

POLS GR8422: Political Economy Analysis of Political Behavior
Department of Political Science, Columbia University

Spring 2026

Class meetings: Thursdays, 10:10am-12:00pm

Location: 711 International Affairs Building

Professor: John Marshall (he/him)

Office: 705 International Affairs Building

Office hours: Wednesdays, 2:00-4:00pm; [signup](#)

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COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This course examines political behavior from a political economy perspective. We will focus on how incentives, constraints, and contexts drive the micro-level behavior of citizens (and, to some degree, politicians), enabling us to rigorously examine – both theoretically and empirically – contemporary debates including:

- When will citizens engage in effective collective action?
- What drives variation in voters' policy and political preferences and vote choices?
- When and how do citizens update from information and persuasive messages?
- What causes citizens to embrace particular norms and identities?
- Can voters effectively hold their governments to account for their performance in office?
- How do social networks, including social media, influence political behavior?

We will use formal models and design-based causal inference techniques to generate theoretically-distinctive hypotheses, identify causal effects from across the democratic and (to a lesser extent) non-democratic world, and ultimately seek to interpret them. Each topic will be covered over two classes, with the first covering theories and the second empirics.

In preparing students to conduct innovative research of their own, the course has two main goals. The substantive goal is to familiarize students with core theoretical arguments and frontier empirical evidence pertaining to central questions in political economy in developed and developing contexts. The methodological goal is to empower students to read and write formal models, critique and implement causal inference techniques in their research, and combine the two approaches to help interpret empirical evidence.

This class complements “POLS GU4423: Political Economy Analysis of Elites and Institutions,” which takes a similar political economy approach to examining the behaviors and effects of political elites and institutions, rather than voters. While the statistical focus of this course is core causal inference strategies, POLS GU4423 covers other methodological topics of interest that arise in applied research (e.g. measurement, causal mechanisms, placebo tests, synthetic controls, identification of subtler theoretical estimands). These courses need not be taken in a particular order. I expect to next teach POLS GU4423 in Spring 2027 or 2028.

ENROLLMENT

This course is intended for PhD students in political science and interested students in economics. A solid basis in graduate-level game theory and econometrics/statistics will be assumed. Students do not need to write their own formal models or prove the results of others, but an ability to follow and engage with formal papers is strongly advised (as it is half the course!). Enrollment requires instructor approval for non-PhD students, and the class will be capped at 20 students. Auditors are not permitted, but may take the class pass/fail with instructor approval for completing one main assignment.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The weekly seminar will have the following structure:

- ***Submit two questions.*** Each week, every student will submit two questions they would like to discuss in class *or* would like to see clarified in the lecture. Questions can be “big picture” or very specific. Questions must be posted under the relevant week on the Discussions page on CourseWorks *by midnight of the Wednesday before class*, so everyone can read them ahead of class.
- ***Lecture.*** The lecture will last ~50 minutes. For theory weeks, it will summarize the key theoretical arguments and intuitions of the models. For empirical weeks, lectures will provide a practitioner’s overview of the week’s empirical design (e.g. intuition for the design, identifying assumptions, and common tests of such assumptions). Slides will be uploaded to CourseWorks before class.
- ***General discussion.*** The final ~60 minutes will be a general discussion. The goal is to understand if and how papers are important and highlight the limits of our understanding, and thus help to identify topics for the final paper and future research more generally. For empirical weeks, students should think about how the empirical studies speak to the previous weeks’ theoretical models. Depending on how discussion progresses, we may not cover all readings.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Final grades will be assigned according to the following components of the course:

