

WORK EXPERIENCE	Current	Senior Researcher, Rethink Priorities
	2023-2024	Research Lead, New Power Labs
	2022-2023	Behavioural Science Fellow, Impact and Innovation Unit, Privy Council Office
	2020-2022	Postdoctoral Fellow in Political Methodology, McMaster University Department of Political Science
DEGREES	2020	Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Minnesota Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology Dissertation: The Political Origins of Education Decentralization in Latin America
	2012	Master of Public Policy, The College of William & Mary Fields: Public Policy, International Development
	2010	B.S. in Foreign Service, Georgetown University Fields: International Politics, Latin American Studies
RESEARCH	David Samuels and Thomas R. Vargas. 2023. "Democracy, Rural Inequality, and Education Spending." <i>World Development</i> . https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2022.106136	
	Michelle L. Dion, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, and Thomas R. Vargas. 2022. "Closing the Gender Gap? How Altmetrics Influence Citation Counts for Political Science Journal Articles." <i>International Studies Perspectives</i> . https://doi.org/10.1093/isp/ekac009 .	
	Thomas R. Vargas. 2022. "Decentralization as a Political Weapon: Education Politics in El Salvador and Paraguay." <i>Comparative Politics</i> 55, 1: 23-45. https://doi.org/10.5129/001041522X16382201562711 . · Honorable Mention, Latin American Studies Association Subnational Politics Section Best Paper Award.	
	Thomas R. Vargas. 2020. "Flying Blind: Education Reform in Latin America in the 1990s." <i>International Journal of Education Reform</i> , 30, 1: 39-55. https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1056787920931487 .	
AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS	SSHRC Explore - Standard Research and Creation Grant, McMaster University - CAN\$7,000.	
	Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship 2019 (Top, University-Wide Prize), U of M - US\$25,000.	
	Department of Political Science Dissertation Research Fellowship 2018, U of M - US\$6,000.	
	Five-Year Department of Political Science Summer Fellowship, U of M - US\$40,000.	
	Five-Year Department of Political Science Graduate Studies Fellowship, U of M - US\$113,000.	
OTHER EXPERIENCES	2020 - 2021	Editorial Assistant, <i>American Political Science Review</i> .
	2019 - 2020	Visiting Scholar, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University.
	2016 - 2018	Editorial Assistant, <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> .
	2012 - 2014	Policy and Training Analyst, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, Chile.
SKILLS AND LANGUAGE	Software: STATA, R, L ^A T _E X, JAGS, SQL, Git, Beginner Python	
	Languages: Spanish and English (Native Proficiency), French B2 Level	