

Thad Kousser

Professor and Chair of Political Science at UC San Diego

La Jolla, CA, US

Thad Kousser specializes in American state and national politics, with particular focus on California, and government reform.

Biography

Kousser, who studies American state and national politics, government reform, direct democracy, interest group influence, and how politicians use social media, joined the department in 2003 and has served as chair since 2016. He has authored or edited the books "The Logic of American Politics, 8th Edition" (CQ/Sage, 2018), "Politics in the American States, 11th Edition" (CQ/Sage, 2018), "The Power of American Governors" (Cambridge University Press, 2012), "The New Political Geography of California" (Berkeley Public Policy Press, 2008), "Term Limits and the Dismantling of State Legislative Professionalism" (Cambridge University Press, 2005), and "Adapting to Term Limits: Recent Experiences and New Directions" (Public Policy Institute of California, 2004). His work has also been published in journals such as the American Political Science Review, the Revue Francaise de Science Politique, the Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, Legislative Studies Quarterly, and State Politics and Policy Quarterly. He has been a visiting professor at Stanford University, a 2015 Flinders Fulbright Distinguished Chair at Flinders University in Australia, received UC San Diego's Academic Senate's Distinguished Teaching Award, serves as co-editor of the journal Legislative Studies Quarterly, and has worked as a staff assistant in the California, New Mexico, and United States Senates. Kousser is also a kids soccer coach, an occasional water polo player, an addicted surfer, and an overly competitive triathlete.

Areas of Expertise

Political Reform, State Politics, American Politics, National Politics, California government

Affiliations

Legislative Studies Quarterly : Co-Editor

Education

University of California, Berkeley
Ph.D.

University of California, Berkeley
M.A. Political Science

Harvard University
Summa Cum Laude Government

Accomplishments

Flinders Fulbright Distinguished Chair at Flinders University, Australia
2015

[Please click here to view the full profile.](#)

This profile was created by [Expertfile.](#)