

Michael A. Dichio

Associate Professor
The University of Utah
Department of Political Science
260 Central Campus Drive
Carolyn and Kem Gardner Commons, Suite 3345
Salt Lake City, UT 84112
michael.dichio@utah.edu
<https://michaeldichio.com>

APPOINTMENTS

The University of Utah

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, 2025-present
Co-Editor, Annual Review of American Federalism, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, 2023-Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2019-2025

Fort Lewis College

Assistant Professor and Pre-Law Adviser, Department of Political Science & Philosophy,
2014-2019
Faculty in Residence, Animas Hall, (2016-2019)

EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ph.D., Department of Government, August 2014
Dissertation: *The United States Supreme Court and National State Expansion, 1789-1997*
(nominated for APSA's Edwin S. Corwin award for best dissertation in public law, 2015)

Committee: Richard F. Biesel (chair), Ken I. Kersch (Boston College), Aziz Rana, and Elizabeth Sanders

Boston College

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and History, cum laude, May 2008

RESEARCH AREAS

Law and Courts: Constitutional law and development; civil rights and liberties; U.S. Supreme Court, judicial politics; law and society

American Politics: American political development; federalism; American political thought; institutions

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph (blind-reviewed)

Dichio, Michael A. 2018. *The US Supreme Court and the Centralization of Federal Authority*. Albany, NY: SUNY Press (*American Constitutionalism* series edited by Robert Spitzer)

Reviewed in: [Publius: The Journal of Federalism](#) (August 2019), [Law & Politics Book Review](#) (July 2020), [Journal of Supreme Court History](#) (October 2021), featured on [the Volokh Conspiracy](#) (August 20, 2019)

Articles (blind-reviewed)

2026. Dichio, Michael A. and Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo. “The State of American Federalism 2025-26: Federalism’s Dual Role in Democratic Backsliding,” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*.

2025. Bromley-Trujillo, Rebecca and Michael A. Dichio. “The State of American Federalism 2024-25: Resisting and Reinforcing the Rise of the Transactional Presidency,” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 55 (3): 415-444.

2024. Dichio, Michael A. and Igor Logvinenko. “Stewards, Defenders, Progenitors, and Collaborators: Courts in the Age of Democratic Decline,” *Law & Policy*.

2024. Bromley-Trujillo, Rebecca and Michael A. Dichio. “The State of American Federalism 2023-24: The Judicialization of Gridlocked Politics,” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 54 (3): 435-464.

2024. Dichio, Michael A. and Igor Logvinenko. “‘Culture and Practice Eat Documents for Lunch:’ Norms and Procedures in the 2020 Election Cases,” *Law & Policy* 46 (3): 298-324.

2023. Dichio, Michael A. and Phillip Singer. “State Attorneys General and Their Challenges to Federal Policies: Insights from *Texas v. California* Regarding the Affordable Care Act,” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 54 (4): 566-592.

2022. Dichio, Michael A., Logan Strother, and Ryan Williams. “‘To Render Prompt Justice:’ The Origins and Construction of the U.S. Court of Claims,” *Studies in American Political Development* 36: 120-37.

2022. Dichio, Michael A. and Ilya Somin. “Rethinking the Supreme Court’s Influence on American Federalism and Centralization,” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 53 (2): 153-73.

Edited Journal Issues (blind-reviewed)

2026. “[Annual Review of American Federalism, 2025-26](#),” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, (with Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo).

2025. “[Annual Review of American Federalism, 2024-25](#),” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, (with Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo).

2024. “[Annual Review of American Federalism: 2023-24](#),” *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*—a special issue on recent changes in American federalism across key policy areas (with Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo).

2024. [“Global Perspectives on Judicial Politics and Democratic Backsliding,”](#) *Law & Policy*, virtual issue on understanding the ways in which courts facilitate and resist backsliding across the world (with Igor Logvinenko). This issue features 10 articles from 15 scholars.

Articles & Book Chapters (peer-reviewed)

2026. Dichio, Michael A. and Paul E. Herron. “Ken Kersch and the Meaning of Development: Law, Ideas, and the Politics of Constitutional Change,” *Journal of American Constitutional History*.

2021. Dichio, Michael A. “The Problems of Litigating Hardrock Mining.” In *Gold Metal Waters* edited by Brad Clark and Pete McCormick. Louisville, CO: University Press of Colorado.

