

ISAAC D. MEHLHAFF

Data Science Institute
The University of Chicago
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Chicago, IL 60637

Updated: February 5, 2024
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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 <i>Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science</i> Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Timothy J. Ryan, Rahsaan Maxwell (NYU), Jaime E. Settle (William and Mary)	Chapel Hill, NC 2023
<i>Master of Arts in Political Science</i> Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Ted Enamorado, Cecilia Martinez-Gallardo	2020
University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>Bachelor of Arts with Honors in the Liberal Arts</i> Thesis Advisor: Erica S. Simmons	Madison, WI 2018

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, Matías C. Tarillo, Ayelén Vanegas, and Marc J. Hetherington. “Partisanship and the Pandemic: How and Why Americans Followed Party Cues on COVID-19.” *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*, forthcoming.

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* 68, no. 1 (January 2024): 5-23.

Sam Schmitt, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff**, and Emily Cottle Ommundsen. “Integrating Classroom and Community with Undergraduate Civically Engaged Research.” *PS: Political Science and Politics* 56, no. 4 (October 2023): 469-474.

UNDER REVIEW

Marc J. Hetherington, Andrew M. Engelhardt, and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** “More Than a Partisan Pandemic: Worldview and COVID-19 Response in the United States.”

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: A Mainly Political Story.”

WORKING PAPERS

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

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

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	
<i>Program for Public Discourse</i>	
Graduate Fellowship, \$1,000	2021-2022

<i>Institute for the Study of the Americas</i>	
Americas Graduate Fellowship, \$5,000	2018-2020

<i>Department of Political Science</i>	
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	
<i>The Graduate School</i>	
Dean’s Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences	2024

<i>Department of Political Science</i>	
James W. Prothro Award for Best Master's Thesis in Political Science	2021
<i>Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning,</i>	
Associate Level of Accomplishment	2021
University of Wisconsin-Madison	
<i>Department of Political Science</i>	
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	
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The University of Chicago, Quantitative Methods Workshop	2023
The University of Chicago, American Politics Workshop	
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	
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Generative Artificial Intelligence and Sociology Workshop, Yale University	2024
Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	
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	
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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

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Political Communication, Political Science Research and Methods, 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)	2023 - 2024
POLI 276: Everyday Political Theory: Seeing Like a Citizen (Graduate Consultant)	2022
Agora Fellows, Program for Public Discourse (Facilitator)	2021
POLI 203: Race, Innocence, and the End of the Death Penalty (Teaching Assistant)	2020
POLI 100: American Democracy in Changing Times (Teaching Assistant)	2019
POLI 208: Political Parties and Elections (Instructional Assistant)	2018

SKILLS

Languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese

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

REFERENCES

Marc J. Hetherington

Raymond Dawson Distinguished Bicentennial Professor of Political Science	Department of Political Science
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	320 Hamilton Hall
Email: marcj@email.unc.edu	Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Timothy J. Ryan

Associate Professor of Political Science	Department of Political Science
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Santiago Olivella

Associate Professor of Political Science	Department of Political Science
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