

# Brian Guay, Ph.D.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Cambridge, MA 02142

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**Website:** [brianguay.com](http://brianguay.com)

## 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  
M.A., Political Science, 2017

August 2015 - May 2021

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

May 2014

## NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Deloitte Consulting, Washington, DC  
*Business Analyst*, Strategy & Operations

August 2014 - July 2015

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Combs, A., Tierney, G., Guay, B., Merhout, F., Bail, C., Hillygus, D.S., Volfovsky, A. "[Reducing Partisan Animosity Through Anonymous Online Deliberation: A National Field Experiment](#)" Forthcoming at *Nature Human Behavior*.

Guay, B., Berinsky, A., Pennycook, G., & Rand, D. "[How To Think About Whether Misinformation Interventions Work](#)" Forthcoming at *Nature Human Behavior*.

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.

Spell, G., Guay, B., Hillygus, D.S., & Carin, L. 2021. "[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).

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](#)

	<p>Landy, D., Guay, B. &amp; Marghetis, T. 2018. <a href="#">“Bias and Ignorance in Demographic Perception.”</a> <i>Psychonomic Bulletin &amp; Review</i>, 25(5), 1606-1618.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coverage by <a href="#">YouGov</a></li> </ul> <p>Marghetis, T., Guay, B., Karlapudy, A., &amp; Landy, D. 2018. <a href="#">“The Psychophysics of Society: Uncertain Estimates of Invisible Entities.”</a> <i>Proceedings of the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society</i>, 166-177.</p> <p>Guay, B., Chandler, C., Erkulwater, J., and Landy, D. 2016. <a href="#">“Testing the Effectiveness of a Number-based Classroom Exercise.”</a> <i>PS: Political Science &amp; Politics</i>, 49(2), 327-332.</p>
OTHER PUBLICATIONS	<p>Hillygus, D.S. &amp; Guay, B. <a href="#">“Online Public Opinion Polling.”</a> 2018. <i>Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science</i>.</p> <p>Hillygus, D.S. &amp; Guay, B. 2016. <a href="#">“The Virtues and Limitations of Election Polling in the United States.”</a> <i>Seminar</i>, 684, 51-55.</p>
Under Review	<p>Guay, B., Marghetis, T., Wong, C. &amp; Landy, D. <a href="#">“Rethinking Perceived Threat &amp; Contact: Misperceptions About the Size of Groups in Society”</a></p> <p>Guay, B., Berinsky, A., Pennycook, G. &amp; Rand, D. <a href="#">“Examining Partisan Asymmetries in Fake News Sharing and the Efficacy of Accuracy Prompt Interventions.</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coverage in <a href="#">the Washington Post</a></li> </ul>
WORKING PAPERS	<p>Guay, B. <a href="#">“Misinformed or Uninformed? The Prevalence and Consequences of Certainty in Political Misperceptions.”</a></p> <p>Guay, B., Berinsky, A., &amp; Rand, D. “I’m Sure I’m Right But So What?: The Consequences of Excessive Confidence in Political Knowledge” (Presented at APSA 2022)</p> <p>Guay, B., Berinsky, A., Pennycook, D., &amp; Rand, D. “Political Polarization and Sharing Online Misinformation”</p> <p>Guay, B. “Numeracy and the Effect of Quantitative Information on Public Opinion”</p> <p>Chen, H. &amp; Guay, B. “Angry Birds: Measuring Affective Polarization On Twitter Using Survey-Matched Tweets.”</p> <p>Guay, B., Hillygus, D.S., Valentino, N., &amp; Zhirkov, K. “Opportunities and Challenges of Conducting Large-Scale Political Surveys Online.”</p>
GRANTS AND AWARDS	<p><b>External</b></p> <p>Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship. <i>National Science Foundation</i>, 2017</p> <p>Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences. <i>National Science Foundation</i>, 2014</p> <p><b>Duke University</b></p> <p>Kevin Morrison Predoctoral Fellowship. <i>Dept. of Political Science</i>, 2020-2021</p> <p>Research Opportunities for Surveys &amp; Experiments. <i>Social Science Research Inst.</i>, 2016, 2018, 2020</p> <p>Summer Research Fellowship (\$5,500). <i>Duke Graduate School</i>, 2019 &amp; 2020</p> <p>Dissertation Support Award (\$5,500). <i>Dept. Political Science</i>, 2018</p> <p>Research Grant (\$5,000). <i>Program for the Study of Democracy, Institutions and Pol. Economy</i></p> <p>Research Grant (\$3,000). <i>Kenan Institute for Ethnicity, 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) Joint Statistical Meetings (2021)</p> <p>International Methods Colloquium (2020)</p> <p>Midwest Political Science Association (2019)</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)</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>Behavior &amp; Identities Subfield Representative, Duke University, 2019-2020</p> <p>Race &amp; Ethnicity Politics Graduate Student Advisory Committee, Duke University, 2017</p> <p>Political Behavior Workshop Coordinator, Duke University, 2016-2017</p> <p>Graduate Student Council, Duke University, 2015-2016</p>
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</p>
REFERENCES	<p>Sunshine Hillygus. Professor of Political Science, Duke University</p> <p>Christopher Johnston. Associate 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, MIT</p> <p>David Rand. Professor of Management Science, MIT</p>