Articles (non-peer reviewed)

2021. Dichio, Michael A. and Igor Logvinenko. [“Authoritarian Populism, Courts and Democratic Erosion: What Americans Can Learn from the Rest of the World.”](#) *Just Security*, Reiss Center on Law and Security at New York University School of Law.

Book Review

Dichio, Michael A. 2019. Review of Nicholas Aroney and John Kincaid, eds. *Courts in Federal Countries: Federalist or Unitarists?* (Toronto, CA: University of Toronto Press, 2017), *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*

Dichio, Michael A. 2018. Review of Douglas E. Edlin *Common Law Judging: Subjectivity, Impartiality, and the Making of Law* (Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2016), *Law and Politics Book Review*, Vol. 28, No. 2: pp. 16-18.

Dichio, Michael A. 2013. Review of Thomas J. Main, ed. *Is the American Constitution Obsolete?* (Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2013), *Law and Politics Book Review*, Vol. 23, No. 9: pp. 446-451.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- “Varieties of the Litigation State: Delegation, Litigation, and State-Building from the Gilded Age to the Administrative Era”
- “Testing the Effects of Judicial Independence on Federal Judges: Evidence from the U.S. Court of Claims,” (with Logan Strother and Ryan Williams)
- “Institutional Capacity as a Foundation of Judicial Independence” (with Logan Strother and Ryan Williams)
- “Preferences for Politicized Courts: A Survey Experiment of Attitudes toward State Supreme Courts” (with Josh McCrain)
- “SCOTUS and the Affordable Care Act: Congressional Credit Claiming and Blame Avoidance” (with Phillip Singer)
- “Statutory Review on the Roberts Court: the Least Activist in U.S. History?” (with Ryan J. Williams)

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- National Fellowship on the Future of Liberal Education Spring 2026-28
- Faculty Small Grant, VPR Office, University of Utah (\$9,900) Fall 2023
- Betty Glad Award, University of Utah (\$15,000) Spring 2023
- Wormuth Award, University of Utah (\$10,000) Spring 2023 & 2024
- CSBS Superior Teaching Award, University of Utah Spring 2023
- CSBS Junior Faculty Research Leave, University of Utah Spring 2023
- Faculty Fellow Award, VPR Office, University of Utah Fall 2022
- Foundation Grant, Fort Lewis College 2015-2017
- Faculty Development Grant, Fort Lewis College 2014, 2015, 2017
- Skyhawk Teaching Appreciation Award, Fort Lewis College 2015
- Byron Dare Fellowship, Fort Lewis College 2014 and 2015
- APSA Edwin S. Corwin award (best dissertation in public law), nominated, 2015
- John L. Senior Chair of Institutions Grant, Cornell University 2012-2013
- American Political Science Association Centennial Center Scholar 2013
- Cornell Graduate School Travel Grant 2012
- Houston I. Flournoy Graduate Fellow, Cornell University 2012
- Government Department Travel Grant, Cornell University 2010
- Russell Sage Graduate Fellowship, Cornell University 2008-2009
- National Science Foundation, Research Experience for Undergraduates, Oklahoma State University 2007
- Order of the Cross and Crown, Boston College 2007
- Advanced Study Grant, Boston College 2006

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Utah

Courses Offerings

American Political Thought
Civil Rights and Liberties
Constitutional Law
Introduction to Law and Politics

Dissertation & Masters Committees

Christine Zhou (member)
Daniel Hermansen (member)
Jerry Stott (member)
Morgan Wilson (member)
Mark Russell (member)

Honors Theses Advised

Madysen Stokes (AY 24-25)
Joshua Carroll (AY 24-25)
Meredith Jenkins (AY 23-24)
Lucas Butterfield (AY 23-24)
Aya Hibben (AY 22-23)

Kyra Hudson (AY 20-21)
Jenna Wiseman (AY 20-21)
Konnor Woodburn (AY 20-21)

UROP Advised (undergrad research opportunity program)

Jake Benevidez (Summer 2026)
Aliza Murad (AY 20-21)

Fort Lewis College

Introduction to American Government
Introduction to Criminal Justice Systems
Constitutional Law: Bill of Rights
Constitutional Law: Federalism and Separation of Powers
American Supreme Court
American Presidency
Survey of Western Political Thought
Senior Research Seminar
Internship Adviser

Cornell University

Instructor of Record, Department of Government, (Freshman Writing Seminar)

- American Law and Society
- The Constitution, Sex, Marriage, and Privacy

Resident Tutor and Adviser, Cornell in Washington, Washington, D.C.

