

# Cadence Willse

<https://cadencewillse.github.io>

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The College of New Jersey ◊ 2000 Pennington Rd.◊ Ewing, NJ 0862

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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### The College of New Jersey

Associate Professor, Political Science

Assistant Professor, Political Science

June 2025 - present

September 2020 - June 2025

### Stanford University

Postdoctoral Fellow, Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society

September 2019 - 2020

## EDUCATION

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### Brown University

Ph.D. in Political Science, *May 2019*

M.A., Political Science, *May 2015*

M.A., Education Policy, *May 2013*

### St. Mary's College of Maryland

B.A., Political Science and History *May 2009*

## ACADEMIC AND POLICY PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer Reviewed Publications

Forthcoming: **Willse, C.** (2026). Navigating the Storm: Natural Disasters and the Policy Process *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*.

**Willse, C.** (2025). Fundraising for Schools: Charitable Giving in K-12 Public Education. *Philanthropy and Education*.

**Willse, C.** (2024). State Education Agency Governance, Virtual Learning, and Student Privacy: Lessons From the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Educational Policy*.

**Willse, C.** (2023) The Geography of Giving: Nonprofit Philanthropy, Public Parks and Land Conservation in the United States *Conservation Science and Practice*.

Moffitt, S.L., **Willse, C.**, Smith, K. B., and Cohen, D. K. (2021). Centralization and Subnational Capacity: The Struggle to Make Federalism Work Equitably in Public Education. *Perspectives on Politics*, 1-21.

Kehal, P., **Willse, C.** (2020). Institutional Type, Organizational Pathways, and Student Engagement: Deepening Student Engagement and the Benefit-Use Paradox in Formal Engagement Spaces. *Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education*, 12(1).

### Policy Publications

Moffitt, S.L., Lyddon, M.J., Morel, D., O'Neill, M.K., Smith, K.B., **Willse, C.**, & Cohen, D. K. (2018). State Structures for Instructional Support in California. Technical Report. Getting Down to Facts II. *Policy Analysis for California Education, PACE*.

Moffitt, S.L., Lyddon, M.J., O'Neill, M.K., Smith, K.B., Schenk, M., **Willse, C.**, & Cohen, D. K. (2018). Frontlines Perspectives on Instructional Support in the Common Core Era. Technical Report. Getting Down to Facts II. *Policy Analysis for California Education, PACE*.

### **Book Chapters**

**Willse, C.** (2025) "Parent Teacher Organization's Mobilization and Fundraising in K-12 Education" in Drezner, N (Eds) *Philanthropy and Education*, Palgrave Macmillan.

Moffitt, S.L., O'Neill, M.K., Cohen, D.K. and **Willse, C.**, (2023). "Problems of Overload: Layers and Lacunae" In *Reforming the Reform: Igniting Problems of Policymaking in the Pursuit of School Improvement*. University of Chicago Press.

Moffitt, S.L., O'Neill, M.K., Cohen, D.K. and **Willse, C.**, (2023). "Problems of Isolation: Pockets of Policy-making" In *Reforming the Reform: Igniting Problems of Policymaking in the Pursuit of School Improvement*. University of Chicago Press.

**Willse, C.**, Kehal, P., Johnson, M. (2020). "Social Innovation and Civic Engagement: A Critical Praxis for Engagement in Higher Education." In McBride, A. M., and Mlyn, E. (Eds.). *Connecting Civic Engagement and Social Innovation: Toward Higher Education's Democratic Promise*. Stylus Publishing, LLC.

### **Work in Progress**

Burden or Benefit? Evaluating New Jersey's 2020 Environmental Justice Law  
*Status: preliminary data collection and research design*

From Red to Green: Land Conservation and Direct Democracy in a Polarized Era  
*Status: preparing for submission, work presented at Stanford University's Civil Society and Sustainability Conference (2023) and Midwest Political Science Association Conference (2023)*

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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*Instructor, The College of New Jersey*

### **Undergraduate:**

Introduction to American Government *Fall 2020 - Spring 2023*

Quantitative Research Methods *Fall 2021 - Spring 2023*

Public Policy *Fall 2020 - Fall 2023*

Senior Research Seminar *Spring 2023*

### **Graduate (Master's in Public Policy):**

Public Policy in Theory and Practice *Spring 2023, 2024*

Education Policy *Fall 2023, 2024*

*Instructor, Stanford University*

Digital Civil Society Seminar *Fall 2019*

*Teaching Assistant, Brown University*

The American Presidency *Spring 2016*

Congress: Campaigns and Elections *Fall 2015*

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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Mentored Undergraduate Research Fellow, The College of New Jersey *2024*

Emerging Education Policy Scholar, Thomas B. Fordham Institute, American Enterprise Institute *2020*

Graduate Fellowship in Community Engaged Scholarship, Swearer Center, Brown University *2017 - 2019*

Elmer E. Cornwell, Jr. Fellowship, Brown University *2017 - 2018*

Methods Training Fellowship for ICPSR, Department of Political Science, Brown University *2017*

Belfer Family Graduate Fellowship in Public Policy, Brown University 2016 - 2017  
Mary Tefft and John Hazen White, Sr. Fellowship, Brown University 2013 - 2014  
Spatial Structures in the Social Science Conference Travel Grant, Brown University 2016, 2017, 2018  
Conference Travel Grant, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Brown University 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED SEMINARS

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Environmental Politics and Governance Conference, Université Laval in Québec City 2024  
Civil Society and Sustainability Conference, Stanford University 2023  
Climate Change and the Voluntary Sector Speaker Series 2022  
Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society Seminar, Stanford University 2020  
American Political Science Association 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2024  
Midwest Political Science Associations 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN PUBLIC POLICY

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*Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy*, Research Affiliate 2015 - 2019

- Collected and analyzed data on nonprofit education service providers; data on public communication on Common Core Standards using the Twitter API.
- Designed sampling framework of public school superintendents for interview protocol.
- Published in-depth analysis of California's education system for academic and policy audiences in collaboration with a team of scholars.

*Summer Search Boston*, Development Associate 2009 - 2012

- Increased annual budget by identifying new grant-making organizations and collaborating with the board of directors to target high net worth prospective donors.
- Managed grant-writing process and planned two major fundraising events; exceeded fundraising goals.

## SKILLS

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Technology: R, Stata, SPSS, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

Professional Development: Sheridan Teaching Seminar Certificate in Reflective Teaching 2014 - 2015