- ***In-class participation (20%)***. All students are expected to submit their two questions each week, attend every class having read all readings in advance, and consistently participate in class discussion.
- ***Replication and extension task (30%)***. Each student will conduct an individual replication *and extension* task that replicates one of the main results of a paper on the required or recommended reading list before extending the paper's analysis (due via email by Friday March 13th). The goal is to first understand and ensure authors did what they claimed, but more importantly to find ways of better assessing or advancing the original paper. For theoretical papers, this could involve verifying a proof of a key result within the replicated paper and then developing additional formal results to extend it. For empirical papers, this could involve replicating a core finding – using the authors' data, which is normally publicly available for recently-published papers – and then extending it by either conducting robustness and/or sensitivity tests or by extending the analysis to other datasets or testing additional predictions within the same dataset. The write-up is expected to be around 10 double-spaced pages, with the majority of the paper focusing on the extension part of the assignment.
- ***Research paper/proposal (50%)***. The final assignment (due via email by Friday May 15th; students are welcome to take incompletes, but take responsibility for ensuring this is compatible with their program requirements) is an original paper (20-30 double-spaced pages), and can be one of two types:
 - Research paper: an original paper addressing a topic related to the substantive themes of the course that applies some of the formal or empirical methods encountered in the course (or both).
 - Pre-analysis plan/detailed grant application: these should pertain to a substantive theme of the course and contain a detailed (possibly formal) theory, design, power calculation, pre-analysis plan, and (if relevant) plan for seeking external funding.

APPROACHING THE READINGS

This course combines prominent and recent articles in political economy. All required readings are available on Courseworks: journal articles and some e-book chapters can be downloaded via the Columbia Library Research services through the “Library Reserves” tab; any other book chapters and working papers can be downloaded from the “Files” tab.

Although they are available in Columbia's online library, you should consider purchasing Angrist and Pischke's *Mostly Harmless Econometrics* as an introductory reference for causal

inference methods and Persson and Tabellini's *Political Economics* or Gehlbach's *Formal Models of Domestic Politics* for overviews of foundational political economy models.

For theoretical models, you might consider the following questions:

- What is novel or surprising about the predictions or mechanisms proposed by the theory? Is the feature of the model generating this result plausible?
- Do the theory's assumptions capture the defining features (relevant actors, strategies, motives, institutional constraints etc.) of relevant phenomena in the real world? If not, would different assumptions produce different results/change incentives?
- What assumptions and predictions differentiate a given theory from other explanations of the same phenomenon? Are there similar simpler explanations?
- What empirical design could be used to test these predictions, and can it differentiate the theory from alternative explanations?
- Under what conditions would the theory fail to apply? Is the theory falsifiable?
- How could the theory be extended to other phenomena or nuances of empirical interest?

For empirical analyses, you might consider the following questions:

- How compelling is the claim that the research design identifies causal effects? Are the identification checks sufficient? (The quality of evidence for different claims within a given paper may vary substantially.)
- To what extent does the identifying variation capture the general theoretical argument? Is it generalizable? Can you think of better or different contexts to test it?
- Should we care about the magnitude of an effect, or just its direction? If the former, what should we test other than the null hypothesis?
- Is there convincing "first stage" evidence validating that the treatment or source of exogenous variation works as theorized?
- How does the sampling strategy affect the internal and external validity of the estimates?
- How compelling is variable measurement? Does "noisy" measurement induce bias? Do the outcomes match the key theoretical predictions?
- At what level is "treatment" assigned? What is the relevant level of variation?
- What is this evidence of? – Given the theoretical readings, how should we interpret the effects? What tests could distinguish theoretical mechanisms or refine the interpretation?

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Columbia University does not tolerate academic dishonesty. Students violating the code of academic and professional conduct will be subject to disciplinary procedures. Guidelines are available at www.gsas.columbia.edu/content/academic-integrity-and-responsible-conduct-research, and all students are expected to be familiar with and abide by them.

Students may use artificial intelligence (AI) tools for all assignments, but all use of AI in written assignments must be appropriately cited. Each student is responsible for assessing the validity and applicability of any generative AI output that is submitted, bearing final responsibility for the work submitted, including any inaccuracies or plagiarism. Violations of this policy will be considered academic misconduct. Please note that different courses at Columbia may have different AI policies, and it is the student's responsibility to conform to the expectations for each course.

COURSE OUTLINE

Required readings are listed in a suggested reading order (from first to last). * denotes a methodological or applied empirical reading associated with the week's research design.

0 – Introduction

Class logistics, 1/22

Non-required readings (theory and empirics)

Angrist, Joshua D., and Jörn-Steffen Pischke. 2008. *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 2 and 3.

Ashworth, Scott, Christopher R. Berry, and Ethan Bueno de Mesquita. 2021. *Theory and Credibility: Integrating Theoretical and Empirical Social Science*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-4.

1 – Collective action and political participation

Theory week, 1/29

Esteban, Joan, and Debraj Ray. 2001. "Collective Action and the Group Size Paradox." *American Political Science Review* 95(3):663-672.

