

# ISAAC D. MEHLHAFF

Department of Political Science  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
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Updated: January 10, 2023  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**Texas A&M University**  
Assistant Professor of Political Science

College Station, TX  
Beginning 2024

**The University of Chicago**  
Postdoctoral Scholar, Data Science Institute

Chicago, IL  
2023 - 2024

## EDUCATION

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**The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**  
*Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science*  
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Rahsaan Maxwell,  
Timothy J. Ryan, Jaime Settle (William and Mary)

Chapel Hill, NC  
Expected 2023

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

2020

**University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
*Bachelor of Arts with Honors in the Liberal Arts*  
Thesis Advisor: Erica S. Simmons

Madison, WI  
2018

## BOOK

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**Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** *Mass Polarization Across Time and Space.* New York: Cambridge University Press, Elements in Comparative Political Behavior. Under contract, due to publisher June 2023.

## UNDER REVIEW

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

**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." *Revise and Resubmit, American Journal of Political Science.*

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

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

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

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

**Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** "Political Discussion at Scale: Argument Mining with Deep Learning."

**Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** "Political Argumentation and Attitude Change in Online Interactions."

## SOFTWARE

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**Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** CPC: Implementation of Cluster-Polarization Coefficient (version 2.2.1). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=CPC>.

## EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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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

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### **National Science Foundation**

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

### **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

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### **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

*Department of History*

William F. Allen Research Award 2017

*College of Letters and Science*

Phi Beta Kappa 2017

### **Ball State University**

*Student History Conference*

Best Paper in Global History 2018

## INVITED TALKS

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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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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
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### 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

Workshop on Latin American Politics and Party Competition, Duke University	2021
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### Reviewer

*PS: Political Science and Politics*  
NSF GRFP Peer Review Workshop

## TEACHING

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POLI 276: Everyday Political Theory: Seeing Like a Citizen (Graduate Consultant)	Spring 2022
Agora Fellows, Program for Public Discourse (Co-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
POLI 208: Political Parties and Elections (Instructional Assistant)	Fall 2018

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** English, Spanish, Portuguese

**Technical:** R, Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Stan, SQL, Git, Tensorflow/Keras, Qualtrics

## REFERENCES

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### Marc J. Hetherington

Raymond Dawson Distinguished Bicentennial Professor of Political Science  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
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### Timothy J. Ryan

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### Santiago Olivella

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