

# DAVIA COX DOWNEY

University of Memphis

202 Browning Hall

Memphis, TN 38152

Phone: (908) 678-1635

Fax: 901-678-2981

Email: [dcdowney@memphis.edu](mailto:dcdowney@memphis.edu)

Personal Website: <http://www.daviadowneyphd.com>

## Academic Employment

2021-Present	Associate Professor of Public Administration and Director, PhD in Urban Affairs Program, University of Memphis, School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy
2017- 2021	Associate Professor of Public Administration Grand Valley State University, School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration
2014- 2021	Master of Public Administration Program Director, Grand Valley State University, School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration
2011 to 2017	Assistant Professor of Public Administration Grand Valley State University, School of Public, Non-profit and Health Administration

## Education

2011	PhD	Michigan State University: East Lansing, Michigan Examination Fields: American Politics and Public Policy Dissertation Title: "Wade in the Water: Race, Class and Hurricane Katrina."  Committee Members: Laura A. Reese (chair), Richard Hula, Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore and Sandra K. Schneider
2004	MPA	Eastern Michigan University: Ypsilanti, Michigan Concentration: Public Management Capstone Project: Arts in Education: A Program Analysis
1999	BA	Albion College: Albion, Michigan Major: Music Performance Concentration: Human Services

## Additional Training

2017	Statistical Horizons Courses Taken: Longitudinal Data Analysis
------	--

## Using Stata

2006

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research at the University of Michigan. Courses Taken: Maximum Likelihood Estimation

### Teaching Interests

Public administration, bureaucracy studies, urban politics, minority politics, local government management, public policy analysis and evaluation, organizational behavior, and political institutions

### Research Interests

Disaster and emergency management policy, comparative federalism, minority politics, public administration, state and local government management, and urban policymaking

### Work Currently Under Review

“Government Crisis Communication: A Textual Analysis of Face Covering Policies Adopted During the COVID-19 Pandemic” with William M. Myers (University of Tampa). Under review at *Public Administration Review*.

“Executive Orders and Face Mask Mandates in U.S. States” with William M. Myers (University of Tampa). Under review at *Law and Policy*.

“Diffusion in Times of Political Polarization: An Analysis of Face Mask Policy Adoption in the United States” with William M. Myers (University of Tampa). Under review at *Policy Sciences*.

“The Role of Localized Protest in Responsive National Policymaking” Under Review at *Theory and Society*

### Work In Progress

“Direct Conflict Between Governments: Federalism and Party Capability Theory” with William M. Myers (University of Tampa). In preparation for submission to *Regional and Federal Studies*.

“An Analysis of Emergency Management Program Grant Funding in the United States: Equity in FEMA Funding” with Logan Gerber-Chavez, Samantha Montano, Amanda Savitt, and Tanya Corbin. In preparation for submission to *Disaster Studies*.

“Saw IV: Extreme Violence, Ethics, and Street-Level Bureaucracy: Horror Films as Pedagogy” with Wesley Wehde and Kelli Davis

“A Theoretical Framework for Understanding Extra-Local Governing Entities: The case of Homeowner Associations in the United States” with Michael Glass and Thomas Skuzinski.

### Books

Downey, D. C. (2021). *Disasters and Economic Recovery*. London: Routledge Publishing

Downey, D. C. (Ed.). (2015). *Cities and Disasters*, Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press. 2016 CHOICE Award Winner.

## Refereed Journal Articles

Myers, W. M. & **Downey, D. C.** (2021). Covid-19 Policy Executive (In)Action in Florida and Michigan. *Wayne State Law Review*, 67(1).

**Downey, D. C.**, & Myers, W. M. (2020). Federalism, Intergovernmental Relationships, and Emergency Response: A Comparison of Australia and the United States. *The American Review of Public Administration*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0275074020941696>.

Blackmond Larnell, T., & **Downey, D. C.** (2019). Tax Increment Financing in Chicago: The Perplexing Relationship Between Blight, Race, and Property Values. *Economic Development Quarterly*, 33(4), 316–330. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0891242419877944>

Reckhow, S., **Downey, D. C.**, & Sapotichne, J. (2019). Governing Without Government: Nonprofit Governance in Detroit and Flint. *Urban Affairs Review*, 56(5).  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1078087419847531>

Myers, William M. & **Downey, D.C.** (2017) "Which Governments Come Out Ahead?" *Perspectives on Federalism*, 9(1), 13-33.

