Isaac D. Mehlhaff

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Updated: September 15, 2021
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Education

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — Chapel Hill, NC
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science — In Progress
Fields: Comparative Politics, American Politics, Political Methodology
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Rahsaan Maxwell,
        Timothy J. Ryan, Jaime Settle (William and Mary)

Master of Arts in Political Science — 2020
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Ted Enamorado, Cecilia Martinez-Gallardo

University of Wisconsin-Madison — Madison, WI
Bachelor of Arts with Honors in the Liberal Arts — 2018
Majors: History, Political Science, and Economics
Advisor: Erica S. Simmons

Publications

Hetherington, Marc J. and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff** "American attitudes toward covid-19 are divided by party. The pandemic itself might undo that." *The Washington Post* (August 18, 2020).

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. "Subverting Solidarity: The Role of American Organized Labor in Pursuing United States Foreign Policy Objectives in Chile, 1961-1973." *The Burkhardt Review* 1, no. 2 (2018): 24-40.

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. "The Short-Term Success of New Deal Work Relief Programs: An Evaluation of Private Sector Employment, 1929-1940." *Equilibrium: Journal of Economics* 8 (Spring 2018): 29-33.

Working Papers

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. "A Group-Based Approach to Measuring Polarization." *Under Review.*

Mehlhaff, Isaac D., Marc Hetherington, Michael MacKuen, and Timothy J. Ryan. "Where Motivated Reasoning Withers and Looms Large: Fear and Partisan Reactions to the Covid-19 Pandemic." *Under Review.*

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. "Estimating Mass Polarization and its Structural Determinants Over Time and Space."

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. "Mass Polarization and Democratic Decline: Evidence of a Negligible Relationship."

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. "Polarization in Comparative Perspective: Concept, Definition, and Measurement."

Software

Mehlhaff, Isaac D. *CPC: Implementation of Cluster-Polarization Coefficient* (version 2.0.2). R. 2021.

Funding

Graduate Research Fellowship — 2020 - 2023

National Science Foundation	$138,000

Graduate Fellowship	2021 - 2022
Program for Public Discourse, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	$1,000

Uhlman Endowment	2020
Department of Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	$500

Americas Graduate Fellowship	2018 - 2020
Institute for the Study of the Americas, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	$5,000

Travel Award	2019
Standing Group on Latin American Politics, European Consortium for Political Research	€150

Uhlman Fellowship	2019
Department of Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	$2,000

Harold G. Lundberg Fellowship	2018
Chi Psi Educational Trust	$2,500

Lorraine A. and W. Dwight Stone Fellowship	2018
Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison	$10,000

William K. Fitch Fellowship	2017
Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison	$5,000

Lorraine A. and W. Dwight Stone Fellowship	2017
Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison	$4,000

Barry Popkin Senior Honors Thesis Award	2017
College of Letters and Science Honors Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison	$3,000

Stanoch Family Fellowship	2017
Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison	$1,500

C. Ray Flynn Fellowship	2016
Chi Psi Educational Trust	$5,000

Welton Honors Research Grant	2016
College of Letters and Science Honors Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison	$2,500

HONORS AND AWARDS

Associate Level of Accomplishment	2021
Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning,	
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	

James W. Prothro Award for Best Master's Thesis in Political Science	2021
Department of Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	

Best Presentation, 2nd Place	2020
Uhlman Seminar, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	

William Jennings Bryan Award for Best Thesis in Political Science	2018
Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison	

Best Paper in Global History	2018
Student History Conference, Ball State University	

William F. Allen Research Award	2017
Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison	

Phi Beta Kappa	2017

Presentations and Conference Papers

Mass Polarization and Democratic Decline: Evidence of a Negligible Relationship

- Annual Meeting — 2021
  American Political Science Association — Seattle, WA

Measuring Political Polarization: The Cluster-Polarization Coefficient

- Annual Meeting — 2021
  Southern Political Science Association — New Orleans, LA

- Annual Conference — 2020
  Society for Political Methodology — Toronto, ON

- Standing Group on Latin American Politics — 2019
  European Consortium for Political Research — Segovia, Spain

Peasant Politics and Plurinationalism: Constructing the Zapatistas through Discourse Analysis

- North Carolina Conference on Latin American Studies — 2019
  The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — Chapel Hill, NC

- Undergraduate Symposium — 2018
  University of Wisconsin-Madison — Madison, WI

- Senior Honors Thesis Symposium — 2018
  University of Wisconsin-Madison — Madison, WI

Subverting Solidarity: The Role of American Organized Labor in Pursuing United States Foreign Policy Objectives in Chile, 1961-1973

- Student History Conference — 2018
  Ball State University — Muncie, IN

The Short-Term Success of New Deal Work Relief Programs: An Evaluation of Private Sector Employment, 1929-1940

- Welton Honors Retreat — 2016
  University of Wisconsin-Madison — Spring Green, WI

Service

Removing Inequities in Political Science Working Group — 2020 - present
Member

Graduate Stipends Committee — 2020 - present
Member

NSF GRFP Peer Review Workshop — 2020
Reviewer

UNC-Duke University Working Group on Latin American Politics — 2019 - 2020
Co-Convenor

ARCHIVE Undergraduate Journal of History — 2017
Editor

Teaching

POLI 203: Race, Innocence, and the Decline of the Death Penalty

- Spring 2020 (Teaching Assistant)

POLI 100: American Democracy in Changing Times

- Fall 2019 (Teaching Assistant)

POLI 208: Political Parties and Elections

- Fall 2018 (Instructional Assistant)

SKILLS

LANGUAGES

- English (native)
- Spanish (advanced proficient)
- Portuguese (novice)

TECHNICAL

- R (expert)
- LaTeX (advanced proficient)
- Stan (advanced proficient)
- Qualtrics (advanced proficient)
- Python (novice)
- STATA (novice)