

# Joseph T. Ornstein

Washington University in St. Louis  
Brown School of Social Work  
Hillman Hall  
St. Louis, MO 63130

Email: [jornstein@wustl.edu](mailto:jornstein@wustl.edu)  
Homepage: <https://joeornstein.github.io/>  
Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com>

---

## Positions

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Washington University in St. Louis, 2018–present.

Senior Research Assistant, The Brookings Institution, 2010–2013.

Researcher, New England Complex Systems Institute, 2009–2010.

---

## Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Michigan, 2018.

Committee: Robert Franzese (chair), Jenna Bednar, Elisabeth Gerber, Scott Page

B.A. Mathematics & Social Sciences, Dartmouth College, 2009.

---

## Publications

1. Ornstein, Joseph T. 2019. “Stacked Regression and Poststratification” *Political Analysis* (Conditionally Accepted).
  2. Combs, Todd B. et al. 2019. “Modeling the Impact of Menthol Sales Restrictions & Retailer Density Reduction Policies: Insights from Tobacco Town Minnesota.” *Tobacco Control* (Forthcoming).
  3. Ornstein, Joseph T., and Ross A. Hammond. 2017. “The Burglary Boost: A Note on Detecting Contagion Using the Knox Test.” *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 33(1): 65-75.
  4. Ornstein, Joseph T., and Robert Z. Norman. 2014. “Frequency of Monotonicity Failure under Instant Runoff Voting: Estimates Based on a Spatial Model of Elections.” *Public Choice* 161(1-2): 1-9.
  5. Hammond, Ross A., and Joseph T. Ornstein. 2014. “A Model of Social Influence on Body Mass Index.” *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 1331(1): 34-42.
  6. Hammond, Ross A. et al. 2012. “A Model of Food Reward Learning with Dynamic Reward Exposure.” *Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience* 6: 82.
-

## Unpublished Manuscripts

### *Under Review*

1. Ornstein, Joseph T. 2019. "Zone Defense: Why Liberal Cities Build Fewer Houses".
2. Hays, Jude C., Franzese, Robert J., & Ornstein, Joseph T. 2019. "Estimating the Interest-Premium Cost of Left Government by Regression Discontinuity Analysis of Close Elections"

### *Working Papers*

1. Ornstein, Joseph T. 2019. "Election Timing and The Politics of Urban Growth"
2. Einstein, Katherine L., Ornstein, Joseph T., & Palmer, Maxwell. 2019. "Who Represents the Renters? How Homeownership Shapes American Politics"
3. Ornstein, Joseph T. 2019. "Diverse Cities Spend More"
4. Ornstein, Joseph T. 2019. "Zig Zag: When Noisy Regression Discontinuities Yield Exaggerated Claims"

### *Works in Progress*

1. Einstein, Katherine L., Ornstein, Joseph T., & Palmer, Maxwell. "The Racial Turnout Gap in Local Elections: Evidence from Voter Files"
2. Ornstein, Joseph T., Combs, Todd, Golden, Shelley, & Luke, Douglas A.. "Tobacco Swamps: Shaping the Built Environment to Reduce Tobacco Retail Proximity in 30 Major US Cities"

---

## Conference and Workshop Presentations

Local Political Economy APSA Pre-Conference (2017, 2019)

Society for Political Methodology (2019)

American Political Science Association (2017, 2019)

Midwest Political Science Association (2016, 2017)

Public Choice Society (2010, 2014)

---

## Teaching Experience

### *Primary Instructor, University of Michigan*

POLSCI 389: The Political Economy of Cities (Summer 2017)

Political Science Graduate Student Math Camp (Summer 2016)

*Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan*

POLSCI 369: International Economic Relations (with Andrew Kerner)

POLSCI 391: Introduction to Models (with Scott Page)

ICPSR: Advanced Empirical Modeling for Theory Evaluation (with Robert Franzese)

ICPSR: Spatial Econometrics Workshop (with Robert Franzese)

POLSCI 140: Intro to Comparative Politics (with Robert Franzese)

POLSCI 160: Intro to World Politics (with James Morrow)

EPID 793: Complex Systems Modeling for Public Health Research (with Ross Hammond)

---

## Awards and Grants

ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention (2019)

University of Michigan Library Data Grant (2017)

Rackham Conference Travel Grant (2013, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Dartmouth College Neukom Scholarship (2009)

---

## Professional Service

**Reviewer:** *Public Choice, Political Science Research and Methods, Political Behavior, Pediatric Obesity*

**Member:** *American Political Science Association, Society for Political Methodology*

**Committees:** University of Michigan Comparative Politics Faculty Search (2017)

---

## Miscellaneous

**Software Proficiencies:** Stata, R, Python, Java, NetLogo, LaTeX

**Erdős Number:** 3