

## Ben W. Ansell

Nuffield College  
University of Oxford  
New Road  
OX1 1NF  
Oxford, England

Email: [ben.ansell@politics.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ben.ansell@politics.ox.ac.uk)  
Web: <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~polf0487/index.htm>

## Employment

Editor (with David Samuels), *Comparative Political Studies*, September 2013-.

Professor of Comparative Democratic Institutions, Department of Politics and International Relations and Professorial Fellow, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, July 2013-

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota, 2012-2013

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota, 2006–2012

## Education

Ph.D. Government, Harvard University, November 2006.

*Ph.D. Thesis:* From the Ballot to the Blackboard: The Redistributive Political Economy of Education. *Awarded Senator Charles Sumner Memorial Dissertation Prize by Harvard University*

M.A. Political Science, University of California, Berkeley. 2001.

M.A. Cultural History, University of Manchester, 1999.

B.A. (Hons) History, First Class, University of Manchester, 1998.

## Research

### *Books*

*Inequality and Democratization: An Elite-Competition Approach*, with David Samuels. 2014. Cambridge University Press, Studies in Comparative Politics series.

*Winner of 2015 Woodrow Wilson Prize for Best Book on government, politics, or international affairs, granted by the American Political Science Association.*

*Winner of 2015 William H. Riker Prize for Best Book in Political Economy, granted by APSA Section on Political Economy.*

*Honorable Mention, 2015 Best Book Award, APSA Section for Comparative Democratization.*

*Social Policy in Small European States*, Gary Cohen, Ben Ansell, Robert H. Cox, and Jane Gingrich (eds.), 2012, Berghahn Books, NY.

*From the Ballot to the Blackboard: The Redistributive Political Economy of Education*, 2010, Cambridge University Press, Studies in Comparative Politics series.

*Winner of 2011 William H. Riker Prize for Best Book in Political Economy, granted by APSA Section on Political Economy*

### *Articles*

‘The Political Economy of Ownership: Housing Markets and the Welfare State’. *American Political Science Review*. May 2014.

‘Sorting for Schools: Housing, Education, and Inequality’, with Jane Gingrich, *Socio-Economic Review*. April 2014.

‘The Political Origins of Primary Education Systems: Ideology, Institutions, and Interdenominational Conflict in an Era of Nation-Building’, with Johannes Lindvall, *American Political Science Review*, August 2013.

‘Preferences in Context: Micro-Preferences, Macro-Contexts, and the Demand for Social Policy’, with Jane Gingrich. *Comparative Political Studies*, December 2012.

‘Inequality and Democratization: A Contractarian Approach’, with David Samuels. *Comparative Political Studies*, December 2010.

*Winner of Best Article in 2010 by the Comparative Democratization Section of the American Political Science Association.*

‘University Challenges: Explaining Institutional Change in Higher Education’. *World Politics*, January 2008.

‘Teachers, Traders, and Tyrants: Democracy, Globalization and Education Spending’. *International Organization*, Spring 2008.

### *Chapters in Edited Volumes*

‘The Dynamics of Social Investment: Human Capital, Activation, and Care’, with Jane Gingrich, in Beramendi, Pablo, Silja Hausermann, Herbert Kitschelt and Hans-Peter Kriesi (eds.), *The Politics of Advanced Capitalism*, Cambridge University Press, 2015.

‘A Tale of Two Trilemmas: Varieties of Higher Education and the Service Economy’ (with Jane Gingrich), in Wren, Anne (ed.) *The Political Economy of the Service Transition*. Oxford University Press. 2013.

‘Introduction’ with Gary Cohen, Robert Cox, and Jane Gingrich, in Cohen et al (eds.) *Social Policy in Small European States*, 2012.

‘Humboldt Humbled? The Germanic University System in Comparative Perspective’, in Cohen et al (eds.) *Social Policy in Small European States*, 2012.

‘Crisis as Political Opportunity? The Role of Partisan Politics in the Response to the Global Credit Crisis’, in Bermeo, Nancy and Jonas Pontusson (eds.) *Coping with Crisis*, Russell Sage Foundation. 2012.

### *Book Manuscript in Progress*

*Inward Conquest: The Nineteenth Century Revolution in the Art of Government and How it Shaped the Modern World* with Johannes Lindvall. Builds on ‘The Political Origins of Primary Education Systems’, adding analyses of the development of state capacity and responsibility in health and public order to earlier published work on education. Currently in data collection stage.

