

Eric L. McDaniel

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Education

Ph.D. University of Illinois, Political Science, 2004

M.A. University of Illinois, Political Science, 2000

B.A. Wilberforce University, Political Science, 1998

Research

Books

McDaniel, Eric L., Irfan Nooruddin and Allyson F. Shortle. 2022. *The Everyday Crusade: Religious Nationalism in American Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

McDaniel, Eric L. 2008. *Politics in the Pews: The Political Mobilization of Black Churches*. University of Michigan Press.

Journal Articles

Perry, Samuel, Eric L. McDaniel, Allyson F. Shortle, and Joshua Grubbs. 2025. “White or Woke Christian Nationalists? How Race Moderates the Link Between Christian Nationalism and Progressive Identities.” *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

Perry, Samuel and Eric L. McDaniel. 2023. “Must Religious Nationalism Divide?: Race, Government-Supported Religion, and Views of Political Solidarity and Compromise.” *Social Science Quarterly*.

Andrew, Lewis and Eric L. McDaniel. 2023. “Experimenting with Support for Religious Freedom.” *PS: Political Science and Politics*.

Liu, Amy H., Michael G. Findley, David Leal, Raul Madrid, Eric L. McDaniel, God’swill Osa, Tasha Philpot, Brooke Shannon, Zeynep Somer-Topcu, and Chris Wlezien. 2023. “Normalizing Diversity in Merit Review Forms.” *PS: Political Science and Politics*.

Philpot, Tasha S. and Eric L. McDaniel. 2020. “Black Religious Belief Systems and Political Participation.” *National Review of Black Politics*.

McDaniel, Eric L. 2018. “The Prophetic and the Prosperous: Religious Ideologies and the Maintenance of Group Consciousness.” *Political Research Quarterly*.

McDaniel, Eric and Kenneth Miller. 2018. “The Gospel of Health Reform: The Social Gospel and Attitudes towards Health Care Reform.” *Politics and Religion*.

McDaniel, Eric, Maraam A. Dwidar, and Hadill Calderon. 2018. “The Faith of Black Politics: The Relationship between Religious Belief Systems and Black Political Attitudes.” *Journal of Black Studies*.

McDaniel, Eric L. 2016. "What Kind of Christian Are You?: Religious Ideologies and Political Attitudes." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

McDaniel, Eric L., Irfan Nooruddin and Allyson Shortle. 2016. "National Pride and the Boundaries of American Citizenship." *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*.

McDaniel, Eric L., Irfan Nooruddin, and Allyson Shortle. 2011. "Divine Boundaries: How Religion Shapes Citizens' Attitudes Toward Immigrants." *American Politics Research*.

McDaniel, Eric L. and Christopher G. Ellison. 2008. "God's Party? Race, Religion, and Partisanship over Time." *Political Research Quarterly*.

Shaw, Todd C. and Eric L. McDaniel. 2007. "Whosoever Will': Black Theology, Homosexuality, and the Black Political Church." *National Political Science Review*.

McClerking, Harwood K. and Eric L. McDaniel. 2005. "Belonging and Doing: Political Churches and Black Political Participation." *Political Psychology*.

McDaniel, Eric and Harwood McClerking. 2005. "Who Belongs? Understanding How Socioeconomic Stratification Shapes the Characteristics of Black Political Church Members." *National Political Science Review*.

McDaniel, Eric L. 2003. "Black Clergy in the 2000 Election." *Journal for Scientific Study of Religion*.

Invited Journal Articles

McDaniel, Eric L. 2026. "Poisoned Fruit from a Toxic Tree: Christian Nationalism as the Legacy of Slaveholding Christianity." *Currents in Theology and Mission*.

McDaniel, Eric L. 2013. "The Black Church and Defining the Political." *Politics, Groups, and Identities*.

Book Chapters

McDaniel, Eric L. "Bibles, Bullets, and Ballots: The Role of Sovereign Religious Freedom & Civic Freedom in American Public Opinion." in *From Political Divisions to Regime Threat?: American Democracy and Cleavages in Comparative Perspective*. Edited by Robert C. Lieberman, Suzanne Mettler, and Kenneth M. Roberts (under review).

