

Nathan T. Barron

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

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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

How legislative institutions shape behavior and outcomes; agenda-setting; public opinion and public institutions; concepts and measurement; computational methods; survey methodology

Publications

- [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](#).” Forthcoming. *Election Law Journal*.
- [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

[-] “Beyond Credit Claiming: Protection and Commiseration Messages in Distributive Politics.” with Peter McLaughlin. Revise and resubmit at *Political Research Quarterly*.

[-] “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 Crespín.

Working Papers

[-] “Agenda Effects in Ideological Scaling: A Reconsideration with Simulation Studies.”

[-] “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 Crespín.

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.

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 Crespín, 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

Member, OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges

2022-current.

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*

updated August 2025