### *Manuscripts under Review*

‘Global Capital Markets, Housing Prices, and Partisan Fiscal Policies’, with J. Lawrence Broz.

*Winner of 2013 Best Conference Paper on Comparative Public Policy, granted by Public Policy Section of American Political Science Association.*

‘Electoral Institutions, Credit, and Political Responses to Economic Polarization’, with John Ahlquist.

‘Membership Matters: Radical Right Party Composition in Comparative Perspective’, with David Art, under review.

*Winner of 2010 Best Conference Paper Award granted by European Politics and Society Section of American Political Science Association.*

### *Working Papers*

‘Skills in Demand: Explaining Social Investment in Europe’, with Jane Gingrich

‘The Politics of Income Mobility: Education, Labor Market Calcification and Intergenerational Mobility in the USA’ with Pablo Beramendi.

‘Between Depression and Devaluation: Leadership Turnover in Hard Times’, with John Ahlquist and Johannes Lindvall.

‘International Capital Flows, Housing Prices, and Fiscal Policy Preferences in Central and Eastern Europe’, with J. Lawrence Broz.

‘Inequality at the Constituency Level: Income Distribution and Politics in Late Nineteenth Century Britain’, with David Samuels and Henry Thomson.

*Non Peer-Reviewed Publications*

‘Assets in Crisis: Housing, Preferences, and Policy in the Credit Crisis’, *Swiss Political Science Review*, January 2013.

*Textbook Chapters*

‘The United Kingdom’ (with Jane Gingrich) in David Samuels (ed.) *Casebook for Comparative Politics*, Longman Pearson. Forthcoming.

*Newspaper and Thinktank Publications*

‘Quality versus Equality: Hard Choices in Higher Education’ translated as ‘Calidad frente a igualdad: una decisión difícil en enseñanza superior’ for Fundación Alternativas, Madrid. November 2011. Featured in *Publico*, 11th December 2012.

‘British Universities: Quality at the Cost of Inequality’ with Pepper Culpepper. *Times Higher Education* (London), February 3, 2011.

## Invited Presentations

‘Skills in Demand: Explaining Social Investment in Europe’, with Jane Gingrich, Workshop on Party Competition and party/voter-links in times of changing welfare states’, EUI, Florence, June 2015.

*Inequality and Democracy: A Contractarian Approach*, with David Samuels, Book Workshops at October 2012, University of Washington and May 31st 2013, Stanford University. Presentations at Lund University, June 2014, University of Konstanz, December 2014, Juan March Institute March 2015, Bocconi University, April 2015.

‘Electoral Institutions, Credit, and Political Responses to Economic Polarization’, with John Ahlquist, London School of Economics June 2014 and Workshop on Party Competition and Voter Alignments, Sciences Po, Paris, September 2014.

‘Between Depression and Devaluation: Leadership Turnover in Hard Times’, with John Ahlquist and Johannes Lindvall, Zurich, March 2014.

‘Global Capital Markets, Housing Prices, and Partisan Fiscal Policies’, with J. Lawrence Broz, London School of Economics December 2013, March 2014; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development March 2014.

‘Sorting for Schools’, with Jane Gingrich, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, November 2013.

‘The Historical Development of Primary Education: Cleavages and Coalitions at the Turn of the Twentieth Century’, with Johannes Lindvall, at Workshop on Education, Religion and the Gender-vote gap, Bremen University, October 2011,

University of Konstanz, July 2012 and University of Wisconsin, Madison, February 2013.

'The Political Economy of Ownership: Housing Markets and the Welfare State', University of North Carolina Departmental Speaker Series, February 2012, Harvard / MIT Seminar on State and Capitalism since 1800, December 2012, Nuffield College, February 2014, and University of Reading, March 2014.

'The Dynamics of Social Investment: Human Capital, Activation, and Care', with Jane Gingrich, at Workshop on 'The Future of Democratic Capitalism', University of Zurich, June 2011 and Duke University October 2012.

'The Future of Higher Education in Europe', Keynote Presentation for Conference on the Future of Education, University of Graz, Austria, November 2010.

'Crisis as Political Opportunity? The Role of Partisan Politics in the Response to the Global Credit Crisis' presented at Princeton University Conference on the Credit Crisis, March 2010, Princeton, NJ, Russell Sage Foundation, New York City, October 2010 and Indiana University, April 2011.

