

Sebastian Sternberg, M.A.

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Research Interests

Machine Learning/Deep Learning, Predictive Modelling, Text Analysis, Empirical Legal Studies, Judicial Behavior

Education

09/2015 – present	Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences, University of Mannheim PhD Candidate, Department of Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (Committee: Prof. Thomas Gschwend, Prof. Christoph Hoennige)
10/2013 – 08/2015	University of Konstanz, Institut d'Études Politiques de Grenoble Double Degree Master of Arts in Public Administration and European Governance (with distinction, Mention Très Bien)
09/2012 – 01/2013	Semester Abroad Institut d'Études Politiques de Lille
09/2010 – 08/2013	University of Mannheim Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Law

Academic Teaching Experience

Spring 2018	Data Analysis, Undergraduate (in English)
Fall 2017	Multivariate Analyses, Graduate (in English)
Spring 2017	Data Analysis, Undergraduate (in English)
Spring 2016	Data Analysis, Undergraduate (in English)

Professional (Teaching) Experience

April 2018	<i>Statistical Consulting in Big Data Questions</i> , Sinus Institut, Heidelberg
Februar 2018	<i>Workshop introduction to R (one day)</i> , Geschäftsstelle für Qualitätssicherung Hessen, Frankfurt am Main
November 2017	<i>Workshop supervised and unsupervised machine learning (three days)</i> , Bundesbank, Frankfurt am Main

Further Training

Fall 2018	Data Visualization (Prof. Richard Traunmüller)
Spring 2017	Introduction to Machine Learning (Dr. Christoph Kern)
Spring 2017	Bayesian Analysis II (Prof. David Kaplan)
Spring 2017	Bayesian Analysis I (Prof. Richard Traunmüller)
Fall 2016	Webscraping & Automated Data Collection (Dr. Simon Munzert)
Fall 2016	Big Data in the Social Sciences (Prof. Frauke Kreuter)
Fall 2016	Game Theory (Prof. Thomas Bräuninger)
Spring 2016	Programming in R (Dr. Daniel Heck)
Spring 2016	Computer Based Content Analysis (Dr. Sanja Stajner)
Spring 2017	Advanced Quantitative Methods (Prof. Thomas Gschwend)
Fall 2015	Multivariate Analyses (Prof. Thomas Gschwend)

Publications (Peer-reviewed)

Marcel Neunhoeffler, Sebastian Sternberg, 2018. How Cross-Validation Can Go Wrong and What to Do About it. *Forthcoming Political Analysis*

Lukas Stoetzer, Thomas Gschwend, Marcel Neunhoeffler, Simon Munzert, Sebastian Sternberg, 2018. A Dynamic Forecasting Model for the 2017 German Federal Election. *Forthcoming Political Analysis*

Thomas Gschwend, Benjamin Engst, Caroline Wittig, Nils Schaks, Sebastian Sternberg, 2017. Zum Einfluss der Parteienähe auf das Abstimmungsverhalten der Bundesverfassungsrichter - Eine quantitative Untersuchung. *Juristen Zeitung*, 72(17): 816–826

Lukas Stoetzer, Simon Munzert, Thomas Gschwend, Marcel Neunhoeffler, Sebastian Sternberg, 2017. Zweitstimme.org. Ein strukturell-dynamisches Vorhersagemodell für Bundestagswahlen. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift* 58 (3): 418-442

Sebastian Sternberg, Thomas Gschwend, Caroline Wittig, and Benjamin G. Engst. 2015. Zum Einfluss der öffentlichen Meinung auf Entscheidungen des Bundesverfassungsgerichts. Eine Analyse von abstrakten Normenkontrollen sowie Bund-Länder-Streitigkeiten 1974-2010 *Politische Vierteljahresschrift* 56(4): 570-598

Work in Progress

Benjamin G. Engst, Thomas Gschwend, Sebastian Sternberg, 2018. Who sits on the Bench? Evaluation of Judicial Nominees for Constitutional Courts. *Under Review*

Sebastian Sternberg. 2018. Why do courts craft vague decisions? Evidence from a comparative study of court rulings in Germany and France.

Sebastian Sternberg. 2018. Automatic Detection of Vagueness in Court Rulings.

Sebastian Sternberg, 2017. How to Forecast Constitutional Court Decisions? Legal Context and Political Context in a Machine Learning Framework.

Thomas Gschwend, Sebastian Sternberg, Steffen Zittlau, 2016. Are Judges Political Animals After All? Quasi-experimental Evidence from the German Federal Constitutional Court.

Conference Presentations

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| 05/2018 | 8th European Political Science Association General Conference, Vienna "Why do Courts Craft Vague Opinions? Evidence from Court Rulings in Germany and France." |
| 05/2018 | 2nd Conference on Empirical Legal Studies in Europe, Leuven "Why do Courts Craft Vague Opinions? Evidence from Court Rulings in Germany and France." |
| 06/2017 | 7th European Political Science Association General Conference, Milan "How Judicial Integrity Generates Public Support for Judicial Nominees" |
| 09/2016 | European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, Prague "Ideology, Law and Professional Background. Explaining Dissenting Opinions in the German Federal Constitutional Court." |
| 06/2016 | 6th European Political Science Association General Conference, Brussels "Are Judges Political Animals After All? Quasi-experimental Evidence from the German Federal Constitutional Court." |
| 06/2016 | First Conference on Empirical Legal Studies in Europe, Amsterdam "Are Judges Political Animals After All? Quasi-experimental Evidence from the German Federal Constitutional Court." |

Skills

Programming

- R, 4 years of professional experience, taught in multiple classes
- Python, 1 year of applied experience

Statistical Software

- Stata, 7 years of professional experience, taught in multiple classes
- SPSS, 1 year of professional experience

Others

- SQL, 1 year of professional experience in building databases for projects
- Latex, 4 years of professional experience

Languages

- Languages: German (native), English (fluent), French (advanced)

References

- Prof. Thomas Gschwend, University of Mannheim, gschwend@uni-mannheim.de, +49 (0)621-181-2087
- Prof. Christoph Hönnige, University of Hannover, c.hoennige@ipw.uni-hannover.de, +49 (0) 511-762-3881
- Prof. Sabine Saurugger, Institut d'Études Politiques de Grenoble, sabine.saurugger@sciencespo-grenoble.fr, +33 (0) 476-826-076

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