ALEXANDER CARL PACEK

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Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-4348
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https://sites.google.com/view/alexander-c-pacek

Administrative Appointments:

2015-2017	Associate Department Head, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University
2013-2015	Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University

Positions:

Fall 2014 – present	Professor, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University
Fall 1997 - 2014	Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University
Fall 1990 - 1997	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University
Spring 1985 – 1990	Graduate Assistant/Associate, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois-Urbana

Academic History

1991	Ph.D.	Political Science, University of Illinois-Urbana
1986	M.A.	Political Science, University of Illinois-Urbana
1984	B.A.	Catholic University of America

Research Areas

- Comparative Politics
- Subjective Well-Being/Life Satisfaction
- Political Parties
- Voting and Elections
- Political Economy
- Mass Political Behavior
- Public Opinion
- Post-communism
- Labor and Welfare Politics

Research and Publications

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Bromo, Francesco, **Alexander C. Pacek,** and Benjamin Radcliff. 2024. "Varieties of Democracy and Life Satisfaction: Is there a Connection?." *Social Science Quarterly* 105: 1152-1163.

Emma Schmidt, **Alexander C. Pacek,** and Benjamin Radcliff. 2024. "The Welfare State and Human Well-Being Around the World: A Cross-National Analysis." *Applied Research in Quality of Life Studies*. 19: 365-380.

Davidson, Robert, **Alexander C. Pacek,** and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2021. "Public Sector Employment, Quality of Government, and Well-Being in Low and Middle Income Countries" *International Area Studies Review*. 24(3): 193-204.

Flavin, Patrick, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2019. "Labor Market Regulation and Subjective Well-Being in Low and Middle Income Countries." *European Journal of Political Research.* 58: 1088-1107.

Brockway, Mark D., **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2019. "Well-Being and the Democratic State: How the Public Sector Promotes Human Happiness." *Social Indicators Research.* 143(3): 1147-1159.

Flavin, Patrick, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2014. "Assessing the Impact of the Size and Scope of Government on Human Well-Being." *Social Forces* 92(4): 1241-1258.

Deschamps, Lauren, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2012. "Organized Labor, Democracy, and Life-Satisfaction 1981-2000; A Cross-National Analysis." *Labor Studies Journal* 37: 253-270.

Flavin, Patrick, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2011. 'State Intervention and Subjective Well-Being in Advanced Industrial Democracies." *Politics and Policy* 39(2): 251-270.

Reprinted as empirical chapter in: Johnson, Janet and H. T. Reynolds. 2011. *Political Science Research Methods, 7th Edition.* Washington, D.C. Congressional Quarterly Press.

Shaykhutdinov, Renat, Andrew Konitzer, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Vladimir Zvonovskii. 2010. "Education, the Economy, and Post-Materialist Values in Russia: Evidence from the Chechnya Conflict." *European Journal of Economic and Political Studies*. 3(1): 101-120.

Flavin, Patrick, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2010. 'Labor Unions and Life Satisfaction: Evidence from New Data." *Social Indicators Research* 98(3): 435-449.

Pacek, Alexander C., Grigore Pop-Eleches, and Joshua Tucker. 2009. "Disenchanted or Discerning: Voter Turnout in Post-Communist Countries." *Journal of Politics* 71(2): 473-491.

Pacek, Alexander C. and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2008. "Welfare Policy and Subjective Well-Being Across Nations: An Individual-Level Analysis. *Social Indicators Research* 89: 179-191.

Pacek, Alexander C., and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2008. "Assessing the Welfare State: The Politics of Happiness." *Perspectives on Politics* 9(2): 267-277.

Reprinted in: Pierson, Christopher, and Francis Castles (eds.). 2013. *The Welfare State Reader, 3rd Edition*. Bristol U.K.: Polity Press.

Pacek, Alexander C., and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2003. "Voter Participation and Party Group Fortunes in European Parliament Elections, 1979-1999: A Cross-National Analysis." *Political Research Quarterly* 56: 91-96.

Tucker, Joshua, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Adam Berinsky. 2002. "Transitional Winners and Losers and Attitudes Toward EU membership in Post-Communist Countries." *American Journal of Political Science* 46(3): 557-571.

Bohrer, Robert E. II, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2000. "Electoral Participation, Ideology, and Party Politics in Post-Communist Europe: A Cross-National Analysis." *Journal of Politics* 62(4): 1161-1172.

Aguilar, Edwin E., and **Alexander C. Pacek**. 2000. 'Voter Turnout, Macroeconomic Conditions and Worker-Party Support in Developing Countries." *Comparative Political Studies*. 33(8): 995-1017.

Pacek, Alexander C., and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 1999. "Economics and the Left-Party Vote in Scandinavia, 1960-1990." *Scandinavian Political Studies* 22(1): 295-307.

Pacek, Alexander C., and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 1995. "The Political Economy of Competitive Elections in the Developing World." *American Journal of Political Science*. 39(3): 745-759.

Reprinted in: Norris, Pippa (ed.), 1998. *Elections and Voting Behavior*. New York: Ashgate/Dartmouth Publishers.

Pacek, Alexander C., and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 1995. "Economic Voting and the Welfare State: A Cross-National Analysis." *Journal of Politics* 57(1): 44-61.

Pacek, Alexander C., and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 1995. "Turnout and the Left-Party Vote: A Cross-National Analysis." *British Journal of Political Science*. 25(1): 137-153.

Pacek, Alexander C. 1994. "Macroeconomic Conditions and Electoral Politics in East-Central Europe." *American Journal of Political Science* 38(3): 723-744.

Pacek, Alexander C. 1989. " Changing Political Processes in Soviet-Type Systems: Toward An Emergent Pluralism." *Crossroads* 28: 75-91.

Frank, Michael, Michael Krassa, and **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin Radcliff1988. "Computers and the Law." *Social Science Computer Review* 6: 341-352.

BOOK CHAPTERS (PEER-REVIEWED)

Davidson, Robert, **Alexander C. Pacek**, and Benjamin F. Radcliff. 2013. "Public Policy and Human Happiness: The Welfare State as Agents of Well Being," In H. Brockmann and J. Delhey (eds.) *Is More Always Better? Human Happiness and the Limits of the maximization Principle*. Dordrecht: Springer.

Pacek, Alexander C. 2009. "Politics and Happiness: An Empirical Ledger." In Amitava Dutt and Benjamin Radcliff (eds.) *Economics and Politics: Advances in the Scientific Study of Happiness*. New York: Edward Elgar Press.

Kanet, Roger E. and **Alexander C. Pacek**. 1991. "Revolutionary Change in Eastern Europe: The Societal Basis of Political Reform." In Jane Schapiro Jacek and Il Pyong Kim (eds.) *Political Change in Communist Countries*. New York: Paragon House

BOOK REVIEWS

Political Culture in Post-Communist Europe, by Detlof Pollack, Jorg Jacobs, Olaf Muller, and Gert Pickel (eds). In *International Studies Review* 2003 6(3): 492-495

Change and Continuity in Post-Soviet Central Asia, by Pauline Jones Luong (ed.). In *Journal of Politics*. 2002 65(2).

National Ideology Under Socialism: Identity and Politics in Ceausescu's Romania, by Katherine Verdery. In *Journal of Politics* 1991 54(4).

Social Currents in Eastern Europe, by Sabrina Ramet. In *Journal of Politics 1991 54(4).*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Pacek, Alexander C. 1993. "New Political Parties in Eastern Europe: Building a Research Agenda." *Vox Pop: Newsletter of Political Organizations and Parties* 10: 1-8.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Articles in Preparation

From Cradle to Grave? The Welfare State and Life Quality (With Francesco Bromo, Texas A&M and Benjamin

Radcliff, University of Notre Dame) Current status: **REVISE & RESUBMIT at *Social Indicators Research.***

Democratic Backsliding and Well-Being: A Global Analysis, 2005-2024 (With Francesco Bromo, Oxford Oxford University). Current status: **REVISE & RESUBMIT at *Applied Research in Quality of Life Studies.***

The Impact of Electoral Competitiveness on Civil Liberties in Democratic and Non-Democratic Regimes. With Ruchan Kaya (Austin College). Current status: **Under review, *Social Sciences.***

Democratic Backsliding in the United States and Well-Being: A Cross-State Analysis (With Francesco Bromo, Oxford University) Current status: data collection.

Life Satisfaction, Clarity of Responsibility, and Incumbent Support (With Francesco Bromo, Oxford University. Current status: data collection.

Cognitive Sophistication and Partisan Support. (With Francesco Bromo, Oxford University and Benjamin Radcliff, University of Notre Dame). Current status: data collection.