'The New Political Economy of Wealth', presented at the Political Economy Colloquium, University of Oxford, October 2009.

'A Tale of Two Trilemmas', with Jane Gingrich, presented at Conference on Postindustrialism and the Service Economy, Trinity College Dublin, May 2008.

'The Role of Globalization and Education in Explaining East Asian and Latin American Development', Northwestern University, April 2008.

'Humboldt Humbled? The Germanic University System in Comparative Perspective', presented at the Center for Austrian Studies' 'Social Policy in the New Europe: The Experience of Austria and the Smaller EU Members', University of Minnesota, March 2008.

'Bubbling Under, Political Preferences During Asset Bubbles', February 2008, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Political Economy Colloquium. Versions also presented at European University Institute, September 2008, and Conference on Political Economy, Trinity College Dublin, October 2008.

'University Challenges: Explaining Institutional Change in Higher Education', April 2007 at The Domestic Institutional Foundations of International Economic Competitiveness, Georgetown University. Version also presented at the Leitner Conference on Post-Industrial Societies, Yale University, January 2007.

## Conference Presentations

'International Capital Flows, Housing Prices, and Fiscal Policy Preferences in Central and Eastern Europe', with J. Lawrence Broz. American Political Science

- Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 2014.
- ‘Inequality at the Constituency Level: Income Distribution and Politics in Late Nineteenth Century Britain’, with David Samuels and Henry Thomson. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 2014.
- ‘Between Depression and Devaluation: Leadership Turnover in Hard Times’, with John Ahlquist and Johannes Lindvall. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 2014.
- ‘Global Capital Markets, Housing Prices, and Partisan Fiscal Policies’, with J. Lawrence Broz, International Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, April 2013; American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, September 2013, and International Political Economy Society Annual Meeting, October 2013.
- ‘Electoral Institutions, Credit, and Political Responses to Economic Polarization’, with John Ahlquist, International Political Economy Society Annual Meeting, University of Virginia, November 2012; International Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, April 2013, and Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2013.
- ‘Housing, Partisanship and Global Credit’, International Political Economy Society Annual Meeting, Madison, WI, November 2011.
- ‘Inequality and Democratization: Individual-Level Evidence of Preferences for Redistribution under Autocracy’, with David Samuels, APSA 2011, Seattle, WA.
- ‘Political Preferences During Housing Booms and Busts across Europe’, Council for European Studies Conference, Barcelona, June 2011 and Society for Advancement of Socio-Economics Conference, Madrid, June 2011.
- ‘Fiscal Responses to the Credit Crisis’, Council for European Studies Conference, Barcelona, June 2011.
- ‘Membership Matters: Radical Right Party Composition in Comparative Perspective’, with David Art, APSA 2010, Washington DC. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 2014.
- ‘Democracy and Redistribution 1880-1930, Reassessing the Evidence’, with David Samuels, APSA 2010 Washington DC.
- ‘National Institutions and Individual Social Policy Preferences’, with Jane Gingrich, APSA, 2009, Toronto.
- ‘The Nest Egg Effect? Housing, the Welfare State, and Political Incentives’, MPSA Annual Conference April 2009.
- ‘Inequality and Democracy’, with David Samuels, Versions presented at APSA 2009, Toronto, MPSA 2008, Chicago, and APSA 2007, Chicago.

‘Bubbling Under, Political Preferences During Asset Bubbles’. Versions presented at MPSA 2007, APSA 2007, and Council for European Studies Biennial Conference, Chicago IL, March 2008.

‘Who Cut Class? Matching Policy Change to Parties and Voters’, APSA 2006.

‘University Challenges: Explaining Institutional Change in Higher Education’, Versions presented at APSA 2006, MPSA 2006, and at the Council for European Studies biennial conference, 2006.

‘Teachers, Traders and Tyrants: How Openness and Democracy Affect Education Expenditure’, at APSA September 3rd, 2005, Washington, DC.

‘Capturing Creativity: The Diffusion of Human Capital Policy’, APSA September 2004, Chicago, IL.

‘Comments on ‘Does Inequality Create Institutions?’. Discussant on presentation by Ronald Rogowski at CES Workshop on Inequality, October, 2003.

‘Human Capital and Globalization’, APSA September 2003, Philadelphia, PA.

## Research Grants, Affiliations, and Awards

2015 William H. Riker Award for Best Book on Political Economy (form works published in past three years), awarded by Political Economy Section of American Political Science Association (joint with David Samuels).

