democratization - F2023
- Politics of Foreign Aid (MPA) - F2021, F2023

## Service

*University of Alabama*

(C) College, (D) Department

- Placement Director, 2023–present (D)
- African Studies Working Group, 2022–present (C)
- Graduate Studies Committee, 2021–present (D)
- Methods Café Seminar Coordinator, 2021–present (D)
- Speakers Committee, 2020–present (D)
- Department Chair Search Committee, 2023–2024 (D)
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2021–2023 (D)
- Ad-hoc Undergraduate Research Methods Committee, 2022–2023 (D)
- Comparative Politics Search Committee, 2022–2023 (D)

*Discipline*

- Associate Editor, African Studies Quarterly, 2024–present
- African Politics Conference Group, Best Dissertation Award Committee, 2024–present
- APSA Democracy & Autocracy Section, Best Article Award Committee, 2020–2021
- Peer reviewer for: African Spectrum; African Studies Quarterly; African Studies Review; Agenda; American Political Science Review; British Journal of Political Science; Comparative Political Studies; Democratization; Foreign Policy Analysis; Governance; Government & Opposition; International Political Science Review; Journal of Human Rights; Journal of Politics; Party Politics; Perspectives on Politics; Political Behavior; Political Research Quarterly; Political Studies; Politics & Gender; Politics, Groups, & Identities; Social Science and Medicine



*Public*

- Reviewer, Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, Sep 2022
- USAID Approaches to Legislative Strengthening Dialogue, Mar–June 2021
- Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pandemic Backsliding Risk Project, co-PI with Anna Lührmann, Seraphine F. Maerz, and Jean Lachapelle, 01 June–31 Dec 2020
- USAID DRG webinar ”Democracy and Covid-19”, 10 July 2020
- Swedish Embassy Rwanda & Sida, Rwanda Data Portrait, Apr–Sep 2019
- U.S. Department of Defense, Assessment of Kenya C-IED Training Program, Jan–Sep 2017
- USAID, Women’s Leadership Program, University of Rwanda, June–July 2014
- Princeton University, Corruption and Social Norms (P.I.: Betsy Palluck), Nigeria, July–August 2013
- U.S. Department of State, Enhancing Military Food Security for D.R. Congo, May 2010–Aug 2010; May 2011–June 2012

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