

Chelsea Waddell

📍 Ann Arbor, Michigan ✉ cwaddell@umich.edu

Education

University of Michigan	<i>Expected 2028</i>
<i>Ph.D, Political Science</i>	
<i>M.A., Political Science</i>	2026
Jackson State University	2018-2022
<i>B.S., Criminal Justice</i>	

Publications

Ricks, B.E., Orey, B.D., Waddell, C., Kirk, K., Jean, C.S. (2025). The Evolution of Black Political Leadership in Los Angeles: Frederick Madison Roberts and Beyond. *Journal of Race and Policy* 19, 5-21.
<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/980413>.

Works in Progress

“Policing Prosecutorial Power: The Conditional Role of Collaboration in Mitigating Police Backlash to Prosecutorial Reform.” *Under Review*. with Brandon Romero, Mara Ostfeld, and Charlotte Boucher.

“Who Deserves a Second Chance? Defendant Characteristics and Pre-Trial Diversion.” with Brandon Romero, Mara Ostfeld, and Charlotte Boucher.

“May I See Your License? How Race and Gender Shape Public Perceptions of Policing in Traffic Stops.” with D’Andra Orey, Vincent Hutchings, Luis Guaman, Robert Mickey, and Mason Holland.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Student Instructor - University of Michigan

Law of Democracy: Redistricting and Voting Rights (with Jowei Chen)	Winter 2025
The Politics of Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (with Pamela Brandwein)	Fall 2024
The Politics of Police and Prisons (with Shea Streeter)	Winter 2024
Introduction to American Politics (with Ken Kollman)	Fall 2023

Fellowships

AAPOR Student Inclusion Fellowship	2025
American Association for Public Opinion Research	
Rackham Merit Fellowship	2022
University of Michigan	

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Shea Streeter	2025-2026
Police Killings and Protests Project	
Research Assistant, Robert Mickey	2025
Washtenaw County Reparations Task Force	
Research Assistant, Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy	2024-Present
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan	
Research Assistant, Vincent Hutchings	2020-2022
Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP)	

Selected Conference Presentations

"Fiscal Incentives, County Prosecutors, and Incarceration" Consortium on the American Political Economy, Berkeley.	2026
"May I See Your License? How Race and Gender Shape Public Perceptions of Policing in Traffic Stops." Southern Political Science Association.	2026
"Who Deserves a Second Chance? Defendant Characteristics and Pre-Trial Diversion" Justice and Injustice: Political Science Perspectives on Crime and Punishment.	2025

Scholarly Development

University of California, Berkeley Consortium on the American Political Economy (CAPE) Summer Academy	2026
Johns Hopkins University Summer School for Racial Politics	2025

Service

SROP Academic Assistant	2026
HBCU Alumni Organization, <i>Vice President</i>	2025-Present
Undergraduate Senior Thesis Committee Member	2024, 2025
Emerging Scholars Conference Organizer	2024
Rackham Aspiring Fellows Mentor	2024-2025
Political Scientists of Color, <i>Co-President</i>	2023-2024
SROP Ambassador Program Mentor	2022-2023

Working Skills

R, LaTeX, Qualtrics