

ISAAC D. MEHLHAFF

Department of Political Science
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Updated: July 24, 2024
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Texas A&M University	College Station, TX
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science	2024 -
Research Affiliate, Institute of Data Science	2024 -
 The University of Chicago	 Chicago, IL
Postdoctoral Scholar, Data Science Institute	2023 - 2024

EDUCATION

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC
<i>Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science</i>	2023
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Timothy J. Ryan, Rahsaan Maxwell (NYU), Jaime E. Settle (William & Mary)	
 <i>Master of Arts in Political Science</i>	 2020
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Ted Enamorado, Cecilia Martinez-Gallardo	
 University of Wisconsin-Madison	 Madison, WI
<i>Bachelor of Arts with Honors in the Liberal Arts</i>	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. Forthcoming.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

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

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* 49, no. 3 (June 2024): 351-374.

Isaac D. Mehlhaff, Timothy J. Ryan, Marc J. Hetherington, and Michael B. MacKuen. “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.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Amirhossein Farzam, Shashank Shekhar, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff**, and Marco Morucci. “Multi-Task Learning Improves Performance in Deep Argument Mining Models.” *Proceedings of the 11th Workshop on Argument Mining*, Association for Computational Linguistics (August 2024).

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.”

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. *The Natural Origins of Mass Opinion: Argumentation and Political Reasoning*.

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

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

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “Leveraging Time-Series Information to Improve Small-Area Estimation.”

Amirhossein Farzam, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff**, and Marco Morucci. “Multi-Task Learning in Social Scientific Applications.”

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 2.6.0). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=CPC>.

OTHER WRITING

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

American Political Science Association*Political Psychology Section*

Honorable Mention, Best Dissertation in Political Psychology

2024

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*The Graduate School*

Dean's Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences

2024

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

INVITED TALKS

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

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA

2024

Workshop on Argument Mining, Association for Computational Linguistics, Bangkok, TH

Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, University of California, Riverside

Generative Artificial Intelligence and Sociology Workshop, Yale University

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 Contemporary Divides in Western Societies, European University Institute, Florence, IT

Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA

Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, University of Toronto

2020

Standing Group on Latin American Politics, European Consortium for Political Research, Segovia, ES

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

Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology 2024

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

The Journal of Politics, *British Journal of Political Science*, *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

Texas A&M University

POLS 309: Polimetrics 2024

The University of Chicago

Data Science Clinic, Data Science Institute (Project Mentor) 2023 - 2024

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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