

# Jack T. Rametta

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**Postdoctoral Fellow**, Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute 2025-Present

**Instructor**, Inter-university Consortium for Political & Social Research, University of Michigan 2025-Present

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Political Science**, The University of California Davis 2019 - 2025

Dissertation: *The Legislative State and the Republican Revolution: A Causal Machine Learning Approach*

Committee: Christopher D. Hare (chair), Ryan Hübert, Erik J. Engstrom, Lauren Peritz, and Scott MacKenzie

Fields: American Politics and Methodology

**B.A. Economics and Political Science**, The George Washington University 2013 - 2016

Special Honors in Political Science & American Political Science Honors Society

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

*Substantive*: American political institutions, Congressional policymaking & oversight capacity, legislative support agencies, political behavior, ideology and public policy

*Methods*: causal inference and causal machine learning, Monte Carlo methods, predictive modeling, design-based inference, experiments, measurement, game theory, text analysis

## PUBLICATIONS

[Affect, Not Ideology: The Heterogeneous Effects of Political Cues on Policy Support](#). Coauthored with Nicolás de la Cerda and Sam Fuller. 2025 *Political Behavior*. Presented at WPSA 2023.

## BOOK PROJECT

[Advanced Machine Learning for Experiments in the Social Sciences](#) Coauthored with Christopher D. Hare and Sam Fuller.

*Advance Contract, Cambridge Elements: Experimental Political Science. Expected 2025-2026.*

## RESEARCH UNDER REVIEW

[Did the Republican Revolution Hamstring Congressional Oversight? Evidence from 55,000 GAO Reports](#). Under Review. Presented at MPSA 2024.

[The Balance Permutation Test: A Machine Learning Replacement for Balance Tables](#) (with Sam Fuller). Under Review. Presented at UC Davis Political Science Research Workshop and ICPSR 2024.

[Causal Forest and Double Machine Learning for Political Science](#) (with Sam Fuller). *Presented at MPSA 2023, APSA 2024*

## **SELECTED RESEARCH IN PREPARATION**

Populism and the Political Economy of Congressional Professionalization

Something's Wrong with the Kids: The Ubiquitous Relationship between Youth and Support for Political Violence. (with Sam Fuller and Alexa Federice). *Presented at Harvard American Politics Research Workshop 2024, MPSA 2025, and APSA 2025*

One King to Rule Them All? TabPFNs for Predictive and Causal Tasks in the Social Sciences

Fast and Improved (Ordered) Optimal Classification (with Christopher D. Hare).

[The Dangers of Calculating Conditional Effects: A Reevaluation of Barber and Pope \(2019\)](#) (with Sam Fuller). *Presented at MPSA 2024.*

## **TEACHING**

Instructor(s) of record listed in the parentheses where applicable.

### **Graduate Courses**

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan

ICPSR 2025: Causal Machine Learning for Observational and Experimental Data (Summer: Co-Instructor with Sam Fuller)

ICPSR 2022-2024: Machine Learning for Social Sciences (Summer: Christopher D. Hare)

The University of California, Davis

POL 213: Quantitative Analysis in Politics Science II (MLE) (S: 2022, Lauren Peritz)

POL 212: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science I (OLS) (W: 2022, Christopher D. Hare)

POL 211: Research Methods: Probability, Statistics, Design (F: 2021, Adrienne Hosek)

### **Undergraduate Courses**

POL 109: Public Policy and the Governmental Process (S: 2024)

POL 051: The Scientific Study of Politics (Research Methods in R) (F/W: 2022-2024, Juan Tellez, McCage Griffiths, Christopher D. Hare)

POL 001: Introduction to American Politics Spring 2023 (S: 2021 & 2023, Ben Highton & Scott MacKenzie)

POL 114: Quantitative Analysis of Political Data (Research Methods in STATA) (W: 2021, Ben Highton)

POL 110: The Strategy of Politics (Game Theory) (F: 2020, Ryan Hübert)

POL 147B: British Politics (S: 2020, James F. Adams)

POL 012A: Politics and Sports (W: 2020, Ethan Scheiner)

## SOFTWARE

**MLbalance:** Implements a machine learning balance test, the balance permutation test, for experimental data. This test is designed to detect failures of random assignment or covariate imbalance using boosted random forests and permutation inference. Associated working paper is Rametta and Fuller (2025).

