

**SHAI KARP**  
**Curriculum Vitae**  
Updated June 2025

shaikarp@u.northwestern.edu  
shaikarp.com

**APPOINTMENTS**

---

**Ursinus College**

Assistant Professor of Politics

2025–

**EDUCATION**

---

**PhD Political Science**

2025

Northwestern University

Dissertation: *Leasing Democracy: Private Power and Public Policy in American Rental Housing*

Committee: Chloe Thurston (chair), Daniel Galvin, Ann Orloff, Reuel Rogers

Certificates: Comparative-Historical Social Science, Critical Theory

**MA Political Science**

2020

Northwestern University

**BA Political Science**

2018

Vassar College

*Minor in Sociology*

**RESEARCH**

---

**Publications (peer-reviewed)**

“Private Government at Home: Landlord Power and Rental Residential Domination in the United States,” *Politics & Society* 53, no. 2 (2025): 167–209, doi:10.1177/00323292241285289.

“Performing Social Control: Poverty Governance, Public Finance, and the Politics of Visibility,” *Sociological Theory* 41, no. 1 (2024): 23–48, doi:10.1177/07352751231222476. With John N. Robinson III and Spencer Headworth.

**Works in Progress**

“The Anti-Renter Regime in American Housing Policy” (book project)

“Landlord-Tenant Politics: Renters and the Experience of Power”

“From Public Housing to Private Subsidies: How Housing Delegation Demobilized Poor Renters of Color”

“The Great Recession and American Political Development”

**Areas of Specialization**

race-class inequality; housing; American political institutions; American political development; law & policy; urban studies; settler-colonial studies; contemporary political theory; qualitative methods

**Public Writing**

“Rent Strikes as a Form of Righteous Resistance,” LPE Project, December 10, 2024,

<https://lpeproject.org/blog/landlords-as-petty-tyrants/>.

## TEACHING

---

<b>Ursinus College</b> , Instructor of Record	
American Politics & Government	Fall 2025
Constitutional Law & Politics	Fall 2025
<b>Northwestern University</b> , Instructor of Record	
The American Presidency	Spring 2024
<b>Northwestern University</b> , Teaching Assistant	
African American Politics	Spring 2022, Spring 2025
International Political Economy	Winter 2022
Introduction to Law in the Political Arena	Spring 2020, Fall 2021
Constitutional Law II	Spring 2021
Law and Society	Fall 2020, Winter 2021
Introduction to Political Theory	Winter 2020
Constitutional Law I	Fall 2019
<b>Northwestern University</b> , Grader	
Public Policy	Fall 2024
<b>Pedagogical Training</b>	
Searle Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning, Teaching Certificate	2022
Political Science Graduate Student Teaching Certificate	2021

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

---

<b>Northwestern University</b>	
Center for the Study of Diversity and Democracy Research Grant (\$2500)	2023
Minar Memorial Summer Award (\$1000)	2022
<b>Vassar College</b>	
Departmental honors in Political Science	2018
Ida Frank Guttman Prize for best thesis in Political Science (thesis: <i>Redeeming Political Myth: Walter Benjamin, History, and Politics</i> )	2018

## PRESENTATIONS

---

### Invited lectures

“The Origins of the Anti-Renter Regime in American Housing Policy” Political Science Speaker Series, Bowling Green State University	2024
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------

### Conference presentations

“The Anti-Renter Regime in American Housing Policy” <i>Law and Society Association Annual Meeting</i>	2025
<i>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2024
“Tenant Unions and Housing Justice” (roundtable participation) <i>Law and Society Association Annual Meeting</i>	2025
“Urbanization, Private Rental Housing, and the Anti-Renter Regime in American Housing Policy” <i>Political Economy and Economic Sociology Consortium Summer Conference</i>	2024

“Private Power, Rights Consciousness, and Collective Action among Chicago Renters” <i>Law and Society Association Annual Meeting</i>	2024
“Renter Politics: Race, Class, Landlords, and Power among Chicago Tenants” <i>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2024
“Private Government at Home: Landlord Power and Rental Residential Domination” <i>Law and Society Association Annual Meeting</i>	2023
“Renters and the State: Housing, Urbanization, Real Estate, and Public Policy in the Long New Deal Era” <i>Social Science History Association Annual Meeting</i>	2022
<i>American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting</i>	2022
“The Eviction State: Housing, Tenancy, and Law in American Political Development” <i>Law and Society Association Annual Meeting</i>	2021
<i>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2021

### **Workshop presentations**

“Renter Politics: Race, Class, Landlords, and Power among Chicago Tenants” <i>Northwestern Politics and Public Policy Lab</i>	2024
“Private Government at Home: Landlord Power and Rental Residential Domination” <i>Northwestern Political Theory Workshop</i>	2023
“Renters and the State: Housing, Urbanization, Real Estate, and Public Policy in the Long New Deal Era” <i>Northwestern APD Workshop</i>	2022
“Underwriting Social Control: Punishment, Provision, and the Insidious Public Eye” <i>Northwestern APD Workshop</i>	2022
“Housing, Law, and Court Development in Cook County, Illinois” <i>Northwestern Politics and Public Policy Lab</i>	2022
“The Eviction State: Housing, Tenancy, and Law in American Political Development” <i>Northwestern APD Workshop</i>	2021
“Machiavellian Empire: Expansion Between Domination and Freedom” <i>Northwestern Political Theory Workshop</i>	2020

### **SERVICE**

#### **Departmental, Northwestern University**

Co-founder and co-chair of American Political Development Workshop	2021–2023
Political Science Teaching Committee	2020–2021

#### **Professional**

Panel chair “Spatial Justice: Housing, Urban Development, and the Political Economy of Place” <i>Law and Society Association Annual Meeting</i>	2025
Panel organizer and chair “Housing and American Political Development” <i>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2024
Panel organizer “Race, Inequality, and Qualitative Methods in Urban Politics” <i>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2024

Panel organizer and chair 2023  
“How Economic Power Shapes Legal Structures, and Vice Versa”  
*Law and Society Association Annual Meeting*

Panel organizer 2022  
“Local Legal Institutions: Capitalism, Inequality, and the Grassroots Negotiation of Power in the U.S.”  
*American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting*

---

### **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR) 2022  
Northwestern Searle Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning Certificate Program 2021–2022

---

### **AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **Professional Affiliations**

American Political Science Association  
American Sociological Association  
Law and Society Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
Social Science History Association

---

### **SOFTWARE SKILLS**

R (RStudio, tidyverse), ArcGIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, MaxQDA, NVivo, Markdown, Canvas, Microsoft Office