

Nathan T. Barron

Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

✉ nathanbarron@ou.edu
🌐 nathantbarron.github.io

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Oklahoma exp. 2026
Graduate Research Fellow, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
Fields: American Politics, Methodology, Public Policy
Dissertation: A Counterfactual Theory of Congressional Agenda-Setting.
Committee: Michael Crespín (Chair), Rachel Blum, Charles Finocchiaro, Joseph Ripberger,
and Samuel Perry (Sociology).

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) 2022, 2023
2023: Bayesian Statistics I/II, Measurement and Scaling, Categorical Data.
2022: Regression III, Maximum Likelihood Estimation I/II, Causal Inference.

M.A. in Political Science, University of Southern Mississippi 2020

B.S. in Political Science, University of Southern Mississippi 2018

Research Interests

The U.S. Congress; agenda-setting and institutional decision-making; democratic incentives and constraints on institutional behavior; computational methodology, including agent-based modeling and natural language processing; survey methodology and experiments

Publications

- [5] McLaughlin, Peter T., and Nathan T. Barron. “[Beyond Credit Claiming: Protection and Commission Messages in Distributive Politics](#).” Forthcoming. *Political Research Quarterly*.
- [4] Barron, Nathan. T., Peter T. McLaughlin, H. Benjamin Ashton III, Rachel Blum, Charles J. Finocchiaro, and Michael H. Crespín. “[Presidential Endorsements as Voter Cues: Evidence from the 2022 Midterm Elections](#).” Forthcoming. *Political Behavior*.
- [3] McLaughlin, Peter T., and Nathan T. Barron. 2025. “[Credible Claims: The Effect of Committee Positioning on Congressional Credit Claiming](#).” *American Politics Research*. 53(3): 275-286.
- [2] McLaughlin, Peter T., Peter Olson, Nathan T. Barron, H. Benjamin Ashton III, Rachel Blum, Charles J. Finocchiaro, and Michael H. Crespín. “[Ends versus Means: Public Opinion on Congressional Redistricting](#).” 2025. *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy*. 24(3): 287-301.
- [1] Barron, Nathan T., and Peter T. McLaughlin. 2024. “[Experimental Evidence of the Benefits and Risks of Credit Claiming and Pork Busting](#).” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 49(1): 103-129.

Under Review

[-] “Christian Nationalism and Foreign Policy Attitudes.” with Katie Peach. Revise and resubmit at *Political Behavior*.

[-] “Backlash? Schooling Reassignments and the Politics of School Desegregation.” with Deven Carlson, Thurston Domina, James Carter III, Rachel Perera, and Matthew Lenard.

[-] “Public Support for Congressional Candidates Who Use Campaign Funds for Childcare.” with Peter McLaughlin, Joy Rhodes, Rachel Blum, H. Benjamin Ashton III, Charles Finocchiaro, and Michael Crespin.

Working Papers

[-] “Agenda-setting, Ideal Point Estimation, and (Mis)Measuring Polarization.”

[-] “Does the Medium Change the Message? Topics and Context In Five Venues of Congressional Communication.” with Rachel Blum, Jon Green, Diana Jordan, and Kelsey Shoub.

[-] “Public Tolerance for Congressional Candidates Involved in Scandals.” with Peter McLaughlin.

[-] “Scandals, Negativity Bias, and Support for Congressional Reforms.” with Peter McLaughlin, Joy Rhodes, Peter Olson, Rachel Blum, Charles Finocchiaro, and Michael Crespin.

Other Works

[“Americans are more satisfied when their own party, rather than commissions, controls redistricting.”](#) 2025. Cooperative Election Study Blog. with the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center.

Open Data Projects

[Political Institutions and Public Choice Dataset: U.S. House of Representatives Roll Call Votes](#)

Description: This project entails a substantial modernization to the PIPC U.S. House roll call voting dataset started by David Rohde. The newest iteration includes a verified, publication-ready, and version-controlled record of the data hosted on the Dataverse, and a real-time record of roll call votes updated nightly and hosted on GitHub. In addition to the roll call votes themselves, a code is assigned to each vote labeling its procedural intent. Currently under development.