The Welfare State and Gender Equality. (With Francesco Bromo, Oxford University and Benjamin Radcliff, University of Notre Dame),. Current status: data collection.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

"Democratic Backsliding and Subjective Well-Being" With Francesco Bromo. Paper presented at the European Political Science Association, Madrid Spain, June 2025.

"Electoral Competition and Civil Liberties: A Cross National Analysis" With Ruchan Kaya. Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association, Seattle, April 2025.

"Towards a Gender-Revised "Rally 'round the Governor" Framework: Do Natural Disasters Benefit Women Governors?" With Riley Pritzlaff. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL April 2024.

"How the Welfare State Promotes Human Well-Being." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the European Studies Association, Glasgow Scotland, June 2023.

"The Welfare State and Human Well-Being in Low and Middle Income Countries: A Cross-National Analysis." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the European Political Science Association, Prague, Czech Republic, June 2022.

"The Welfare State and Well-Being: A New Approach." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at Well-Being 2022 Conference STATEC, Luxembourg City, June 2022.

"Direct Democracy and Well-Being in the American States." Paper presented at the Political Studies Association American Politics Working Group workshop, Canterbury UK January 2020.

"Public Employment and Human Well-Being:Evidence from Low and Middle Income Countries." Paper presented at the European Political Science Association, Belfast N. Ireland, June 2019.

"Electoral Competitiveness and Civil Liberties: A Cross-Polity Analysis.' With Ruchan Kaya. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, April 2019.

"Public Employment and Well-Being: Initial Evidence from Global World Bank Data" Paper presented at AICLEP International Conference on Law, Economics and Politics, Oxford UK October 2018.

"Well-Being and the Democratic State: How the Public Sector Promotes Human Happiness." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the European Political Science Association annual meeting, Vienna Austria, June 2018

"Public Sector Employment and Human Well-Being," With Mark D. Brockway. Paper presented at European Political Economy annual meeting, Rome Italy. March 2018.

"Assessing Government Intervention and Well Being in Developing Countries." International Quality of Life of Life Studies conference, Inssbruck Austria, September 2017 (Paper presented by co-author)

"Happiness is a Warm Nuke," With Michael Koch. Poster presented at Peace Science Society, Tempe AZ November 2017.

"Public Policy in Low and Middle Income Countries" With Benjamin Radcliff and Patrick Flavin. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, April 2017.

"Labor Market Regulations and Well-Being in Developing Countries" with Benjamin Radcliff. Paper prepared for the Workshop on Survey Data, Trier University, Trier Germany. 2016.

"Public Policy and Human Happiness" with Benjamin Radcliff. Paper prepared for HEIRS Workshop, sponsored by Lumsa University and the Bank of Italy, Rome, Italy. March 2016

"State Intervention and Life Satisfaction in Developing Countries." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, August 2015.

