

# Joshua Ferrer

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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<b>American University</b> Assistant Professor, Government	2025-Present
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## EDUCATION

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<b>University of California, Los Angeles</b> Ph.D., Political Science (2025) M.A., Political Science (2022)	2020-2025
<b>University of Otago / Te Whare Wānanga o Otāgo</b> M.A. with Distinction, Politics	2019-2020
<b>Amherst College</b> B.A. with Distinction, Political Science and Music, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> , <i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>	2013-2017
<b>Worcester College, Oxford University</b> Visiting Student in Politics	2016

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Election administration, representation, local and state politics, voter turnout, primary elections

## PUBLISHED ARTICLES

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- Does Leader Turnover Degrade Local Government Performance? Evidence from Local Election Officials. (Accepted, *American Journal of Political Science*). With Daniel M. Thompson.
- Ferrer, Joshua. 2025. "To Elect or Appoint? Evidence from Local Election Administration." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*. DOI: 10.1561/100.00023193
- Urban Affairs Review Best Paper on Urban and Regional Politics Presented at the 2024 APSA Meeting - Honorable Mention
  - CUSP Working Paper Series in American Politics selection
- Carnes, Nicholas, Joshua Ferrer, Miriam Golden, Esme Lillywhite, Noam Lupu, and Eugenia Nazrulaeva. 2025. "The Global Legislators Database: Characteristics of National Legislators in the World's Democracies." *British Journal of Political Science*. DOI: 10.1017/S000712342400053X
- Dataset winner of the APSA Comparative Politics Section's Lijphart/Przeworski/Verba Data Set Award.
- Ferrer, Joshua and Christopher Palmisano. 2025. "Beyond the Trump Presidency: The Racial Underpinnings of White Americans' Anti-Democratic Beliefs." *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*. DOI: 10.1017/rep.2025.1

- Ferrer, Joshua, Igor Geyn, and Daniel M. Thompson. 2024. "How Partisan is Local Election Administration?" *American Political Science Review*. DOI: 10.1017/S0003055423000631
- Barreto, Matt, Claudia Alegre, Isaiah Bailey, Alexandria Davis, Joshua Ferrer, Joyce Nguy, Christopher Palmisano, and Crystal Robertson. 2024. "Black Lives Matter and the Racialized Support for the January 6 Insurrection." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. DOI: 10.1177/00027162241228395
- Ferrer, Joshua. 2022. "The Effects of Proportional Representation on Election Lawmaking: Evidence from New Zealand." *Representation*. DOI: 10.1080/00344893.2022.2032292
- Ferrer, Joshua. 2021. "Re-evaluating Consensus in New Zealand Election Reform." *Political Science*. DOI: 10.1080/00323187.2020.1859337

## **PUBLISHED BOOK CHAPTERS**

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- Ferrer, Joshua and Igor Geyn. 2024. "Electing America's Election Officials," in *Local Election Administrators in the United States: The Frontline of Democracy*, Paul Gronke, David Kimball, Thessalia Merivaki, Mara Suttman-Lea, Christian Grose, and Bridgett King, ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

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- Do Local Election Officials Represent Their Constituents?
- The Effect of Partisan Primaries on Turnout and Representation.
- Partisanship in Local Bureaucratic Appointments: Evidence from Election Administration.
- Are Election Reforms Passed Democratically? Evidence from New Zealand.

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

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- The Effect of Open Primaries on Turnout and Representation (with Michael Thorning and J.D. Rackey). *Bipartisan Policy Center*. 2024.
- Election Official Turnover Rates from 2000-2024 (with Daniel M. Thompson and Rachel Orey). *Bipartisan Policy Center*. 2024.
- Contested Killings Replication: A Comment on Morris and Shoub (2023) (with Jacques Courbe and Graham Straus). *Institute for Replication (I4R)*. 2024.
- 2022 Primary Turnout: Trends and Lessons for Boosting Participation (with Michael Thorning). *Bipartisan Policy Center*. 2023.
- Online Political Campaigning in New Zealand. *Transparency International New Zealand*. 2020.
- 2018 Primary Turnout and Reforms (with John Fortier, Michael Thorning, and Matthew Weil). *Bipartisan Policy Center*. 2018.

## **NEWS AND BLOGS**

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- Partisan or Not? Local Election Officials Don't Tilt Elections in Favor of Their Party's Candidates. *The Conversation*. 2022.
- Did Last Year's Black Lives Matter Protests Push Cities to Defund Police? Yes and No. (with Joyce Nguy). *Washington Post*. 2021.

Consensus-Based NZ Electoral Reform Is a Lovely Idea. And It's Mostly a Myth. *The Spinoff*. 2020.

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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Dept of Political Science, Claremont Graduate University, Sept 2024

## **PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2025, 2024 (organized panel), 2023 and 2022

Local Political Economy APSA Pre-Conference, 2024

SoCal Political Institutions and Political Economy Conference, 2024 (Caltech), 2024 (CGU), 2023

Election Science, Reform, and Administration Conference, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2025, 2024, and 2022

Primary Election Research Symposium, 2024

UCLA January 6 CMPS Conference, 2024

Keeping the Republic Conference, Notre Dame, 2025 and 2023

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2023 and 2022

New Zealand Political Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2019

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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Dissertation Year Fellowship Award, University of California, Los Angeles, 2024-2025 (\$20,000)

APSA Representation and Electoral Systems Graduate Student Research Grant, 2024 (\$1,000)

Election Workforce Grant, Bipartisan Policy Center, 2024 (\$37,000)

Partisan Primaries Research Grant, Unite America, 2024 (\$20,000)

Political Psychology Fellowship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2023 (\$2,000)

Graduate Research Mentorship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2021-2022 (\$20,000)

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2021 (\$6,000)

Alumni Fellowship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2020-2021 (\$20,000)

Yaman Didem MA Thesis Prize for best thesis in Politics, University of Otago, 2020

New Zealand Politics Postgraduate Paper Prize, New Zealand Political Studies Association, 2019

Fulbright Graduate Student Award to New Zealand, 2019

## **TEACHING**

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American University, Assistant Professor:

Politics in the U.S., Fall 2025

UCLA, Instructor of Record:

Intro to American Politics (Summer Institute), 2024

UCLA, TA:

National Institutions: Congress, 2024

Intro to American Politics, 2023 and 2022

Political Parties and American Democracy, 2023

Undergraduate Research Experience, 2022-present

University of Otago, Departmental Tutor:

Politics of the European Union, 2019.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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Reviewer: *Election Law Journal, Political Behavior, Party Politics, Representation*

## SELECTED PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

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Consultant, Bipartisan Policy Center.	2022-Present
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Domestic Policy Council Intern, The White House.	2015
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