- Research Seminar in American Studies
- Politics and Policy: Theory, Research, and Practice

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Constructing the Constitutional Imagination: A Symposium in Honor of Ken I. Kersch,” Clough Center for Constitutional Democracy, Boston College, February 20, 2026
- “The State of American Federalism 2023-24: The Judicialization of Gridlocked Politics,” *American Political Science Association*, Philadelphia, PA, September 5-8, 2024
- Organizer and presenter at the “Judicial Independence in Historical Perspective” Research Workshop, University of Utah, June 5, 2024. Paper presented: “The U.S. Court of Claims Beginnings: How Administrative and Institutional Developments Affect Judicial Independence and Decision-Making”
- Co-organizer and presenter at “[Courts and Authoritarian Populism: the United States in Comparative Perspective](#)” at Occidental College, December 16, 2022
- “Norms and Procedures: Courts and Democratic Backsliding in the United States” (with Igor Logvinenko), Workshop on “Courts and Authoritarian Populism: the United States in Comparative Perspective,” Occidental College, December 16, 2022
- “Is the Roberts Court Actually the Least Activist in U.S. History?” (with Ryan J. Williams), *Policy History Conference*, Tempe, AZ, June 1-4, 2022

- “Assaulting a Constitutional Republic: Trump and Federal Courts in a Comparative Perspective” (with Sam Baty and Igor Logvinenko), *Western Political Science Association*, Portland, OR, March 9-11, 2022
- “The Curious Case of *Texas v. California*” (Phillip Singer and Michael Dichio, presented only by Phillip Singer), *American Political Science Association*, San Francisco, CA, September 10-13, 2020
- “The General Mining Act of 1872: Resettlement and State Formation in the Mountain West” *Western Political Science Association*, San Diego, CA, April 18-20 2019
- Discussant for “Conflict and Collaboration Federal Systems” panel, *American Political Science Association*, Boston, MA, August 31-September 2, 2018
- “Citizen Suits and the General Mining Act of 1872: Using Citizens to Build the American State” *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, April 5-8, 2018
- Discussant for “Early American State” panel, *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, April 5-8, 2018
- Participant in “Socratic Method Today” module, Teaching & Learning Conference, *American Political Science Association*, Long Beach, CA, February 10-12, 2017
- “Problems of Litigating Hardrock Mining” *Western Political Science Association*, San Diego, CA, March 24-26, 2016
- “The U.S. Supreme Court and National State Development, 1789-1920” *Western Political Science Association*, Las Vegas, NV, April 2015
- “The Constitutional Foundations of the American Central State, 1789-2010.” *Northeast Political Science Association*, Philadelphia, PA, November 2013
- “The Supreme Court and American State Expansion, 1870-1930.” *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, April 11-14, 2013
- “The Supreme Court and Patterns of American State Development, 1789-2011.” *Policy History Conference*, Richmond, VA, June 6-9, 2012
- “The Supreme Court and Patterns of American State Development, 1789-2011.” *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, April 12-15, 2012
- “The Supreme Court and Patterns of American State Development, 1789-2011.” *Western Political Science Association*, Portland, OR, March 22-24, 2012
- “The Supreme Court and American State Development, 1789-2011.” *New England Political Science Conference*, Hartford, CT, April 28-30, 2011
- “Categories and Consequences: The Legal Construction of Reality in American Political Development.” *New England Political Science Conference*, Newport, RI, April 22-24, 2010
- Invited participant, Constitutional Law “Schmooze” Baltimore, MD hosted by Mark Graber, February 2010

INVITED TALKS

- “Federalism in the Second Trump Presidency,” November 5, 2025, Center for the Study of Federalism, Kansas State University
- “Judicial Resilience and Retreat: Navigating Democratic Backsliding Worldwide,” October 18, 2024, Occidental College
- Hinckley Institute of Politics, panelist for Senator Mike Lee’s talk, August 22, 2023

- Hinckley Institute of Politics, Public Forum, “Power to the People: U.S. Voting Rights,” October 30, 2019
- “The Constitution and Campaign Finance,” League of Women Voters, Oct. 2017
- “Congressional and Legislative Tracking,” Indivisible Durango, February 2017
- “Electoral College: Past, Present, and Future,” League of Women Voters, May 2017

MEDIA

“Courts Offer Way for DOJ, Red States to Score Quick Policy Wins,” Bloomberg Law, August 19, 2026

Interview with Max Rox on Fox 13, Salt Lake City, about the 2024 election

Quoted in “Sen. Mike Lee says Congress can’t keep delegating power to the executive branch,” KUER, August 23, 2023

