

Mackenzie Lockhart

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Yale University

September 2023 - Present

Postdoctoral Associate

Democratic Innovations Program at the Institution for Social and Policy Studies

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego

2023

Ph.D. in Political Science

Subfields: American Politics & Methods

Thesis: A Primary Source of Information: How News, Parties, and Campaigns Shape Congressional Primaries

Committee: Seth Hill (Chair), Pamela Ban, Dan Butler, Julie Cullen (Economics), James Fowler

University of British Columbia

2017

M.A. Political Science

Field: Canadian Politics. Thesis: *Voting Fast and Voting Slow*

University of British Columbia

2016

B.A. Political Science and Psychology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Representation, voter behaviour, public opinion, causal inference, survey methodologies.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Hernandez, Natalie, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, Alan S. Gerber, and Gregory A. Huber. Conditionally Accepted. "Abortion Policy Preferences are Structured, Stable, and Consequential." *American Journal of Political Science*.
2. Gaudette, Jennifer, Seth J. Hill, Thad Kousser, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, and Mindy Romero. 2025. "Can official messaging on trust in elections break through partisan polarization?" *British Journal of Political Science*.
3. **Lockhart, Mackenzie**, Jennifer Gaudette, Seth J. Hill, Thad Kousser, Mindy Romero, and Laura Uribe. 2024. "Do Prebunking Messages Reduce Delay Induced Mistrust in Elections? Yes." *PNAS Nexus*.
4. Patashnik, Eric, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, and Alan S. Gerber. 2024. "Affluence and the Demand for Policy Improvements: Exploring Elite Beliefs about Vulnerability to Societal Problems." *The Forum*. (Editor Reviewed)
5. Lal, Apoorva, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, Yiqing Xu, and Ziwen (Gary) Zu. 2024. "How Much Should We Trust Instrumental Variable Estimates in Political Science? Practical Advice based on 65 Replicated Studies." *Political Analysis*.
6. **Lockhart, Mackenzie** and Seth J. Hill. 2023. "How Do General Election Incentives Affect the Visible and Invisible Primary?" *Legislative Studies Quarterly*.

7. Biggers, Daniel R., Elizabeth Mitchell Elder, Seth J. Hill, Thad Kousser, Gabriel Lenz, and **Mackenzie Lockhart**. 2023. "Can Addressing Integrity Concerns about Mail Balloting Increase Turnout? Results from a Large-Scale Field Experiment in the 2020 Presidential Election." *Journal of Experimental Political Science*.
8. Merolla, Jennifer, Zoe Nemerever, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, Seth J. Hill, Thad Kousser, and Mindy Romero. 2023. "Emotional Reactions to COVID-19 Projections and Consequences for Protective Attitudes and Behavior." *Political Psychology*.
– Monkey Cage article
9. Rivard, Alex B. and **Mackenzie Lockhart**. 2022. "Government Preferences, Vote Choice, and Strategic Voting in Canada." *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.
10. Kousser, Thad, Seth J. Hill, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, Jennifer Merolla, and Mindy Romero. 2021. "How do Americans Want Elections to be Run During the COVID-19 Crisis?" *Research and Politics*.
11. Hill, Seth J., Thad Kousser, Gabriel Lenz, **Mackenzie Lockhart**, and Elizabeth Mitchell Elder. 2020. "How Can We Increase Turnout Among Low Propensity Voters?" *The California Journal of Policy and Politics*.
12. **Lockhart, Mackenzie**, Seth J. Hill, Jennifer Merolla, Mindy Romero, and Thad Kousser. 2020. "America's Electorate is Increasingly Polarized Along Partisan Lines About Voting by Mail During the COVID-19 Crisis." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.
– Monkey Cage article

WORKING PAPERS (AVAILABLE ON REQUEST)

