

Nicholas R. Bednar

Vanderbilt Political Science Department
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EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University	Expected 2023
Ph.D., Political Science	
M.A., Political Science	Dec. 2021
University of Minnesota Law School	May 2016
J.D., <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities	Dec. 2012
B.A., Political Science and History, <i>with Distinction</i>	
University College Cork	May 2012
Certificate in Irish Politics	

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Executive-Branch Politics; Public Administration; Administrative Law; Constitutional Law; Immigration Law; Statutory Interpretation; Formal Models; and Quantitative Methods.

EDITOR-REVIEW PUBLICATIONS

- “*Chevron’s Inevitability.*” *George Washington Law Review* 85: 1392-1461 (2017) (with Kristin E. Hickman).
- “The Clear-Statement *Chevron* Canon.” *DePaul Law Review* 66: 819-872 (2017).
- “Asylum’s Interpretative Impasse: Interpreting ‘Persecution’ and ‘Particular Social Group’ Using International Human Rights Law.” *Minnesota Journal of International Law* 26: 145-187 (2017) (with Margaret Penland).
- “Social Group Semantics: The Evidentiary Requirements of ‘Particularity’ and ‘Social Distinction’ in *Pro Se Asylum Adjudications.*” *Minnesota Law Review* 100: 355-403 (2015).
— Recipient of the Volume 35/36 Note and Comment Award.

INVITED PUBLICATIONS

- “What to Do About *Chevron*—Nothing.” *Vanderbilt Law Review En Banc* 72: 151-176 (2019).
- “Justifying Delay: Why Agencies Delay Compliance Dates and How They Do It.” *Journal of Regulatory Compliance* 4: 1-33 (2019).
- “The Winter of Discontent: A Circumscribed *Chevron.*” *Mitchell Hamline Law Review* 45: 393-423 (2019).
- “*Chevron* Critics and Clarity.” *The Public Lawyer* 27(1): 2-10 (2019).

“Deferring to the Rule of Law: A Comparative Look at United States Deference Doctrines.”
University of Memphis Law Review 47: 1047-1083 (2017) (with Barbara Marchevsky).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Coping with *Chevron*: Justice Gorsuch’s Majority and Justice Breyer’s Dissent in *SAS Institute*.”
Yale Journal on Regulation: Notice & Comment (2018).

“DACA on the Docket.” *Minnesota Law Review De Novo* (2017).

“Defying Auer Deference: *Skidmore* as a Solution to Conservative Concerns in *Perez v. Mortgage Bankers Association*.” *Minnesota Law Review De Novo* (2015).

CURRENT RESEARCH AND WORKING PAPERS

The Politics of Bureaucratic Capacity (Dissertation Project).

— Committee: David Lewis (Chair), Brenton Kenkel, Sharece Thrower, Guillermo Toral, Rachel Potter (University of Virginia), and Gillian Metzger (Columbia Law School).

“Bureaucratic Capacity in the Administrative Presidency” (Under Review).

— Recipient of the 2021 Vanderbilt Political Science Best Graduate Student Paper Award.

“The Workforce Capacity of the United States Bureaucracy, 1998-2020” (Under Review).

“Presidential Investments in the Administrative State” (with David E. Lewis) (Under Review).

“The Public Administration of Justice: Capacity in the Immigration Courts.”

“Agency Policymaking Among Appointees, Actings, and Vacancies” (with Chris Piper).

“Presidential Regulatory Priorities” (with Sharece Thrower and Chris Piper).

“Policy Implementation and the Judiciary” (with Sharece Thrower and Paul Gardner).

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Georgetown University – Department of Government Affiliate Researcher	Washington, D.C. Since 2021
Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Affiliate Researcher	Nashville, TN Since 2019

SELECTED GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

2021 Vanderbilt Political Science Best Graduate Student Paper Award – \$150 Vanderbilt University	Nov. 2021
J. Leiper Freeman Memorial Award – \$850 Vanderbilt University	June 2020
Graduate School Travel Grant – \$500 Vanderbilt University	Dec. 2019

Lockhart Award for Excellence in Scholarship, Leadership, and Service – \$1500 University of Minnesota Law School (Faculty Selected)	May 2016
Student Service Award Minnesota Justice Foundation	May 2016
Volume 35/36 Note and Comment Award – \$1200 Minnesota Law Review	Mar. 2015
Human Rights Center Fellowship – \$5000 University of Minnesota Human Rights Center	May 2014

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Bureaucratic Capacity in the Administrative Presidency” 2022 Southern Political Science Association	Jan. 2022
“Presidential Investment in the Administrative State” 2022 Southern Political Science Association	Jan. 2022
“Bureaucratic Resilience and Capacity.” Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Vanderbilt University	Apr. 2021
“ <i>Chevron</i> and the Department of Justice.” 2021 Annual <i>Duke Law Review</i> Symposium Duke Law School	Feb. 2021
“Does Insulation Matter?: Agency Rulemaking During Presidential Transitions.” 2020 Southern Political Science Association Meeting	Jan. 2020
“Justifying Delay.” 2018 <i>Journal of Regulatory Compliance</i> Symposium Loyola University Chicago School of Law	Feb. 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Public Policy (Undergraduate Students) Teaching Assistant	Vanderbilt University Spring 2022
Game Theory (Undergraduate and Graduate Students) Teaching Assistant Grader	Vanderbilt University Fall 2021 Fall 2019
Statistics II (Graduate Students) Recitation Instructor/Teaching Assistant	Vanderbilt University Spring 2021
Statistics I (Graduate Students) Recitation Instructor/Teaching Assistant	Vanderbilt University Fall 2020
Vanderbilt Math Camp (Graduate Students) Instructor	Vanderbilt University Fall 2021, Fall 2020

Administrative Law (Law Students)
Teaching Assistant

Online
Summer 2016

PROFESSIONAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University Service:

Graduate Student Council (Vanderbilt University): Symposium Coordinator.
Asylum Law Project (Minnesota Law School): Treasurer (2013); Senior Advisor (2014).

Conference Organization:

2021 Vanderbilt Graduate Idea Symposium.
2015 *Minnesota Law Review* Symposium.

Journal Editor:

Minnesota Law Review: Lead Articles Editor (Vol. 100); Staff Member (Vol. 99).

Peer Reviewer:

Presidential Studies Quarterly.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association; American Political Science Association; Midwest Political Science Association; Southern Political Science Association.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief Judge John R. Tunheim, U.S. District Court Judicial Law Clerk	Minneapolis, MN Aug. 2017 – Aug. 2018
Judge Tracy M. Smith, Minnesota Court of Appeals Judicial Law Clerk	St. Paul, MN Aug. 2016 – Aug. 2017
Myers Thompson P.A. Summer Associate	Minneapolis, MN May 2015 – Aug. 2015
Immigration & Human Rights Clinic Certified Student Attorney	Minneapolis, MN Sept. 2014 – May 2015
Advocates for Human Rights Refugee and Immigrant Program Law Clerk	Minneapolis, MN June 2014 – Aug. 2014

BAR ADMISSIONS

State of Minnesota

U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota