Benjamin J. **Radford**

⌂ benradford.com | 🎓Google Scholar

Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor   2026–Present
University of Pittsburgh

Associate Professor
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Joint Appointment, Public Policy Ph.D. Program	2019–2025
Joint Appointment, Political Science and Public Administration	2019–2025
Honors Faculty, Honors College	2022–2025
Affiliate, School of Data Science	2020–2024

Education

Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science   Durham, NC
Duke University   2016

B.A. in Mathematics and International Studies   Asheville, NC
University of North Carolina at Asheville   2010

Refereed Publications

Citations: 886 | h-index: 11 | i10-index: 13

15. Liu, Howard and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**2026**). "Covert Assignments: Undercover Infiltration and the Repression of Protests". *International Studies Quarterly*.

14. Dai, Yaoyao, Jingjing Gao, and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**2024**). "From Fear to Hate: Sources of Anti-Asian Sentiment During COVID-19". *Social Science Quarterly*. DOI: `https://doi.org/10.1111/ssqu.13387`.
    Impact Factor: 1.9. **H5 Index:** 104.

13. **Radford, Benjamin J.**, Yaoyao Dai, Niklas Stoehr*, Aaron Schein, Mya Fernandez[†], and Hanif Sajid* (**2023**). "Estimating Conflict Losses and Reporting Biases". *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 120.34. DOI: `10.1073/pnas.2307372120`.
    Reported on by twelve news outlets including: *Kyiv Post, swissinfo.ch, watson.ch, RSI.ch, La Liberte, RTN.ch, MSN, Bluewin.ch, Radio Top, Sudostschweiz.ch, Cash.ch,* and *GMX.net*.
    Impact Factor: 11.1. **H5 Index:** 268.

12. Stoehr, Niklas*, **Benjamin J. Radford**, Ryan Cotterell, and Aaron Schein (**2023**). "The Ordered Matrix Dirichlet for State-Space Models". *Proceedings of The 26th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*. Ed. by Francisco Ruiz, Jennifer Dy, and Jan-Willem van de Meent. Vol. 206. Proceedings of Machine Learning Research. PMLR, pp. 1888–1903.
    H5 Index: 91.

11. Dai, Yaoyao, **Benjamin J. Radford**, and Andrew Halterman (**2022**). "Political Event Coding as Text-to-Text Sequence Generation". *Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text (CASE)*. Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (Hybrid). Association for Computational Linguistics, pp. 117–123.

10. Hürriyetoğlu, Ali, Osman Mutlu, Fırat Duruşan, Onur Uca, Alaeddin Gürel, **Benjamin J. Radford**, Yaoyao Dai, Hansi Hettiarachchi, Niklas Stoehr, Tadashi Nomoto, Milena Slavcheva, Francielle Vargas, Aaqib Javid, Fatih Beyhan, and Erdem Yörük (**2022**). "Extended Multilingual Protest News Detection - Shared Task 1, CASE 2021 and 2022". *Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text (CASE)*. Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (Hybrid). Association for Computational Linguistics, pp. 223–228.

9. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2022**). "High Resolution Conflict Forecasting with Spatial Convolutions and Long Short-Term Memory". *International Interactions* 48.4, pp. 739–758. DOI: `10.1080/03050629.2022.2031182`.
Impact Factor: 1.2.

8. Gao, Jingjing* and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**2021**). "Death by Political Party: The Relationship Between COVID-19 Deaths and Political Party Affiliation". *World Medical & Health Policy* 13, pp. 224–249. DOI: `10.1002/wmh3.435`.
Impact Factor: 4.1. **H5 Index:** 18.

7. Halterman, Andrew and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**2021**). "Few-Shot Upsampling for Protest Size Detection". *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics ACL-IJCNLP 2021*, pp. 3713–3720. DOI: `10.18653/v1/2021.findings-acl.325`.

6. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2021**). "Automated Dictionary Generation for Political Event Coding". *Political Science Research and Methods* 9.1, pp. 157–171. DOI: `10.1017/psrm.2019.1`.
Impact Factor: 5.2. **H5 Index:** 42.

5. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2021**). "CASE 2021 Task 2: Zero-Shot Classification of Fine-Grained Sociopolitical Events with Transformer Models". *Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text (CASE 2021)*, pp. 203–207. DOI: `10.18653/v1/2021.case-1.25`.

4. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2021**). "Regressing Location on Text for Probabilistic Geocoding". *Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text (CASE 2021)*, pp. 53–57. DOI: `10.18653/v1/2021.case-1.8`.

3. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2020**). "Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Detection and Cross-Document Coreference Resolution of Militarized Interstate Disputes". *Proceedings of AESPEN 2020, LREC 2020*, pp. 35–41.

2. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2019**). "Multitask Models for Supervised Protest Detection in Texts". *Working Notes of CLEF 2019* 2380.

1. Minhas, Shahryar and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**2017**). "Enemy at the Gates Variation in Economic Growth from Civil Conflict". *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 61.10, pp. 2105–2129.
Impact Factor: 3.2. **H5 Index:** 51.

*Graduate student coauthor.
†Undergraduate student coauthor.

Public Scholarship

1. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.**, Yaoyao Dai, Niklas Stoehr*, Aaron Schein, Mya Fernandez†, and Hanif Sajid* (**2023**). "Estimating Troop Losses on Both Sides in the Russia-Ukraine War". *The Loop*. ECPR.

Other Publications (Not Refereed)

10. Das Purba, Moumita*, Arpita Ghosh*, **Benjamin J. Radford**, and Bill Chu (**2023, Invited paper**). "Software Vulnerability Detection using Large Language Models". *Proceedings of the 2023 IEEE International Workshop on Machine Learning for Signal Processing*. 33rd IEEE International Workshop on Machine Learning for Signal Processing. IEEE. (Editor reviewed).

9. Richardson, Bartley D., Shawn E. Davis, and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**2018**). "Sequence Aggregation Rules for Anomaly Detection in Computer Network Traffic". Presented at the 2018 ASA Symposium on Data Science and Statistics.

8. Richardson, Bartley D., **Benjamin J. Radford**, Shawn E. Davis, Keegan Hines, and David Pekarek (**2018**). "Anomaly Detection in Cyber Network Data Using a Cyber Language Approach". Presented at the 2018 ASA Symposium on Data Science and Statistics.

7. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.**, Leonardo Apolonio, Antonio Trias, and Jim A. Simpson (**2017**). "Network Traffic Anomaly Detection Using Recurrent Neural Networks". Presented at the 2017 MSS National Symposium on Sensor & Data Fusion.

6. Beger, Andreas, **Benjamin J. Radford**, and Michael D. Ward (**2015**). "Small-Scale Prediction of IEDs in Afghanistan Using Split-Population Duration Regression". Prepared for the Office of Naval Research.

5. Beger, Andreas, Joshua Cutler, Matthew Dickenson, Cassy Dorff, **Benjamin J. Radford**, and Michael D. Ward (**2013**). "Comparing GDELT and ICEWS Event Data". Published online.

4. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2010**). "The Evotion of US Policy Towards Iran's Nuclear Program: Lessons for the Obama Administration". *UNC Asheville Journal of Undergraduate Research.*

3. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** (**2008**). "Iran Likely to Take Accusatory Stance at CWC Review Conference". *WMD Insights* April, pp. 39–43. (Editor reviewed).

2. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** and Leonard Spector (**2008**). "Algeria, Emirates Plan Nonproliferation-Friendly Nuclear Programs; Egypt Keeps Fuel Cycle Options Open, Rejects Expanded IAEA Monitoring". *WMD Insigths* June, pp. 2–7. (Editor reviewed).

1. **Radford**, **Benjamin J.** and Leonard Spector (**2008**). "Summary of Recent United Nations Security Council, European Union, and United States Sanctions Against Iran". *WMD Insights* April, pp. 44–50. (Editor reviewed).

External Grants

Co-PI. National Science Foundation. $660,000. *Collaborative Research: Subnational Nonstate Actor Governance*		2025–2028
Co-PI. Office of the Director of National Intelligence. $1,489,803. *UNC Charlotte Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence*		2019–2024
PI. National Security Agency. $96,334. *Forecasting Security Updates to Identify Vulnerable Software*		2022–2024
Senior/Key Participant. National Science Foundation. $1,000,000. *Building the Federalism Data and Advanced Statistics Hub (F-DASH)*		2019–2020

