

Curriculum Vitae

Clint S. Swift

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Current Positions

Elections Policy Strategist (May 2021-Present) Protect Democracy, Washington D.C. (*remote*)

Data Scientist (September 2020-Present), VoteShield, Washington D.C. (*remote*)

Previous Position

Visiting Assistant Professor (August 2017-May 2020), Department of Politics, Sewanee: The University of the South

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Missouri, Columbia, September 2017.

Concentrations: American Politics (State Politics, Legislative Behavior and Institutions, Public Opinion), Comparative Politics (Advanced Industrial Democracies: Elections, Economic Voting, Public Opinion). Advisors: Peverill Squire (chair), L. Marvin Overby, Laron Williams, and Jeffrey Milyo.

M.A., Government, California State University, Sacramento, May 2011. Emphasis in state politics.

B.S., *magna cum laude*, Political Science, Whittier College, May 2007.

ICPSR Seminar on Spatial Models (Instructor: Robert Franzese), University of Michigan, July 2014.

Research

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “Considering Subnational Support of Climate Change Policy in the United States and the Implications of Symbolic Policy Acts” (with JoyAnna Hopper), *Environmental Politics*, September 2021.
- “Marginalization and Mobilization: The Roots of Female Legislators’ Collaborative Advantage in the States” (with Kathryn VanderMolen), *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, April 2021.
- “The Legislative Matching Game: Committee Matching and Effective Legislating in the States,” *State Policy & Politics Quarterly*, December 2019.
- “All Economics Is Local: Spatial Aggregations of Economic Information” (with David Fortunato & Laron Williams), *Political Science Research & Methods*, July 2018.

- “Term Limits and Collaboration Across the Aisle: An Analysis of Bipartisan Cosponsorship in Term Limited and Non-Term Limited State Legislatures” (with Kathryn VanderMolen), *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, June 2016.

Selected Presentations

- “The Inaccuracy of the Supplemental Process in Identifying Movers on State Voter Lists,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association meeting in New Orleans, LA, 2026 (with Sara Loving).
- “Invalid Signature Rejections in Georgia Absentee Voting: Comparing the 2020 General to the 2021 Runoff,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration conference at M.I.T. (virtual), 2021 (with Delaney Gomen).
- “Updating and Synthesizing our Understanding of State Legislative Support for Climate Change Policy,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association meeting in San Juan, PR, 2020 (with JoyAnna Hopper).
- “Gubernatorial Impeachment and Resignation: Process and History,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association meeting in Austin, TX, 2019 (with Drew Kurlowski).
- “The Legislative Matching Game: Committee Matching and Efficient Legislating in the States,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the State Politics & Policy Conference, State College, PA, 2018.
- “Putting Friends in High Places: Gubernatorial Appointments in Term-Limited States,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the State Politics & Policy Conference, St. Louis, MO, 2017 (with Kathryn VanderMolen and JoyAnna Hopper).
- “Building Consensus? Reconsidering the Collaborative Activity of Female Legislators,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2016 (with Kathryn VanderMolen).
- “The Conditional Effects of Term-Limited Status on Bipartisan Collaboration,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the State Politics & Policy Conference, Sacramento, CA, 2015 (with Kathryn VanderMolen).
- “Term Limits and Collaboration Across the Aisle,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2015 (with Kathryn VanderMolen).
- “A Hybrid Model of Spatial Evaluations,” paper presented at the Conference on Methodological Innovations in Comparative Politics, Texas A&M University, 2015 (with David Fortunato & Laron Williams).
- “Environmental Justice and the Placement of Federal Air Monitoring Stations: A Spatial Analysis of 5 Metropolitan Areas,” paper presented to the Graduate Research Working Group at the University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 2014 (with JoyAnna Hopper).
- “Overcoming Problems of Scale,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2014.
- “How Much Do Californians Really Hate Taxes?: An Examination of Voting on Local-Level Tax Measures,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, 2012 (with Brian DiSarro).