"Regulating Happiness: A Global Appraisal of Labor Market Regulations and Life Satisfaction." With Benjamin Radcliff and Patrick Flavin. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, April 2015.
"Assessing the Size and Scope of Government on Human Well-Being." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting. August 2014.
"Assessing the Politics of Left and Right." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. March 2013.
"Race, Happiness, and Political Participation." With Gary Segura. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, August 2012.
"Who Do You Trust?" With David Rossbach. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2012.
"The Political Consequences of Human Happiness." With Patrick Flavin. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2011.
"State Intervention and Human Happiness: Evidence from New Data." Paper presented at the annual Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2010.
"Globalization and Opposition to European Integration." With David Rossbach. Paper prepared for presentation at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, April 2009.
"Globalization and Human Happiness: A Cross-National Analysis." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, August 2008.
"Trust in Post-Communist Europe". With David Rossbach. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2008.
"Assessing the Welfare State." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at Political Studies Association annual meeting, UK, April 2007.
Voting More When it Matters More." With Joshua Tucker. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2006.
"Educatioon, the Economy, and Post-Materialist Values in Russia. New Evidence from the Chechnya Conflict." With Andrew Konitzer and Renat Sheykhutdinov. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2006.
"Turnout in Post-Communist Countries: The Surprisingly Rational Electorate." With Joshua Tucker and Grigore Pop-Eleches. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting. August 2005.
"Politics Vs. Economics in Russian Regional Elections, 1993-2001." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2005.
"Labor and Human Happiness." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the Political Studies Association annual meeting, UK, April 2004.
"Religion, Culture, and Electoral Participation." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting. August 2003.
"Politics and Human Happiness." With Benjamin Radcliff and Karrie Koesel. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting. August 2001.
"Transitional Winners and Losers and Attitudes Towards EU Membership in Post-Communist Countries." With Joshua Tucker and Adam Berinsky. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 2001.
"Voter Turnout, Ideology, and Party Politics in Post-Communist Countries." With Robert Bohrer II and Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting. August 2000.
"Determinants of Economic Evaluations in Eight Post-Communist Countries, 1991-1998." With Guy Whitten and Melissa Schier. Paper presented at the Midwest Political science Association annual meeting. April 1999.
"Contested Identities, Political Participation, and Party Support in Post-Communist Countries." With Edwin Aguilar and Robert Bohrer II. Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. March 1999.
"Political Participation Among Informal Sector Workers in Mexico and Costa Rica." Paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association annual meeting. April 1998.
"Voter Turnout and the Welfare State in Post-Communist Europe." With Robert Bohrer II. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 1998.
"Comparative Politics 1981-1996: More of the Same?" With Edwin Aguilar. Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting. November 1997.
"Turnout, Class Voting, and Left-Party Support in Developing Countries." With Edwin Aguilar. Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. March 1997.
"The Electoral Consequences of Welfare Spending in the American States." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. March 1996.
"The Political economy of Competitive Elections in the Developing World." Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. March 1995.

"Economic Voting and the Welfare State: A Cross-National Analysis.' With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting. August 1994.
"Macroeconomic Conditions and Electoral Politics in East-Central Europe." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. April 1992.
"Voter Turnout in eastern Europe: Evidence from the 1989-1990 Elections." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting. November 1991.
"Patterns of Elite-Mass Conflict in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe." Paper presented at the Southern Political science Association annual meeting. November 1990.
"System Failure and Emergent Mass Publics in Communist Countries." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting. November 1989.
"Economic Conditions, Voter Choice, and Strategic Politicians in Senate Primary Elections." With Benjamin Radcliff. Paper presented at the Midwest Political science Association annual meeting. April 1989.
"Autonomous Groups in Eastern Europe: Toward a Limited Pluralism.' Paper presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. March 1988.
"Elite Infighting and Policy Outcomes in Soviet and Chinese Regimes: An Alternative to Roeder and Bunce." Paper presented at the Southwest Political Science Association annual meeting. November 1988.

Other Convention Participation

Invited Research Presentations

"New Directions in Public Policy and Well Being," Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, March 2017.
"The Role of Government in Human Well-Being." German Institute for Japan Studies, Tokyo Japan. July 2014.
"How Public Policies Determine Quality of Life." Leuphana University, Luenenberg Germany. May 2014.
"The Welfare State and Human Happiness" University of Notre Dame, October 2006.

Public or General Audience Presentations

"Human Happiness and Politics: What's the Connection?" Association of Retired Faculty, Texas A&M University, November 2 2022.
"The Politics of Human Happiness" presented at Social Cohesion Days, Reggio Italy. May 2016.
"Organized Labor and Human Happiness" presented at William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies, Omaha Nebraska. April 2011.

Teaching Interests and Experience

Teaching and Research Areas

- Human Well-Being
- Comparative Politics
- Mass Political Behavior and Attitudes
- Elections and Voting
- Comparative Public Policy
- Post-Communist Politics

Recent Classes Taught at TAMU

Undergraduate
POLS 206: Introduction to American Politics
POLS 229: Introduction to Comparative Politics
POLS 326: Government and Politics of Eastern Europe
POLS 338: Government and Politics of the Former Soviet Union
POLS 432: The Politics of the European Union

Graduate
POLS 620: Comparative Political Systems
POLS 611: Seminar in Mass Political Behavior
POLS 629: Seminar in Comparative Mass Political Behavior

Political Science Graduate Students Supervised

Dissertations Chaired

- Francesco Bromo (Co-Chair) (PhD awarded August 2024)
- Yao Yuan-Yeah (Ph.D. awarded August 2014)
- David Rossbach (Ph.D. awarded August 2008)
- Renat Sheykhutdinov (PhD awarded August 2007)
- Yuquo Chen (PhD awarded August 1998)