**Downey, D. C.** & Reese, L. A. (2017) "Sudden Versus Slow Death of Cities: New Orleans and Detroit." *DuBois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 4(1), 219- 243.

**Downey, D. C.** (2016) "Disaster Recovery in Black and White: A Comparison of New Orleans and Gulfport." *The American Review of Public Administration*, vol. 46(1), 51-74.

**Cox, D. S.** & Reese, L. A. (2007) "Local Culture and Governmental Change: Exploring the Endurance of Culture in the Face of Structural Change." *Canadian Public Administration*, 50(2), 245-27.

## Book Chapters

Reese, L. A., Rosenfeld, R. A. & **Downey, D. C.** (2012) "Civic Culture in Ottawa: The Endurance of Local Culture" in *Comparative Civic Culture*, Eds. LA Reese and RA Rosenfeld. London: Ashgate Publishing.

## Other Publications

Governing Without Government. Urban Affairs Review, Urban Affairs Forum. (April 24, 2020).

Reckhow, Sarah; **Downey, Davia**; and Sapotichne, Joshua, "Governing Without Government: Nonprofit Governance in Detroit and Flint" (October 26, 2018). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3273190>

Making the Economic Development Process Accessible to Students. Urban Affairs Review, Urban Affairs Forum. (November 2, 2018).

Book Review of Obama on the Home Front: Domestic Policy Triumphs and Setbacks by John D. Graham. *Public Administration Review*, vol. 67, 6: 804-804. (December 2017).

"Ethnocentrism." In Linwood H. Cousins and Geoffrey J. Golson (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Human Services and Diversity*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications (September 2014)

"Environmental Racism." In Linwood H. Cousins and Geoffrey J. Golson (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Human Services and Diversity*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications (September 2014)

"Gentrification." In Linwood H. Cousins and Geoffrey J. Golson (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Human Services and Diversity*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications (September 2014)

"Ethnocentrism". In *Routledge Companion to Race and Ethnicity*, ed. Stephen M. Caliendo and Charlton McIlwain. New York: Routledge, (December 2010).

Book Review of *There Is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster: Race Class and Hurricane Katrina* by Chester Harman and Gregory D. Spires. *American Review of Public Administration* Vol. 39, No. 5, pp. 570-573, 2008.

### **Media Appearances**

[Release of 2020 census data starts countdown to congressional redistricting](#) by Kimberly Adams. NPR Marketplace (August 12, 2021).

[Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announces temporary statewide school, restaurant, gym closures](#) by Allie Morris and James Barragán. *The Dallas Morning News* (March 19, 2020)

[America Is Not Set Up For This](#) by Michael Hobbes. *The Huffington Post* (April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

[Natural disaster response strategies success dependent on collaboration](#) by Patrick Center. WGUV (NPR Affiliate), Grand Rapids, Michigan (May 12, 2020)

[Regional strategies work best during times of disaster, GVSU researcher says](#) by Dottie Barnes. *WKTVJournal* (May 12, 2020)

[A federal court ruled Michigan political districts are "gerrymandered." What comes next](#) by Dustin Dwyer. *WUOM/Michigan Radio*. (May 16 2019)

[Cities in Crisis](#) by No Jargon Podcast and the Scholars Strategy Network. (March 21, 2019)

[Detroit and Flint keep relying on private money to solve public problems. Why?](#) with Sarah Reckhow and Joshua Sapotichne. *The Washington Post, Monkey Cage blog*. (November 27, 2018).

### **Conference Papers**

"The Role of Urban Protest in Responsive Policymaking" Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C., April 2022).

"A Linguistic Analysis of Reopening Plans: The United States and Australia" Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Virtual, January 2021).

“When Cities Go to Court: A Test of Party Capability Theory” Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Virtual/San Francisco, CA, September 2020).

“Local Governments and Party Capability Theory: Who Wins and Why?” Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, CA April 2019).

