

ISAAC D. MEHLHAFF

Data Science Institute
The University of Chicago
202 Searle Chemistry Laboratory
Chicago, IL 60637

Updated: September 13, 2023
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Texas A&M University
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

College Station, TX
Beginning 2024

The University of Chicago
Postdoctoral Scholar, Data Science Institute

Chicago, IL
2023 - 2024

EDUCATION

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science

Chapel Hill, NC
2023

Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Timothy J. Ryan,
Rahsaan Maxwell (NYU), Jaime E. 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

Thesis Advisor: Erica S. Simmons

BOOK

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. *Mass Polarization across Time and Space.* New York: Cambridge University Press, Elements in Comparative Political Behavior. Under contract.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. "A Group-Based Approach to Measuring Polarization." *American Political Science Review*, forthcoming.

Isaac D. Mehlhaff, Marc J. Hetherington, Michael B. MacKuen, and Timothy J. Ryan. "Where Motivated Reasoning Withers and Looms Large: Fear and Partisan Reactions to the COVID-19 Pandemic." *American Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.

Sam Schmitt, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Emily Cottle Ommundsen. "Integrating Classroom and Community with Undergraduate Civically Engaged Research." *PS: Political Science and Politics*, forthcoming.

UNDER REVIEW

Marc J. Hetherington, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Caroline Marie Lancaster. "Worldview Politics in the United States and Great Britain."

Marc J. Hetherington, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** Matías Tarillo, and Ayelén Vanegas. "A Partisan Pandemic."

Amirhossein Farzam, Shashank Shekhar, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Marco Morucci. "Multi-Task Learning Improves Performance in Deep Argument Mining Models."

Robert C. Luskin, Daron R. Shaw, Marc J. Hetherington, and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** "Signed Forecast Errors in Pre-Election Media Polls, 1990-2020."

WORKING PAPERS

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “Mass Polarization and Democratic Decline: Global Evidence from a Half-Century of Public Opinion.”

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “Political Argumentation and Attitude Change in Online Interactions.”

SOFTWARE

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. PolarCAP: Access the Polarization in Comparative Attitudes Project (version 1.0.1). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=PolarCAP>.

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. CPC: Implementation of Cluster-Polarization Coefficient (version 2.5.6). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=CPC>.

EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Marc J. Hetherington 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).

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “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.

FUNDING

National Science Foundation

Graduate Research Fellowship, \$138,000 2020-2023

Society for Political Methodology

Travel Award, \$1,650 2023

Midwest Political Science Association

Pi Sigma Alpha Travel Award, \$500 2023

American Political Science Association

Centennial Center Research Grant, \$2,400 2022

Travel Award, \$150 2022

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Program for Public Discourse

Graduate Fellowship, \$1,000 2021-2022

Institute for the Study of the Americas

Americas Graduate Fellowship, \$5,000 2018-2020

Department of Political Science

Uhlman Research Grant, \$2,000 2019

European Consortium for Political Research

Travel Award, €150 2019

HONORS AND AWARDS

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Department of Political Science

James W. Prothro Award for Best Master’s Thesis in Political Science 2021

Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning,

Associate Level of Accomplishment 2021

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Department of Political Science

William Jennings Bryan Award for Best Thesis in Political Science 2018

<i>Department of History</i>	
William F. Allen Research Award	2017
<i>College of Letters and Science</i>	
Phi Beta Kappa	2017
Ball State University	
<i>Student History Conference</i>	
Best Paper in Global History	2018

INVITED TALKS

Texas A&M University, Department of Political Science	2022
Duke University, Department of Political Science	
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, American Politics Research Group	

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Politics and Computational Social Science Conference, University of California, Los Angeles	2023
Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, Stanford University	
Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Montreal, QC	2022
Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, Washington University in St. Louis	
Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science, Rice University	
Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA	2021
Conference on Theories of the Contemporary Divide in Western Societies, European University Institute	
Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA	
Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, Toronto, ON	2020
Standing Group on Latin American Politics, European Consortium for Political Research, Segovia, Spain	2019

SERVICE

Graduate Student President	
Department of Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2022 - 2023
Graduate Coordinator	
Formal and Quantitative Seminar	2022 - 2023
UNC-Duke University Working Group on Latin American Politics	2019 - 2020
Member	
Removing Inequities in Political Science Working Group	2020 - 2023
Award Committee, Charles Robson Award for Excellence in Graduate Instruction	2022, 2023
Graduate Stipends Committee	2020 - 2021
Discussant	
American Politics Research Group, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2023
Workshop on Latin American Politics and Party Competition, Duke University	2021
Standing Group on Latin American Politics, European Consortium for Political Research	2019
Reviewer	
<i>Political Communication, Political Science Research and Methods</i> , Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences, PS: Political Science and Politics, NSF GRFP Peer Review Workshop	

TEACHING

Data Science Clinic, Data Science Institute (Project Mentor)	Fall 2023, Winter 2024, Spring 2024
POLI 276: Everyday Political Theory: Seeing Like a Citizen (Graduate Consultant)	Spring 2022
Agora Fellows, Program for Public Discourse (Facilitator)	Fall 2021
POLI 203: Race, Innocence, and the End of the Death Penalty (Teaching Assistant)	Spring 2020
POLI 100: American Democracy in Changing Times (Teaching Assistant)	Fall 2019

SKILLS

Languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese

Technical: R, Python, L^AT_EX, Stan, SQL, Git, Tensorflow/Keras, Qualtrics