

Theodoros Ntounias

Present Address

4444 36th Street D
San Diego, CA 92116

Contact Details

✉ tntounias@gmail.com
🌐 tdounias.github.io
☎ +1 9713447899

Education	University of California San Diego PhD Political Science <i>San Diego, CA</i>	2020-
	University of California San Diego M.A. Political Science <i>San Diego, CA</i>	2020-2022
	University of Warwick M.Sc. Statistics with Distinction <i>Coventry, UK</i>	September 2020
	Reed College B.A. Mathematics and Political Science (Interdisciplinary) <i>Portland, OR</i>	January 2018
	National Technical University of Athens B.Eng. Electrical and Computer Engineering <i>Athens, GR</i>	Transferred June 2016
Focus	Democratic Backsliding • Fiscal Federalism • Sub-national Government • European Politics • Promissory Democracy • Ranked Choice Voting	
Published Research	Voter Information and RCV , an experimental approach to examining how information seeking behaviour changes when voters are faced with ranked-choice voting, rather than traditional single-preference. (<i>Election Law Journal</i> , Vol. 22, No. 4, 2023)	
Ongoing Research	Recentralization as an Aspiring Autocrat Strategy When and how do aspiring autocrats use fiscal recentralization to serve their goal of executive aggrandizement, consolidation of support, and suppression of domestic opposition? (<i>dissertation work at UC San Diego</i>)	
	Globalization and Political Ambiguity , use of party manifesto text data to test whether political parties rely on strategic ambiguity during election campaigns to evade sanctioning by voters in future elections. (<i>with Christina J. Schneider and Robert Thompson</i>)	
Past Projects	Quantifying Gerrymandering with MCMC Methods , a summary and quick application of the most current methods used to quantify gerrymandering in US States, based on Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulation. (<i>M.Sc. dissertation project</i>)	
Leadership Activities	Chief Adjudicator Several Debating Tournaments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief Adjudicator of several schools and universities tournaments in Greece.	2014-

- On the Chief Adjudicator's Panel for the World Schools Debating Championship in **2019**, **2021**, and **2023**.
- For the above, helped train, test, and allocate a judging pool of over 150 judges.

Co-coach

2016-2019

Greek National Schools Debate Team, Athens, GR

- Trained five-member national debating delegation to compete in the World Championship.
- Placed in top twenty teams for three years running.

Teaching

Grader Introduction to Business Law • Analyzing Elections: Political Economy • The VRA 50 Years Later • Economic Theories and Political Behavior • Politics of Multiculturalism

Teaching Assistant/Section Leader UCSD Political Science Senior Honors Seminar • Introduction to Comparative Politics • Introduction to American Politics

Non-academic Speech and Debate teacher at the Hellenic-American Educational Foundation (2014-2021), multiple students reaching national finals.

Honors Awards

Invited Visiting Scholar at the University of Rochester Democracy Center, February 2024.

Outstanding Dissertation in Statistics (Postgraduate) Award, University of Warwick 2020.

Invited to deliver a TEDx Talk on debating and community in Greece, TEDx Patras 2016.

World Debating Champion in the English as a Foreign Language category, WUDC Thessaloniki 2016.

Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association • European Political Science Association • Royal Statistical Society

Other Skills

Languages: Greek (Native), English (Fluent), French (Working Knowledge).
Software: LaTeX, R, Python, STATA, SQL, C++, Github.