

# MAYA MIKELSON

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## Education

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University of Michigan

B.S. in Political Science, minor in Data Science.

2021 – 2025

GPA: 3.6

## Research Interests

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Conflict and cooperation, Democratization, Dyadic analysis

## Research Experience

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Ralph Bunche Summer Institute (RBSI) *Research Fellow*

↔ Dr. Paula D. McClain

May 2024 – June 2024

Duke University

- Explored the impact of ethnic divisions on propensity for conflict.

NSF REU in Accountability, Behavior, and Conflict in Democratic Politics *Research Fellow*

June 2023 – July 2023

↔ Dr. Emily Ritter

Vanderbilt University

- Developed an independent project on interstate conflict and militarization.
- Presented in a poster session at APSA 2023, Los Angeles.

NSF REU in Accountability, Behavior, and Conflict in Democratic Politics *Research Assistant*

June 2023 – July 2023

↔ Dr. Emily Ritter

Vanderbilt University

- Used historical sources to understand race riots and police violence in the United States.

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research *Research Assistant*

↔ Dr. Christopher Fariss

May 2022 – Present

University of Michigan

- Coded a web scraper to collect treaty ratification data from the UN Treaty Body database. Using that data, I developed 4 distinct models in R with the Stan library to calculate the likelihood that every country would sign the treaties in every year between 1966 and 2022.

## Working Projects

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The link between military expenditure, personnel, and heavy weaponry and interstate armed conflict

Senior Thesis, University of Michigan

## Work Experience

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Decision Desk HQ *Data Editor*

November 2022 – Present

- Decision Desk HQ reports election results from county election officials. In this role, I was responsible for a team of editors checking election results for errors, communicating, and resolving errors with the appropriate people.

Decision Desk HQ *Election Night Reporter*

November 2018 – November 2022

- Collected voting data from several 5-6 counties on each election night for DDHQ's rapid election night reporting.

Ballotpedia *Fellow*

Spring 2021

- Collaborated on creating a database of state-level elections data from 2010-2014. Used financial disclosure reports to calculate Senators' and Representatives' net worth to increase transparency.

## Extracurriculars

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The Michigan Daily *Data Editor and Data Journalist*

January 2022 – present

- Stood in many elevators careening towards earth, and travelled into the event horizon of black holes.
- Further mastered holding clocks and rulers.

Michigan Policy Debate Team *Member*

August 2021 – present

- Represented Michigan at competitions around the US. Researched antitrust, legal personhood, and nuclear weapons policy.

Michigan Foreign Policy Council *Member*

September 2021 – December 2021

- Researched energy policy in Afghanistan after the Taliban took control.

**Skills** 

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<b>Programming Languages</b>	R, STATA, Python, C++
<b>Data &amp; Research Software</b>	Microsoft Office Suite, QGIS 3, and L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X

**Relevant Course Work** 

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<b>Political Science</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>	<b>Mathematics &amp; Statistics</b>
Game Theory	Programming Concepts	Applied Linear Algebra
Survey Design & Analysis	Discrete Math	Multivariable & Vector Calculus
Political Science Research Design	Programming & Data Structures	Introduction to Statistical Computing
Data Science for International Studies		Introduction to Probability & Statistics
Measuring Democratic Backsliding		