Other Publications

- “The ‘SAVE’ Tool Could Disenfranchise U.S. Citizens” (with Jiamin Huang), *Protect Democracy Report*, August 1, 2025. <https://protectdemocracy.org/save-tool>
- “Opinion: Mass voter challenges are frivolous. We know because we looked at the lists.” (with Peter Simmons), *The Atlanta Journal Constitution (Opinion Section)*, October 25, 2024.
- “Analyzing Mass Voter Challenges in 2024” (with Sara Loving), *Protect Democracy Research Note*, October 25, 2024. <https://protectdemocracy.org/work/analyzing-mass-voter-challenges-in-2024/>
- “Unraveling the Rise of Mass Voter Challenges” (with Sara Loving, Jessica Marsden, and Orion Danjuma), *Protect Democracy White Paper*, June 17, 2024. <http://protectdemocracy.org/work/voter-challenges/>
- “Opinion: Here’s what cleaning up voter rolls means” (with Peter Simmons), *The Atlanta Journal Constitution (Opinion Section)*, August 31, 2023.
- “NC elections board was right to reject a Republican bid aimed at ‘election security’,” *The Raleigh News and Observer (Opinion Section)*, July 15, 2022.
- “If citizens want to get rid of selfishness and gridlock in legislatures, term limits are not the answer” (with Kathryn VanderMolen), *USAPP Blog at the London School of Economics*, December 16, 2015.

Teaching Experience

Instructor

- *Introduction to American Politics*: Sewanee: University of the South, *POLS 101*
- *Introduction to Political Theory*: Sewanee: University of the South, *POLS 105*
- *State Politics*: Sewanee: University of the South, *POLS 206* **New to Dept.**
- *Public Policy*: Sewanee: The University of the South, *POLS 223*
- *The Scientific Study of Politics*: Sewanee: University of the South, *POLS 300 (Methods)* **New to Dept.**
- *Political Parties and Interest Groups*: Sewanee: University of the South, *POLS 328* **New to Dept.**

Graduate Instructor

- *Introduction to American Government*: Spring & Fall 2015, Spring 2016 (University of Missouri, *PS1100*)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- *Politics of the American South*: Spring 2014 (University of Missouri, *PS4170*). Instructor: L. Marvin Overby.
- *Introduction to Political Theory*: Fall 2013 (University of Missouri, *PS2800*). Instructor: Justin Dyer.
- *State Government*: Independent Discussion Sections, Spring 2013 (University of Missouri, *PS2100*). Instructor: Peverill Squire.
- *Political Behavior*: Fall 2012 (University of Missouri, *PS4110*). Instructor: John R. Petrocik.
- *Political Parties and Election Campaigns*: Spring 2012 (University of Missouri, *PS4100*). Instructor: Jay Dow.
- *The Constitution and Civil Rights*: Fall 2011 (University of Missouri, *PS4210*). Instructor: Justin Dyer.

Invited Lectures and Talks

- *The Dynamics of State Legislative Compensation*: April 9, 2022. The Center for Ethics and Excellence in Public Service at the University of Scranton.
- *Sewanee Organize and Act: Political Participation in Tennessee*: February 22, 2018. Sewanee Community Center.
- *Methods Workshop: Basic Tools for Digital and Online Data Collection*: April 15, 2016. University of Missouri, Department of Political Science.
- *League of Women Voters Presents: State Government Overreach?*: March 9, 2016. Columbia, Missouri access television (CAT-TV).

Research and Teaching Interests

American Politics

Voting and elections; election administration; legislative behavior; Congress and state legislatures; comparative state politics; public opinion.

Comparative Politics

Economic voting; electoral institutions; legislative institutions.

Political Methodology

Spatial models; network analysis; multilevel/mixed-effects models; measurement of complex concepts; web scraping and other automated data collection techniques.

Awards and Support

Arnold Vedlitz Award (\$250), Southern Political Science Association, 2020

Kinder Institute Dissertation Fellow (\$18,000), University of Missouri, 2016

Kinder Institute Research Grant (\$1,200), University of Missouri, 2014

J.G. Heinberg Scholarship (\$7,000), Department of Political Science, University of Missouri, 2014

David M. Wood Research Award (\$50), Department of Political Science, University of Missouri, 2014

Bryan L. Forbis Award (\$270), Department of Political Science, University of Missouri, 2013

Dean L. Yarwood Award (\$450), Department of Political Science, University of Missouri, 2012

Finalist for the College-wide Dean's Award, Department of Government, Sacramento State University, 2011