Larson, Jennifer M. 2017. "Networks and Interethnic Cooperation." *Journal of Politics* 79(2):546-559.

Feddersen, Timothy, and Alvaro Sandroni. 2006. "A theory of participation in elections." *American Economic Review* 96(4):1271-1282.

Barbera, Salvador, and Matthew O. Jackson. 2020. "A Model of Protests, Revolution, and Information." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 15:297-335.

Dewan, Torun, and David P. Myatt. 2008. "The qualities of leadership: Direction, communication, and obfuscation." *American Political Science Review* 102(3):351-368.

Empirical week, 2/5 – Field experiments

*Athey, Susan, and Guido W. Imbens. 2017. "The Econometrics of Randomized Experiments." In *Handbook of Economic Field Experiments: Volume 1*, edited by Abhijit V. Banerjee and Esther Duflo, Elsevier. Chapter 3.

*Cantoni, Davide, David Y. Yang, Noam Yuchtman, and Y. Jane Zhang. 2019. "Protests as Strategic Games: Experimental Evidence from Hong Kong's Antiauthoritarian Movement." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 134(2):1021-1077.

Enikolopov, Ruben, Alexey Makarin, and Maria Petrova. 2020. "Social media and protest participation: Evidence from Russia." *Econometrica* 88(4):1479-1514.

*Gerber, Alan S., Donald P. Green, and Christopher W. Larimer. 2008. "Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment." *American Political Science Review* 102(1):33-48.

*Björkman, Martina, and Jakob Svensson. 2009. "Power to the people: Evidence from a randomized field experiment on community-based monitoring in Uganda." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124(2):735-769.

*Casey, Katherine, Rachel Glennerster, and Edward Miguel. 2012. "Reshaping Institutions: Evidence on Aid Impacts Using a Preanalysis Plan." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 127(4):1755-1812.

Non-required readings (theory and empirics)

Acemoglu, Daron, Tarek Hassan, and Ahmed Tahoun. 2018. "The Power of the Street: Evidence from Egypt's Arab Spring." *Review of Financial Studies* 31(1):1-42.

Alesina, Alberto, Reza Baqir, and William Easterly. 1999. "Public goods and ethnic divisions." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 114(4):1243-1284.

Alesina, Alberto and Eliana La Ferrara. 2000. "Participation in Heterogeneous Communities." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 115(3):847-904.

Angeletos, George-Marios, and Alessandro Pavon. 2013. "Selection-free predictions in global games with endogenous information and multiple equilibria." *Theoretical Economics* 8:883-938.

*Athey, Susan, and Guido W. Imbens. 2017. "The State of Applied Econometrics: Causality and Policy Evaluation." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31(2):3-32.

Baldwin, Kate, Dean Karlan, Christopher Udry, and Ernest Appiah. 2023. "How Political Insiders Lose Out When International Aid Underperforms: Evidence from a Participatory Development Experiment in Ghana." *World Development* 169:106296.

Banerjee, Abhijit V., Rukmini Banerji, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster, and Stuti Khemani. 2010. "Pitfalls of Participatory Programs: Evidence from a randomized evaluation in education in India." *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 2(1):1-30.

*Banerjee, Abhijit V., Sylvain Chassang, and Erik Snowberg. 2017. "Decision theoretic approaches to experiment design and external validity." In *Handbook of Economic Field Experiments* 1:141-174.

Banerjee, Abhijit, Lakshmi Iyer, and Rohini Somanathan. 2007. "Public Action for Public Goods." In *Handbook of Development Economics*, edited by T. Paul Schultz and John A. Strauss, Elsevier. Chapter 49.

*Banerjee, Abhijit V., Sylvain Chassang, Sergio Montero, and Erik Snowberg. 2020. "A theory of experimenters." *American Economic Review* 110(4):1206-1230.

Bardhan, Pranab. 2002. "Decentralization of Governance and Development." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 16(4):185-205.

Battaglini, Marco, Rebecca B. Morton, and Thomas R. Palfrey. 2010. "The Swing Voter's Curse in the Laboratory." *Review of Economic Studies* 77:61-89.

Battaglini, Marco, and Thomas R. Palfrey. 2024. "Dynamic collective action and the power of large numbers." Working paper.

Beath, Andrew, Fotini Christia, and Ruben Enikolopov. 2025. "Can Development Programs Counter Insurgencies? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 17(3):80-116.

Beraja, Martin, Andrew Kao, David Y. Yang, and Noam Yuchtman. 2023. "AI-tocracy." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 138(3):1349-1402.

Bjorkman Nyqvist, Martina, Damien De Walque, and Jakob Svensson. 2017. "Experimental Evidence on the Long-Run Impact of Community-Based Monitoring." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 9(1):33-69.

Borgers, Tilman. 2004. "Costly voting." *American Economic Review* 94(1):57-66.

Brennan, Geoffrey, and Alan Hamlin. 1998. "Expressive voting and electoral equilibrium." *Public Choice* 95(1-2):149-175.

Bueno de Mesquita, Ethan. 2010. "Regime Change and Revolutionary Entrepreneurs." *American Political Science Review* 104(3):446-466.

*Chassang, Sylvain, Gerard Padro i Miquel, and Erik Snowberg, 2012. "Selective Trials: A Principal-Agent Approach to Randomized Controlled Experiments." *American Economic Review* 102(4):1279-1309.

Christensen, Darin, Oeindrila Dube, Johannes Haushofer, Bilal Siddiqi, and Maarten Voors. 2021. "Building Resilient Health Systems: Experimental Evidence from Sierra Leone and the 2014 Ebola Outbreak." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 136(2):1145-1198.

Chwe, Michael Suk-Young. 2000. "Communication and Coordination in Social Networks." *Review of Economic Studies* 67(1):1-16.

Cochran, William G. 1977. *Sampling Techniques*. John Wiley and Sons.

*Deaton, Angus, and Nancy Cartwright. 2018. "Understanding and Misunderstanding Randomized Controlled Trials." *Social Science and Medicine* 210:2-21.

DellaVigna, Stefano, John A. List, Ulrike Malmendier, and Gautam Rao. 2017. "Voting to tell others." *Review of Economic Studies* 84(1):143-181.

Downs, Anthony. 1957. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. Harper and Row.

Duffy, John, and Margit Tavits. 2008. "Beliefs and voting decisions: A test of the pivotal voter model." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(3):603-618.

Duflo, Esther, Michael Kremer, and Rachel Glennerster. 2007. "Using Randomization in Development Economics Research: A Toolkit." In *Handbook of Development Economics Volume 4*, edited by T. Paul Schultz, John A. Strauss, Chapter 61, pages 3895-3962.

Edmond, Chris. 2013. "Information Manipulation, Coordination, and Regime Change." *Review of Economic Studies* 80(4):1422-1458.

Fearon, James D., Macartan Humphreys, and Jeremy M. Weinstein. 2015. "How Does Development Assistance Affect Collective Action Capacity? Results from a Field Experiment in Post-Conflict Liberia." *American Political Science Review* 109(3):450-469.

Fearon, James D., and David D. Laitin. 1996. "Explaining interethnic cooperation." *American Political Science Review* 90(4):715-735.

Funk, Patricia. 2010. "Social incentives and voter turnout: Evidence from the Swiss mail ballot system." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 8(5):1077-1103.

*Gerber, Alan S., and Donald P. Green. 2012. *Field Experiments: Design, Analysis and Interpretation*. W.W. Norton and Company.

Gugerty, Mary Kay, and Michael Kremer. 2008. "Outside funding and the dynamics of participation in community associations." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(3):585-602.

Humphreys, Macartan, and Jeremy M. Weinstein. 2009. "Field experiments and the political economy of development." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12:367-378.

Humphreys, Macartan, Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, and Peter van der Windt. 2017. "Institutional Change by Imitation: Introducing Western Governance Practices in Congolese Villages." Working paper.

*Imbens, Guido W. 2020. "Potential Outcome and Directed Acyclic Graph Approaches to Causality: Relevance for Empirical Practice in Economics." *Journal of Economic Literature* 58(4):1129-1179.

*Imbens, Guido W., and Donald B. Rubin. 2015. *Causal Inference for Statistics, Social, and Biomedical Sciences*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 3-10.

Kuran, Timur. 1989. "Sparks and prairie fires: A theory of unanticipated political revolution." *Public Choice* 61:41-74.

