

# MICHELE CLAIBOURN

I am a research director – a senior data scientist, political scientist, community-engaged scholar, and senior administrator – with 20 years of experience teaching, leading, and managing research and data science teams. Recently I've been building and leading Research Data Services<sup>7</sup> in the UVA Library.

In the last five years, my own work has turned towards action-based research, using the tools of data science to promote accountable governance<sup>2</sup>, make visible racial and other social inequities<sup>3</sup>, and impact public policy and movement building. I am always interested in opportunities to use my experience and skills towards creating a more economically and socially just world.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Current  
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2015

- **Director, Research Data Services & Social, Natural, and Engineering Sciences<sup>5</sup>**

UVA Library, University of Virginia

- Lead Data Scientist, Equity Center, 2020-present (partial buyout)
- Faculty Affiliate/Lead Data Scientist, Global Policy Center, 2019-present
- Co-Director, Community, Policy, Analytics and Strategy Lab, 2018-present

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

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2011  
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2004

- **Assistant Professor**

Department of Politics, University of Virginia

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2005  
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2002

- **Instructor**

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, University of Michigan

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2004  
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2002

- **Assistant Professor**

Department of Politics, University of Oklahoma

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## CONTACT

✉ [mclaibourn@virginia.edu](mailto:mclaibourn@virginia.edu)

🔗 [mclaibourn.github.io](https://mclaibourn.github.io)

🔗 [github.com/mclaibourn](https://github.com/mclaibourn)

🔗 [linkedin.com/in/mclaibourn](https://linkedin.com/in/mclaibourn)

View this CV online with links at [mclaibourn.github.io/mpc\\_cv](https://mclaibourn.github.io/mpc_cv)

See my [webpage](#) for a more project-oriented and link-filled portfolio.

### Leadership

Consult with and design research projects for partners and clients looking to better understand racial disparities and social structures, and to design policy in response.

Founded StatLab<sup>4</sup>, a data science consulting service for members of the UVA community where I continue to serve as a senior consultant and mentor student fellows.

Built a new division of the library enhancing our ability to support the growing data science research community at UVA, recruiting, hiring, and managing a team with diverse skills and talents to meet emerging university research needs.

Supervise a team of 10-12 full-time staff, 3-4 graduate fellows, and teams in multiple collaborations on a range of research projects, including work on equity and COVID response in the Charlottesville community, racial disparities in the Charlottesville and Albemarle child welfare systems, forced displacement events with humanitarian partners, and additional community-oriented and library-directed data science efforts.



## EDUCATION

2002  
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1996

- **PhD., Political Science**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison 📍 Madison, WI  
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- **B.A., Political Science**  
Rice University 📍 Houston, TX  
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## TEACHING AND MENTORING

2020  
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2002

- **Graduate Courses**  
University of Virginia and University of Oklahoma
  - Public Interest Data Lab, Saving Lives with Data, Text as Data, Applied Causal Inference, General Linear Models, Linear Models, Applied Time Series, Mixed-Effects Models/Longitudinal Analysis, Introduction to Statistical Analysis
- **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
- **Select StatLab Workshops<sup>6</sup>**  
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
- **REU Mentor**  
School of Data Science, UVA
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## PUBLICATIONS

2015

- **Bigger on the Inside: Building Research Data Services at the University of Virginia<sup>7</sup>**  
Insights 28: 100-106
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### Methods and Software

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

### Teaching and Writing

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

Designed 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 many 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.

- 2013
- **Citizen Participation and Congressional Responsiveness: New Evidence for Why Participation Matters**  
Legislative Studies Quarterly 38: 59-82
    - With Paul Martin
- 2012
- **Hearing Campaign Appeals: The Accountability Implications of Campaign Tone**  
Political Communication 29: 64-85
    -
- 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 Accountability<sup>8</sup>**  
University of Illinois Press, Series on Democracy, Free Enterprise, and the Rule of Law
    -
- 2008
- **Making a Connection: Repetition and Priming in Campaigns**  
Journal of Politics 70: 1142-1159
    -
- 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

