Rachel Porter

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APPOINTMENTS

University *of* Notre Dame

Assistant Professor, Political Science & Computational Social Science   2022-Present

Faculty Fellow, Lucy Family Institute for Data & Society

EDUCATION

The University *of* North Carolina *at* Chapel Hill

Ph.D., Political Science   2016-2022

M.A., Political Science   2018

The University *of* Georgia

B.A., Political Science & International Affairs   2016

Distinctions: Phi Beta Kappa, Summa Cum Laude

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Porter, Rachel, Sarah Treul, and Maura McDonald. 2022. Changing the Dialogue: Descriptive Candidacies & Position-Taking in Campaigns for the U.S. House of Representatives. Journal of Politics. *Forthcoming.*

Porter, Rachel and Tyler Steelman. 2022. No Experience Required: Early Donations and Amateur Success in Congressional Primary Elections. Legislative Studies Quarterly. Early View: Online First.

Ladam, Christina, Austin Bussing, Alexander C. Furnas, Josh McCrain, David R. Miller, and **Rachel Porter.** 2022. The Junior Americanist Workshop Series (JAWS). PS: Political Science & Politics, 55(3), 552-553.

McDonald, Maura, **Rachel Porter** and Sarah Treul. 2020. "Running as a Woman? Gender and the 2018 Congressional Election." Political Research Quarterly, 73(4): 967-987.

UNDER REVIEW

Evaluating (In)Experience in Congressional Elections *with Sarah A. Treul*
(Featured on *Mischief of Faction - Vox*, *FiveThirtyEight*, and *The Science of Politics* podcast)

Measuring Early Monetary Giving in Elections for the U.S. House of Representatives, *with Colin R. Case*

IN PROGRESS

Policy Facts or Partisan Friction?: Elite Communication on America's Opioid Epidemic

Setting the Narrative: Campaign Styles in Congressional Elections, *with Sarah A. Treul* (book manuscript under development)

Estimating Common Topics from Multiple Corpora using Keyword-Assisted Topic Models, *with Kosuke Imai and Santiago Olivella*

BOOK CHAPTERS

Carson, Jamie L., Jason M. Roberts, and **Rachel Porter.** 2020. "The Nationalization of Congressional Elections" in *New Directions in Congressional Politics,* Routledge.

Lynch, Michael S., Anthony J. Madonna, and **Rachel Surminsky**. 2016. "Irregular Order: Examining the Changing Congressional Amending Process" in *Party and Procedure in the United States Congress,* Rowland & Little.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS	Treul, Sarah and Rachel Porter. 20 April, 2018. "Inexperienced candidates are becoming more common, but only in one party." *Mischiefs of Faction - Vox*
	Surminsky, Rachel and Michael S. Lynch. 20 November, 2014. "When Congress sues the president, it's likely to fail." *The Monkey Cage - Washington Post*

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, UNC Graudate School ($20,500 *plus tuition*)	2021
Social Data Dissertation Fellowship, Social Science Research Council ($15,000)	2020
Thomas M. Ulhman Fellowship, UNC Political Science ($5000/*year*)	2016
Summer Research Fellowship, UNC Political Science, ($3000/*year*)	

GRANTS & AWARDS

Centennial Research Grant, American Political Science Association ($10,000)	2022
Co-PIs: David Miller, Josh McCrain, Leah Christiani, Zander Furnas, Christina Ladam	
Darlene Walker Summer Research Award, UNC Political Science ($3000)	2020
Earle Wallace Award for Graduate Student Teaching, UNC Political Science	2019
Hughes Summer Research Award, UNC Political Science ($2000)	
Thomas M. Ulhman Summer Research Award, UNC Political Science ($3000)	2018

TEACHING

University of Notre Dame

Instructor of Record

POLS 40811: Quantitative Political Analysis	SP 2023
POLS 60040: American Political Institutions (Graduate Seminar)	FA 2022

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Instructor of Record

POLI 281: Data in Politics I	FA 2019, SP 2020, FA 2020, SSII 2021
POLI 100: Introduction to American Politics	SP 2019

Teaching Assistant

POLI 130: Introduction to Comparative Politics	FA 2018
POLI 100: Introduction to American Politics	FA 2017, SP 2018

Odum Institute for Research in Social Science, UNC - Chapel Hill

Short Course Instructor

Collecting & Analyzing Text in R	SP 2019, FA 2019, SP 2020, FA 2020, SP 2021

INVITED TALKS

University of Chicago, American Politics Workshop	2023
Purdue University, Political Science Workshop	2022
Washington University in St. Louis, Political Science Speaker Series	2021
Junior Americanist Workshop Series (JAWS)	
Bowling Green State University, Speaker Series	
The University of Notre Dame, Rooney Center Workshop Series	
The University of Georgia, Emerging Issues in Political Science Series	2020

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	2023
Rooney Center Keeping the Republic Conference	
Illinois/ND Research Exchange, Urbana-Champagne	

American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2022
Carl Albert Center Legislative Politics Conference	
American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2021
Political Communication; APSA Pre-Conference	
Frontiers in Money and Politics; APSA Pre-Conference	
Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (Extended Poster Session)	
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	
American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2020
Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (Extended Poster Session)	
Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference	
American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2019
Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (Poster Session)	
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	
UNC-Chapel Hill Methods and Design Workshop	
Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (Poster Session)	2018
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	
UNC-Chapel Hill Methods and Design Workshop	

DATA SCIENCE & TECH STACK

Languages: R (expert), Stata (expert), Python (proficient)

Programs: Qualtrics (survey & experimental design), Latex, Adobe Creative Suite

Machine Learning: caret, Tensorflow/Keras, ML models for topic discovery

High Performance Computing: AWS, Linux-based computing systems

Statistical Modeling: classic regression models, generalized linear models, multilevel modeling, measurement models for sampling bias correction

VOLUNTEER & SERVICE

Discipline

Referee: Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Electoral Studies, Research & Politics, American Journal of Political Science, Political Behavior, Politics & Gender, Journal of Women, Politics & Policy

Co-Founder & Co-Organizer, Junior Americanist Workshop Series (2020-2023)

Departmental Service at the University of Notre Dame

Graduate Policy Council, Department of Political Science (AY 22/23)

Graduate Scholar Admission Committee, Lucy Institute for Data & Society (2023)

Departmental Service at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Graduate Student President, Department of Political Science (AY 21/22)

Program Coordinator, American Politics Working Group (2017-2019)

American Field Representative, Department of Political Science (AY 18/19)

Last updated on February 28, 2023