GABRIELE GRATTON

Professor of Politics and Economics, UNSW Sydney
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ACADEMIC CAREER

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor, UNSW Sydney (2022 – present)

Australian Research Council Future Fellow (2022 – 2026)

Scientia Associate Professor, UNSW Sydney (2019 – 2021)

Senior Lecturer (with Tenure), UNSW Sydney (2015 – 2018)

Lecturer (Assistant Professor), UNSW Sydney (2011 – 2015)

VISITING AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Director and founder, UNSW Resilient Democracy Lab, UNSW Sydney (2021 – present)

Research Fellow, Centre for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR) (2025 – present)

Research Fellow, PERICLES: Political Economics of Reforms, Institutional Complexity, and Legislative Evaluation Studies, Bocconi University (2021 – present)

Associate Researcher, Institute of Global Finance (2024 – present)

Visiting Professor, Department of Economics and Finance, University of Rome Tor Vergata (Oct. 2024)

Visitor, EIEF, Rome (Nov – Dec. 2019)

Visiting Scholar, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago (Oct. – Nov. 2019)

Visiting Scholar, Department of Political Science, Columbia University (Sept. – Dec. 2014)

EDITORIAL BOARDS

Editorial board, *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* (2026 – present)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2011
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Political Economy and Information*
Dissertation Committee: Laurent Bouton, Sambuddha Ghosh, Bart Lipman

M.Sc., Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK, 2006

B.A. (Laurea), Economics *(110/110 e lode)*, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy, 2005

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Targeted Persuasion" (with Christopher Teh and DJ Thornton)
American Economic Journal: Microeconomics (forthcoming)

From Gridlock to Polarization?" (with Marc S. Jacob and Barton E. Lee)
The Economic Journal (forthcoming)

"Bad Democracy Traps" (with Barton E. Lee and Hasin Yousaf)
The Economic Journal (forthcoming)

"Drain the Swamp: A Theory of Anti-Elite Populism" (with Barton E. Lee)
Journal of Public Economics, 259: 105682 (2026)

"The Rise and Fall of Technocratic Democracies: Unstable Majorities and Delegation to Technocrats" (with Jacob Edenhofer)
Journal of European Public Policy (forthcoming)

"Liberty, Security, and Accountability: The Rise and Fall of Illiberal Democracies" (with Barton E. Lee)
Review of Economic Studies, 91(1): 340–371 (2024)

"Optimal Checks and Balances Under Policy Uncertainty" (with Massimo Morelli),
International Economic Review, 63(2): 549–569 (2022)

"Political Capital" (with Richard Holden and Barton E. Lee)
Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization, 38(3): 632–674 (2022)

"From Weber to Kafka: Political Instability and the Overproduction of Laws" (with Luigi Guiso, Claudio Michelacci, and Massimo Morelli)
American Economic Review, 111(9): 2964–3003 (2021)

"Intimidation: Linking Negotiation and Conflict" (with Sambuddha Ghosh and Caixia Shen)
International Economic Review, 60(4): 1589–1618 (2019)

"Render unto Caesar: Taxes, Charity, and Political Islam" (with Maleke Fourati and Pauline Grosjean)
European Economic Review, 119: 114–146 (2019)

"When to Drop a Bombshell" (with Richard Holden and Anton Kolotilin)
Review of Economic Studies, 85(4): 2139–2172 (2018)

"Majority Runoff Elections: Strategic Voting and Duverger's Hypothesis" (with Laurent Bouton)
Theoretical Economics, 10(2): 283–314 (2015)

"Euclidean Fairness and Efficiency" (with Anton Kolotilin)
Economic Inquiry, 53(3): 1689–1690 (2015)

"The Sound of Silence: Political Accountability and Libel Law"
European Journal of Political Economy: 37: 266–279 (2015)

"Pandering and Electoral Competition"
Games and Economic Behavior, 84: 163–179 (2014)

BOOK CHAPTERS

"Politics, Religion, and the Evolution of the Welfare State" (with Maleke Fourati and Federico Masera), in ***The Economics of Religion*** (ed. Robert M. Sauer), World Scientific (2023)

