

MICHELE CLAIBOURN

I am a research director – a political scientist, data scientist, community-engaged scholar, and senior administrator – with 20 years of experience teaching, leading, and managing research and data science teams.

My own work centers on action-based research, using the tools of data science to promote accountable governance¹, make visible racial and other social inequities², and impact public policy and movement building.



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Current
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2021

Director of Equitable Analysis

[The Equity Center](#), University of Virginia

- Faculty Affiliate & Lead Data Scientist, Global Policy Center, 2019-present
- Co-Director, Community Policy, Analytics & Strategy Lab, 2018-present

2021
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2015

Director, Research Data Services & Social, Natural, and Engineering Sciences

UVA Library, University of Virginia

- Data Science Director, The Equity Center, 2020-2021 (partial buyout)

2015
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2013

Director, StatLab and Research Data Services

UVA Library, University of Virginia

- Associate Director, Data Science Institute, 2014-2016 (partial buyout)

2013
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2011

Data Scientist

Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia

2011
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2004

Assistant Professor

Department of Politics, University of Virginia

2004
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2002

Assistant Professor

Department of Politics, University of Oklahoma



EDUCATION

2002
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1996

PhD., Political Science

University of Wisconsin-Madison

📍 Madison, WI

1993
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1989

B.A., Political Science

Rice University

📍 Houston, TX



TEACHING AND MENTORING

2021
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2002

Graduate Courses

University of Virginia and University of Oklahoma

- Imagining Equitable Policy, Public Interest Data Lab, Saving Lives with Data, Data Visualization, Text as Data, Applied Causal Inference, General Linear Models, Linear Models, Applied Time Series, Mixed-Effects Models/Longitudinal Analysis, Introduction to Statistical Analysis

2020
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2002

Undergraduate Courses

University of Virginia and University of Oklahoma

- Project First Gen +, Research Design & Analysis, The Presidency and the Public, Media & Political Communication, Political Psychology & Decision Making, Citizen Competence in American Democracy, Introduction to American Politics

CONTACT

✉ mclaibourn@virginia.edu

🔗 mclaibourn.github.io

🌐 github.com/mclaibourn

in linkedin.com/in/mclaibourn

Project portfolio at
mclaibourn.github.io.

Leadership

Envision, design, and lead research projects with academic and community partners seeking to understand racial and other disparities and to develop policy responses. Manage multiple projects and train and mentor students engaging in community-engaged data science.

Founded StatLab³, a data science consulting service for members of the UVA community. Built a new division within the library to support the growing data science research community at UVA, recruiting, hiring, and managing a team with diverse skills and talents..

Have managed a team of 10-12 full-time staff, 3-4 graduate fellows, and research teams across multiple collaborations on a range of programmatic and research projects.

Methods and Software

Statistical modeling and data science
R, RStudio, Shiny
Data wrangling and visualization
Stata and SPSS
Text analytics
GitHub and reproducibility
Some Python and SQL
Qualitative methods

2020
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2013

- **Select StatLab Workshops⁴**
University of Virginia
 - Six-part series on Data Science in R, Multiple Imputation, Cluster Analysis, Duration Models, Matching Methods, Mixed-Effects Models, Sentiment Analysis, Topic Modeling, Text Classification, Data Wrangling, Linear Modeling

2019

- **REU Mentor**
School of Data Science, UVA



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

2019

- **Charlottesville Foster Care Study⁵**
Report to the Charlottesville Department of Social Services
 - With Charlotte McClintock and the Public Interest Data Lab

2020

- **Panelist, Racial Equity and Technology**
Public Interest Technology-University Network

2019

- **Panel Chair and Moderator**
Data & Democracy, School of Data Science Datapalooza, University of Virginia

2019

- **Homework and Hubris: Preparing for Community-Engaged Courses**
Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy Summit, University of Virginia
 - With Paul Martin

2013

- **Citizen Participation and Congressional Responsiveness: New Evidence for Why Participation Matters**
Legislative Studies Quarterly 38: 59-82
 - With Paul Martin

2012

- **Creating Constituencies: Presidential Campaigns, Selective Mobilization, and the Scope of Conflict**
Political Behavior 34: 27-56
 - With Paul Martin

2011

- **Presidential Campaigns and Presidential Accountability⁶**
University of Illinois Press, Series on Democracy, Free Enterprise, and the Rule of Law

2007

- **The Third Face of Social Capital: How membership in Voluntary Associations Improves Policy Accountability**
Political Research Quarterly 60: 192-201
 - With Paul Martin

2002
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2000

- **Gender Differences in Citizen-Level Democratic Citizenship: Evidence from the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems**
Presented to the International Political Science Association (2000), the Midwest Political Science Association (2001), and the Conference on Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (2002)
 - With Virginia Sapiro
 - 2001 Winner, Sophonisba Breckenridge Award for best paper on Women & Politics, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting

2000

- **Trusting and Joining: An Empirical Test of the Reciprocal Nature of Social Capital**
Political Behavior 22: 267-291
 - With Paul Martin

Teaching and Writing

20 years of experience teaching statistics and data science methods, policy, and political behavior to undergraduate and graduate students.

Design data workshop series for student and adult learning communities, including recruiting and mentoring instructors, marketing and assessment, and contributing to select topics.

Experienced writer in multiple formats, from university press books and peer-reviewed journal articles, to action-oriented reports for local and state agencies, educational materials, and informal writing.

Skilled in communicating about data, technology, and policy to stakeholders, advocates, and learners.

Last updated on 2021-05-12.

- 1: <https://commpas.batten.virginia.edu/>
- 2: https://virginiaequitycenter.github.io/cvilleequity_covid/
- 3: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/statlab/>
- 4: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/training/past-workshops/>
- 5: <https://doi.org/10.18130/v3-ztey-hn31>
- 6: <https://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/75hhf7en9780252035920.html>