

Christopher Junk

Political Science PhD Student

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Education

University of Iowa, PhD, Political Science

expected Dec 2019

Major in statistical methodology and international relations.

University of Iowa, MA, Political Science

May 2019

St. Ambrose University, BA, International Studies and Spanish

May 2016

Skills & Expertise

Software Proficiency: R, Stata, Python, SQL

Methodology: Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE), Markov-Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC), Time Series, Network Analysis, Spatial Analysis, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Support Vector Machines, Decision Trees, Data Mining

Data Experience

Research Assistant, “Informal Economies, Societal Stability and Regime Resilience in China and Russia” with William Reisinger, Marina Zaliznaya, Wenfang Tang January 2019 - present

Cleaned survey data from 5,000 respondents in China and Russia. Merged China and Russia into a combined dataset for aggregate analysis.

Restructured a series of ego-net questions into ego-alter dyads for analyses of informal economic activity networks.

Estimate econometric analyses for answering the question: “who bribes whom?”

Managing Editor & Replication Analyst, Foreign Policy Analysis

May 2018 - present

Manage plagiarism reports, proofreading, and general workflow of over 200 manuscripts a year.

Replicate the empirical analyses in manuscripts and correspond with authors to assure validity of inferences and correct coding practices.

Collaboratory Manager, Department of Political Science, University of Iowa

August 2018 - January 2019

Update and maintain the computer lab for graduate students and undergrads enrolled in statistical courses.

Informal TA for undergraduate and graduate statistics courses.

Assist undergraduate and graduate students in statistical modeling and analysis for personal research projects.

Working Papers

Democratic Repression: Responding in Kind?

In this paper I use webscraped events data (SPEED Project) to analyze the dynamic relationship between public dissent and state repression. Using a series of random effects logit models I find that democracies typically respond to dissent with an equivalent use of force.

Terrorism and Spanish Elections: Does Terrorism Impact Support for the Central Government?

In this paper I use Spanish polling data to assess the impact of terrorism in Spain on support for the two major political parties. Using time series models (ADL and GECM) I find that only particularly catastrophic events influence public opinion, while average terrorism has no effect.

Conferences Presentations

Midwest Political Science Association (2019)

Iowa Association of Political Scientists (2014, 2016)