# Jack Knox Belk Jr

5739 Gardens Drive, Sarasota, FL 3424

# **Education**

New College of Florida Sarasota, Florida

B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH A MINOR IN FINANCE

Aug. 2015 - Present

- Thesis Title: Rural Politics: A quantitative exploration of rurality and political behavior
- Thesis Committee: Jack Reilly (Sponsor), Sherry Yu, and Amanda Fidalgo

#### Saint Thomas Aquinas High School

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Aug. 2011 - May 2015

SUMMA CUM LAUDE GRADUATE

# Research Experience

#### On the Question of Rural Measurement

Oct. 2018 - Present

CO-AUTHOR WITH JACK REILLY

- Used five years of survey data and ten county-level measures of rurality to explore the importance of sound measurement specification when modeling relationships between place of residence and political behaviors and attitudes.
- Presented at the 47th Annual Florida Political Science Association Conference, and at the 91st Annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association.
- Generously supported by a grant from the American Political Science Association.

#### Nelson Minus Gillum and Beyond: A Look at 2018 Florida Precinct Returns

2019

FLORIDA POLITICAL CHRONICLE, VOL 27 NO. 1

- · Used precinct level election data to investigate drivers of support for candidates for statewide office in the 2018 midterm elections.
- A collaborative effort of the P.E.B.L. group.

#### Social Connectedness and Political Behavior in the 2016 U.S. Election

Jan. 2018 - Present

Co-author with Jack Reilly, Matthew Pietryka, and Anand Sokhey

- Extended previous work on the relationship between social connectedness and political engagement, and the role of contextual influence, through the use of new measures and fresh data.
- · Performed nearly all data management and statistical analysis, assisted with the production of the manuscript, and authored the appendix.
- Was awarded a fellowship to support the presentation of a version of the preliminary findings as a poster at the 11th Annual Political Networks Conference and Workshops in Arlington, VA.

### **Political Trust and Ideological Extremism**

Dec 2017 - Mar 2018

AUTHOR

- Identified a significant association between conservative ideological extremism and low political trust that had been mischaracterized in previous research due to poor measurement specification and ineffective survey design.
- · Presented findings at a panel session of the 46th Annual Florida Political Science Conference in Ft. Myers, FL.

# **Presentations**

#### 91st Annual Southern Political Science Association Conference

Jan. 2020

Panel Presentation of On the Question of Rural Measurement

San Juan, Puerto Rico

• Presented updates to ongoing original research on the importance of correctly measuring the concepts *rural* and *urban*. Introduced a new measure that vastly outperforms many current approaches.

#### **47th Annual Florida Political Science Association Conference**

Mar. 2019

 ${\tt Panel\ Presentation\ of\ } \textit{On\ the\ } \textit{Question\ of\ } \textit{Rural\ Measurement}$ 

āmpa, Florida

Presented original research on the importance of correctly measuring the concepts rural and urban. Introduced a new measure that vastly outperforms many current approaches.

#### 11th Annual Political Networks Conference and Workshops

Jun. 2018

POSTER PRESENTATION OF Social Connectedness and Political Behavior in the 2016 U.S. Election

Arlington, Virginia

Presented joint research on the relationship between social connectedness, measured in several different ways, and political behaviors and attitudes
during the conference's poster session.

PANEL PRESENTATION OF Political Trust and Ideological Extremism

Ft. Myers, Florida · Presented original research on the relationship between political trust and ideological extremism in the United States.

# Work Experience

The Analyst Institute Sept. 2019 - Present

Washington, D.C. ANALYST

- Designed, executed, analyzed, and communicated the results of cutting-edge experimental research on voter mobilization and persuasion.
- Responsible for simultaneously managing a portfolio of 5 10 field experiments at a time, each with a budget between \$100k \$3M and up to 10 million subjects.
- Contributed to Analyst Institute's codebase of tools used for data cleaning, statistical analysis, visualization, and reporting.

#### P.E.B.L. (Politics, Elections, and Behavior Lab)

Jun. 2018 - Present

RESEARCHER & LAB MANAGER

Sarasota, Florida

- Directed and supported the original research of junior lab members by maintaining lab resources, assisting with data management and analysis, and providing feedback on manuscripts and other work.
- Maintained key infrastructure, such as an up-to-date copy of the Florida Voter File, an open-source geocoder, and additional servers.
- Assisted with the development of standards and guidelines for research conducted by P.E.B.L.

