Maxwell M. Clarke

University of Florida
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EDUCATION

University of Florida

Ph.D. in Political Science   *2025 – Present*
  Major in American Politics, Minor in Comparative Politics
M.A. in Political Science   *2025 – Present*
B.A. in Political Science, *Summa cum laude*   *2020 – 2024*
  Minor in French & Francophone Studies, Certificate in Translation Studies

SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Clarke, Maxwell M., Michael P. McDonald, and Daniel A. Smith. 2025. "Florida's Democracy Deserts: Patterns of Contestation and Cancellation of Florida Local Elections." *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy.* https://doi.org/10.1177/1533129625137835

Working Papers

McDonald, Michael P., Maxwell M. Clarke, Emily Mojtabaee, William Eberhardt, Chase Fenske, Pristine Thai, Lilliam Moraga. "Local Government Election Data Transparency: Promises and Pitfalls." *Draft available.*

AWARDS

Best Undergraduate Thesis, Department of Political Science, University of Florida, 2024

PRESENTATIONS

"Local Government Election Data Transparency: Promises and Pitfalls."
  Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration Conference. Tallahassee, FL. 2025.
  Southern Political Science Association. San Juan, PR. 2025.

"Florida's Democracy Deserts."
  Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration Conference. Los Angeles, CA. 2024.
  Florida Political Science Association. Gainesville, FL. 2024.
  Southern Political Science Association. New Orleans, LA. 2024.

"The Effects of Election Administration on Turnout in Florida Municipal Elections."
  Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration Conference. *Poster*. Athens, GA. 2023.

PROJECTS

Supervised by Dr. Michael P. McDonald, University of Florida Election Lab

Analyzing precinct boundary files and results for mayoral elections in the largest 25 U.S. cities as part of consulting work for nonprofit client
September 2025 – Present

Responsible for managing a team of undergraduate students and assisting them in collecting local election data as part of consulting work for nonprofit client
July 2023 – Present

Assisted in collection of nationwide voting precinct data of boundaries used in 2022 U.S. midterm elections as part of Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)
February 2023 – March 2023

Collected Florida county commission district and voter precinct GIS boundaries for analysis
March 2022 – March 2023

Collected redistricting plans and metadata for all fifty U.S. States for analysis
February 2022 – February 2023

Redistricted Florida state house, senate, and congressional districts as part of consulting work for voting rights client
October 2021 – January 2022

Analyzed nationwide voter registration changes after January 6, 2021, Capitol insurrection
January 2021

Supervised by Dr. Daniel A. Smith, University of Florida Election Lab
Review of political science literature sourcing Election Administration and Voting Survey
May 2021– July 2021

SKILLS

Voter registration and history data processing
Geographic Information Systems (QGIS, ArcGIS Pro)
Optical character recognition (OCR) automation
Website scraping automation
R, R Studio, and R Pubs

REFERENCES

Michael P. McDonald (*michael.mcdonald@ufl.edu*), *Professor of Political Science*
Department of Political Science, University of Florida

Daniel A. Smith (*dasmith@ufl.edu*), *Professor of Political Science, Former Chair*
Department of Political Science, University of Florida