1. "Race, Policy Responsiveness, and Dyadic Representation in U.S. Lawmaking" w/ Jacob Hacker, Zoltan Hajnal, and G. Agustin Markarian. *Invited to Revise & Resubmit at the American Political Science Review*.
2. "Policy Shapes Partisan Identification: How *Dobbs* made pre-existing abortion policy preferences relevant to partisanship" w/ Alan S. Gerber and Gregory A. Huber.
3. "Information and Political Representation: Evidence from the impact of declining local news on primary elections"
– Leon Weaver Best Paper Award, APSA Representation and Electoral Systems Section, 2021
4. "Why American Federalism is a Recipe for Distrust in Elections (And What to Do About It)" with Jennifer Gaudette, Seth J. Hill, Thad Kousser, Mindy Romero, and Laura Uribe.
– State Politics and Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award, APSA State Politics & Policy Section, 2023
5. "Measuring the Effects of Events Using Surveys" w/ Alan Gerber, Gregory Huber, and Jack Walker.
6. "Does Information about Post-Election Audits Increase the Public's Trust in Elections?" w/ Cheryl Boudreau, Thad Kousser, and Jennifer Merolla.
7. "Party Control and the Policy Representation of Voters' Multiple Identities " w/ Jacob Hacker, Zoltan Hajnal, and G. Agustin Markarian.
8. "I'm a Federal Sovereignist but a Provincial Nationalist: Party Identification in a Multi-Level Westminster Democracy. " w/ Alex B. Rivard.
9. "Do You Know My Name? How local elites influence primary election outcomes."

10. "Primary Campaigns Advertising Strategies in Nomination Contests."

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

1. "Heterodox Campaign Contributors: Evidence from Political Finance Records" w/ Josh Clinton, Seth Hill, and Gregory A. Huber.
2. "How Can Debates Matter? Evidence from the 2024 Biden-Trump Presidential Debate?" w/ Alan Gerber, Gregory Huber, Douglas Rivers, and Jack Walker.
3. "On the Stability and Uniqueness of Survey Measures of Personality Traits and Attitudes" w/ Alan Gerber and Gregory Huber.
4. "Know Thy Neighbor" w/ Itamar Yakir, Greg Huber, and Alab Gerber.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

Democratic Innovations Workshop, Yale University, 2024

Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association, 2021, 2022

Political Methodology, 2021

Midwestern Political Science Association, 2021, 2022, 2024

Election Science, Administration, and Reform Conference, 2020, 2023

Canadian Political Science Association, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Bell Chair Graduate Student Conference, 2019

Yale Center for the Study of American Politics Conference, 2024

AWARDS AND GRANTS

MIT Election Data and Science Lab, \$56,664, with Cheryl Boudreau, Thad Kousser, and Jennifer Merolla, "Does Information about Post-Election Audits Increase the Public's Trust in Elections?", 2024-2025

State Politics and Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award, APSA State Politics & Policy Section, 2023

Leon Weaver Best Paper Award, APSA Representation and Electoral Systems Section, 2021

SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship, 2021-2022

UCSD Political Science Methods Apprenticeship, 2021

Lakoff Fellowship, 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Media and Politics, 2021

Teaching Assistant with Discussion Section

Introduction to American Politics, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022

Causal Inference (PhD Level), 2020

Quantitative Methods II (Masters Level, Global Policy School), 2020

Introduction to Canadian Politics (University of British Columbia), 2017, 2018

Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Policy Analysis, 2022

Policy Analysis and Public Welfare (Masters Level, Global Policy School), 2021

California Politics, 2019, 2020

Elections, Voting, and Campaigns, 2019

Judicial Politics, 2018

The Politics of Public Policy, 2018

The Presidency, 2017

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

California's New Electorate Project (PI Thad Kousser & Seth Hill)	2019 - 2020
Yankelovich Center at UCSD (PI Thad Kousser & Zoltan Hojnal)	2022 - 2023

SERVICE

UCSD Omni Methods Group Coordinator,	2020 - 2023
Omnibus Political Science Survey Coordinator,	2017 - 2021
Political Science Graduate Student Association - Vice-President Recruitment,	2019 - 2020
Political Science Graduate Student Association - Vice-President Orientation,	2018 - 2019

Referee Service: *Lancet Infectious Diseases, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Nature Human Behavior, Journal of Experimental Political Science, British Journal of Political Science, Political Science Research and Methods, Political Research Quarterly, Justice Quarterly, Political Geography, Research and Politics, Social Science Quarterly, Political Behaviour, Public Opinion Quarterly*

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

English (native), French (advanced)
Stata, L^AT_EX, R, SQL, Python
Qualtrics, Lucid

Updated: May 9, 2025