

# Brian Guay, Ph.D.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Stony Brook, NY 11794

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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science

September 2023 - present

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA  
Postdoctoral Research Associate  
Sloan School of Management & Department of Political Science

July 2021 - August 2023

## EDUCATION

Duke University, Durham, NC  
Ph.D., Political Science, 2021  
Sunshine Hillygus (chair), Christopher Johnston,  
John Aldrich, Christopher Bail (Sociology)  
M.A., Political Science, 2017

August 2015 - May 2021

University of Richmond, Richmond, VA  
B.A., Psychology, Political Science, *cum laude*

August 2010 - May 2014

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Guay, B., Berinsky, A., Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. 2023. "How To Think About Whether Misinformation Interventions Work." *Nature Human Behavior*. 7(8), 1231-1233.

Combs, A., Tierney, G., Guay, B., Merhout, F., Bail, C., Hillygus, D.S., Volfovsky, A. 2023. "Reducing Partisan Animosity Through Anonymous Online Deliberation: A National Field Experiment." *Nature Human Behavior*. 6(9), 1194-1205.

Guay, B. & Johnston, C. 2022. "Ideological Asymmetries and the Determinants of Politically Motivated Reasoning." *American Journal of Political Science*, 66(2), 285-301.

Guay, B. & Lopez, J. 2021. "Partisan Bias in Bipartisan Places? A Field Experiment Measuring Attitudes Toward the Presidential Alert." *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 85(1), 161-171.

- Coverage in [the Washington Post](#)

Valentino, N., Zirkhov, K., Hillygus, D.S., & Guay, B. 2021. "The Political Consequences of Personality Biases in Online Panel Surveys." *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 84(2), 446-468.

Bail, C., Guay, B., Maloney, E., Combs, A., Hillygus, D.S., Merhout, F., Freelon, D., and Volfovsky, A. 2020. "Assessing the Russian Internet Research Agency's Impact on the Political Attitudes and Behaviors of American Twitter Users in Late 2017" *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(1), 243-250.

- Coverage in *Forbes*, *Inverse*, and *Yahoo News*

Spell, G., Guay, B., Hillygus, D.S., & Carin, L. 2020. "An Embedding Model for Estimating Legislative Preferences from the Frequency and Sentiment of Tweets." *Proceedings of the 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*(627-641).

Landy, D., Guay, B. & Marghetis, T. 2018. "Bias and Ignorance in Demographic Perception." *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 25(5), 1606-1618.

Marghetis, T., Guay, B., Karlapudy, A., & Landy, D. 2018. "The Psychophysics of Society: Uncertain Estimates of Invisible Entities." *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 166-177.

Guay, B., Chandler, C., Erkulwater, J., and Landy, D. 2016. "Testing the Effectiveness of a Number-based Classroom Exercise." *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 49(2), 327-332.

#### UNDER REVIEW

Guay, B., Marghetis, T., Wong, C. & Landy, D. Quirks of Cognition Explain Why We Dramatically Overestimate the Size of Minority Groups."

- Revise & Resubmit at *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Guay, B., Berinsky, A., Pennycook, G. & Rand, D. "Examining Partisan Asymmetries in Fake News Sharing and the Efficacy of Accuracy Prompt Interventions.

- Revise & Resubmit at *Journal of Politics*.
- Coverage in the *Washington Post*

#### WORKING PAPERS

Guay, B. "Misinformed or Uninformed? The Prevalence and Consequences of Certainty in Political Misperceptions."

Guay, B., Berinsky, A., Pennycook, D., & Rand, D. "Polarization Drives Online Sharing of Accurate Information As Much or More Than Misinformation"

Guay, B., Berinsky, A., & Rand, D. "I'm Sure I'm Right But So What?: The Consequences of Excessive Confidence in Political Knowledge"

Guay, B., Blum, A., Hanfling, E., Berinsky, A., & Rand, D. "Just Asking Questions?: The Effects of Framing Misinformation as a Question"

Jangili, S.\*, Guay, B., & Stagnaro, N. "Understanding the Link Between Openness and Motivated Reasoning."

\*Stony Brook graduate student

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Hillygus, D.S. & Guay, B. "Online Public Opinion Polling." 2018. *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*.

Hillygus, D.S. & Guay, B. 2016. "The Virtues and Limitations of Election Polling in the United States." *Seminar*, 684, 51-55.

#### GRANTS AND AWARDS

##### External

Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship. *National Science Foundation*, 2017

Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences. *National Science Foundation*, 2014

##### Duke University

Kevin Morrison Predoctoral Fellowship. *Dept. of Political Science*, 2020-2021

Research Opportunities for Surveys & Experiments. *Social Science Research Inst.*, 2016, 2018, 2020

Summer Research Fellowship (\$5,500). *Duke Graduate School*, 2019 & 2020

Dissertation Support Award (\$5,500). *Dept. Political Science*, 2018

Research Grant (\$5,000). *Program for the Study of Democracy, Institutions and Pol. Economy*

	<p>Research Grant (\$3,000). <i>Kenan Institute for Ethnics, Worldview Lab</i>, 2018-2020</p> <p>Research Grant (\$5,000). <i>Duke University, Dept. of Political Science</i>, 2017</p>
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<p>American Political Science Association (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)</p> <p>International Society of Political Psychology (2023, 2024)</p> <p>Midwest Political Science Association (2019, 2024)</p> <p>Joint Statistical Meetings (2021)</p> <p>International Methods Colloquium (2020)</p> <p>Society for Political Methodology (2019)</p> <p>American Public Opinion Association (2013, 2018)</p> <p>Southern Political Science Association (2017, 2018)</p> <p>Southern Association for Public Opinion Research (2016, 2018)</p>
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>Pedagogy Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (May 2023)</li> <li>• Teaching Politics Certificate, Department of Political Science, Duke University (May 2020)</li> </ul> <p>Stony Brook University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundations of Political Psychology &amp; Behavior (PhD seminar; Fall 2023, 2024)</li> <li>• Political Cognition (PhD seminar; Spring 2024)</li> <li>• Dynamics of Public Opinion (Master's seminar; Spring 2025)</li> <li>• Social Surveys in Contemporary Society (Undergraduate; Spring 2024, 2025)</li> </ul> <p>Duke University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab Instructor, Teaching Assistant. Survey Methodology Graduate Seminar (Spring 2019)</li> <li>• Section Instructor, Teaching Assistant. Political Psychology (Fall 2018)</li> <li>• Teaching Assistant. Reason and Passion in Politics (Spring 2018)</li> <li>• Teaching Assistant. Political Communication in a Changing Media Environment (Fall 2017)</li> </ul>
SERVICE	<p>Stony Brook University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of senior faculty search committee (Fall 2023)</li> <li>• Member of department chair search committee (Spring 2024)</li> <li>• Member of senior faculty search committee (Fall 2024)</li> <li>• Member of department executive committee (2023-2024)</li> </ul>
ADDITIONAL TRAINING	<p>Machine Learning Summer School, <i>Duke University</i>, June 2019</p> <p>Workshop on Research Design for Causal Inference, <i>Northwestern University</i>, June 2017</p>
REVIEWER	<p>American Political Science Review; American Journal of Political Science; Political Behavior; Political Psychology; Journal of Experimental Political Science; Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties; Nature Human Behaviour; PNAS Nexus; Oxford University Press</p>
REFERENCES	<p>Sunshine Hillygus. Professor of Political Science, Duke University</p> <p>Christopher Johnston. Professor of Political Science, Duke University</p> <p>Christopher Bail. Professor of Sociology, Duke University</p> <p>John Aldrich. Professor of Political Science, Duke University</p> <p>Adam Berinsky. Professor of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology</p> <p>David Rand. Professor of Management Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology</p>