



Department of Political Science,
School of Public Policy, UCL.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Department of Economics
214 David Kinley Hall, MC-707
1407 W. Gregory Dr.
Urbana, IL 61801-3606

Dear Members of the Search Committee,

I am writing to apply for the position of Assistant Professor of Data Science as advertised on APSA. I am a doctoral candidate specializing in political economy with particular focus on political communication and timing of elections. I will complete my Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in May 2022.

I am extremely interested in joining the faculty of UCL. As a member of the department, I will contribute to its focus on political science and public policy education, continue my research on strategic communication and the political economy of public policy, and lead departmental service activities. I find UCL's tradition for teaching and its research philosophy very stimulating. I am confident that my enthusiasm for teaching, my theoretical and empirical approach to studying socially relevant topics, and my track record for collaborative work make me an excellent fit for the position in your department.

My research examines issues in political economy. In my job market paper, I theoretically and empirically analyze how politicians strategically vary ad content and placement to mobilize their base and demobilize the opposing one. As part of the empirical analysis, I employ both machine learning (supervised learning) and natural language techniques to classify political ads into distinct classes based on their content. I then use tools from causal inference such as instrumental variable estimation to test the theoretical predictions of my model.

In addition, I have a strong interest in teaching, and I have experience teaching a wide range of topics. During my doctoral studies at Illinois, I was honored to be selected by my students among the top 10% of teachers in the university.

Drawing from my research and teaching experiences, I am confident that I would be great fit to teach "The Politics of Public Policy", "Statistical Learning for Public Policy" and "Quantitative Text Analysis.

Letters in support of my application from Professors Dan Bernhardt (Chair), George Deltas, and Stefan Krassa will be sent under a separate cover can be requested from my department's proxy person Tera Martin-Roy at econ-phdjobs@illinois.edu.

I can be reached via email at ecnstnt2@illinois.edu or by phone at +1-217-721-5834.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any additional information that I can provide.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Evangelos Constantinou

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