Kuran, Timur. 1991. "Now Out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989." *World Politics* 44(1):7-48.

Lieberman, Evan S., Daniel N. Posner, Lily L. Tsai. 2014. "Does information lead to more active citizenship? Evidence from an education intervention in rural Kenya." *World Development* 60:69-83.

*Lin, Winston. 2013. "Agnostic Notes on Regression Adjustments to Experimental Data: Reexamining Freedman's Critique." *Annals of Applied Statistics*:295-318.

Lohmann, Susanne. 1994. "The Dynamics of Informational Cascades: The Monday Demonstrations in Leipzig, East Germany, 1989-91." *World Politics* 47(1):42-101.

Madestam, Andreas, Daniel Shoag, Stan Vieger, and David Yanagizawa-Drott. 2013. "Do Political Protests Matter? Evidence from the Tea Party Movement." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128(4):1633-1685.

Manacorda, Marco, and Andrea Tesei. 2020. "Liberation Technology: Mobile Phones and Political Mobilization in Africa." *Econometrica* 88(2):533-567.

*McKenzie, David. 2012. "Beyond baseline and follow-up: The case for more T in experiments." *Journal of Development Economics* 99:210-221.

*Middleton, Joel A., Marc A. Scott, Ronli Diakow, and Jennifer L. Hill. 2016. "Bias amplification and bias unmasking." *Political Analysis* 24(3):307-323.

Miguel, Edward, and Mary Kay Gugerty. 2005. "Ethnic diversity, social sanctions, and public goods in Kenya." *Journal of Public Economics* 89(11):2325-2368.

Morris, Stephen, and Hyun Song Shin. 2002. "Social value of public information." *American Economic Review* 92(5):1521-1534.

Morris, Stephen, and Hyun Song Shin. 2003. "Global Games: Theory and Applications." In *Advances in Economics and Econometrics (Proceedings of the Eighth World Congress of the Econometric Society)*, edited by M. Dewatripont, L. Hansen and S. Turnovsky. Cambridge University Press.

Olken, Benjamin A. 2015. "Promises and perils of pre-analysis plans." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 29(3):61-80.

- Olken, Benjamin A. 2007. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115(2):200-249.
- Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*. Harvard University Press.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 1998. "A Behavioral Approach to the Rational Choice Theory of Collective Action: Presidential Address." *American Political Science Review* 92(1):1-22.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 2010. "Beyond Markets and States: Polycentric Governance of Complex Economic Systems." *American Economic Review* 100:641-672.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 2005. *Understanding Institutional Diversity*. Cambridge University Press.
- Palfrey, Thomas R., and Howard Rosenthal. 1985. "Voter Participation and Strategic Uncertainty." *American Political Science Review* 79(1):62-78.
- Putnam, Robert D., Robert Leonardi, and Raffaella Y. Nanetti. 1994. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton University Press.
- Raffler, Pia J., Daniel N. Posner, and Doug Parkerson. Forthcoming. "Can Citizen Pressure Be Induced to Improve Public Service Provision? Citizen Pressure and Public Service Provision." *Journal of Politics*.
- Qin, Bei, David Strömberg, and Yanhui Wu. 2024. "Social media and collective action in China." *Econometrica* 92(6):1993-2026.
- Riker, William H., and Peter C. Ordeshook. 1968. "A Theory of the Calculus of Voting." *American Political Science Review* 62(1):25-42.
- Rundlett, Ashlea, and Milan Svolik. 2016. "Deliver the Vote! Micromotives and Macrobehavior in Electoral Fraud." *American Political Science Review* 110(1):180-197.
- Sellers, Emily. 2019. "Emigration and Collective Action." *Journal of Politics* 81(4):1210-1222.
- Shadmehr, Mehdi, and Dan Bernhardt. 2011. "Collective Action with Uncertain Payoffs: Coordination, Public Signals, and Punishment Dilemmas." *American Political Science Review* 105(4):829-851.

Shadmehr, Mehdi, and Dan Bernhardt. 2017. "When can citizen communication hinder successful revolution?" *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 12(3):301-323.

Siegel, David A. 2009. "Social networks and collective action." *American Journal of Political Science* 53(1):122-138.

