Stanford



Paul Lendway

Postdoctoral Scholar, Political Science

Bio

BIO

I am a Postdoctoral Scholar at Stanford University, specializing in American politics. In May 2025, I graduated with a Ph.D. in Political Science (with departmental distinction) from Yale University. In 2026, I was selected to receive two awards from the American Political Science Association: the Distinguished Junior Scholar Award in Political Psychology and the Wildavsky Award for Best Dissertation in Religion and Politics. My research has been accepted or published in the American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Political Behavior, and other leading journals. My book manuscript is under review at Cambridge University Press.

The norms and rules that comprise American democracy are eroding. Why? What are the consequences of this trend? And what can be done to address this issue? My research program aims to address these questions. One stream of my research investigates how various forms of political communication (i.e., sermon rhetoric, populist appeals, etc.) shape political preferences. Another strand of my research probes the role of information (i.e., information about social movements, inequality, AI, etc.) in structuring public opinion and policy preferences. A final line of my research explores solutions to address the pressures of populism and mass polarization. This includes a project that tests Americans' willingness to compromise on a series of multi-dimensional policy tradeoffs (i.e., a conservative immigration policy and a liberal abortion policy, etc.).

STANFORD ADVISORS

- Josiah Ober, Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Liberalism and Populism in the American Political Economy: CIVIC 235U, POLISCI 235U, POLISCI 335U (Aut)

2025-26

- Liberalism and Populism in the American Political Economy: POLISCI 235U, POLISCI 335U (Aut)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **The Political Ramifications of Sermon Rhetoric Among White US Protestants and White Catholics** *POLITICAL BEHAVIOR*
  Lendway, P.

2026

- **Thin Populist Appeals and Democratic Backsliding Through Candidate Legitimization and Elite Delegitimization** *POLITICAL BEHAVIOR*
  Lendway, P.
  2025
- **Historical Analogies and Public Support for Foreign Policy Action** *JOURNAL OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION*
  Blair, C., Lendway, P., Schwartz, J. A.
  2025
- **The Effect of Priming Structural Fairness on Inequality Beliefs and Preferences** *AMERICAN POLITICS RESEARCH*
  Lendway, P., Huber, G. A.
  2023; 51 (4): 443-456
- **Fossil fuel divestment and public climate change policy preferences: an experimental test in three countries** *ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS*
  Schwartz, J. A., Lendway, P., Nuri, A.
  2024; 33 (1): 1-24