[Political Institutions and Public Choice Dataset: U.S. Senate Roll Call Votes](#)

Description: This project entails a substantial modernization to the PIPC U.S. Senate roll call voting dataset started by David Rohde. The newest iteration includes a verified, publication-ready, and version-controlled record of the data hosted on the Dataverse, and a real-time record of roll call votes updated nightly and hosted on GitHub. In addition to the roll call votes themselves, a code is assigned to each vote labeling its procedural intent. Currently under development.

Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting <i>Panel Discussant: 2025</i>	2021-2023, 2025
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting <i>Undergraduate Poster Discussant: 2023, 2024, 2025</i>	2021-2025
Cooperative Election Study Conference	2023, 2025
Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting <i>Panel Discussant: 2024</i>	2024
OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges Digital Humanities Seed Grant Panel	2023

Research and Travel Grants

Bullard Dissertation Completion Fellowship, OU Office of the Provost (\$12,000)	2025
Research Grant, OU Graduate Student Senate (\$750)	2023
Dissertation Research Fellowship, OU Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences (\$5,000)	2023
Robberson and Wethington Scholarship, OU Graduate College (\$5,000)	2023
Conference Travel Grant, OU Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences (\$750)	2023
H.V. Thornton Award, OU Department of Political Science (\$1,250)	2022
Conference Travel Grant, American Political Science Association (\$300)	2022
<i>Total awarded to date: \$25,050</i>	

Awards

V. Stanley Vardys Award Co-recipient, OU Department of Political Science	2023
John W. Wood Award Co-recipient, OU Department of Political Science	2022
V. Stanley Vardys Award, OU Department of Political Science	2022
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, OU Office of the Provost	2021
Political Science Graduate Student of the Year, USM School of Social Science	2020
Best Paper in Public Policy, USM Undergraduate Research Symposium	2017
Joseph B. Parker Award in American Politics, USM Department of Political Science	2016

Teaching

University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

U.S. Congress (in-person)	Fall 2024
Intro to Political Analysis (in-person)	Spring 2023
Intro to Political Analysis (online)	Summer 2022, Summer 2023
American Federal Government (online)	Summer 2021, Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant for:

U.S. Congress (for Charles Finocchiaro)	Fall 2021
Politics, Policy, Constitution (for Charles Finocchiaro)	Fall 2021
American Federal Government (for Michael Crespin, Charles Finocchiaro)	Fall 2020, Spring 2021

Coding Outreach for Data Education (CODE) Workshop, Norman, Oklahoma

Data Visualization in R	Summer 2023
Version Control with Git	Spring 2023

University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS

Introduction to American Government (in-person)	Fall 2019
---	-----------

Teaching Assistant for:

Basic Economics (for Edward Sayre, Mehdi Barati, Mian Raza)	2018-2020
Intro to Microeconomics (for Elif Filiz)	2018-2020
Intro to Macroeconomics (For Hadise Tavana)	2018-2020

University and Community Service

Moderator, SocArXiv	2025-current
Member, OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges	2022-current
Graduate Student Representative, OU Political Science Hiring Committee	2025
Appointed Member, Bicycle Advisory Committee for the City of Norman, OK	2022-2023
Board Member, USM Center for Human Rights and Civil Liberties	2018-2020
Political Science Representative, USM Graduate Student Senate	2019-2020
Academic Coach, USM New Student and Retention Programs	2018-2019
Member, USM Honors College Curriculum Development Committee	2016

Referee Service

The Journal of Politics
Legislative Studies Quarterly
Political Behavior
Political Research Quarterly
Cambridge University Press

References

Michael Crespín, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science, The University of Oklahoma
Director and Curator, The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
(405) 325-6372
crespín@ou.edu

Rachel Blum, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Political Science, The University of Oklahoma
(405) 325-6372
rblum@ou.edu

Charles Finocchiaro, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science, The University of Oklahoma
Associate Director, The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
(405) 325-6372
finocchi@ou.edu

Additional references available upon request.