Steinert-Threlkeld, Zachary C. 2017. "Spontaneous Collective Action: Peripheral Mobilization During the Arab Spring." *American Political Science Review* 111(2):379-403.

*VanderWeele, Tyler J., and Miguel A. Hernán. 2013. "Causal Inference Under Multiple Versions of Treatment." *Journal of Causal Inference* 1(1):1-20.

2 – Interests, experiences, and political preferences

Theory week, 2/12

Persson, Torsten, and Guido E. Tabellini. 2000. *Political Economics: Explaining Economic Policy*. MIT Press. Chapters 6 and 7.4.

Roemer, John. 1998. "Why the poor do not expropriate the rich: an old argument in new garb." *Journal of Public Economics* 70:399-424.

Aragonès, Enriqueta, Micael Castanheira, and Marco Giani. 2015. "Electoral competition through issue selection." *American Journal of Political Science* 59(1):71-90.

Bernheim, B. Douglas, Luca Braghieri, Alejandro Martínez-Marquina, and David Zuckerman. 2021. "A Theory of Chosen Preferences." *American Economic Review* 111(2):720-754.

Empirical week, 2/19 – Natural experiments

*Titunik, Rocío. 2021. "Natural Experiments." In James N. Druckman and Donald P. Green, *Advances in Experimental Political Science*, Cambridge University Press, pages 103-129.

*Marshall, John. 2016. "Education and voting Conservative: Evidence from a major schooling reform in Great Britain." *Journal of Politics* 78(2):382-395.

*Colantone, Italo, and Piero Stanig. 2018. "The Trade Origins of Economic Nationalism: Import Competition and Voting Behavior in Western Europe." *American Journal of Political Science* 46(2):936-953.

*Bobonis, Gustavo J., Paul Gertler, Marco Gonzalez-Navarro, and Simeon Nichter. 2022. "Vulnerability and Clientelism." *American Economic Review* 112(11):3627-3659.

*Hangartner, Dominik, Elias Dinas, Moritz Marbach, Konstantinos Matakos, and Dimitrios Xefteris. 2019. "Does exposure to the refugee crisis make natives more hostile?" *American Political Science Review* 113(2):442-455.

Danieli, Oren, Noam Gidron, Shinnosuke Kikuchi, and Ro'ee Levy. 2024. "Decomposing the rise of the populist radical right." SSRN working paper.

Non-required readings (theory and empirics)

Alesina, Alberto, and Nicola Fuchs-Schundeln. 2007. "Good-Bye Lenin (Or Not?): The Effect of Communism on People's Preferences." *American Economic Review* 97(4):1507-1528.

Alesina, Alberto, and Eliana La Ferrara. 2005. "Preferences for Redistribution in the Land of Opportunities." *Journal of Public Economics* 89(5):897-931.

Anelli, Massimo, Italo Colantone, and Piero Stanig. 2021. "Individual vulnerability to industrial robot adoption increases support for the radical right." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 118(47):e2111611118.

Autor, David, David Dorn, Gordon Hanson, and Kaveh Majlesi. 2020. "Importing political polarization? The electoral consequences of rising trade exposure." *American Economic Review* 110(10):3139-3183.

Baldwin, Kate. 2013. "Why Vote with the Chief? Political Connections and the Performance of Representatives in Zambia." *American Journal of Political Science* 57(4):794-809.

Beaman, Lori, Raghavendra Chattopadhyay, Esther Duflo, Rohini Pande, and Petia Topalova. 2009. "Powerful Women: Does Exposure Reduce Bias?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124(4):1497-1540.

Benabou, Roland, and Efe A. Ok. 2001. "Social mobility and the demand for redistribution: The POUM hypothesis." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 116(2):447-487.

Benabou, Roland, and Jean Tirole. 2006. "Belief in a just world and redistributive politics." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 121(2):699-746.

Bullock, John G. 2009. "Partisan Bias and the Bayesian Ideal in the Study of Public Opinion." *Journal of Politics* 71(3):1109-1124.

Cantoni, Davide, Yuyu Chen, David Y. Yang, Noam Yuchtman, and Y. Jane Zhang. 2017. "Curriculum and ideology." *Journal of Political Economy* 125(2):338-392.

Colantone, Italo, and Piero Stanig. 2018. "Global Competition and Brexit." *American Political Science Review* 118(2):201-218.

