Ella Foster-Molina

Swarthmore College
Social Sciences Quantitative Laboratory
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EDUCATION

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Ph.D. Political Science, expected Summer 2018
M.A. Political Science, 2014
Fields: American Politics, Formal Theory, Comparative Politics

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
B.A. Political Science; B.A. Mathematics, 2007
Graduated with Honors

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
Social Sciences Quantitative Laboratory Associate, Fall 2017- present

Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Visiting Instructor of Government, Fall 2015- Summer 2016

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Instructor, Summer 2015

SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY
Adjunct Professor, Spring 2015

WORKING PAPERS

"Money Matters: Tradeoffs Between Constituent Service and Legislation"

"Education Matters: Four Decades of Legislative History, Party, Education, and Income"

"Beta Models for Limited Dependent Variables and Heteroskedasticity"

"Job Appeal: How District Economics Dictate the Job History and Legislative Success of Elected Politicians"

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

American Politics
> Introduction to American Politics, Race and Ethnic Politics
> Institutions: Congress, the Presidency, Courts
> Representation, Political Inequality, Civil Liberties

Quantitative
> Statistical Methods, Research Design, Game Theory

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Social Sciences Quantitative Laboratory
> Developed 19 modular lessons, each 2 hours long, on data science skills.
> Delivered 57 individual workshops for approximately 270 unique students.
> *Swarthmore College*, Fall 2017-present

Professor, Analysis of Political Data I
> *Georgetown*, Spring 2016

Professor, Analysis of Political Data II
> *Georgetown*, Spring 2016

Professor, Introduction to Applied Game Theory
> *Georgetown*, Fall 2015

Professor, Race and Ethnicity in US Politics
> *Georgetown*, Fall 2015

Professor, Introduction to American Government
> *University of Rochester*, Summer 2015

Professor, Civil Liberties
> *SUNY Oswego*, Spring 2015

Professor, Inequality and Democracy
> *SUNY Oswego*, Spring 2015

Award "Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student" 2013-2014
> Given to top two teaching assistants in political science
> Competitive award with financial prize
> Based on faculty nominations
> *University of Rochester*, Spring 2014

Head Teaching Assistant, Introduction to International Relations
> (Professor Hein Goemans), *University of Rochester*, Spring 2014

Guest Lecturer Introduction to International Relations (Professor Hein Goemans)
> "International Institutions and War," "Asia's Role,"
> "Human Rights," "Mid-term Synthesis"
> *University of Rochester*, Spring 2014

Program Assistant for Study Abroad (Professor Lynda Powell)
> In charge of admissions and journal grader.
> Involved in ongoing program revisions.
> *University of Rochester*, Fall 2007-Fall 2009, Spring 2012-Fall 2014

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to International Relations (Professor Hein Goemans)
> *University of Rochester*, Spring 2013

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to American Politics (Professor Gerald Gamm)
> *University of Rochester*, Fall 2013

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Political Philosophy (Professor James Johnson)
     University of Rochester, Fall 2012
Teacher and Advisee Training Seminars, attendee
     University of Rochester, SUNY Oswego, Georgetown, and Swarthmore, 2012-present

RESEARCH, PROGRAMMING, AND DATA ANALYSIS

Research Assistant, Pippa Norris, Harvard University, Spring 2017
- Modified anchoring vignette questions in Perceptions of Electoral Integrity survey.
- Created 10 page document describing how to apply anchoring vignette method.
- Implemented Stata and R code modifying variables based on anchoring principles for shared use.

Research Assistant, Lyndon Estes, Princeton University, Fall 2014
- Extracted data from climate sensing pods across the country using Python and R.
- Collaborated to streamline the database.

Research Assistant, Richard Niemi, University of Rochester, 2014
- Data analysis using South Asia Barometer. Examined the impact of education and generational cohort (based on the government regime the respondent grew up under) on sympathy for democracy.
- Assist with determining the beginning and ends of each regime type (ex: liberal democracy, military dictatorship) for five countries.

