

Aleksandr Fisher

☎ 267 337 5263 | ✉ aleksandr.jr.fisher@gmail.com | 🏠 aleksandrfisher.com | 📺 AleksandrFish | 🐦 aleksandrfisher

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, R, Stata, SAS, SQL, Latex,

Tools: Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-Learn, NLTK, Spacy, BeautifulSoup, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Flask

Quantitative Methods: Survey experiments, natural experiments, machine learning, decision trees, random forest, natural language processing, cluster analysis, various time-series cross-sectional models, causal mediation analysis, multinomial logistic regression, factor analysis, web scraping

Education

George Washington University

Ph.D. in Political Science

Washington, DC

2019

George Washington University

M.A in Political Science

Washington, DC

2017

Temple University

B.A. in History and Political Science

Philadelphia, PA

2014

Experience

The College Board

Data Analyst

Newtown, PA

Jan. 2020 - Present

- Developed SAS and Python code that increased productivity and accuracy of the quality management processes related to the SAT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9
- Built a web application in Python/Flask to automate the creation of excel spreadsheets that tracks how College Board products align with state standards, reduced process time by dozens of hours every month
- Created new archives or archive features that added significant value to psychometric work

George Washington University

Ph.D. Candidate

Washington, DC

Sept. 2014 - Dec. 2019

- Designed, implemented, and analyzed five survey experiments in the U.S. and Russia to identify the causal effect of exposure to foreign disinformation; results published in academic journal
- Aggregated and cleaned cross-national survey data in 50 countries from 2012 to 2017 using R and Stata to compare changes in countries' international influence; results published in academic journal
- Conducted a large-scale (N~2,000) survey experiment in the United States to test how presidents talk themselves out of foreign policy escalations, results published in an academic journal and the *Washington Post*

Insight Data Science

Data Science Fellow

New York, NY

Sept. 2019 - Nov 2019

- Built an end-to-end product in Python/Flask for an early-stage startup in three weeks that predicts respondents' severity of depression from text inputs using a random forest model
- Cleaned unstructured text data using Pandas and NLTK, created predictive features using tf-idf and sentiment analysis, and compared machine learning models using scikit-learn
- Predicted people's level of depression within 2 points on a 16-point clinically verified scale, doubling the accuracy of a baseline model

Academic Positions

Haverford College

Assistant Professor

Haverford, PA

Sept. 2020 - Dec. 2020

- Designed and instructed *Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Political Science*, which included lessons on causal inference, hypothesis testing, regression analysis, and data manipulation/visualization in R (Undergraduate students)

Jefferson University

Instructor

Philadelphia, PA

Jan. 2019 - May 2019

- Designed and instructed two sections of *Debating Global Issues*, which included lessons on economic globalization, development, and regime change (Undergraduate students)

George Washington University

Instructor

Washington, DC

Sept. 2018 - August. 2018

- Designed and instructed a summer course *Science, Technology, and Politics*, which explored the influence of AI on political processes (Undergraduate students)
- Led a 4-day course reviewing fundamental math principles including probability, hypothesis tests as well as instruction in R (Doctoral students)
- Teaching assistant for *Introduction to Empirical Political Analysis* (Doctoral students)
- Teaching assistant for *Nonlinear Models* (Doctoral students)
- Led discussion sections for *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (Undergraduate students)

Peer Reviewed Publications

- Fisher, Aleksandr. "Demonizing the enemy: The influence of Russian state-sponsored media on American audiences." *Post-Soviet Affairs* (2020): 1-16. [Link]
- Fisher, Aleksandr. "Trickle Down Soft Power: Do Russia's Ties to European Parties Influence Public Opinion?." *Foreign Policy Analysis* (2020). [Link]
- Fisher, Aleksandr. "A New Cold War? International Public Opinion of Russia and the United States." *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 32.1 (2020): 143-152. [Link]
- Evers, Miles M., Aleksandr Fisher, and Steven D. Schaaf. "Is There a Trump Effect? An Experiment on Political Polarization and Audience Costs." *Perspectives on Politics* 17.2 (2019): 433-452. [Link]

Policy Publications

- If Trump backs down from his latest Iran threat, will he lose support? We checked. *Washington Post, Monkey Cage*, 2019, with Miles M. Evers and Steven Schaaf. [Link]
- Perceptions of Russian Interference in U.S. Elections Matters as Much as Actual Involvement. *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 2019. [Link]
- Moldova and Ukraine: Diverging Neighbors? *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 2017. [Link]
- Ukraine's Struggle for Democracy: Severe Challenges Ahead. *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 2015, with Amb. Adrian Basora. [Link]
- Putin's Greater Novorossiia: The Dismemberment of Ukraine. *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 2015, with Amb. Adrian Basora. [Link]
- Home-Grown Terrorism: Russia's Ticking Bomb. *ISN, Center for Security Studies (CSS)*, 2015, with Maia Otashvili. [Link]
- Ukraine Crisis Timeline as of January 30, 2015. *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 2015. [Link]