

# Bryan Simmons

Email: bryansimmons2020@gmail.com

Phone: 512-679-1886

## SUMMARY

I am a bilingual Government major with a minor in Computer Science at The University of Texas at Austin, pursuing a pre-law track with a focus on political institutions and public policy. Experienced in faculty-led academic research, legislative analysis, and data-driven policy work, including large-scale dataset construction and technology-assisted research. Interested in law and public service roles that value rigorous research, institutional analysis, and evidence-based decision-making.

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## EDUCATION

### The University of Texas at Austin

*Expected May 2026*

- Bachelor of Arts in Government
- Programming and Computation Certificate

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## EXPERIENCE

### The University of Texas at Austin | Dr. John Gerring

Austin, TX

*Research Assistant*

*Dec. - May. 2026*

- Conduct large-scale comparative political research focused on political leadership, regime characteristics, and institutional development.
- Collect, verify, and code cross-national political data, ensuring accuracy and consistency across large datasets used for quantitative analysis.
- Conduct structured web scraping and LLM-assisted querying to identify political leaders, tenure timelines, and regime characteristics for large-scale comparative research projects.
- Clean, normalize, and document data for integration into faculty research contributing to peer-reviewed scholarship in comparative politics and political institutions.
- Support ongoing research projects through careful documentation, data management, and adherence to confidentiality and research standards.

### U.S. House of Representatives | District Office of U.S. Representative Greg Casar

Austin, TX

*Congressional Intern*

*Sept. - Dec. 2025*

- Conduct legislative and policy research, producing concise summaries and background notes on federal bills and district issues.
- Operate case management systems and internal databases to process, monitor, and close casework efficiently.
- Coordinate community outreach efforts by providing research and logistical input for events and meetings.
- Draft constituent correspondence and prepare communications that explain policy positions and federal resources in clear terms.
- Manage and track casework requests, engaging directly with constituents and coordinating with federal agencies to resolve concerns.

### Texas Education Agency | Office of Special Populations and Student Supports

Austin, TX

*Policy Intern*

*Jun. - Aug. 2025*

- Conduct a policy analysis on state education initiatives that affect special student populations across Texas.
- Support the Policy, Integration, and Technical Assistance team in implementing legislative changes from the 89th Legislative Session.
- Execute administrative and research tasks focused on educational equity, special education, and student support programs.
- Collaborate with agency teams to ensure alignment between policy goals and statewide education strategies.
- Conducting an independent capstone initiative focused on enhancing policy implementation for special student populations at TEA.

### Higbee & Associates | Copyright Division

Austin, TX

*Intellectual Property Intern*

*May. - August. 2025*

- Evaluated copyright infringement cases by researching claims, identifying missing data, and assessing case viability for pre-litigation recovery.
- Compiled evidence to support enforcement actions in alignment with federal copyright law.
- Drafted and reviewed intake documentation using the firm's internal case management system to facilitate case progression.
- Conducted legal research on infringement patterns, case precedents, and enforcement strategies.
- Developed working knowledge of pre-trial legal procedures and copyright enforcement practices.

**Office of Dean Senator Judith Zaffirini (SD-21)**

Austin, TX

*Policy Analyst Intern*

Jan. - Jun. 2025

- Monitor bill progress, analyze legislative texts, and prepare reports on key policy initiatives.
- Responding to constituent inquiries, drafting correspondence, and providing legislative resources to the public.
- Support daily operations, schedule meetings, and liaise with government agencies, advocacy groups, and stakeholders.
- Conduct focused research and briefing preparation on education, border policy, veteran affairs, and transportation, contributing to legislative recommendations and policy discussions.

**The University of Texas at Austin | Dr. Connor Jerzak**

Austin, TX

*Research Intern*

Jan. - Jun. 2025

- Investigate the political influence of ultras groups in Europe, focusing on their relationships with soccer clubs and broader socio-political impacts.
- Identify relevant datasets and sources, and integrate both quantitative and qualitative methodologies for comprehensive research.
- Conduct extensive reviews of existing academic literature to contextualize the study within political science and sports sociology.
- Presented original research findings at the International Football Collective Conference in Belfast, Ireland, demonstrating the ability to communicate complex political analysis to professional and scholarly audiences.

**The Texas Orator**

Austin, TX

*Editor at Large*

Aug. 2024 - Jan. 2025

- Oversee the editorial process, including reviewing and editing articles, ensuring high-quality content, and maintaining journalistic standards.
- Collaborate with the editorial team to plan and execute content strategies, addressing current events and issues pertinent to the university and beyond.
- Provided feedback to writers to strengthen argumentative clarity, factual accuracy, and alignment with The Texas Orator's mission of nonpartisan civic discourse.

**National Hispanic Institute | Texas Great Debate**

Austin, TX

*Co-Project Administrator*

Mar. 2021 - Aug. 2024

- Managed and coordinated the Texas Great Debate program, collaborating with a team of 50+ staff members to execute a large-scale debate competition with over 300 high-achieving students.
- Facilitated program, ensuring participant success for statewide competition with rigorous standards.
- Led recruitment meetings, effectively presenting the program's goals and benefits to potential participants and their parents, increasing engagement.

**Lex Fellowship Program**

Madrid, Spain

*Lex Fellow*

Jun. 2024 - Jul. 2024

- Participated in an intensive 14-day legal immersion program in Madrid, Spain.
- Engaged in hands-on learning experiences, including visits to top law firms, interactive workshops, and seminars led by legal professionals.
- Developed a deeper understanding of various legal practices and enhanced my research and analytical skills.

**SKILLS***Software*

- Python, R Studio, C#, Rider, Godot Engine, Wireshark, Microsoft Office (PowerPoint, Word, Excel), Legislative Systems (TLIS, CMS, LMS)

*Languages*

- Spanish (Native)

**PROJECTS**[Fortress Fling - Game Development](#)

- Designed and implemented a 2D physics-based puzzle game using the Godot engine.
- Built core gameplay mechanics and user interface; collaborated on level design and feedback integration.

[Ultras Global: A Global Dataset of Football Fan Groups Amid Political and Societal Change. 1950-2025](#)

- Investigating the political dimensions of football ultras groups in South America and Europe.
- Exploring the intersection of fandom, violence, and electoral politics through historical and qualitative analysis.

**HONORS & AWARDS***Undergraduate Research Fellowship Award*

- Awarded a \$1,000 competitive fellowship to support undergraduate research working towards the development of the Ultras Global comparative dataset (1950–2025).