

MASON REECE

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EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2022 – expected May 2027

- PhD in Political Science, focus in American Politics and Models & Methods
- Dissertation: *Essays on Local Political Behavior using Cast Vote Records*, advised by Andrea Campbell, Devin Caughey, Charles Stewart III (chair)

Rice University

2022

- BA in Political Science with Honors, BA in Social Policy Analysis, Minor in Data Science
- Distinction in Research and Creative Works, Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude

WRITTEN WORK

Publications

- *Cast Vote Records: A Database of Ballots from the 2020 U.S. Election*. 2024. Nature Scientific Data. (with Shiro Kuriwaki and 12 others; co-first author with Kuriwaki). Winner of [MIT's Prize for Open Data](#). Media [coverage](#).
- *Postal Voting in the 2020 Election*. Journal of Election Administration, Research and Practice. 2022. (with Lonna Atkeson, MV Hood III, Colin Jones, and Robert M Stein).

Working Papers

- *Faster Estimation of Ideal Points Using Variational Autoencoders*
- *Missed Opportunities: Uncontested Elections in Contested Places*
- *Partisan Elections and Partisan Voting: Evidence from Judicial Elections* (with Daniel M. Thompson)
- *Trends in Nationalization of State and Local Elections* (with Shigeo Hirano, Joseph Loffredo, and James M. Snyder Jr.)
- *Conformal Inference for Political Scientists* (with Shuning Ge and Joohye Jeong)

TEACHING

TA for Generalized Linear Modeling & Bayesian Inference (taught by In Song Kim) Fall 2025
Designed and Taught MIT Political Methodology Workshop: Cluster Computing 2023 & 2024

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

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| MIT Prize for Open Data | 2024 |
| Sallyport Award, considered to be the top undergraduate award at Rice | 2022 |
| Judge Woodrow Seals Award for Community Service | 2022 |
| Rhodes, Marshall, and Truman Scholarship Finalist | 2021-2022 |
| Douglas S. Harlan Award, for demonstrated commitment to political involvement | 2021 |
| Morty Rich Scholarship, for commitment and service to Rice and to the greater community | 2021 |
| Jesse Jones Leadership Summer in DC Internship Program (\$7,500 per year) | 2020 & 2021 |
| Rice University Trustee Distinguished Merit Scholarship (\$25,000 per year) | 2018-2022 |

PRESENTATIONS

Political Methodology Conference (2026, anticipated); APSA Conference (2026, anticipated); MIT American Politics Workshop (2025); ESRA Conference (2025); SPSA Conference (2024); Rice University's Social Science Advisory Board (2021); Covid-19 & the Election: Understanding Voter Preferences and Intentions (2020)

SERVICE

Graduate Mentorship Co-Chair (2025 & 2026)

SOFTWARE

[rcvr](#): Clean Cast Vote Records of many types (Creator)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

CBS News Election Data Desk

2024 –

- Co-created R/Python pipeline to scrape and analyze election night returns at the precinct-level in battleground states. Worked in real time to provide live election results for the 2024 and 2025 general elections. Collaborated with a diverse team of academics and news analysts. Implementing new machine learning and conformal inference for the 2026 elections.

Research Assistantships

- Assisted with various research projects for: Charles Stewart III (2023-2025); MIT Election Data + Science Lab (2023-2025); Devin Caughey (Summer 2025); Political Methodology Lab (Fall 2024); Robert M. Stein and Elizabeth Vann (2019-2022); Chris Edelson (Summer 2020); A.Kadir Yildirim (2019-2020); Melissa Marschall (2019).

Center for Election Innovation and Research

Summer 2021

Head Poll Worker in Cambridge

2022-2024

Head Poll Worker at the Rice Polling Location

2020-2022