McDaniel, Eric L., Sarah Heise, Abraham Barranca. 2024. "Religion, White Masculinity Threat and Support for President Trump" in *Religion in the Era of Trump*. Edited by Anand Sokhey and Paul Djupe. University of Pennsylvania Press.

Jones, Bryan and Eric McDaniel. "Bounded Rationality and the Politics of Race and Ethnicity." in *The Blackwell Handbook of Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism* (2015).

McDaniel, Eric L. "The Black Church in the 2004 Election" in *A Matter of Faith? Religion in the 2004 Election*. Edited by David E. Campbell (2007).

Djupe, Paul A., Eric L. McDaniel, and Jacob R. Neiheisel. 2007. "The Politics of the Religious Minorities Vote in the 2004 Elections." in *Religion and the Bush Presidency*. Edited by Mark J. Rozell and Gleaves Whitney (2007).

McDaniel, Eric L. “African Methodist Episcopal Church” in *Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the Millennium*. Edited by Corwin Smidt (2004).

McDaniel, Eric L. “Church of God in Christ” in *Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the Millennium*. Edited by Corwin Smidt (2004).

Book Reviews

McDaniel, Eric L. Review: *The Other Black Church: Alternative Christian Movements and the Struggle for Black Freedom*. by Joseph L. Tucker Edmonds. *Sociology of Religion* (forthcoming).

McDaniel, Eric L. Review: *Race to the Bottom: How Racial Appeals Work in American Politics*. by LaFleur Stephens-Dougan. *National Review of Black Politics* (April 2021).

McDaniel, Eric L. “A Conversation Starter: A Review of American Grace How Religion Divides and Unites Us.” by Robert D. Putnam and David E. Campbell. *Politics and Religion* (July 2011).

McDaniel, Eric L. “Review of *Righteous Content: Black Women’s Perspectives of Church and Faith*” by Daphne C. Wiggins and *Between Sundays: Black Women and Everyday Struggles of Faith* by Marla F. Frederick. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (May 2006).

McDaniel, Eric L. “Review of *Cultural Dilemmas of Progressive Politics: Styles of Engagement Among Grassroots Activists*” by Stephen Hart. *Sociology of Religion* (Spring 2003).

Other Publications (Non-Peer Reviewed)

McDaniel, Eric L. “What MAHA and Black Politics Have in Common.” *The Christian Recorder* (July 29, 2026) [\[link\]](#)

Perry, Samuel L. and Eric L. McDaniel. “Why ‘Woke’ Is A Convenient Republican Dog Whistle.” *Time* (January 2023) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Talk of ‘Christian nationalism’ is getting a lot louder – but what does the term really mean?” (November 2022) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “For Richer or Poorer: Prosperity Gospel Misleads on Needs.” *Newsweek* (September 2022) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Perceptions of Threat to White Masculinity and COVID-19 in Texas.” *The Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas at Austin* (September 2020) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “The Republican convention was an altar call at the Church of White Masculinity.” *Salon* (September 2020) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Why Are People Dying to Go to Church?” *Sojourners* (June 2020) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Lt. Gov. Patrick, which God should we turn to?” *Austin American Statesman* (June 2020) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Myths about Martin Luther King Jr. damage and diminish his legacy.” *Salon* (January 2020) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. and Maraam A. Dwidar. “Understanding the future of Black politics means understanding the future of the Black church.” London School of Economics US Centre (April 2019) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “The Theology of American Exceptionalism.” US Election Analysis 2016: Media, Voters and the Campaign, Centre for the Study of Journalism, Culture and Community, Bournemouth University (November 2016) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Religious Feelings Could Sway the Vote in the 2016 Election.” The Conversation (October 2016) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “Religious ideologies should not be used as a campaign tool.” Austin American Statesman (August 2016) [\[link\]](#)

McDaniel, Eric L. “The Black Church must Stand, Confront its Internal Attackers.” Fort Worth Star Telegram (July 2015) [\[link\]](#)

Conferences Organized

Racialized Religion: A Conference on the Intersection of Race, Religion, and Politics. March 2007, University of Texas at Austin.