Interview Podcast, BYU Newslines, 31 October 2020

Featured in “The Constitution, political norms, and the future of the Supreme Court,” @TheU, 25 September 2020

Featured in “Fort Lewis College Students Seek to Boost Voter Turnout Among Peers,” *Durango Herald*, 14 September 2018

Featured in “Fort Lewis College Students Present Videos About State Ballot Measures,” *Durango Herald*, 16 October 2018

Featured in “Student Videos Explain Ballot Measures in Nonpartisan Way,” *Durango Herald*, 22 October 2018

SERVICE

University of Utah

Department & College-Wide Service

- Department By-law Policy Committee (Fall 2025-Spring 2026)
- Department Executive Committee (Fall 2023-Spring 2026)
- Undergraduate Studies Committee (Fall 2023-Spring 2026)
- Search committee chair for teaching-line hire in law and courts (AY 24-25)
- Faculty Advisor, Hinckley Institute Student Journal (Spring 2022 and 2024)
- Graduate Student Orientation presenter, (August 2021, August 2022)
- Political Research Colloquium, Organizer and Coordinator, (July 2019-July 2022)
- American Politics Comprehensive Exam Committee, member, (Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2023, Spring 2025, Spring 2026)
- UROP Reviewer (Fall 2020, Summer 2021, Spring 2024)

Fort Lewis College

College-Wide Service

- Strategic Planning Sub-Group, “Faculty Mentoring and Student Housing/Life Connections,” member, (September 2018-May 2019)
- Student Success and Retention Team, member, (September 2018-May 2019)
- Common Ground Diversity Review Committee, member, (September 2018-May 2019)
- Honors Council Committee, member, (August 2018-May 2019)
- Teaching Innovation, Pedagogy and Assessment Committee, member, (August 2018-May 2019)
- “Common Ground” Diversity Trained Facilitator, (May 2017-May 2019)
- Political Science Department Assessment, Member, (September 2015-May 2019)
- Awards Committee, Member, (January 2017-April 2018)
- Strategic Enrollment Planning Committee, Elected Member, (March 2017-July 2017)
- Faculty Senator, Elected Member, (Fall 2016-May 2019)
- Faculty in Residence, Animas Hall, (Fall 2016-May 2019)
- Faculty Mentor, (Fall 2016-May 2019)
- LGBTQ+ Safe Zone Ally, Member/Representative, (May 2016-May 2019)
- Constitution Day Coordinator, (Fall 2014-May 2019)

Department Service

- Political Science Program Review, Member, (September 2016-May 2017)
- Technical Services Librarian Search Committee, (Spring 2016)
- Visiting Instructor of Philosophy Search Committee, (Spring 2016)
- Political Science Tenure-Track Search Committee, (2015-2016)
- Political Science Club Co-Adviser (Fall 2015-May 2019)
- Pre-Law Program Coordinator and Adviser, (Fall 2014-May 2019)
- Pre-Law Assessment Coordinator, (Fall 2014-May 2019)
- Co-Director, Teaching Assistant Trainer, Department of Government, Cornell University, (2011-2012)

Professional Service

- Co-Editor, Annual Review of American Federalism, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, 2023-Present
- C. Herman Pritchett, Best Book Award Committee, Law & Courts Section, 2021-2022

Reviewer

Democratization, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, *Journal of Law and Courts*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Law & Policy*, *Studies in American Political Development*, *Urban Affairs*, Oxford University Press

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

-
- NSF Cohort Fellowship Program, University of Utah AY 2022-23

- Common Ground Diversity Facilitator, Fort Lewis College May 2017
- Safe Zone LGBTQ+ Ally Training, Fort Lewis College May 2016
- ICPSR Methods, University of Michigan July 2013
- Presenting Data and Information with Edward Tufte June 2013
- Institute for Constitutional History *Lochner Era* Seminar, GW Law Jan.-Feb. 2013
- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University June 2011
- Empirical Legal Workshop, Northwestern University Law May 2010
- Institute for Constitutional Studies Research Workshop June 2009
- Pedagogy Course, Cornell University, (Writing 7100: Teaching Writing) Fall 2010

REFERENCES

- John Dinan, Professor of Political Science, Wake Forest University,
(dinanjj@wfu.edu)
- Mark Graber, University System of Maryland Regents Professor,
(mgraber@law.umaryland.edu)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS (past and present)

American Political Science Association
 Western Political Science Association
 Midwest Political Science Association
 American Association of University Professors