“Local Governments and Party Capability Theory: Who Wins and Why?” with William Myers (University of Tampa). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Austin, TX, January 2019).

“David and Goliath? Party Capability Theory and Local Governments” with William Myers (University of Tampa). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA January 2018)

“Governing Without Government: Nonprofit Governance in Flint, Detroit and New Orleans” with Sarah Reckhow (Michigan State University). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA January 2018)

“Unnatural Disasters: Can Nonprofit Governance Promote Recovery in Detroit and Flint?” with Sarah Reckhow (Michigan State University). Paper presented at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Annual Meeting (Grand Rapids, MI November 2017)

“Where the Action Is: Party Capability and Conflict in Federal Systems” with William Myers (University of Tampa). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA January 2017)

“Which Governments Come Out Ahead? with William Myers (University of Tampa). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 2016)

“The Problem with TIFs: Engineering Blight in Wealthy Communities” with Twyla Blackmond-Larnell (Loyola University of Chicago). Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Meeting (San Diego, CA, March 2016)

“How Do Voluntary Neighborhood Associations Vary? A Study of Programmatic Activities and Economic Vitality in Grand Rapids, Michigan” Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Meeting (Miami, FL, April 2015)

“Sudden Versus Slow Death of Cities: New Orleans and Detroit” with Laura A. Reese (Michigan State University) Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Meeting (San Antonio, TX, March 2014)

“Preparing the Non-profit Sector for Change: The Budget Control Act of 2011” with E. Miles Wilson (Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University) Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Meeting (San Francisco, CA, April 2013)

“Disaster Recovery in Black and White: A Comparison of New Orleans and Gulfport.” Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Meeting (Pittsburgh, PA, April 2012)

“Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is: Is Intensive Investment Enough in the Wake of Disaster?” Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA, March 2011)

“Economic Recovery Post-Disaster Does Race or Class Matter?” Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Meeting (New Orleans, LA, January 2011)

“Race, Class and Recovery: Louisiana Under Water?” Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Meeting (Chicago, IL, April 2010)

“Beyond New Orleans: Economic Recovery, Class and Race in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina.” Paper presented at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL, March 2009)

“Wade in the Water: Race, Local Government and Hurricane Katrina.” Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA, January 2009)

“The Emerging Policy Role of Faith-Based Organizations in the Low-Income Housing Market.” with Drs. Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore and Richard Hula. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL, August 2007)

“Natural Disasters, Local Economic Development, and the Chocolate City.” with Dr. Laura A. Reese. Paper presented at the American Society of Public Administration Annual Meeting (Washington D.C., March 2007)

“Local Civic Culture: A Comparison of Citizen and Elite Attitudes.” with Drs. Laura A. Reese and Raymond Rosenfeld. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL, April 2006)

“Arts in Education: A Program Analysis.” presented at the Eastern Michigan University Graduate Research Fair (Ypsilanti, MI, March 2005)

### **Invited Presentations**

“Equity in Public Administration” 2021. Invited presentation for the Spring Graduate Colloquium at Northern Illinois University.

“Redistricting Reform and Grassroots Level Advocacy” 2020. Invited presentation for the Chicagoland Scholars Strategy Network chapter.

"Governing without Government: Nonprofit Governance in Detroit and Flint " 2019. Invited presentation for the University of Pittsburgh Center for Social & Urban Research Brown Bag Lecture Series.

“Montcalm County Business Incubator” 2014. Webinar presentation for the University Center for Regional Economic Innovation. Partially funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration through Michigan State University’s Center for Community and Economic Development.

## Teaching Experience

- 2021-Present Associate Professor, University of Memphis  
Graduate Courses Taught: Exploration of Urban Research and Theory, Research Methods in Urban Affairs
- 2017-2021 Associate Professor, Grand Valley State University  
Undergraduate Courses Taught: Public and Nonprofit Administration, Local Politics and Administration, Comparative and International Administration, Community Analysis, Public Policy Analysis and Research  
  
Graduate Courses Taught: Foundations of Public Service, and Public Policy Analysis
- 2011-2017 Assistant Professor, Grand Valley State University  
Undergraduate Courses Taught: Public and Nonprofit Administration, Local Politics and Administration, Comparative and International Administration, Community Analysis, Public Policy Analysis and Research  
  