Research Assistant, Lynda Powell, University of Rochester, 2012
- Analyze preferences over representational styles of United States residents.

Consultant, 2 de Mayo Entertainment Consulting, Princeton, NJ , 2011
- Create programs in Python to parse documents containing information on media availability.
- Analyze efficiency of data documentation and transmission.

Consultant, SureTech, Princeton, NJ , 2011
- Build portions of database management software.
- Review website development using PHP.

Research Assistant, Jim Johnson, University of Rochester, 2008
- Document the influence of Elinor Ostrom on the impact of collective action and the allocation of scarce resources.

Research Assistant, Larry Rothenberg, University of Rochester, 2008
- Investigate the evolution of gerrymandering in the United States.
- Research the legal history of court cases regarding gerrymandering.
- Analyze the impact of districting decisions on vote choice California between 1980 and 1990.

Statistical Analyst, Analysis and Inference, Swarthmore, PA, 2006
- Analyze data related to court cases to determine baseline frequencies of relevant events.
- Write tutorials to introduce novice programmers to R.

Grant Writer, National Hispanic University, San Jose, CA 2004
- Help create a robotics program for immigrant and first generation elementary school students focused on hands on learning.
- Write grant applications to fund program.
- Program successfully funded in September 2004.

PUBLISHED DATASET

Harvard Dataverse 2017, "Historical Congressional Legislation and District Demographics 1972-2014." doi:10.7910/DVN/CI2EPI

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Travel Award for Text as Data Conference, Northwestern University, 2014
Summer Research Assistant Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2014
Charles E. Lanni Summer Research Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2008, 2014
Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student, University of Rochester, 2013-2014
PEPR Research Assistant Grant, University of Rochester, 2012
Provost's Fellowship, University of Rochester, 2007-2009, 2012-2013

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Cofounder, Writing Group, Swarthmore College, 2018
- Cofounded a weekly group to provide support for the development of research ideas among Swarthmore faculty and staff.

Cofounder, Working Group, University of Rochester, 2012 - 2015
- Cofounded a weekly workshop to provide support for the development of research ideas among female graduate students in political science.

Tutor, Carlson Library Tutoring, University of Rochester, 2014
- Tutored students from disadvantaged backgrounds in English, Math, History, and Economics.

CONFERENCES and PRESENTATIONS

Liberal Arts Consortium on Online Learning 2018
"Digital Tools for Data Science Skills"

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2016
"Forty Years of Inequality: Legislative History, Party, Education, and Income"

Georgetown Quantitative Models, Spring 2016
"Automated Content Analysis: Understanding Text as Data through Regular Expressions and Word Clouds"

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2016
"Education Matters: Four Decades of Legislative History, Party, Education, and Income"

Georgetown American Government Speaker Series, Spring 2016
"Race Matters: Tradeoffs Politicians Make when their District Does Not Reflect Their Race"

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2015
"Understanding Time Constraints and Policy: An Analysis Using Legislation, Staffing Resources, and Twitter"

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2015
"Descriptive Representation, Policy, and Communication: Understanding Tradeoffs and Their Impact on Policy"

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2014
"Casework and Legislation: An Analysis of Representation using Twitter, Facebook, and Press Releases"

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2013
    "Money Matters: The Influence of Affluence on Political Representation"

SKILLS

Technical: R, Stata, SPSS, Excel, ArcGIS, Python, LaTeX
Languages: Spanish (fluent)

REFERENCES

Lynda Powell
Associate Professor
University of Rochester
Dept. of Political Science
lynda.powell@ur.rochester.edu

Matthew Blackwell
Assistant Professor
Harvard University
Dept. of Government
mblackwell@gov.harvard.edu

Richard Niemi
Associate Professor
University of Rochester
Dept. of Political Science
niemi@rochester.edu