

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 Services⁷ in the UVA Library.

My own work has turned towards action-based research, using the tools of data science to promote accountable governance², make visible racial and other social inequities³, 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 Sciences⁵**
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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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

- 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
- 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

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- 🔗 mclaibourn.github.io
- 🌐 github.com/mclaibourn
- in linkedin.com/in/mclaibourn

See full CV and project portfolio at mclaibourn.github.io.

Leadership

Consult with researchers and design research projects with partners seeking to better understand racial disparities and social structures, and to develop a policy response.

Founded StatLab⁴, a data science consulting service for members of the UVA community where I continue to serve as a senior consultant and to mentor student fellows.

Build 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 research teams across multiple collaborations on a range of research projects, including work on equity and COVID response in the Charlottesville community, racial disparities in the local child welfare systems, forced displacement events with humanitarian partners, and additional community-oriented and library-directed data science efforts.

2019
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2013

● **Select StatLab Workshops⁶**
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

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SELECTED WRITING AND PRESENTATIONS

2019

● **Charlottesville Foster Care Study⁷**
Report to the Charlottesville Department of Social Services

- With Charlotte McClintock and the Public Interest Data Lab

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

2016

● **Congressional Earmarks and the Politics of Representation**
Center for the Study of Data and Knowledge, University of Virginia

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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 Accountability⁸**
University of Illinois Press, Series on Democracy, Free Enterprise, and the Rule of Law

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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

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

Teaching and Writing

20 years of experience teaching statistics and data science methods, applied policy research, 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.



LINKS

- 1: <https://data.library.virginia.edu/>
- 2: <https://commpas.batten.virginia.edu/>
- 3: 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: <https://doi.org/10.18130/v3-ztey-hn31>
- 8: <https://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/75hhf7en9780252035920.html>