#### Department of Political Science, New College of Florida

Aug. 2017 - May 2019

**TEACHING ASSISTANT** 

Sarasota, Florida

- Planned and coordinated multiple exercises, workshops, and in class discussions on topics covered in American government and quantitative social science methods courses.
- Taught multiple sessions on the fundamentals of debate, including writing cases, preparing and engaging in cross examination, and delivering rejoinders and rebuttals.

**12th Judicial Circuit Court** Jun. 2018 - Aug. 2018

PRETRIAL SERVICES INTERN

Sarasota, Florida

- · Interviewed each newly arrested person and compiled relevant case history into a comprehensive report for judges presiding over First Appearance, as well as the Office of the Public Defender and the Office of the State Attorney.
- Reviewed each new inmate's file to determine eligibility for special court programs, such as mental health court, drug court, and DUI court.
- Interviewed victims of violent and domestic crimes to verify information and gather victim statements for the court.

#### Office of the General Counsel, New College of Florida

Jan. 2018 - May 2018

STUDENT LAW CLERK

Sarasota, Florida

• Evaluated the effectiveness and suitability of the then-current Title IX policy and worked with internal departments and external advisors to develop and propose revisions.

#### The Cheesecake Factory, Inc.

Jul. 2015 - Mar. 2018

LEAD STATION COOK & CERTIFIED DESIGNATED TRAINER

Ft. Lauderdale & Sarasota, Florida

- · Prepared station for shift, cooked all orders quickly and according to recipe, cleaned and organized station after shift, and assisted other members of the kitchen team.
- Trained new cooks on the Pasta and Sauté stations, the two highest volume and most demanding stations in the kitchen.

#### Legal Aid of Manasota, Inc.

Jan. 2017 - Dec. 2017

LEGAL INTERN

Sarasota, Florida

- Supported staff attorneys by drafting complaints, motions, and answers as requested.
- Accompanied staff attorneys in their appearances before the 12th Circuit Court.
- Assisted with client intake and review of client provided documents such as leases, contracts, correspondence, and notices.
- Contributed to weekly case review by researching and presenting applicable statutes, codes, regulations, and case law.

#### **Fredd Atkins for Sarasota County Commissioner**

Apr. 2016 - Nov. 2016

CAMPAIGN MANAGER

ORGANIZING FELLOW

Sarasota, Florida

- Effectively managed all aspects of the county-wide campaign, including fundraising, messaging, scheduling, recruitment, budgeting, and voter
- Developed and implemented a fundraising plan that raised nearly \$100,000 from individual donors and local interest groups.
- Led the implementation of a digital outreach campaign that returned an above average engagement and click through rate.

**Charlie Crist for Governor** Aug. 2014 - Nov. 2014

Coral Springs, Florida

- Recruited, trained, and coordinated volunteers.
- Scheduled staff and managed phone banks at the Coral Springs, Florida office.

## **Honors & Awards**

2018	Fellowship, 11th Annual Political Networks Conference and Workshops	Arlington, VA
2015	National Merit Scholar, National Merit Scholarship Corporation	U.S.A
2015	Benacquisto Scholar, Florida Department of Education	Florida
2015	Florida Academic Scholar, Florida Department of Education	Florida
2015	Arthur N. Rupe Scholar, Arthur N. Rupe Foundation	Florida
2015	Excellence Award, New College of Florida	Sarasota, FL
2014	Degree of Special Distinction, National Speech and Debate Association	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
2014	Semifinalist, Yale Invitational Debate Tournament	New Haven, CT
2014	Semifinalist, Harvard National Congressional Debate Tournament	Cambridge, MA
2014	Semifinalist, NYC Invitational Debate Tournament	New York, NY

# Skills

Statistical Software R, Stata 15

**Open-source Research** Atom, BibDesk, Git, GitHub, LaTeX, RStudio, Shiny

# **Extracurricular Activities**

#### **New College of Florida ACLU Club**

May 2018 - May 2019

**CO-PRESIDENT** 

- Sarasota, Florida
- Grew membership, expanded campus outreach, and increased the annual funding of the ACLU club. • Organized a Know Your Rights discussion between students and local criminal defense attorneys.
- **New College Swim Club**

Aug. 2018 - May 2019 Sarasota, Florida

• Supported and participated in practices and events for the school swim team.

#### **New College of Florida ACLU Club**

Jan. 2018 - May 2018

VICE-PRESIDENT

Sarasota, Florida

- Served as a founding board member of the newly formed ACLU club.
- Organized on campus events focused on boosting membership and raising awareness of student rights and civil liberties.

#### **Collegiate Debate Tutorial** Jan. 2016 - May 2016 Sarasota, Florida

ORGANIZER AND INSTRUCTOR

• Designed and taught a semester long course on the fundamentals of collegiate debate.