

STEVEN RASHIN, PhD

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Data Scientist

Success combining data science tools with social science research to measure and model behavior

I have 10 years of experience in research, 3 years of team leadership, and 5 years teaching quantitative methods. Skilled in comprehensive research design-from ideation to implementation, publication, and dissemination. Contributor to open-source software tools. Multiple publications in top-tier journals. GitHub: github.com/sdr1.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Lecturer

09/2023 — 01/2024

Department of Statistics and Data Science, University of Texas, Austin

Austin, TX

Teaching 250 students in classes on statistics and data science for the Department of Statistics and Data Science

- Classes covered statistics and machine learning techniques such as hypothesis testing, regression, general linear models, random forest, recommender systems, data visualization, and how to load large (>1,000,000 rows) datasets in R
- Managed a team of 7 course assistants

Post-doctoral Fellow

10/2020 — 08/2023

McCombs School of Business, University of Texas, Austin

Austin, TX

Employ multidisciplinary and mixed methods approach to study influence over financial market policy

- Research cited by White House in guidance to increase citizen participation in federal policymaking
- Wrote code in R, Python, and SQL deploying NLP and ML methods to link over 500,000 organizations to their lobbying data and wrote an innovative algorithm to figure out how much influence organizations had over policy
- Managed a team of up to 10 researchers
- Advised students on research projects and authored multiple recommendation letters

Visiting Scholar

9/2019 — 10/2020

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

Developed open-source text analysis tools to understand the effect of inequality on the implementation of Dodd-Frank

- Managed project on influence over financial market policy with team members across the US
- Wrote code to match over 1,000,000 non-profits and for-profit orgs to multiple datasets without common keys
- Applied statistics, NLP, and machine learning to analyze data and integrate large datasets

Instructor/Teaching Assistant/Research Assistant

9/2014 — 5/2020

New York University

New York, NY

While getting my PhD, I developed automated data collection tools to increase the speed of scraping of online data

- Developed material in R, Python, and STATA to teach students the intuition behind statistical concepts and teach coding

EDUCATION

PhD, New York University, September 2019

MA, Columbia University, May 2012

BA (with distinction), Carleton College, June 2009

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND PUBLICATIONS

Programming Languages: R, Python, SQL, Markdown

Applications: Github, Quarto, Git, LATEX

Core Competencies: Data Science & Analytics, Quantitative & Qualitative Research, Research Design, Program & Project Management, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Machine Learning (ML), Computational Methods, Data Visualization, Statistical Analysis, Team Leadership, Coaching & Mentoring, Webscraping

- “[Stakeholder Participation in Policymaking: Evidence from Medicare Fee Schedule Revisions](#)” (Joint with Sanford Gordon.) 2021. *The Journal of Politics* 83(1): 409-414
 - o Wrote an algorithm using NLP to sort through 2,000,000 physicians to find the 5,000 that lobbied the Center for Medicare Services. Developed another [algorithm](#) to find which of the 18,000 comments were similar. Used a residualized bin-scatter to plot the relationship between lobbying and assets.
- “[Interest Groups in Bureaucratic Politics: Data, Methods, and Issues](#)” (Joint with Dan Carpenter, Devin Judge-Lord, and Brian Libgober.) 2020. *Interest Groups & Advocacy* 9: 425–435
 - o Article on how to apply data science tools to political science research on the administrative state.
- “[What Public Comments During Rulemaking Do](#)” (Joint with Brian Libgober.) 2023. *American Politics Research* 51(6): 715-730
 - o Developed a Shiny App to allow a team of 4 researchers to efficiently hand code 300 comments along 15 dimensions.
- “[Inequality in Administrative Democracy: Methods and Evidence from Financial Rulemaking](#)”
 - o Developed an algorithm to figure out how much an organization influences public policy. Used NLP to match over 6,000 organizations that submitted lobbying documents to government to the over 1,000,000 organizations in the IRS 990 data and corporate financial data.

AWARDS

APSA's Herbert Kaufman Award for best paper	2021
Dean's Dissertation Fellowship	2018 - 2019
MacCracken Fellowship at New York University	2013 - 2018
Bradley Fellow	Summer 2016 - Summer 2019

INVITED TALKS

American Political Science Association	2018-2022
R seminar for graduate students	2022
University of Texas-Austin, McCombs School of Business	2020-2023
Industry Influence in Financial Regulation	2017
Conference on Dodd-Frank Regulations	2016

OTHER

Interests include running (slowly but getting faster!), tennis, golf, cooking, and Spanish (currently intermediate)