Graduate Courses Taught: Foundations of Public Service, Public Policy Analysis
- 2008- 2009 Graduate Instructor, Michigan State University  
  
Undergraduate Courses Taught: Public Policy Analysis, Public Bureaucracy in the Public Policy Process, Minority Politics
- 2007 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Michigan State University  
  
Undergraduate Courses Taught: Urban Politics, Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis

## Awards and Grants

- 2020 Recipient: ENACT Faculty Fellowship: The Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation, International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life at Brandeis University (Canceled due to Covid-19 pandemic)
- 2017 Recipient: Russel G. Mawby Fellowship in Philanthropic Studies, Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University
- 2016 Co-Recipient: Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Michigan Applied Public Policy Research Grant Program at Michigan State University
- 2016 Recipient: Russell G. Mawby Fellowship in Philanthropic Studies, Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University
- 2013 Recipient: REI Technical Assistance Grant, Michigan State University
- 2013 Recipient: Dissemination Grant, Grand Valley State University (CSCE)

- 2012 Recipient: Dissemination Grant, Grand Valley State University (CSCE)
- 2012 Recipient: Travel Grant, Grand Valley State University (FTLC)
- 2010 Recipient: Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Michigan State University
- 2009 Recipient: Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association
- 2006 Recipient: Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Traveling Scholar Grant
- 2005 Author: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant (\$80,300)

**Professional Activities and Memberships**

- Scholars Strategy Network, Former State Co-Chair for Michigan
- Consultative Panel, MSU Center for Community and Economic Development
- American Political Science Association, Member
- Midwest Political Science Association, Member
- Southern Political Science Association, Member
- Urban Affairs Association, Member
- International City/County Managers Association, Member
- American Society of Public Administrators, Michigan Capital Area Chapter, Member
- Pi Alpha Alpha, Public Administration Honor Society, Eastern Michigan University
- Phi Kappa Phi, Graduate Honor Society, Eastern Michigan University

Reviewer for: Choice, American Review of Public Administration, Journal of Public Policy, Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs, Public Integrity, Journal of Urban Affairs, Population and Environment, Cities, State and Local Government Review, SN Social Sciences, Cities, Public Administration Review, and Local Government Studies

**Professional, University, and Community Service**

- August 2021- June 2022 Daniel Elazar Distinguished Federalism Scholar Award Committee, American Political Science Association Federalism Section.
- August 2021- June 2022 Bryan Jackson Dissertation Research Award Committee, American Political Science Association Urban and Local Politics Section
- August 2021- Present Scholar Development Editor, Urban Affairs Association (Journal of Urban Affairs and Journal of Race, Ethnicity and The City)
- January 2021- Present Associate Editor, Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs



April 2020- April 2021 College Personnel Committee, College of Community and Public Service, Grand Valley State University

January 2020- April 2021 Human Rights Advisory Council Member, Brooks College for Interdisciplinary Studies, Grand Valley State University

August 2019- September 2020 Section Co-Chair for the American Political Science Association's Urban and Local Politics Section

September 2019-April 2021 State Co-Chair, Scholars Strategy Network

August 2018- August 2020 Alma H. Young Emerging Scholar Award Committee, Urban Affairs Association

September 2016-April 2021 Member, External Relations Committee, School of Public Nonprofit and Health Administration

September 2014-April 2021 Committee Head, MPA Graduate Program Committee, School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration

April 2014- April 2017 Consultant, America's Best Communities Rural Economic Development Competition

October 2013- November 2019 Member (and Chair) of Housing Commission, City of East Lansing

January 2013- January 2014 Faculty Advisor, Pencils of Promise Campus Club, Grand Valley State University

September 2012- April 2014 Member, Evaluation Committee, School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration at Grand Valley State University

September 2011- May 2016 Member, College Curriculum Committee, Grand Valley University

September 2011- April 2014 Member, Adjunct Teaching Committee, School of Public, Nonprofit, and Health Administration at Grand Valley State University

January 2010- June 2017 Secretary and Board Member, Michigan Capital Area Chapter of the American Society of Public Administrators

September Graduate Advisory Committee, Department of Political Science at Michigan State  
2007-May University  
2008

References available upon request.