2015 Woodrow Wilson Prize for Best Book on government, politics, or international affairs, granted by the American Political Science Association (joint with David Samuels).

Honorable Mention, 2015 Best Book Award, APSA Section on Comparative Democratization (joint with David Samuels).

2013 Best Conference Paper on Comparative Public Policy, granted by Public Policy Section of American Political Science Association (with J. Lawrence Broz).

2011 William H. Riker Award for Best Book on Political Economy in 2010, awarded by Political Economy Section of American Political Science Association.

Best Article Award for 2010 from Comparative Democratization Section of the American Political Science Association (joint with David Samuels).

2010 Best Conference Paper Award granted by European Politics and Society Section of American Political Science Association (joint with David Art)

Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Scholar two-year postdoctoral fellowship at UC Berkeley for 2008-10. Declined.

Joint Visiting Scholar of Max Weber and Robert Schumann centers, European

University Institute, Florence, 2008-9.

Syllabus Development Funds, \$3,000, European Studies Consortium, University of Minnesota, Summer 2010.

Single Semester Leave, University of Minnesota, Fall 2008.

Faculty Summer Research Grant, \$6,000, University of Minnesota, Summer 2008.

Grant in Aid of Scholarly Activity, \$25,788, University of Minnesota, awarded December 2007.

McMillan Travel Grant, Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota, Summer 2007, Summer 2008, Summer 2009.

Senator Charles Sumner Award for best dissertation from Harvard University, 2007.

Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2005-2006.

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, Graduate Research Grant, December 2004.

Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Graduate Associate, 2004 / 2005.

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, Graduate Associate, 2004 / 2006.

CUE Teaching Award for GOV1735 Arms and Arms Control, Fall 2004.

Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Graduate Summer Grant, June 2004.

Visiting Scholar, Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics, Spring 2004.

CUE Teaching Award for GOV1140, Politics of Social Justice, Fall 2003.

Multi-Year Fellowship, Harvard University, 2003 / 2006.

National Science Foundation, Honorable Mention, November 2000.

Tuition Scholarship, University of California, Berkeley, 2000 / 2001.

British Academy Award for Masters Study in History, 1998 / 1999.

Thomas Brown Memorial Prize for the top graduating student in History department, University of Manchester, 1998



## Teaching

### *University of Oxford*

Formal Analysis (G), Hilary 2014, Hilary 2015

Challenges of Democratisation (G), Trinity 2014 , Trinity 2015 (Blavatnik School of Government)

Democratisation: Theory and Practice (G), Michaelmas 2014

Politics Prelims (lectures) (U) 2014-

Comparative Political Economy (lectures) (U) 2014-

European Politics and Society Core Course (classes) G 2014-

### *University of Minnesota*

Transatlantic Summer Institute: Class, Church and Community: The Historical Origins of European Social Policy (with Johannes Lindvall, Lund University) (G), University of Minnesota June 10-22, 2012.

POL 8440/8660 (G): Theories of Political Economy, Spring 2009, Fall 2010, Spring 2013.

POL 8405 (G): International Political Economy Spring 2007, Spring 2010, Spring 2012.

POL 8601 (G): Comparative Politics Core, Fall 2007

POL 8060 (G): Colloquium in Methods and Models, Fall 2007, Spring 2008.

Graduate Student Math Camp (G), Fall 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011.

POL 1905 (U): Puzzles in Politics and Economics, Fall 2006, Fall 2009

POL 3410 / 4410 (U): Globalization and Domestic Politics, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2009, Spring 2010.

POL 3410/3465 (U): Introduction to Political Economy, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011 Fall 2012.

POL 3410 (U): Politics of Inequality, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2013.

POL 3833 (U): The US and the Global Economy: Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012.

*Advising: Graduate*

*Ph.Ds completed, Committee Member*

Henry Thomson, Ph.D. 2014, Postdoctoral Prize Fellow, Nuffield College, University of Oxford. Winner 2015 Juan Linz Best Dissertation Prize from Comparative Democratization Section of APSA

Geoff Dancy, Ph.D. 2013, Assistant Professor, Tulane University.

Jonas Bunte, Ph.D. 2013, Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Dallas

Joel Malen, Ph.D. 2013 (Carlson School of Management), Assistant Professor, Hitotsubashi Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy

David Leon, Ph.D. 2011, Assistant Professor, Keuka College.

