

Michael Burnham

Pennsylvania State University
Department of Political Science
State College, PA 16802

mlb6496@psu.edu
MLBurnham.com
github.com/MLBurnham

Education

Pennsylvania State University

Ph.D. (Dual Title), Political Science & Social Data Analytics, 2024.

M.A., American Politics, 2022

Georgetown University

M.A., International Relations, 2015.

Utah State University

B.A., Economics & International Relations, 2013.

Articles

Block Jr, Ray, Michael Burnham, Kayla Kahn, Rachel Peng, Jeremy Seeman, and Christopher Seto. "Perceived risk, political polarization, and the willingness to follow COVID-19 mitigation guidelines." *Social Science & Medicine* (2022): 115091.

Ackerman, Gary A., and Michael Burnham. "Towards a definition of terrorist ideology." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 33, no. 6 (2021): 1160-1190.

Book Chapters

Burnham, Michael, and Michael J. Nelson. "Judicial Elections and Judicial Behavior." In *Oxford Handbook of Comparative Political Behavior*. Oxford University Press, 2023

Working Papers

Burnham, Michael. "Semantic Scaling: Bayesian Ideal Point Estimates with Large Language Models."

Burnham, Michael. "Stance Detection With Supervised, Zero-Shot, and Few-Shot Applications." *arXiv pre-print: 2305.01723*

Software

Entss: Entailment Classification and Semantic Scaling.
Stance detection with transformers and ideal point estimates with Bayesian IRT.

Edited Volumes

Georgetown Security Studies Review Vol. 3 Iss. 2. Georgetown Center for Security Studies, July 2015.

Georgetown Security Studies Review Vol. 3 Iss. 1. Georgetown Center for Security Studies, January 2015.

Conferences

PolMeth

Poster presenter: 2023, 2022

New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data

Poster Presenter: 2021

International Studies Association

Panelist: 2016, 2014

Research Positions	<p>Political Science, Pennsylvania State University Research Assistant, Michael J. Nelson Graduat Research Fellow, The Center for Social Data Analytics Research Assistant, Kevin Munger Research Assistant, Eric Plutzer</p> <p>START Researcher, Terrorist Ideology Project</p>
Teaching	<p>Political Science, Pennsylvania State University Instructor, Social Data Analytics Capstone Course, Spring 2023 Instructor, Math for Political Science Workshop, Summer 2023 Instructor, R for Political Science Workshop, Summer 2022 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to American Politics, Fall 2019 Teaching Assistant, Quantitative Political Analysis, Fall 2022 Teaching Assistant, Political Methodology Graduate Seminar, Fall 2022</p> <p>ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods Guest Lecturer, Ideological Scaling with Large Language Models, Summer 2023</p>
Service	<p>Georgetown Security Studies Review Editor in Chief, 2014-2015</p>
Professional Experience	<p>Deloitte <i>Senior Consultant, Pentagon, Arlington, Va, 2017-2019</i> Lead data scientist for the United States Air Force F-35 integration office. Analyzed expense and repair data and briefed senior officials.</p> <p>ANSER <i>Analyst, Arlington, Va, 2016-2017</i> Assisted with the design and analysis of federally funded research projects on counter radicalization programs and infrastructure resilience.</p>
Awards	<p>Outstanding Political Science Graduate Student Penn State, 2023</p> <p>Georgetown Security Studies Program Merit Scholarship Georgetown University, 2013-2015</p> <p>Undergraduate Teaching Fellow of the Year USU Huntsman School of Business, 2013</p>
Languages and Skills	<p>English, Ukrainian, Russian Python, R, Stata, \LaTeX, Git, HTML5, CSS</p>
Contacts	<p>Michael Nelson: mjn15@psu.edu Bruce Desmarais: bdesmarais@psu.edu Suzie Linn: sld8@psu.edu</p>