

OMAR WASOW

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

9/05–6/13 *Harvard University*, Cambridge, MA.
PhD African and African American Studies, completed 2013.
AMs Government, completed 2008. Statistics, completed 2011.
9/88–6/92 *Stanford University*, Stanford, CA.
AB Individually Designed Major, Race and Ethnic Relations.

WORK EXPERIENCE

7/22– *Assistant Professor*, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.
7/21–6/22 *Assistant Professor*, Pomona College, Claremont, CA.
9/12–6/21 *Assistant Professor*, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.
3/99–8/05 *Executive Director*, BlackPlanet.com, Community Connect Inc., New York, NY.

AWARDS

2024 *Georgia Lee Fellow in the Society of Hellman Fellows*, UC Berkeley, Berkeley CA.
2021 *Finalist: Frank Research Prize*, Center for Public Communications, University of Florida.
2019 *Stanley Kelley, Jr. Teaching Award*, Department of Politics, Princeton University.
2015–16 *Bobst Faculty Research Grant*, Bobst Center, Princeton University.
2011–12 *Dissertation Fellowship*, Project on Justice, Welfare and Economics.
2010–11 *Sheila Biddle Ford Foundation Fellowship*, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute.
2009 *Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching*, Harvard University.
2008–10 *Henry Crown Fellowship*, Aspen Institute.
2007–10 *Graduate Research Fellowship*, National Science Foundation.

PAPERS

“Text as Behavior.” Forthcoming at *Political Analysis*.

“Plutopopulism: Wealth and Trump’s Financial Base,” with Sean Kates, Eric Manning and Tali Mendelberg. *American Political Science Review*. Published online April 2, 2025. Altmetric Attention Score estimated #11 of 3,556 articles from *APSR* and in top 0.2% of 31 million research documents tracked.

“Agenda Seeding: How 1960s Black Protests Moved Elites, Public Opinion and Voting.” *American Political Science Review*. 114(3), August 2020. 638–659. Google Scholar estimates 650+ citations (including prior drafts). Altmetric Attention Score estimated #1 of 3,556 articles in *APSR* and in top 0.01% of 31 million research documents tracked.

“Race as a ‘Bundle of Sticks’: Designs that Estimate Effects of Seemingly Immutable Characteristics,” with Maya Sen. *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 19. (2016), pp. 499–522. Google Scholar estimates 575+ citations.

“Can Tweets Kill a Movie? An Empirical Evaluation of the *Bruno* Effect,” (with Alex Baron, Marlon Gerra, Katharine Lauderdale, Han Zhang). *Computer Human Interaction 2010*, April 10–15, 2010. Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Google Scholar estimates 12 citations.

UNDER REVIEW

“Varieties of Linked Fate: Expansive and Exclusive Forms of Black Solidarity,” with Brandon McGhee.

WORKING PAPER

“Veiled Power: How Rosenwald Teachers Quietly Shaped the Civil Rights Movement,” with Jacob Grumbach.

BOOK PROJECT

Narrative Power: How the 1960s Civil Rights Movement Overthrew Jim Crow.

FILM

Unrest, 2017. Executive Producer of Sundance award-winning and Oscar-shortlisted documentary directed by Jennifer Brea. Film certified for continuing medical education credits and used in both research and clinical settings. [Google Scholar](#) estimates about 40+ citations (including articles that reference different editions of *Unrest*).

WORKING PAPERS

“Veiled Power: How Early Investments in Black Education Helped Overthrow Jim Crow,” with Jacob Grumbach.

“How Anti-Immigrant Policies and Rhetoric Angers and Mobilizes Latinos,” with Nicholas Valentino, Ali Valenzuela and Matt Barreto.

“Conditional ethnocentrism: Experimental evidence from protests in the United States.”