WORKING PAPERS

"Adding Fuel to the (Gun)Fire: How Politicians Polarize the Public Debate' (with Lehan Zhang, Pauline Grosjean and Hasin Yousaf)
CEPR Discussion Paper No. 19896

"Market Power *Is* Power" (with Barton E. Lee)
CEPR Discussion Paper No. 21652

"Moderating Conflicts with Radical Hardliners" (with Bettina Klose)

REVIEWS AND EDITORIALS

Book Review: ""Shared Prosperity in a Fractured World: A New Economics for the Middle Class, the Global Poor, and Our Climate, by Dani Rodrik (Princeton University Press, Princeton, US, 2025), pp. 280", ***Economic Record***, forthcoming

Editorial: "Introduction to the Special Issue Political Games: Strategy, Persuasion, and Learning" (with Galina Zudenkova), ***Games***, 11(1): 10 (2020)

Book Review: "Collective Action and Exchange: A Game Theoretic Approach to Contemporary Political Economy", by William D. Ferguson, ***Journal of Economic Psychology***, 42: 192–193 (2014)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARS

MAJOR GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

ARC Discovery Project: ($214,056) "The Economics of (Mis)Information in the Age of Social Media", 2024–2028 (with Anton Kolotilin, Lionel Page, and Hongyi Li)

ARC Future Fellowship: ($1,013,480) "Resilient Democracy for the 21st Century", 2022-2025

UNSW Scientia Program: ($160,000), 2019-2022

ARC Discovery Project: ($139,000) "Legitimacy and Representation: A Comprehensive Study of Electoral Systems and Strategic Voting Behaviour", 2014–2016 (with Carlos Pimienta and Marco Faravelli)

AWARDS

AEJ:Microeconomics Excellence in Reviewing Award, 2024

Oliver Williamson Best Conference Paper Award, Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (SIOE), 2021

UNSW Business School Outstanding Research Award (Associate Professor), 2019

UNSW Business School Non-Professorial Research Achievement Award 2014

OTHER GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

BSRG: ($24,852) "Political Reputation and the Evolution of Bureaucracy, 2018

ASB Research Grant: ($7,100) "Media, Defamation, and Corruption", 2013/2014

ASB Research Grant: ($9,058) "Understanding Terrorism: Fear and Reputation", 2012

ASB Travel Grants, 2012-2013

Special Research Fellowship, Boston University, Fall 2010

Summer Research Grant, Boston University, Summer 2010

Travel Grant, Boston University IED, Summer 2010

Dean's Fellowship, Boston University, Fall 2006 – Spring 2011

Erasmus Program Scholarship, Swiss Confederation, Spring 2005

Merit Award, University of Rome Tor Vergata, 2005

Fees Exemption for Merit, University of Rome Tor Vergata, 2002 – 2004

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

KEYNOTE AND PUBLIC ADDRESSES

Keynote Speaker: UniCatt 1st Political Economy Workshop, Milan, 2023

Keynote Address: 14th Australasian Public Choice Conference, Deakin University, Melbourne, 2023

NSW Treasury ESP Distinguished Speaker Series, 2 May 2023

INVITED SEMINARS

2026/27 University of Western Australia

2025/26 Deakin University, UCLA, Yale

2024/25 Collegio Carlo Alberto, Harris School of Public Policy, LUISS, National University of Singapore, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney

2023/24 Australian National University, Emory University, POLECONUK Webinar

2022/23 Monash University, University of Maryland, University of Rome Tor Vergata, University of Utah, University of Warwick

2021/22 Monash University, NUS-HKBU-NTU-CEIBS joint Political Economy Seminar

2020/21 Ashoka University, Bilkent University, CUNEF, Formal Theory Society Virtual Workshop, Georgetown University, Oz Virtual Economics Research Seminar

2019/20 Harris School of Public Policy, Purdue University, University of Innsbruck

2018/19 Australian National University, London School of Economics and Political Science, University of Lausanne HEC, University of Cagliari, University of Geneva, University of Queensland, University of Warwick

2017/18 Australian National University, Bocconi University, Harris School of Public Policy, Oslo Business School, Stanford University, UC Irvine, University of Melbourne, University of Oregon, University of Padua, University of Sydney

