

# DAVID SKARBEK

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## EMPLOYMENT

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### **King's College London**

Senior Lecturer in Political Economy  
Lecturer in Political Economy

*July 2015 – present*  
*September 2012 – June 2015*

### **Duke University**

Searle Visiting Assistant Professor in Political Science

*August 2010 – August 2012*

## EDUCATION

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### **George Mason University**

Ph.D. in Economics  
M.A. in Economics

*2010*  
*2008*

### **San Jose State University**

B.S. in Economics

*2006*

## OTHER AFFILIATIONS

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Global Prisons Research Network, Member

*2014 – present*

Oxford University, Extra-legal Governance Institute, Associate Member

*2013 – present*

Global Crime, Editorial Board Member

*2012 – present*

## RESEARCH INTEREST

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My research uses comparative institutional analysis to examine how extralegal governance institutions form, operate, and evolve, and in particular, how people define and enforce property rights and trade in the absence of effective government.

## BOOK

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**The Social Order of the Underworld: How Prison Gangs Govern the American Penal System.** Oxford University Press, 2014.

- Winner, 2014 Outstanding Publication Award, International Association for the Study of Organized Crime.
- Shortlisted, 2014 Thinking Allowed Ethnography Award, British Sociological Association & the BBC.

Academic Reviews: British Journal of Criminology, Criminal Justice Review, Economic Affairs, ECPR Standing Group on Organised Crime, Global Crime, Independent Review, LSE Review of Books, Public Choice, Punishment & Society, Quarterly Journal of Austrian Economics

Media Reviews and Discussions (selected): The Atlantic, BBC, Business Insider, The Economist, Estado de São Paulo, Forbes, The Independent, Marginal Revolution, The Times (London).

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

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“Criminal Rituals” (with P. Wang) **Global Crime** 16(4) 2015: 288-305.

“Prison Gangs and the Community Responsibility System” (with M. Garrett Roth) **Review of Behavioral Economics** 1(3) 2014: 223-243.

- Discussed in the Wilson Quarterly

- “The Effect of Prison Gang Membership on Recidivism” (with B. Dooley and A. Seals) **Journal of Criminal Justice** 42(3) 2014: 267-275.
- “Why Didn’t Slaves Revolt More Often During the Middle Passage?” (with A. Marcum) **Rationality & Society** 26(2) 2014: 232-262.
- “The Governance Institutions of a Drug Trafficking Organization” (with J. Kostelnik) **Public Choice** 156(1-2) 2013: 95-103.
- “The Industrial Organization of Street Gangs” (with R. Sobel) **Journal of Gang Research** 20(1) 2012: 1-17.
- “Anarchy, Groups, and Conflict: An Experiment on the Emergence of Protective Associations” (with A. Smith and B. Wilson) **Social Choice & Welfare** 38(2) 2012: 325-353.
- “Prison Gangs, Norms, and Organizations” **Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization** 82(1) 2012: 96-109.
- Winner, Emerald Citations of Excellence 2015
  - Winner, FEE Prize for Best Article in Austrian Economics 2013
- “Sweatshops, Opportunity Costs, and Non-Monetary Compensation: Evidence from El Salvador” (with E. Skarbek, B. Skarbek, and E. Skarbek) **American Journal of Economics & Sociology** 71(3) 2012: 539-561.
- “Governance and Prison Gangs” **American Political Science Review** 105(4) 2011: 702-716.
- Reprinted in Transnational Organized Crime (ed. James Sheptycki) Sage Publications, 2014.
  - Discussed on Marginal Revolution
- “What Aid Can’t Do: Reply to Ranis” (with P. Leeson) **Cato Journal** 31(1) 2011: 83-86.
- “Putting the ‘Con’ into Constitutions: The Economics of Prison Gangs” **Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization** 26(2) 2010: 183-211.
- “Criminal Constitutions” (with P. Leeson) **Global Crime** 11(3) 2010: 279-298.
- “Self-Governance in San Pedro Prison” **The Independent Review** 14(4) 2010: 569-585.
- “Alertness, Local Knowledge, and Johnny Appleseed” **Review of Austrian Economics** 22(4) 2009: 415-424.
- “What Can Aid Do?” (with P. Leeson) **Cato Journal** 29(3) 2009: 391-397.
- “F.A. Hayek’s Influence on Nobel Prize Winners” **Review of Austrian Economics** 22(1) March 2009: 109- 112.
- “Market Failure and Natural Disasters: A Reexamination of Anti-Gouging Laws” **Public Contract Law Journal** 37(4) 2008: 771-780.
- “The Price is Right: Regulation, Reputation, and Recovery” (with B. Skarbek) **Dartmouth Law Journal** 6(2) 2008: 235-276.
- “Occupational Licensing and Asymmetric Information: Post-Hurricane Evidence from Florida” **Cato Journal** 28(1) 2008: 71-80.
- “Sweatshops Wages and Third World Living Standards: Are the Jobs Worth the Sweat?” (with B. Powell) **Journal of Labor Research** 27(2) 2006: 263-274.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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- “Polycentrism and Prison Gangs” (with A. Marcum) **The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well Being of Nations**. Upton Forum. Beloit College. 2012.
- “Restricting Reconstruction: Occupational Licensing and Natural Disasters” in **The Political Economy of Hurricane Katrina and Community Rebound**. E. Chamlee-Wright and V.H. Storr (eds). Edward Elgar Publisher. 2010: 72-83.