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 9/11/25 *Discussant*, Author meets critics for *Raised to Obey*, Agustina S. Paglayan, APSA 2025, Vancouver, BC.
- 9/6/24 *Discussant*, Authors meet critics for *America's New Racial Battle Lines*, Rogers Smith and Desmond King, APSA 2024, Philadelphia, PA.
- 8/31/23 *Panel: Money in Politics and Individual Campaign Contributors*, with Tali Mendelberg, Eric Manning and Sean Kates, APSA 2023, Los Angeles, CA.
- 11/17/22 *The Long Fuse: How Early Investments in Black Education Helped Overthrow Jim Crow*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.
- 9/17/22 *Discussant*, Author meets critics for *The Advantage of Disadvantage*, LaGina Gause, APSA 2022, Montreal, QC.
- 9/16/22 *The Long Fuse: How Early Investments in Black Education Helped Overthrow Jim Crow*, APSA 2022.
Agenda Seeding: How 1960s Black Protests Moved Elites, Public Opinion and Voting
- 5/11/21 Political Economy Workshop, UCSD, San Diego, CA.
- 9/18/20 Yale American & Comparative Political Behavior Workshop, Yale, New Haven, CT.
- 9/16/20 Political Science Guest Speaker Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.
- 8/28/20 Panel: The Modern Racial Justice Movement, Pardee RAND Graduate School, Santa Monica, CA.
- 10/22/21 *The Long Fuse: How Early Investments in Black Education Helped Overthrow Jim Crow*, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.
- 9/29/21 *APSA Roundtable: Can Democratic Innovations Deepen Democracy in Diverse Societies?*, American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA.
- 8/5/21 *Social Justice and Legacies of Environmentalism*, Breakthrough Institute, Sausalito, CA.
- 12/18/21 *Mobilizing and Polarizing: The Conditional Power of Police and Protester Violence*, with Ali Valenzuela, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.
- 12/18/21 *Panel: A Fountain Worth Drinking From? On the Value of Social Science Research to Racial Justice*, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine.

- 12/4/20 *Panel: Conceptualizing and Measuring Discrimination*, Committee on Quantitative Methods, University of Chicago. Chicago, IL.
- 9/9/20 *The Protester's Dilemma: How 1960s Black Protests Moved Media, Public Opinion and Voting*, Fellows Colloquium Series, Hutchins Center, Harvard. Cambridge, MA.
- 7/14/20 *Race and Ethnicity Quantitative Methods Class*, ICPSR, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 6/22/20 *Panelist: Struggle for Black Liberation: Historic and Contemporary Movements Against State-Sanctioned Violence*, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA.
- 11/1/19 *Closing Keynote: Reimagining Black Youth-Led Technologies Conference*, The Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA.
- 8/30/19 *Waking a Sleeping Giant: How Anti-Immigrant Policies & Rhetoric Mobilize Latinos* (with Ali Valenzuela & Nicholas Valentino), APSA, Washington.
- 4/19/19 *Waking a Sleeping Giant: How Anti-Immigrant Policies & Rhetoric Mobilize Latinos* (with Ali Valenzuela & Nicholas Valentino), APSA, Washington.

SELECTED TEACHING

- Spring 24–25 POL140O: Projecting Power, Lecture on ethnic politics using film, UC Berkeley. Rating 6.74 / 7.
- Fall 18–20 FRS165: Projecting Power, Seminar on ethnic politics using film, Princeton University. Rating 4.8 / 5.
- Spr 2014–15, 2017–21 POL346: Applied Quantitative Analysis, Princeton University. Rating 4.8 / 5.
- Fall 2008 GOV30: American Government, Teaching Fellow, Harvard University. Received Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching.

SERVICE

- Summer 2023, 2024 Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, Recruitment Fair, Duke, Durham, NC
- 1/29/2021 Panel: Tigers in the Trenches: A History of Student Protests at Princeton
- 2021 Ad hoc committee on Diversity: Department of Politics
- 2015–16 APSA Technology Taskforce. Lead author on report about how the American Political Science Association might use prizes to increase undersupplied academic public goods.
- 2015–20 Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science. Co-run workshop and administer small grants to support experimental social science.
- 2013–25 Reviewer. *American Political Science Review*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Journal of Conflict Research*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*; *Journal of Experimental Political Science*; *Du Bois Journal* .

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 1/28/26 “We’re Seeing the Weakness of a Strong State,” *New York Times*.
- 6/17/25 “This Is What Makes Protests Successful,” with Robb Willer, *New York Times*.
- 1/07/21 “Un-American? Actually, the Capitol riot was quintessentially American,” *Washington Post*.
- 6/11/20 “The protests started out looking like 1968. They turned into 1964,” *Washington Post*.
- 1/13/10 “Was Harry Reid Right?” WashingtonPost.com and TheRoot.com.
- 11/5/08 “First Internet President: How Obama tapped netizens to transform American politics.” TheRoot.com.
- 3/11/08 “From Jack Johnson to Eliot Spitzer: The troubling history of the White-Slave Traffic Act.” TheRoot.com.

