

## Samuel E. Abrams

### Contact Information:

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### Education:

Ph.D., Politics and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2018  
M.A., Economics and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2006  
B.A., History, Columbia College, Columbia University, 1989

### Appointments:

Director, National Center for the Study of Privatization in Education (NCSPE), Teachers College, September 2014 – present  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Columbia University, January 2020 – present  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Education Policy and Social Analysis (EPSA), Teachers College, September 2018 – present  
Instructor, EPSA, January 2015 – May 2018  
Research Associate, NCSPE, September 2011 – August 2014  
Visiting Scholar, Teachers College, September 2008 – August 2011

### Courses Taught or Scheduled to Teach:

Educational Privatization and School Choice (EDPE 4155), Teachers College, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020  
Political Philosophy and Education Policy (EDPP 6540), Teachers College, Summer 2019, Summer 2020  
Politics of Centralization and Decentralization (EDPP 5041), Teachers College, Spring 2020  
American Politics and Education (EDPP 4040), Teachers College, Spring 2021  
Contemporary Civilization I: Plato to Rousseau (CC1101), Columbia College, Fall 2020  
Contemporary Civilization II: Kant to Foucault (CC1102), Columbia College, Spring 2020, Spring 2021

### Books:

*Education and the Commercial Mindset* (Harvard University Press, 2016; paperback, 2018; Chinese translation to be published by Shanghai Education Publishing, 2021)

### Chapters:

“Perspectives on School Vouchers,” in Mark Berends, ed., *Handbook of Research on School Choice*, Second Edition (Routledge, 2020)

“Olika vägar i Norden,” in Alli Klapp, ed., *Utbildningsekonomi: Om lärandets värde* (Natur och Kultur, 2017)

**Peer-Reviewed Articles:**

“The Divergent Paths of France and the United States to Public Education” (in process)

“The Importance of Measuring What Does Not Get Measured,” *NORRAG Special Issue No. 4: New Philanthropy and the Disruption of Global Education* (April 2020): 140-142

“Exit, Voice, and Charter Schools,” *La Revista Jurídica de la Universidad de Puerto Rico*, 88 (3) (May 2019): 895-919

“School Vouchers,” in Bruce Frey, ed., *SAGE Encyclopedia of Research, Measurement, and Evaluation* (SAGE, 2018)

“Technology in Moderation,” *Teachers College Record*, November 4, 2011

**Professional Activity:**

Fellow, National Education Policy Center, Boulder, CO, September 2019 – present  
Commissioner, Health and Education Subcommittee, Resilient Puerto Rico Advisory Commission, January – June 2018

Spencer Fellowship Mentor to Audrey Watters, Columbia Journalism School, September 2017 – May 2018

Consultant, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, 2012-2014, author of indicators on learning time, teacher education, teaching, and professional development for *Education at a Glance*

Referee/Reviewer: Emil Aaltonen Foundation, Bloomsbury Press, Columbia University Press, *Compare, Educational Policy, Educational Researcher*, Harvard Education Press, *Higher Education Quarterly, Interchange*, International Conference on School Choice and Reform, *Journal of Education Policy*, Peter Lang, Teachers College Press, *Teachers College Record*

**Awards and Honors:**

Knight, First Class, Order of the Lion of Finland, awarded by the Finnish government, May 2014, in recognition of advancing the understanding of Finnish education

Coach of the Year, Ice Hockey in Harlem, 2009-2010

Faculty Commencement Speaker, Beacon School, June 2009

Faculty Commencement Speaker, Friends Academy, June 1995

King’s Gold Crown Award, 1989, for service as a volunteer in the Columbia Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, both as a Big Brother to a neighborhood boy for four years and co-director of the program for two

**Research Grants:**

Southern Poverty Law Center, “Pilot Study of Fiscal Impact of Private School Vouchers on Public Schools,” February 15, 2020 – February 14, 2021 (\$35,000)

Smith Richardson Foundation, “The Limits of For-Profit Schooling,” September 1, 2008 – August 31, 2009 (\$25,000)

Anthony E. Meyer Family Foundation, “The Limits of For-Profit Schooling,” September 1, 2008 – August 31, 2009 (\$5,000)

**Fellowships:**

Tisch Distinguished Fellow, Teachers College, September 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018  
(\$40,000)

Tisch Distinguished Fellow, Teachers College, September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017  
(\$50,000)

**Previous Employment:**

Beacon School, Department of Education, New York, September 1999 – August 2008

Teacher: taught American history and economics; programming chair (2001-2008), responsible for building and managing the school's master schedule; commencement faculty speaker (2009)

Friends Academy, Locust Valley, NY, September 1991 - June 1999

Teacher: taught European and American history as well as economics; assistant coach of the cross-country team (1992-1994) and coach (1995-1998); faculty coordinator of Work Crew, the student clean-up program (1992-1999); faculty representative on the Student-Faculty Judiciary Council (1993-1995); commencement faculty speaker (1995); author of chapter on grammar and usage for the school's style manual (1995)

Harvard University Libraries, Cambridge, MA, November 1990 - August 1991

Bibliographic Researcher: generated provisional records and orders for books chosen by collection supervisors

Westfield Senior High, Westfield, NJ, October 1989 - June 1990

Teacher: taught American and world history; reduction in force eliminated position

**Interests:**

Ice Hockey: assistant coach, Ice Hockey in Harlem, Lasker Rink, Central Park, New York, since 2007; work with peewees (boys and girls aged 10-12) on skating, passing, and shooting skills on Monday nights and coach the team in games on Sunday mornings, November through March

Music: cellist in a range of groups going back to high school