“Adam’s Apple: Using Johnny Appleseed to Teach the Invisible Hand” (with J. Hall) in **Expanding Teaching and Learning Horizons in Economic Education**. F.G. Mixon, Jr. and R.J. Cebula (eds). Nova Science Publishers. 2009: 199-206.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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Review of Outlaws of the Atlantic: Sailors, Pirates, and Motley Crews in the Age of Sail, by Marcus Rediker **Journal of Economic History** 74(4) 2014: 1238-1239.

Review of The Modern Prison Paradox: Politics, Punishment, and Social Community, by Amy E. Lerman **Public Choice** 161(3-4) 2014: 537-539.

Review Essay of Prisonomics: Behind Bars in Britain’s Failing Prisons, by Vicky Pryce **Economic Affairs** 34(3) 2014: 411-421.

Review of Mafias on the Move: How Organized Crime Conquers New Territories, by Federico Varese **Public Choice** 151(1-2) 2012: 405-407.

## RESEARCH GRANTS

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\$16,500 — Earhart Foundation (for research project on Global Prisons)	2014
\$20,500 — Earhart Foundation (for The Social Order of the Underworld)	2012
\$5,500 — Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Research (for “Governance and Prison Gangs”)	2009

## TEACHING

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Professional Certification: Post-Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice in Higher Education, King’s College London, 2014.

### King’s College London

- Economics of Crime
- Political Economy of Organized Crime (graduate)
- Research Methods for Politics
- Principles of Economics

### Duke University

- The Rule of Law (graduate)
- Analysis of Political Decision Making
- Quantitative Political Analysis

### George Mason University

- Intermediate Microeconomics

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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2014 Shortlisted, Thinking Allowed Ethnography Award, British Sociological Association & the BBC

2014 Winner, Outstanding Publication Award for The Social Order of the Underworld, International Association for the Study of Organized Crime.

2013 FEE Prize, for Best Article in Austrian Economics, given to “Prison Gangs, Norms, and Organizations” (Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization).

2010 Israel M. Kirzner Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Austrian Economics.

2009 Don Lavoie Memorial Essay Contest Winner, Society for the Development of Austrian Economics.

2009 Robert K. Merton Award, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Research.

2008 Roy A. Foulke Award, American Institute for Economic Research.

2008-09 Summer Fellowship, American Institute for Economic Research.

2006 Global Technology Initiative Scholar, San Jose State University.

2004 Winner, James F. Willis Award for Excellence in Economics, San Jose State University

## REFEREE

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American Political Science Review  
American Journal of Political Science  
Comparative Political Studies  
Criminology  
Econ Journal Watch  
European Journal of Law and Economics  
International Economic Review  
International Journal of Business Management and Administration  
Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology  
Journal of Conflict Resolution  
Journal of Comparative Politics  
Journal of Institutional Economics  
Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics  
Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization  
Journal of Private Enterprise  
Journal of Qualitative Criminology & Criminal Justice  
National Science Foundation  
Oxford University Press  
Palgrave Macmillan  
Public Choice  
Rationality & Society  
Review of Austrian Economics  
Review of Behavioral Economics  
Social Sciences  
Templeton Foundation

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