SELECTED MEDIA

- 7/29/25 Discussing the resistance vs. Trump 2.0 with Omar Wasow,” “*Why is This Happening? with Chris Hayes*.
- 6/13/24 “Will the generational divide on support for Israel impact the presidential election?,” Marc Rivers, Ashley Brown, Sacha Pfeiffer, Elena Moore, *NPR*.
- 4/26/24 “Why Gaza Protests on U.S. Campuses Have Become Contagious,” Amanda Taub, *New York Times*.
- 4/26/24 “A Political Scientist on How Protests Can Change Minds,” Derek Thompson, *Plain English Podcast*.
- 4/16/24 “Pro-Palestinian protests could foreshadow a summer of upheaval,” Tim Craig, *Washington Post*.
- 6/26/23 “Survey: Most happy in California, but 40% considering moving,” Morgan Rynor, *ABC 10 News*.
- 6/14/23 “GOP presidential candidates of color walk a ‘tightrope’ as they discuss race,” Ashley Lopez, *NPR*.
- 7/11/22 “The Democrats Need to Start Playing Offense,” Jay Caspian Kang, *New York Times*.
- 7/3/22 “Racism is still a big problem in the US, but this trend offers some hope,” John Blake, *CNN*.
- 6/29/22 “The Vanishing Moderate Democrat,” Jason Zengerle, *New York Times*.
- 12/22/21 “Why the ’70s are a blueprint for the 2020s,” Peter Grier & Noah Robertson, *Christian Science Monitor*.
- 11/16/21 “Liberals Envisioned a Multiracial Coalition. Voters of Color Had Other Ideas,” Michael Powell, *New York Times*.
- 11/12/21 “Menace Enters the Republican Mainstream,” Lisa Lerer & Astead W. Herndon, *New York Times*.
- 8/30/21 “When the Silent Majority Isn’t White,” Jay Caspian Kang, *New York Times*.
- 7/14/21 “Right To Vote: Civil Rights Activists Say We’ve Been Here Before,” Audie Cornish, *NPR*.
- 7/8/21 “The engineered conservative panic over critical race theory, explained,” Brandon Tensley, *CNN*.
- 7/7/21 “Trump’s Cult of Animosity Shows No Sign of Letting Up,” Thomas B. Edsall, *New York Times*.
- 6/30/21 “‘New York City Is a World unto Itself.’ But It May Tell Us Where Democrats Are Headed,” Thomas B. Edsall, *New York Times*.
- 11/16/20 “How to Stop a Power Grab,” Andrew Marantz, *New Yorker*.
- 9/23/20 “Racial Protest, Violence, and Backlash,” Matt Grossman *The Science of Politics Podcast*.
- 8/14/20 “How to Study Racial Disparities,” Bryan Schonfeld, Sam Winter-Levy, *Scientific American*.
- 7/5/20 “The politics of race are shifting, and politicians are struggling to keep pace,” Dan Balz, *Washington Post*.
- 6/18/20 “How Social Media Has Changed Civil Rights Protests,” Shira Ovide, *New York Times*.
- 6/5/20 “What 1960s civil rights protests can teach us about fighting racism today,” Sujata Gupta *Science News*
- 6/3/20 “The George Floyd Election,” Thomas B Edsall, *New York Times*.
- 8/21/17 “Why Obama Should Lead the Opposition to Trump,” Adam Gopnik, *New Yorker*.
- 9/29/17 “Director Jennifer Brea exposes the personal pain of an immune disorder in the documentary ‘Unrest’,” Amy Kaufman, *Los Angeles Times*.
- 2/17/17 “Violence Will Only Hurt the Trump Resistance,” Erica Chenoweth, *New Republic*.
- 11/21/16 “People are in the streets protesting Donald Trump. But when does protest actually work?” Erica Chenoweth, *WashingtonPost.com*
- 8/29/16 “Learning from the Slaughter in Attica,” Adam Gopnik, *New Yorker*.
- 5/11/15 “Have black protests helped or hurt the Democratic Party?” John Sides, *WashingtonPost.com*.
- 3/16/15 “A way to research race that reflects how complicated it is,” Jenée Desmond-Harris, *Vox.com*.

INTERVIEWS

- 7/4/23 “When White Nationalism and Patriotism Collide,” Brandon Tensley, *Capital B News*.

- 7/7/20 "The Protesting of a Protest Paper", Tom Bartlett, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- 5/31/20 "What the 1960s can teach us about modern-day protests", PBS NewsHour.
- 5/29/20 "How Violent Protests Change Politics", Isaac Chotiner, *New Yorker*.
- 12/15/10 "World War 3.0?" Discussion of cyberwar with Steven Colbert, The Colbert Report.
- 3/10/10 "Tech Guru With a Social Vision," Joe Walker, *The Wall Street Journal*.
- 11/20/09 "Q&A with Omar Wasow," host Brian Lamb, C-SPAN.
- 11/27/02 "Entrepreneur Takes Black-Oriented Site Out of Red," Linda Richardson, *New York Times*.
- 5/13/01 "Silicon Alley's Philosopher-Prince," Lynnley Browning, *New York Times*.