Rachel Porter

✉ rachel.porter@nd.edu   🌐 rachelporter.org   ⌨ porter-rachel

APPOINTMENTS	**University *of* Notre Dame**

University *of* Notre Dame

Assistant Professor, Political Science & Computational Social Science   2022

Faculty Affiliate, Lucy Family Institute for Data & Society

EDUCATION

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

Ph.D., Political Science   2022

M.A., Political Science   2018

The University *of* Georgia

B.A., Political Science & International Affairs   2016

Distinctions: Phi Beta Kappa, Summa Cum Laude

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American Political Institutions | Campaigns & Elections | Computational Social Science
U.S. Congress | Women in Politics | Natural Language Processing | Big Data Analysis

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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

Porter, Rachel and Tyler Steelman. 2021. No Experience Required: Early Donations and Amateur Success in Congressional Primary Elections, Forthcoming at *Legislative Studies Quarterly*

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

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.

WORKING PAPERS

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

Changing the Dialogue: Descriptive Candidacies & Position-Taking in Campaigns for the U.S. House of Representatives, *with Sarah A. Treul and Maura McDonald* (Under Review)

Estimating the Ideological Extremity of Primary Electorates, (Under Review)

Reevaluating Electoral Experience as a Predictor for Success in Congressional Elections, *with Sarah A. Treul*

IN PROGRESS

Measuring Early Monetary Giving in Elections for the U.S. House of Representatives,
with Sarah A. Treul and Colin R. Case

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

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

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*

INVITED TALKS

Washington University in St. Louis	October 2021
Bowling Green State University	September 2021
The University of Notre Dame	February 2021
The University of Georgia	September 2020
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	February 2018

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, UNC Graudate School (*$20,490 plus tuition*)	2021
Social Data Dissertation Fellowship, Social Science Research Council (*$14,250*)	2020
Thomas M. Ulhman Fellowship, UNC Political Science (*$5000/year*)	2016
Summer Research Fellowship, UNC Political Science, (*$3000/year*)	
Zell Miller Scholarship, State of Georgia (*full undergraduate tuition*)	2012

GRANTS & AWARDS

Travel Grant, American Political Science Association	2021
Darlene Walker Summer Research Award, UNC Political Science (*$3000*)	2020
Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association	
Earle Wallace Award for Graduate Student Teaching, UNC Political Science	2019
Hughes Summer Research Award, UNC Political Science (*$2000*)	
Travel Grant, Society for Political Methodology	
Thomas M. Ulhman Summer Research Award, UNC Political Science (*$3000*)	2018
Travel Grant, Society for Political Methodology	
Travel Grant, UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School	2017

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

TEACHING	**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	Spring 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

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS	American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2022
	Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (Poster Session)	
	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 Meeting	
	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 Meeting	
	UNC-Chapel Hill Methods and Design Workshop	
	Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting (Poster Session)	2018
	Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting	
	UNC-Chapel Hill Methods and Design Workshop	
	Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting	2017

VOLUNTEER & SERVICE

Reviewer: Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Electoral Studies, Research & Politics, American Journal of Political Science, Political Behavior

Graduate Student President, UNC Department of Political Science (2021-2022)

Co-Founder & Co-Organizer, Junior Americanist Workshop Series (2020-2022)

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

Field Representative, UNC Department of Political Science (2018-2019)