Cruz, Cesi, Philip Keefer, Julien Labonne, and Francesco Trebbi. 2024. "Making policies matter: Voter responses to campaign promises." *Economic Journal* 134(661):1875-1913.

Davenport, Tiffany C. 2015. "Policy-Induced Risk and Responsive Participation: The Effect of a Son's Conscription Risk on the Voting Behavior of His Parents." *American Journal of Political Science* 59(1):225-241.

Dippel, Christian, Robert Gold, Stephan Heblich, and Rodrigo Pinto. 2022. "The effect of trade on workers and voters." *Economic Journal* 132(641):199-217.

Dixit, Avinash, and John Londregan. 1996. "The determinants of success of special interests in redistributive politics." *Journal of Politics* 58(4):1132-1155.

Druckman, James N., and Arthur Lupia. 2000. "Preference Formation." *Annual Review of Political Science* 3:1-24

*Dunning, Thad. 2012. *Natural Experiments in the Social Sciences: A Design-Based Approach*. Cambridge University Press.

Dustmann, Christian, Kristine Vasiljeva, and Anna Piil Damm. 2019. "Refugee migration and electoral outcomes." *Review of Economic Studies* 86(5):2035-2091.

Erikson, Robert S., and Laura Stoker. 2011. "Caught in the Draft: The Effects of Vietnam Draft Lottery Status on Political Attitudes." *American Political Science Review* 105(2):221-237.

Gerber, Alan S., Andrew Gooch, and Greg Huber. 2017. "Evaluations of Candidates' Non-policy Characteristics from Issue Positions: Evidence about Valence Spillover." Working paper.

Glynn, Adam N., and Maya Sen. 2015. "Identifying judicial empathy: Does having daughters cause judges to rule for women's issues?" *American Journal of Political Science* 59(1):37-54.

Guiso, Luigi, Helios Herrera, Massimo Morelli, and Tommaso Sonno. 2017. "Demand and supply of populism." Working paper.

Hall, Andrew B., and James J. Feigenbaum. 2015 "How Legislators Respond to Localized Economic Shocks: Evidence From Chinese Import Competition." *Journal of Politics* 77(4):1012-1030.

Healy, Andrew, and Neil Malhotra. 2013. "Childhood socialization and political attitudes: Evidence from a natural experiment." *Journal of Politics* 75(4):1023-1037.

Henrich, Joseph, Robert Boyd, Samuel Bowles, Colin Camerer, Ernst Fehr, Herbert Gintis, and Richard McElreath. 2001. "In Search of Homo Economicus: Behavioral Experiments in 15 Small-Scale Societies." *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 91(2):73-78.

Hiscox, Michael. 2001. "Class Versus Industry Cleavages: Inter-Industry Factor Mobility and the Politics of Trade." *International Organization* 55(Winter):1-46.

Jha, Saumitra, and Moses Shayo. 2019. "Valuing Peace: The Effects of Stock Market Exposure on Votes and Political Attitudes." *Econometrica* 87(5):1561-1588.

Karadja, Mounir, and Erik Prawitz. 2019. "Exit, Voice, and Political Change: Evidence from Swedish Mass Migration to the United States." *Journal of Political Economy* 127(4):1864-1925.

Kuziemko, Ilyana, Michael I. Norton, Emmanuel Saez, and Stefanie Stantcheva. 2015. "How elastic are preferences for redistribution? Evidence from randomized survey experiments." *American Economic Review* 105(4):1478-1508.

Longuet-Marx, Nicolas. 2025. "Party Lines or Voter Preferences? Explaining Political Realignment." Working paper.

Margalit, Yotam, and Moses Shayo. 2021. "How Markets Shape Social Values and Political Preferences: A Field Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science* 65(2):473-492.

Marshall, John. 2019. "The anti-Democrat diploma: How high school education decreases support for the Democratic party." *American Journal of Political Science* 61(1):67-83.

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3 – Belief updating and persuasion

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4 – Culture, norms, and identity

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Empirical week, 3/26 – Regression discontinuity

*Cattaneo, Matias D., and Rocio Titiunik. 2022. "Regression Discontinuity Designs." *Annual Review of Economics* 14(1):821-851.

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5 – Electoral accountability and selection

Theory week, 4/2

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7 – Class research projects

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