## REPORTS AND SELECTED WRITING

- 2020     • **Child Welfare Referrals in Charlottesville**  
            Report to the Charlottesville Department of Social Services  
            · With Charlotte McClintock and the Public Interest Data Lab
- 2019     • **Charlottesville Foster Care Study<sup>9</sup>**  
            Report to the Charlottesville Department of Social Services  
            · With Charlotte McClintock and the Public Interest Data Lab
- 2019 | 2016     • **Blog posts at UVA StatLab<sup>10</sup>**  
            ·
- 2018     • **Charlottesville Child Welfare Study<sup>11</sup>**  
            Report to the Charlottesville Department of Social Services  
            · With Charlotte McClintock and the Public Interest Data Lab
- 2013     • **Review of Competitive Elections and the American Voter, by Keena Lipsitz**  
            Perspectives on Politics 10: 1030-1031  
            ·
- 2012     • **Red State, Blue State: Demographic Change and Presidential Politics in Virginia<sup>12</sup>**  
            Numbers Count (July)  
            · With Dustin Cable
- 2012     • **Black in Virginia: Demographic Trends in Historical Context<sup>13</sup>**  
            Numbers Count (April)  
            ·
- 2012     • **Blog posts at StatChatVA<sup>14</sup>**  
            ·
- 2005     • **The Influence of Campaign Advertising**  
            Encyclopedia of Public Opinion, Greenwood Press  
            ·
- 1994     • **Fourth-Year Report: Milwaukee Parental Choice Program**  
            University of Wisconsin-Madison  
            · With John Witte, Christopher Thorn, and Kim Pritchard



## GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2020  
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2018
- **Building a Collaborative Regional Equity Atlas**  
Institute for Museum and Library Services  
· Co-Principal Investigator, with Rebecca Coleman
- 2019
- **Thrive Grant for Project First Gen Plus**  
Office of the Provost and Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Virginia  
· Co-Principal Investigator, with Paul Martin
- 2018  
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2017
- **Creating a Data Catalog to Promote Access to Open Health Data**  
National Network of Libraries of Medicine  
· Co-Principal Investigator, with Bart Ragon
- 2006  
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2005
- **Summer Research Grant**  
Vice-President for Research, University of Virginia  
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- 2006  
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2005
- **Excellence in Diversity Fellow**  
University of Virginia  
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- 2004  
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2003
- **Junior Faculty Research Grant**  
University of Oklahoma  
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- 2003
- **Faculty Enrichment Grant**  
College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma  
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- 2002
- **Instructional Technology Grant**  
College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma  
·
- 2001
- **Midwest Political Science Association Sophonisba Breckinridge Award**  
Best paper on Women in Politics presented at the annual meeting  
·
- 2000
- **National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
·

- 1999
- **Clara Penniman Fellowship**  
Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin

 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

- 2019
- **Search Committee**  
Data Scientist, MDI Predictive Displacement Project, Save the Children, International
- 2019
- **Search Committee**  
Associate University Librarian for Research and Learning Services, UVA
- 2019  
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2018
- **MAPP2Health Data Evaluation Committee**  
Thomas Jefferson Health District
- 2019  
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2018
- **Data Science Undergraduate Certificate Committee**  
University of Virginia
- 2019  
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2014
- **Co-founder and co-organizer**  
UVA/CVille R Meetup
- 2019  
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2015
- **Judge, MSDS Capstone Projects**  
Systems & Information Engineering Design Symposium, UVA
- 2018  
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2014
- **Data Science Advisory Board**  
University of Virginia
- 2018  
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2002
- **Journal and Award Reviewer**
    - American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, British Journal of Political Science, Political Behavior, Political Psychology, Political Research Quarterly, American Politics Research, Politics and Gender, National Science Foundation, Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences

- 2017 ● **Judge, GCOM 7140 Customer Analytics Capstone**  
Commerce School, University of Virginia  
.
- 2017 | 2014 ● **Advanced Computing Steering Committee**  
University of Virginia  
.
- 2016 ● **Organizer and Host, UVA DataFest**  
University of Virginia  
.
- 2015 | 2013 ● **Quantitative Collaborative Steering Committee**  
Colleges of Arts & Sciences, University of Virginia  
.
- 2013 | 2012 ● **Planning Committee for Graduate Certificate in Survey Research Methods**  
Colleges of Arts & Sciences, University of Virginia  
.
- 2012 ● **Section Chair, Elections and Voting Behavior**  
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting  
.
- 2011 ● **Philip E. Converse Book Award Committee**  
American Political Science Association's Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Section  
.
- 2011 | 2010 ● **Graduate Admissions Committee**  
Department of Politics, University of Virginia  
.
- 2011 | 2004 ● **Undergraduate Studies Committee**  
Department of Politics, University of Virginia  
.
- 2008 ● **Section Chair, Electoral Campaigns**  
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting  
.
- 2008 | 2007 ● **Quantitative Reasoning Assessment Committee**  
University of Virginia  
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- 2008  
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2007
  - **Planning Committee for conference on Polling and Democracy**  
Miller Center for Public Affairs, University of Virginia
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- 2008  
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2007
  - **Comparative Politics Search Committee**  
Department of Politics, University of Virginia
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- 2007  
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2006
  - **Graduate Student Selection Committee**  
Society of Political Methodology's Annual Meeting
    -
- 2005
  - **Kennedy Oral History Research Director Search Committee**  
Miller Center for Public Affairs, University of Virginia
    -
- 2005
  - **Undergraduate Honors Thesis award committee**  
Department of Politics, University of Virginia
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## □ RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- 2019
  - **Panel Chair and Moderator**  
Data & Democracy, School of Data Science Datapalooza, University of Virginia
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- 2019
  - **Homework and Hubris: Preparing for Community-Engaged Courses**  
Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy Summit, University of Virginia
    - With Paul Martin
- 2018
  - **Smaller on the Outside: Supporting Researchers through Library and Research Computing/IT Collaborations**  
Southeastern University Research Association IT Meeting
    -
- 2017
  - **Imagining New Ways to Engage Political News**  
UVA Library
    -
- 2017
  - **From Last to Ancient First: Merging Research Data Services & Social,Natural, Engineering Liaisons.**  
Association of College and Research Libraries Conference
    -

- 2016     • **Bigger on the Inside: Integrating Research Data Services in Campus-Wide Networks**  
Coalition for Networked Information Fall Meeting
- 2016     • **Presidential Debate Analysis in R**  
UVA/CVille R User Meetup
- 2016     • **2016 Presidential Debates: Text as Data**  
[DH@UVA](#) Conference, University of Virginia
- 2016     • **Congressional Earmarks and the Politics of Representation**  
Center for the Study of Data and Knowledge, University of Virginia
- 2014     • **Data Services as Information Services: or, Old Wine, New Bottle**  
ALA Midwinter Meeting
  - With Ivey Glendon
- 2013     • **Population Projections by Demographic Details: A Multi-Layered Approach**  
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of American
  - With Rebecca Tippett and Qian Cai
- 2012     • **Multilevel Modeling for Population Projections: Projections for Virginia**  
Southern Demographic Association
  -

## 🔗 LINKS

- 1: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/>
- 2: <https://commpas.batten.virginia.edu/>
- 3: [https://virginiaequitycenter.github.io/cvilleequity\\_covid/](https://virginiaequitycenter.github.io/cvilleequity_covid/)
- 4: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/statlab/>
- 5: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/>
- 6: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/training/past-workshops/>
- 7: <http://insights.uksg.org/articles/10.1629/uksg.239/>
- 8: <https://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/75hhf7en9780252035920.html>
- 9: <https://doi.org/10.18130/v3-ztey-hn31>
- 10: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/tag/michele-claibourn/>
- 11: <https://doi.org/10.18130/v3-1j50-3z57>
- 12: [https://demographics.coopercenter.org/sites/demographics/files/NC\\_RedState-BlueState\\_07-25-2012\\_0\\_0.pdf](https://demographics.coopercenter.org/sites/demographics/files/NC_RedState-BlueState_07-25-2012_0_0.pdf)

13: [https://demographics.coopercenter.org/sites/demographics/files/NC\\_Blacks-in-Virginia\\_4\\_30\\_12\\_r\\_0.pdf](https://demographics.coopercenter.org/sites/demographics/files/NC_Blacks-in-Virginia_4_30_12_r_0.pdf)

14: <http://statchatva.org/category/wcc-contributors/michele-claibourn/>