2016/17 Harris School of Public Policy

2015/16 Deakin University, University of Technology Queensland, University of Queensland

2014/15 Columbia University, European University Institute, Massey University & University of Auckland, University of Adelaide, University of Mannheim, University of Montreal

2013/14 Australian National University, Columbia University, Curtin University, Georgetown University, University of Oxford Blavatnik School of Government, University of Western Australia

2012/13 Boston University, Queensland University of Technology, Reserve Bank of Australia, University of Queensland

2011/12 CERGE-EI, ECARES, University of Rome Tor Vergata, University of Technology Sydney

2010/11 Australian National University, Central European University, Monash University, Sciences Po Paris, Suffolk University, UC Davis, University of New South Wales

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

14th Annual Conference of the Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science, Sydney, 2026

15th IBEO Workshop—Political Economy, Alghero, 2026

Benelux PECO, Luxembourg, 2026

UniCatt 2nd Political Economy Workshop, Milan, 2025

Conference of the Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (SIOE), Sydney, 2025

Social Conflict and Political Economy Workshop, Sydney, 2025

Australasian Economic Theory Workshop, UNSW, Sydney, 2025

Bocconi-CarloAlberto-Cornell Political Economy Workshop, Milan, 2024

Conference of the Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (SIOE), Chicago, 2024

Australian Conference of Economists, Adelaide, 2024

Munich Center on Governance (MCG) workshop, Victims of their own success? How successful liberal orders become self-undermining, Munich (Online), 2024

12th IBEO Workshop—Political Economy, Alghero, 2023

6th ETH/CEPR Workshop on Democracy, ETH Zurich, 2023

The Political Economy of Democratic Backsliding conference at Columbia University, New York 2023

Conference of the Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics (SIOE), (Online) 2021

European Political Science Association, (Online) 2021

Australian Political Economy Workshop, UNSW Sydney, 2021

Australian Political Economy Workshop, Adelaide, 2019

Australasian Economic Theory Workshop, UTS, Sydney, 2019

2019 Allied Social Sciences Associations, Atlanta, GA, 2019

Australasian Public Choice Conference, RMIT, Melbourne, Victoria, 2018

32nd Annual Congress of the European Economic Association, Lisbon, Portugal, 2017

BFI Economics of Media and Communications Conference, Chicago, IL, 2016

Econometric Society Australasian Meetings, Sydney, NSW, 2016

Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings, Philadelphia, PA, 2016

9th Annual Organisational Economics Workshop, Sydney, NSW 2015

Econometric Society Australasian Meetings, Hobart, Tasmania, 2014

13th Conference of the Association for Public Economic Theory, Lisbon, Portugal, 2013

17 th Annual Conference, International Society for New Institutional Economics, Florence, Italy, 2013

Australasian Economic Theory Workshop, Brisbane, Queensland, 2013

Econometric Society North American Winter Meetings, San Diego, CA, 2013

Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings, Evanston, IL, 2012

11th Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet, Marseille, France, 2012

The Behavioural Economics of Optimistic Expectations, Welfare, and Policy, Sydney, NSW, 2012

UNSW Econ Workshop: Development Challenges in a South Asian Context, 2011

21st Stony Brook Game Theory Festival of the Game Theory Society, Workshop on Political Economy, Stony Brook University, 2010

11th Conference of the Association for Public Economic Theory, Istanbul, Turkey, 2010

9th Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet, Marseille, France, 2010

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

REFEREE AND GUEST EDITOR SERVICES

Guest editor:

Games, Special Issue "Political Games: Strategy, Persuasion, and Learning"

Referee (number of new submissions):