Working Papers and Book Manuscripts

McDaniel, Eric L. *The Prophetic and the Prosperous: The Social Gospel, Prosperity Gospel, and American Politics* (book manuscript).

Media Appearances

The Wheelhouse, Connecticut Public Radio, March 2023

Digging into the Culture Radio Show, Host, 2021–2022

Findings from the 12th Annual American Values Survey, Brookings Webinar, Panelist, November 2021

Minnesota Public Radio News, November 2020

India Today, November 2020

Texas U.S. Senate Debate, KXAN, October 2020

Spectrum News, February, October, & November 2020

The Wake Up Call with Kenneth Thompson, September 2019 & October 2020

The American Ingredient Podcast, 2018–present

KTBC Fox 7 Good Day Austin, July 2012

Commentary on Health Care Reform, UrbanFaith.com, April 2010

In Black America, September 2008

News 8 Austin Texas Primary Coverage, March 2008

Fellowships, Grants and Honors

Rutgers University, (De)Racing Policing and Security Project, 2022–present

University of Texas at Austin, Texas Mindset Initiative Fellow, 2021

Public Religion Research Institute, Luce Public Fellow, August 2019–2021

University of Texas at Austin, Provost’s Author’s Fellowship, June 2019–August 2020

University of Texas at Austin, Graduate Mentor of the Year, 2016

National Science Foundation, Award No. SES-1061245, September 2011–August 2013 (\$40,000)

University of Texas at Austin, Silver Spurs Centennial Teaching Fellowship, 2012

Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Fellowship, August 2008–July 2010

National Science Foundation Minority Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, August 2006–July 2007 (\$60,000)

University of Texas, Faculty Research Assignment, 2006

University of Texas, Summer Research Assignment, 2006

University of Illinois, Department of Political Science Curris Research Award, 2003–2004 (\$500)

University of Notre Dame, African and African-American Studies Program Dissertation Fellowship, 2002

University of Illinois, Department of Political Science Samuel K. Gove Fellowship, 2002

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Constant H. Jacquet Research Award, 2002–2003 (\$2,000)

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Research Grant, August 2002–May 2003 (\$2,000)

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research Training Grant, 2001

Teaching Excellence, 2001

University of Illinois Conference Travel Grant, 2000, 2001, 2002

University of Illinois Minority Fellowship, 1998

Academic Positions

2025– PRRI Affiliated Scholar

2025– Non-Resident Fellow, Religion and Public Policy Program, Baker Institute, Rice University

2025 Reply All Champion, Department of Government, March

2023– Professor, Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin

- 2022– Fellow, (De)Racing National Security and Policing, Center for Security, Race and Rights, Rutgers University
- 2020– Co-director, PRE Lab, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2010–2023 Associate Professor, Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2016– Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Urban Policy Research and Analysis, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2015– Faculty Research Associate, Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2008–2010 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Scholar, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley
- 2004– Faculty Affiliate, John L. Warfield Center for African and African American Studies, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2004–2010 Assistant Professor, Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2004–2004 Lecturer, Center for African and African American Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

Invited Speeches and Presentations

- Oxford University, Wadham College, May 2026
- Rice University, Department of Political Science, February 2026
- Cornell University, American Democracy Collaborative Project, May 2025
- Princeton University, Department of Politics, March 2025
- Rice University, Department of Religious Studies, February 2025
- Stanford University, Department of Religious Studies, February 2025
- Texas Tribune Festival, Panel on Church and State, September 2024
- Furman University, Tocqueville Center, September 2023
- University of Louisville, McConnell Center, February 2023
- Yale University Sociology, October 2022
- University of Indiana Bloomington O'Neill School, September 2022
- University of Michigan Ann Arbor Political Science, March 2022
- University of California San Diego American Politics Workshop, January 2019
- Collin College, "African American History Month," February 2018
- University of Notre Dame Department of Government, November 2017

Texas Department of State Health Services Community Health Services Section, “Addressing Disparities: Maximizing Access to Health Care,” August 2015

Texas A&M University, Project for Equity, Representation and Governance, April 2015