Internal Grants

Co-PI. UNC Charlotte Nexus Seed Grant. $4,500. *How Social Scientists Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Immigration: A Big-data Analysis of Academic Articles Over the Past Century*	2024
PI. UNC Charlotte Junior Faculty Development Award for research leave. *Drawing Front Lines: Estimating the Distribution of Contestation and Control in Conflict Zones*	2024
PI. UNC Charlotte Faculty Research Grant. $8,000. *Crowdsourcing Conflict Measurement: Modeling Latent Attributes of War from Text*	2024
Co-PI. UNC Charlotte School of Data Science. $15,000. *The Evolution of Intellectual Elite's Immigration Attitudes*	2022
PI. UNC Charlotte Faculty Research Grant. $8,000. *From Protest to Tragedy–Violence Escalation in Space and Time*	2022
Co-PI. UNC Charlotte 12-Month Planning Grant. $25,000. *Peace And Conflict Innovations Laboratory to Study Computational Propaganda*	2020
Recipient. Duke University Graduate Studies Fellowship.	2011–2016
Recipient. Duke University Graduate School Conference Travel Fellowship.	2013, 14, 15

External Grant Submissions

Co-PI. NSF SAP. $182,590   2024
Collaborative Research: Subnational Nonstate Actor Governance

Co-PI. NSF SAP. $254,292   2023
Collaborative Research: Subnational Nonstate Actor Governance

Co-PI. NSF MMS. $440,464.   2023
Attributing Policies to Actors through Semantic Content Evaluation

Co-PI. Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Budget not required.   2023
How social scientists learned to stop worrying and love immigration

Co-PI. NSF AIB. $405,720.   2022
Attributing Policies to Actors through Semantic Content Evaluation

Co-PI. Russell Sage Foundation. $50,000.   2022
How social scientists learned to stop worrying and love immigration

Co-PI. DARPA. $1,000,000.   2021
CANA-Dip: Credibility-Aware Negotiation Agent for Diplomacy

Co-PI. NSF. $1,000,000.   2021
PIPP Phase I: Preventing Pre-Emergence of Zoonotic Pathogens: Detection, Evolution, Ecosystems, Social Behavior and Education

Co-PI. NSF. $290,842.   2021
The Language of Neighborhoods: A Predictive and Analytical Framework

Co-PI. DARPA. $1,205,105.   2020
eMPiRIC: Modeling Population Response to Information Campaigns

Co-PI. NSF. $19,996,313.   2020
'AI for All' Institute: Bringing Diversity in AI Workforce Readiness, Research, and Outreach

Co-PI. DoD. $444,534.   2020
TRISS: Task-Oriented Robust Intelligent Assistant for System Safety

Co-PI. William T. Grant Foundation. $996,201.   2020
Building the Federalism Data and Advanced Statistics Hub

Co-PI. NCSU Laboratory for Analytic Sciences. $71,314.   2020
Improving Translation Rigor via Reinforcement Learning and Machine Translation Quality Estimation

Co-PI. UNC System Research Opportunities Initiative RFP. Budget not required.   2020
Machine Intelligence and Security Studies Lab (MISSL)

PI. DARPA Young Faculty Award. Budget not required.   2019
Event Graph Inference from Text Corpora

Co-PI. DoD Basic Research Program for HBCU/MI. $658,946.   2019
Surveillance, Conflict, and Dissent: New Data, Methods, and Theory for the Information Era

Co-PI. UNC System Research Opportunities Initiative RFP. Budget not required.   2019
Peace and Conflict Innovations Laboratory to Study Computational Propaganda

Co-PI. UNC Undergraduate Research Office. $25,238.   2019
Introduction to Open Science for Undergraduates: Teaching and Foundations of Transparent and Reproducible Research

Published Software

mmtsne   2017
A package for estimating *multiple maps t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding* (multiple maps t-SNE) models in R. Open source and available on CRAN: https://cran.r-project.org/package=mmtsne

Working Papers

4. Atkinson, Mary Layton and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**Manuscript in preparation**). "Measuring the Ideology of Major Laws".

3. Halterman, Andrew and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**Manuscript in preparation**). "Latent Civil War: Improving Inference and Forecasting with a Civil War Measurement Model". *PolMeth Conference Paper*.

2. Liu, Howard and **Benjamin J. Radford** (**Under review**). "Undercover Policing of Protest: Evidence from Hong Kong".

1. Sajid, Hanif, **Benjamin J. Radford**, Yaoyao Dai, and Jason Windett (**Manuscript in preparation**). "Ideal Points of Large Language Models".

Patents Pending

A method of using artificial intelligence to predict the treatability of water   Pending
With Amir Younis Alansari and James E. Amburgey

Invited Talks

University of Florida   2025
Forecasting Political Violence

Pennsylvania State University   2024
Large Language Models for Measuring Contested and Multi-dimensional Concepts
Center for Social Data Analytics

University of Pittsburgh   2024
Measuring and Forecasting Casualties of Political Violence

Trinity College, Dublin   2024
Forecasting Conflict: New Data from Hong Kong
PaCE: Patterns of Conflict Emergence Workshop

UNC Charlotte CyberDNA   2021
Machine Learning Approaches for Cybersecurity Incident Measurement

Georgia Tech School of Electrical and Computer Engineering   2019
Machine Learning Approaches for Cybersecurity Incident Measurement

DC Digital Analytics   2018
Multilingual Text Classification with Multitask Neural Networks

Symposium on Data Science and Statistics, American Statistical Association   2018
Network Traffic Anomaly Detection Using Recurrent Neural Networks

Conference on Applied Statistics in Defense, American Statistical Association   2016
Cyberlanguage: Enhancing cybersecurity through statistical and natural language processing techniques

Conference Presentations

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association
Ideal Points of Large Language Models — 2024
Measuring Territorial Control in Armed Conflict Using Open-Source Information — 2024
Protest Policing and State Repression: Evidence from Hong Kong — 2023
Better Human Annotation: Methods to Decrease Random and Systematic Errors — 2023
Measuring the Ideology of Major Laws — 2022
How Social Scientists Learn to Stop Worrying and Love Immigration — 2022
What is Word Embedding and How Can it Be Useful for Social Science Research — 2021
Identifying Party Families with Time Series Multilingual Word Embedding — 2021
Automated Dictionary Generation for Political Event Coding — 2018
Going Ballistic: Nuclear Bursts in North Korea and Outbursts on Twitter — 2018
Improving Multilingual Comparability with Transfer Learning — 2018
Big Data for the Dark Side: Mapping the Rebel Alliance — 2015

Annual Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology
Large Language Models for Measuring Contested and Multi-dimensional Concepts (hybrid) — 2023
Latent Civil War: Improving Inference and Forecasting with a Civil War Measurement Model — 2023
How Social Scientists Learn to Stop Worrying and Love Immigration — 2022
Towards Better Human Annotation — 2022

Carolinas Conflict Consortium
The Russian Tank Problem — 2023
Spatial Predictors of Protest Suppression Events — 2020

CASE Workshop at EMNLP
Political Event Coding as Text-to-Text Sequence Generation — 2022
Extended Multilingual Protest News Detection – Shared Task 1, CASE 2021 and 2022 — 2022

Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association
Why Do You Dress Like Us? — 2022
High Resolution Conflict Forecasting with Spatial Convolutions and Long Short-Term Memory — 2022
Tactics of Insurgency and the Micro-Dynamics of IED Use — 2015

Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association
From Fear to Hate: Anti-Asian Sentiment During COVID-19 — 2022
Spatial Predictors of Protest Suppression Events — 2020
Multilingual Word Embedding for Zero-Shot Text Classification — 2019
Primed for Defense: How I Learned to Start Worrying and Love the Bomb — 2013

CASE Workshop at ACL-IJCNLP
Regressing Location on Text for Probabilistic Geocoding — 2021
Few-Shot Upsampling for Protest Size Detection — 2021
CASE 2021 Task 2: Zero-Shot Classification — 2021

Violence Early Warning System (ViEWS) Prediction Competition.
High-Resolution Conflict Forecasting — 2020

Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation, AESPEN Workshop
Seeing the Forest and the Trees — 2020

Conference on New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data — 2018
Military Sensing Symposium, National Symposium on Sensor & Data Fusion — 2017
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association — 2013, 14, 15
Duke-UNC International Relations Workshop — 2014

Courses Offered

Instructor of Record   Charlotte, NC
University of North Carolina at Charlotte   2019–Present
  - GRAD 6101 & 8101: *Linear Regression*   2020, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
  - POLS 3154: *Cyberspace & Politics*   2022, 24
  - GRAD 6103 & 8103: *Classificatory Methods & Time Series*   2021, 22, 23, 25
  - POLS 2220: *Political Science Research Methods*   2019, 20, 21, 23
  - PPOL 8101: *Data Management and Basic Analytics*   2022, 23, 25
  - PPOL 8102: *Applied Research and Regression Analysis*   2025
  - GRAD 6009 & 8009: *Data Science for Social Scientific Inquiry*   2020
  - PPOL 8800 & 8802: *Independent Study*   2022, 24
  - POLS 3700: *Honors Research*   2021, 22
  - POLS 4700: *Honors Thesis*   2022, 23
  - POLS 3800: *Independent Study*   2020