PhD Committee memberships

- Alexander Jakubow (Rutgers University. PhD –2014)
- Cigdem Sirin (PhD --2009)
- Jason Smith (PhD --2009)
- Diqong Lu (PhD –2008)
- Bradley Podliska (PhD –2006)
- Tyler Johnson (PhD –2009)
- Laron Williams (PhD --2008)
- Mark Skorick (PhD –2005)
- Melissa Schier (PhD –2003)
- Sahar Shafqat (PhD –1999)
- Robert Bohrer II (PhD –1997)

Disciplinary Service

EDITORIAL BOARDS:

Political Behavior 2015 - 2018

CONFERENCE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:

Section organizer, Midwestern Political Science Association Meeting, 2000, 2006
Discussant, American Political Science Association, 2015
Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association 2002, 2000, 2996, 1994, 1993
Discussant, Western Political Science Association 1995, 1993
Discussant, Southwest Political Science Association 1992

ASSOCIATION SERVICE:

Committee Member, Best Paper Award, Southern Political Science Association 2017.
Committee member, Kellogg Award for Best Paper in Comparative Politics, Midwest Political Science Association 2012
Panel Member, Doctoral Dissertation Grants, National Science Foundation 2012-2014
Reviewer, National Science Foundation 2015, 2011, 2008, 2003
Outside Letters, Tenure Candidates 2005, 2003, 1999

REVIEWING:

Acta Politica
American Journal of Political Science
American Political Science Review
Asian Journal of Social Science
British Journal of Political Science
Cambridge University Press
Comparative European Politics
Comparative Politics
Comparative Political Studies
CQ Press
Electoral Studies
European Political Science Review
European Journal of Political Research
International Political Science Review
Legislative Studies Quarterly

Journal of Happiness Studies
Journal of Legislative Studies
Journal of Politics
Midsouth Journal of Politics
National Science Foundation
Oxford University Press
Party Politics
Political Behavior
Political Psychology
Politics & Policy
Political Studies
Political Research Quarterly
Social Indicators Research
Social Forces
Social Policy and Administration
Social Science Quarterly
Sociological Forum

College and University Service

Faculty advisor, International Affairs Association	2020-
Department Representative, Glasscock Center	2019-
Member, Graduate Diversity Fellowship Committee	2017-2018, 2019-
Member, Graduate Instruction Council	2014-2016
Member, Liberal Arts Council	2012-2014, 2002-2004
Member, Committee on Teaching, Liberal Arts College	1999-2000
Member, Pi Sigma Alpha Committee	1995
Member, IRTAG Liberal Arts Grants Committee	

Departmental Service

Co-Director, program in Political Behavior and Political Institutions, 2017-2019
Director, Program in the Cross-National Study of Politics, 2009-2011

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES:

Graduate Admissions Committee 2022-present
Academic Misconduct Committee 2023-present
Head's Advisory Committee 2015-2016, 2009-2010, 2005-2006, 2004-2005, 1996-1997
Member, Graduate Committee 2006-2007, 2003-2005, 2002-2003, 1999-2000, 1995-1996
Chair, Research Committee, promotion to Full Professor 2016, 2019
Member, Teaching Committee, promotion to Full Professor 2014
Member, Research committee, promotion to Associate Professor 2019, 2017, 2011, 2006, 1999
Member, Teaching Committee, promotion to Associate Professor 2012, 20078, 2005, 2000, 1998, 1996

DEPARTMENTAL SEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS:

Open-field/open-rank (3 positions), 2014 –2015
Comparative Politics (1 position), 2016, 2005, 2000-2001
Political Behavior (2 positions), 2004-2005, 2002-2003
Political Theory (1 position), 1998-1999
Race and Ethnic Politics (1 position) 2009

MINI-CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION:

Co-organizer, "Global Changes to the Welfare State" Conference, Sponsored by PERG, the Program in the Cross-National Study of Politics and the EU Center, 2007, Texas A&M University
Co-organizer, "The European Union and Party Change,", Sponsored by the Program in the Cross-National Study of Politics and the EU Center, 2004, Texas A&M University
Co-organizer, "Methods Innovation in Comparative Politics," , Sponsored by the Program in the Cross-National Study of Politics, 1999, Texas A&M University.
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
Midwestern Political Science Association
International Society for Quality of Life Studies
European Political Science Association
Political Studies Association