American Economic Review (3), *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* (13), *American Journal of Political Science* (6), *American Political Science Review* (4), *Australian Economic Review*, *B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics*, *Constitutional Political Economy*, *Econometrica* (2), *Economica*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Journal* (5), *Economic Record*, *Economics & Politics*, *Economic Theory*, *Economics Letters*, *European Economic Review*, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, *European Journal of Political Economy* (9), *Experimental Economics* (4), *Games* (2), *Games and Economic Behavior* (13), *International Economic Review*, *International Journal of Game Theory*, *International Review of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Comparative Economics* (2), *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* (4), *Journal of Economic Theory* (4), *Journal of the European Economic Association* (7), *Journal of Law & Economics* (8), *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization* (4), *Journal of Political Economy* (5), *Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics*, *Journal of Politics* (2), *Journal of Public Economics* (9), *Journal of Mathematical Economics*, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, *Management Science*, *Mathematical Social Sciences*, *Political Science Research and Methods* (4), *Political Studies Review*, *Public Choice* (3), *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (3), *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* (2), *RAND Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Design*, *Review of Economic Studies* (6), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Social Choice and Welfare* (3), *Theoretical Economics* (3), *Theory and Decision*.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Australian Political Economy Network:

- Founder and Scientific Committee, 2014–2025
- Advisory Board, 2025–present

Australian Research Council, Assessor, 2014–present

ARC-EOI Grant Coordinator, School of Economics, UNSW, 2024–present

SIOE 2025 Conference Committee

Programme Committee member, 2023–2025 Annual Congress of the European Economic Association

APEN Special Sessions, Australian Conference of Economists, 2024

Area Coordinator for 'Political Economy', 2023 Australasian Meeting of the Econometric Society

Program Committee member, 2022 Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia Annual Symposium

SIOE 2022 Executive Committee, 2021-2022

Scientific Committee member, 14th Organisational Economics Workshop in Australia, 2020

Postgraduate Research Coordinator, School of Economics, UNSW, 2017–2019

Organizer, UNSW-UQ Political Economy Workshop, Sydney 2014 and 2016

Conference Committee Member, 2014 Econometric Society Australasian Meetings, Hobart, Tasmania

Research Visibility Officer, School of Economics, UNSW, 2013-2016

UNSW Economic Theory Workshop Convenor, 2012/2013

Created and organized, jointly with Guillem Riambau Armet, the BU Political Economy Research Group

TEACHING AND RESEARCH SUPERVISION

RESEARCH SUPERVISION

PhD Supervision

Daniel J. Thornton (2025) – Postdoctoral Fellow, Manos Institute for Cognitive Economics

Ian Hoefer Martí (2025)

Barton E. Lee (2021) – Assistant Professor, ETH Zurich (via Magdalen College, U of Oxford)

Maleke Fourati (2017) – Associate Professor, Mediterranean School of Business (via U of Geneva)

Honours Thesis Supervision

Kyler Blackburn (current)

Lehan Zhang (2023) – ETH Zurich PhD

Dominic Bahrens (2021) – Deloitte Access Economics

Christopher Burnitt (2020, University Medal) – University of Warwick PhD

Jack Buckley (2019, University Medal) – e61 Institute

Binal Dodhia (2017) – Reinsurance Group of America

Nicholas Young (2015) – NSW Treasury

PHD THESIS EXAMINATION

Matheus Thompson Bandeira, Simon Fraser

Alireza Mohammadi Sepahvand, Monash

TEACHING

Graduate/Honours

Political Economics (with Pauline Grosjean), UNSW, Semester 2 2012–13

Advanced Economic Analysis (with Carlos Pimienta), UNSW, Semester 1 2014–18, T1 2019–21

Honours Thesis Seminar, UNSW, T2 2020

Undergraduate

Politics and Economics, UNSW, Semester 2 2012–13, 2015–16, Semester 1 2017–18, (with Federico Masera) T2 2019–21, T1 2026

Game Theory and Business Strategy (with Carlos Pimienta), UNSW, Semester 1 2013–19

Economics of Legal Issues, Boston University, Summer 2011

Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis, Boston University, Spring 2010 and 2009, Fall 2009, Summer 2009 and 2008.

Teaching Fellow During PhD

Introductory Microeconomic Analysis, Boston University, Fall 2008, Fall 2007

Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis, Boston University, Spring 2008

OTHER

PREDOCTORAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Prof. Laurent Bouton, Spring 2011

Lecturer, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2009 – 2010

Assistant, European Office, University of Rome Tor Vergata, 2003 – 2004

CITIZENSHIP: ITALY, AUSTRALIA

THIS VERSION: SEPTEMBER 2026