Erica Owen, Ph.D. 2009, Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University, previously Niehaus Center on Global Governance postdoc at Princeton University

Jennifer Rutledge, Ph.D. 2008 Assistant Professor, John Jay College (CUNY), previously Wooster College.

Susan Kang, Ph.D. 2007, Assistant Professor, John Jay College (CUNY)

*Current Ph.D. students, Committee Member*

*Minnesota:* Andrew Lucius, Molla Reda, Matt Jacobs, Matt Luttwig, Adam Olson, Chen-Yu Wu (sociology).

*Duke:* Thomas Gift IV

*European University Institute:* Anna Auf dem Brinke

*Advising: Undergraduate*

*Summa Theses*

Brett Arenz, 2007, Caroline Abadeer, 2011, Alex Stephenson, 2011

*Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program*

Dylan Nitzorski, Caroline Abadeer, Alex Stephenson, Joseph Spanjers

*Harvard University*

Contemporary Puzzles in Politics and Economics, Junior Tutorial, Fall 2004.

Math Prefresher for Graduate Students, Fall 2004.

## Professional Service

### *University of Oxford*

#### *Nuffield College*

Co-convenor (with Andrew Dilnot, Jane Green, and Iain McLean) of Nuffield Post-Election Conference with British Election Study and Gwilym Gibbon Policy Unit, June 2015.

Information Systems Fellow, 2014-

Harassment Advisor, 2013-

#### *Department of Politics and International Relations*

Co-convenor (with Andrew Eggers) of Annual Graduate Student Workshop in Politics (for UK-based PhD students in politics), May 2015.

Director of Graduate Students, Professional Training, 2014-

Graduate Studies Committee, Member 2014-

General Purposes Committee, Member 2014-

Departmental Finance Review Team, Member 2014-

### *University of Minnesota*

#### *University and College of Liberal Arts*

CLA Graduate Fellowship Program Committee Member Spring 2013

Bologna Process Advisory Committee Fall 2012-

Faculty Senator, University Senate 2012-2015.

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program Awards Committee, College of Liberal Arts, 2011-13.

Future of European Studies Advisory Committee to CLA Dean, Spring 2011.

European Studies Consortium Travel Grant Committee, Summer 2010.

Advisory Committee Member, European Studies Consortium, 2009-2011.

Hella Mears Fellowship Reviewer for Center for German and European Studies, 2009-2013.

Steering Committee, Conference on Small European States, Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota, 2007-8

Center for German and European Studies Faculty Member, 2006-2012

*Department*

International Relations Search Committee, Fall 2007, Fall 2012.

Undergraduate Work Committee, 2011-2012.

Methods and Models Field Chair, 2010-2011

Formal Theory Search Committee, Fall 2009, Fall 2010

Merit Advisory Committee, 2009-2010

Convenor of Minnesota Political Economy Colloquium, 2007-2008

International Relations Field Chair, 2007-2008

Graduate Work Committee, 2006-2007

*European University Institute*

Presentation on how to give effective presentations and job talks, December 2008.

Roundtable on 2008 US Election, October 2008 and two in November 2008 (one for James Madison University graduate program).

*Profession*

Section Head, Politics of Advanced Industrial Societies, American Political Science Association, August 2014.

Section Head, Comparative Politics (Advanced Industrial Countries), Midwest Political Science Association, April 2013.

Prize Committees: Riker Prize for best book in Political Economy 2012, European Politics Best Paper Prize 2012.

Manuscripts reviewed for University of Chicago Press, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press.

Articles reviewed for *International Organization*, *World Politics*, *Journal of Politics*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Politics*, *European Journal of Social Policy*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*.

Discussant: 2007, 2008, 2013 Annual Meeting of MPSA; 2010 Meeting of APSA

### *Community Engagement*

Organiser of post-General Election conference at Nuffield College (with Jane Green, Andrew Dilnot, and Iain McLean), June 23rd 2015.

'Views from the U' Pre-election event, October 2012. Coffman Theater. University of Minnesota.

Moderator and Organizer of 'Baby Marx Townhall' event at Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN, August 2011.

TV and radio interviews: WCCO, KFAI

### *Government Consulting*

Policy analyst for Her Majesty's Treasury, Productivity Team.

Author of 'The Next Generation of Skills in the UK' education policy forecast for Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, July 2004.

Member of Leitch Review of Skills, an independent review established under Lord Sandy Leitch to examine British skills policy to 2020. Served 2005 to 2007