Invited Lecture   Arlington, VA
George Mason University   Nov. 2017
  - CSI 899: *Computational Research and Applications*

Teaching Assistant   Durham, NC
Duke University   2013
  - POLSCI 130: *Introduction to Political Inquiry*

Professional Service

Section Chair, Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association	2027
Admin & Author, `https://www.pandas-lab.com` Provides a hub for students to publicize their research.	2024–Present
Admin & Author, `https://www.benradford.com` Summaries of research, replication archives, and article pre-prints.	2015–Present
Discussant, APSA Political Forecasting Methods: Challenges and Potential Solutions	2024
Discussant, Carolinas Conflict Consortium	2023
Organizing Committee Member, The 5th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text (CASE 2022).	2022
Program Committee Member, The 4th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text (CASE 2021) the Association for Computational Linguistics.	2021
Chair, UNC Charlotte Cybersecurity Symposium	2020
Program Committee Member, AESPEN LREC 2020	2020
Chair, SPSA New Approaches in the Study of Terrorism and Civil War	2020
Discussant, APSA Panel on Prediction	2015

Reviewer

- American Journal of Political Science (AJPS)
- Political Analysis (PA)
- Political Science Research and Methods (PSRM)
- British Journal of Political Science (BJPS)
- Journal of Peace Research
- Journal of Conflict Resolution
- Communication Studies
- Discover Artificial Intelligence
- International Studies Review
- International Interactions
- Journal of Forecasting
- Conflict Management and Peace Science (CMPS)
- Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) 2022
- Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly
- American Journal of Preventive Medicine
- MDPI Systems
- IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking
- IEEE Transactions on Network and Service Management
- iScience

University Service

Chair, Public Policy Brown Bag Committee (PPOL)	2023–2024
Department Representative, College Research Advisory Council	2023–2024
Department Representative (Alternate), University Faculty Council	2023–2024
Committee Member, School-level Curriculum Committee, School of Data Science (SDS)	2023–2024
Co-PI, Security and Intelligence Program	2023–2024
Non-voting Junior Faculty Observer, Dept. Executive Committee	2022–2023
Author & Grader, Methods Exam Committee (PPOL)	2020, 21, 22, 23, 24
Author & Grader, Qualifying Exam Committee (Civil Engineering)	2022, 23
Non-voting Junior Faculty Observer, Dept. Review Committee (POLS)	2021–2022
Department Representative, Faculty Council (POLS)	2020–2021
Committee Member, Speakers Committee (SDS)	2021
Committee Member, Awards Committee (POLS)	2020–2021
Committee Member, International Relations Search Committee (POLS)	2020–2021
Committee Member, Curriculum Review Committee (PPOL)	2020–2021
Participant, New Faculty Learning Community	2019–2020
Participant, New Faculty Mentoring Program	2019–2020

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association	2017, 18, 2021–25
Society for Political Methodology	2017, 18, 2021–25
Association for Computational Linguistics	2021, 23
Linguistic Data Consortium	2020, 21, 22

President	Arlington, VA
Radford Consulting, LLC	2018–Present

President   Alexandria, VA
LevelUp Research, LLC   2018–Present
   DARPA *SafeDocs*   2019–2022
   DARPA *Hybrid Fusion*   2018–2019

Subject Matter Expert, Data Science   Arlington, VA
Parenthetic.io, later Protagonist   2023–Present
   NCSU Laboratory for Analytic Sciences project

Subject Matter Expert, Data Science   Arlington, VA
Giant Oak, Inc.   2022–2023
   DARPA *Influence Campaign Awareness and Sensemaking (INCAS)*

Principal Data Scientist   Arlington, VA
Sotera Defense Solutions, later KeyW Corporation   2016–2018
   DARPA *Unnamed cybersecurity attribution program*

Senior Data Scientist   Arlington, VA
Caerus Associates, later Cybraics, Inc.   2015–2016
   DARPA *Network Defense*