**MLCause:** A package family in development for the application of machine learning to causal inference. Packages associated with the Cambridge Elements contract as well as other workings papers.

**gao:** A package that scrapes all publicly available Government Accountability Office published materials and returns both the original PDF/.html files as well as a cleaned dataset that extracts information from the pages. Associated working paper is Rametta (2025).

## ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

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|---|------------|
| American Political Science Association Annual Meeting | 2024, 2025 |
| Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting  | 2023, 2024 |
| Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting  | 2023       |

## DISCIPLINE SERVICE

*Referee:* Political Behavior, Journal of Public Policy.

## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER EXPERIENCE

Professor Ryan Hübert. Formal Model of Prosecutors and Discrimination. 2021

Professor Ryan Hübert. Political Appointments and Outcomes in Federal District Courts. 2020

## SELECTED POLICY WRITING

Prior to graduate school, I worked in the public policy space. Over several years as a policy analyst, I (co)authored work on the federal budget, social insurance, public finance, and the federal debt limit among other topics. Some of these publications are listed below.

[“Putting America Back On Track: A Bipartisan Approach To Fiscal Policy Solutions”](#) (with Bill Hoagland, Shai Akabas, Jason Fichtner, and Tim Shaw) 2019. Peter G. Peterson Institute.

[“Debt Limit Analysis: Everything You Need to Know in 30 Slides”](#) (with Shai Akabas and Kody Carmody) 2019. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“Personnel Reform Lives, But Don’t Call It ‘Force Of The Future’ ”](#) (with Blaise Misztal and Mary Farrell) 2018. War on the Rocks.

[“Supplying the Manpower America’s National Security Strategy Demands”](#) (with Blaise Misztal) 2019. U.S. Index of Military Strength Topical Essay.

[“Chartbook: What is the Long-Term Fiscal Outlook for the United States?”](#) 2018. The Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“A Guide to the 2018 Social Security and Medicare Trustees’ Reports”](#) (BPC staff author with Tim Shaw, lead authors Charles P. Blahous III and Robert D. Reischauer) 2018. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“A Preview of the 2018 Social Security and Medicare Trustees’ Reports”](#) (BPC staff author with Tim Shaw, lead authors Charles P. Blahous III and Robert D. Reischauer) 2018. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“A Guide to the 2017 Social Security and Medicare Trustees’ Reports”](#) (BPC staff author with G. William Hoagland, Shai Akabas, and Tim Shaw, lead authors Charles P. Blahous III and Robert D. Reischauer) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“2017 Debt Limit Analysis”](#) (with Shai Akabas and Tim Shaw) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“Building a F.A.S.T. Force: A Flexible Personnel System for a Modern Military. Recommendations from the Task Force on Defense Personnel”](#) (contributor) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“Defense Personnel Systems: The Hidden Threat to a High-Performance Force”](#) (contributor) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“The Building Blocks of a Ready Military: People, Funding, Tempo”](#) (staff author with Lisel Loy, Steve Bell, Blaise Misztal et al., lead authors Leon Panetta, Jim Jones, Kathy Roth-Douquet, and Jim Talent) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“The Military Compensation Conundrum: Rising Costs, Declining Budgets, and a Stressed Force Caught in the Middle”](#) (staff author with Lisel Loy, Steve Bell, Blaise Misztal et al, lead authors Leon Panetta, Jim Jones, Kathy Roth-Douquet, and Jim Talent) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“Chartbook: Social Security & Medicare Explained: Top 10 Questions & Answers.”](#) (Lead author/designer with Kody Carmody) 2019. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“When Will Federal Deficits Hit \\$1 Trillion Next? Probably Sooner than Expected”](#) (with Steve Bell and Tim Shaw) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center. <sup>1</sup>

[“Harvey Raises Stakes on Debt Limit Debate”](#) (with Shai Akabas and Tim Shaw) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

[“The Financial Future of Social Security and Medicare”](#) (with Tim Shaw) 2017. Bipartisan Policy Center.

## OTHER SKILLS

Computing: R, python, STATA, Mathematica, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, cluster computing

## REFERENCES

**Christopher D. Hare (chair)**, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of California, Davis

**Ryan Hübert**, Associate Professor of Computational Social Science, Department of Methodology, London School of Economics and Political Science

**Lauren Peritz**, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of California, Davis

**Erik J. Engstrom**, Professor of Political Science, University of California, Davis

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<sup>1</sup>For what it’s worth, we were [right about this](#).