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KEVIN SIMMT

- Interests** Comparative Political Economy, Canadian Politics, Quantitative Methods
- Citizenship** Canadian
- Education** Ph.D., Political Science, The Ohio State University, *Expected (ABD)*: 2020.
Dissertation: *A Theory of Planned Inefficiency*
Exams: Comparative Politics and Quantitative Methods
M.A., Political Economy of Development, University of Toronto, 2013.
Coursework in Economics and Political Science, emphasis on statistical policy analysis
GPA: 3.85
B.A., Political Science, Queens University (Kingston, ON), 2011
Dean's Honour List With Distinction (graduated in top 3% of students)
- Research & Publications** *A Theory of Planned Inefficiency* (Dissertation)
Oftentimes, the political economy of taxation focuses on conflicts between income groups in order to account for variations in tax-levels and tax-progressivity. This focus, however, not only overlooks other salient cleavages, but is unable to explain aspects of taxation, such as tax-mix, for which income-based groups provide neither the most salient, nor generalizable, impetuous for conflict. In my dissertation I write a series of papers focusing on the regime-specific challenges governments face when producing and implementing tax policy. In these papers I conceptually draw on selectorate theory and quantitatively estimate the causal effect of regime type on various aspects of tax policy through regression-discontinuity and difference-in-difference designs built around exogenous shocks to existing regimes.
- Planners and Participants, The Social Construction of Efficient Market Economies*
(In progress) Markets have ideational and institutional prerequisites. In this paper I consider the belief systems that citizens must hold for efficient markets to develop.
- Non-Refereed*
“Tax Incentives and Urban Sprawl” *Edmonton Journal*, October 3, 2013
“Did Privatization Free Alcohol Retailing From Government?” *Edmonton Journal*, August 29, 2013
“Is there Hope for Corporate Social Responsibility” *Inquire Publication*, Vol.2 (2011) pp.3-12
- Teaching** *Instructor (The Ohio State University)*
POLITSC 4270: Canadian Politics (Upper-Division),
Spring 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and Summer 2019.
POLITSC 1200: Comparative Politics (Introductory Course),
Autumn 2018.

Teaching Assistant (The Ohio State University)

POLITSC 3200: Politics of Development

Professor Marcus Kurtz, Autumn 2017.

POLITSC 4130: Law and Politics

Professor Vlad Kogan, Autumn 2016.

**Grants &
Awards**

The Ohio State University

Departmental Fellowship, Summer 2018 and Autumn 2019

Summer Travel Award, 2017 (IQMR, Syracuse, NY)

Summer Travel Award, 2016 (ICPSR, Ann Arbor, MI)

Social and Behavioral Sciences Fellowship, 2015–2016.

University Fellowship, 2015–2016.

University of Toronto

Ministry of Training, Colleges Universities: Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000).

Canadian Friends of Hebrew University: Fellowship for Study in Jerusalem (\$3,000).

Shared highest cohort grade for master thesis.

Queens University

Millennium Scholarship Foundation: National Excellence Award (\$11,500)

Alberta Education: Alexander Rutherford Scholarship (\$3,500)

**Additional
Training**

ICPSR: University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)

Coursework: Bayesian Statistics, Multilevel Modeling, and Advanced Regression

IQMR: Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)

Coursework: Natural Experiments, Multi-Method Research, Causal Inference

Programming

R (Advanced), JAGS, Stata, SPSS, Git, \LaTeX

Employment

Economic Analyst, [Statistics Canada](#); 2014–2015

Developed methods for measuring the Canadian consumer price index

Conducted statistics analysis on Canadian national accounts

References

Jan Pierskalla

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Sarah Brooks

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