Texas Department of State Health Services, African American Heritage Committee, February 2015

Stanford University, Department of Political Science, May 2014

Washington University St. Louis Distinguished Visiting Scholars Program, September 2011

Princeton University Luce Speaker Series, April 2010, 2011

Presentation for the Third Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, April 2010

Stanford University American Politics Workshop, May 2010

Claremont Graduate University, April 2009

Austin Area Interreligious Ministries Panel on Race, Religion, and the Election, May 2008

Address to the Eighth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, May 2008

Religious Communicators Council, May 2008

Courses Taught

Graduate

Comparative Groups and Nations Social Policy

Institutions and Governmental Processes Racial and Ethnic Politics

Interest Groups and Collective Action

Undergraduate

Introduction to American Government

Black Political Participation

The Politics of Health Care

The Black Church in African American Politics

Race and Sports

Introduction to Public Policy

Student Service

Dissertation Committees

Da Sul Kim, Georgetown University
God'swill Osa, University of Texas
Sarah Heise, University of Texas
Katie Madel, University of Texas
Osman Khalid, University of Texas
Maraam Dwidar, University of Texas
Rebecca Eissler, University of Texas

Daron Hanson, University of Texas
JoBeth Shafran, University of Texas
Taofang Huang, University of Texas
Allyson Shortle, The Ohio State University
Joshua Blank, University of Texas
Jerrod Patterson, University of Texas
Luke Perez, University of Texas

Master's Thesis Committees

Erin Byrd, University of Texas
Ernest McGowen, University of Texas

Honors Thesis Supervision

Luke Bellinger, 2025	Spencer Chang, Spring 2022
Jennifer Brantley, 2025	Natalie Bergen, Spring 2020
Angelina Edel, 2025	Emily Adams, Spring 2014
Augustine Deramo, 2024	Meredith Shyttles, Spring 2007

Undergraduate Conference Courses

Sam Parsons, Summer 2005

Departmental Service

Archer Program Candidate Interviews, 2025
Government Department Minority Liaison, 2013–present
Government Department Executive Committee, 2013–2015, 2024–present
Financial Aid, 2008, 2025
Graduate Admissions, 2005, 2013
Latino Politics Search Committee, 2004

University Service

Faculty Leaves & Awards Committee, 2024–present
McReynolds and Kirkpatrick Memorial Award in Pre-Medical Studies, 2023–2025

Bridging Disciplines Program, Public Policy Chair, 2023–present

Advisory Council for Bridging Disciplines Program, 2014–present

Liberal Arts Council Sponsored Election Debate, 2008

Longhorn Scholars Committee, 2007

Explore UT, 2005, 2006

Faculty/Staff Mentor Program, 2006

Discipline Service

American National Election Study, 2026–

Section Co-Chair for the Race and Ethnicity Section of the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2017 & 2022

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Treasurer, 2021–present

Southern Political Science Association Strategic Planning Committee, 2021–present

Social Science Research Council Religion, Spirituality, and Democratic Renewal Program, Selection Committee, 2020–present

Section Head for the Politics and Religion Section of the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2008, 2017

Editorial Board for the Journal of Racial and Ethnic Politics, 2014–present

Midwest Political Science Association Executive Council, 2013–2014

Southwest Political Science Association Executive Committee, 2013

Western Political Science Association Committee for the Status of Blacks in the Profession, 2012–2014

Midwest Political Science Association Nominating Committee, 2012

Editorial Board for the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, 2012–2015, 2017–present

Section Chair for Religion and Politics Section of the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, 2012 & 2023

American Political Science Association Committee for the Status of Blacks in the Profession, 2010–2013

Nominating Committee for the Midwest Political Science Association, 2010

Reviewer for Journal of Politics, Political Research Quarterly, American Politics Research, Political Behavior, Political Psychology, and the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion

Professional and Public Service

College Board, Advanced Placement Exam Development Committee Member

- African American Studies 2024-present
- United States Government and Politics 2019-2023

Expert Witness, *La Union del Pueblo Entero v. Abbott*, No. 5:21-CV-844 (W.D. Tex., 2022)