

THOMAS ROBINSON

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Academic Positions

August 2020- **Assistant Professor in Quantitative Comparative Politics**
School of Government and International Affairs
University of Durham, UK

Education

2020 **University of Oxford** | DPhil in Politics
Thesis Title: Three Essays on Measuring Political Behaviour
Supervisor: Prof. Andy Eggers
Examiners: Prof. Ben Ansell (Oxford) and Prof. James Snyder (Harvard)
Passed without corrections.
2018 **University of Oxford** | MPhil in Politics (Comparative Government)
2016 **University of Oxford** | BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Research

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. “Citizens from 13 countries share similar preferences for COVID-19 vaccine allocation priorities.” With Raymond Duch et al (part of the international collaborative project CAN-DOUR). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Sep 2021, 118 (38) e2026382118
2. “How Campaigns Respond to Ballot Position: A New Mechanism for Order Effects.” With Nelson Ruiz and Saad Gulzar. *Journal of Politics*, (Accepted)
3. “The MIDAS Touch: Accurate and Scalable Missing-Data Imputation with Deep Learning.” With Ranjit Lall. *Political Analysis*, First View: 1-18.
4. “Nativist Policy: the comparative effects of Trumpian politics on migration decisions.” 2020. With Raymond Duch, Denise Laroze, and Constantin Reinprecht. *Political Science Research and Methods*, First View: 1-17.
5. “Multi-modes for Detecting Experimental Measurement Error.” 2020. With Raymond Duch, Denise Laroze, and Pablo Beramendi. *Political Analysis*, 28(2): 263-283.
6. “Where Will the British Go? And Why?” 2019. With Raymond Duch, Denise Laroze, and Constantin Reinprecht. *Social Science Quarterly*, 100(2): 480-493.

Under Review

1. “When do voters respond to campaign finance disclosure? Evidence from multiple election types”, **Revise and Resubmit, Political Behavior**
2. “Direct democracy in representative systems: Understanding breakdowns in responsiveness through ballot initiative success.”
3. “Efficient Multiple Imputation for Diverse Data in Python and R: **MIDASpy** and **rMIDAS**”. With Ranjit Lall.

Working Papers

1. “When should we cluster experimental standard errors?”
2. “How to detect heterogeneity in conjoint experiments”. With Raymond Duch.
3. “Economic Beliefs and the Local Coronavirus Pandemic.” With Raymond Duch and Peiran Jiao.

Work in Progress

1. “Mind and machine: rooting out corrupt politicians” With Nelson Ruiz and Ezequiel Gonzalez-Ocantos.
2. Model-based tests of missingness mechanisms. With Ranjit Lall.
3. Synthetic data in the social sciences using generative adversarial networks.

Open-Source Software/Resources

1. “cjbart: Heterogeneous Effects Analysis of Conjoint Experiments”. With Raymond Duch. *R package, published on CRAN.*
2. “rMIDAS: Multiple Imputation Using Denoising Autoencoders”. With Ranjit Lall and Alex Stenlake. *R package, published on CRAN.*
3. “MIDASpy”. With Ranjit Lall and Alex Stenlake. *Python package, published on PyPi.*
4. “10 Fundamental Theorems for Econometrics”. *Online statistics resource, available on bookdown.org*

Book Reviews

Robinson, T. S. (2018). “Brexit: Why Britain Voted to Leave the European Union by Harold D. Clarke, Matthew Goodwin, and Paul Whiteley.” *Political Science Quarterly*, 133(3): 564-565.

Scholarships, Grants and Awards

Successful Grant Applications

| | | |
|------|-----------------|--|
| 2021 | PI | Synthetic data and deep learning <i>British Academy/Leverhulme Trust</i> £33,000 FEC; £10,000 cost to funder |
| 2021 | Co-Investigator | Evaluation, synthesis and translation of education intervention evidence <i>Education Endowment Fund</i> £1.6 million FEC; £706,000 cost to funder |

Other Received Funding, Scholarships and Awards

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| 2020 | CIPB Research Budget (Experiment, £1910) | SGIA, Durham University |
| 2019 | Incubator Fund (to host conference, £600) | ESRC Grand Union DTP |
| 2019 | Academic Programme Fund (to host conference, £1000) | Rothermere American Institute |
| 2019 | Research Training Support Grant (Experiment, £1600) | ESRC Grand Union DTP |
| 2018 | Quantitative Graduate Methods Scholarship | Q-Step Centre, Oxford |
| 2018 | Mr Michell - Wadham RCUK Studentship | ESRC/Wadham College |
| 2017 | Richard E. Neustadt Essay Prize | American Politics Group (PSA) |
| 2016 | St Anne's Centenary Bursary | St Anne's College, Oxford |
| 2016 | Travel Grant (MPSA Conference, £400) | St Anne's College, Oxford |
| 2015 | Danson Foundation Mentoring Programme | St Anne's College, Oxford |
| 2015 | Travel Grant (Fieldwork, £1000) | Rothermere American Institute |
| 2014 | Scholarship of the University of Oxford (renewed 2015) | St Anne's College |

Teaching

Undergraduate

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| Researching Politics and IR [†] | 2020, 2021 | <i>SGIA, Durham University</i> |
| Practice of Politics, Prelims Paper | 2019, 2020 | <i>University of Oxford</i> |
| Comparative Government, Finals Paper | 2020 | <i>University of Oxford</i> |
| Q-Step 1 quantitative lab sessions | 2019 | <i>DPIR, University of Oxford</i> |

Graduate

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| Core Concepts in Political Science [†] | 2021 | <i>SGIA, Durham University</i> |
| Quantitative Methods and Reasoning [†] | 2020, 2021 | <i>SGIA, Durham University</i> |
| Designing Political Inquiry [†] | 2020 | <i>SGIA, Durham University</i> |
| Introduction to Statistics | 2019 | <i>DPIR, University of Oxford</i> |

Methods Schools

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| Machine Learning in the Social Sciences | 2021 | <i>Oxford Spring School</i> |
| Machine Learning | 2021 | <i>SICSS, Nuffield College</i> |
| R for Reproducible Research | 2019 | <i>Oxford Spring School</i> |
| Heterogeneity and Machine Learning Workshop | 2019 | <i>CESS-Essex Summer School</i> |
| Introduction to R | 2019 | <i>CESS-Essex Summer School</i> |

Public Sector

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| Advanced Course on Data Analytics | 2021 | <i>Asian Productivity Organization</i> |
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[†] = *Module convenor*

Professional Activities

Accepted Presentations and Seminars

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| 2021 | EPSA | Panel |
| 2021 | “Flipping the Covid-19 Classroom”, PSA | Invited talk |
| 2021 | Experimental Insights from Behav. Econ. on Covid-19, JHU & LSE | Presenter |
| 2020 | “Flipped Seminar” Series, CIPB, Durham University | Presenter |
| 2020 | Work-in-Progress Seminar Series, DPIR, University of Oxford | Presenter |
| 2020 | EPSA [cancelled due to COVID-19] | Panel |
| 2020 | PolMeth Europe [cancelled due to COVID-19] | Poster |
| 2019 | “Crashing out of Politics” inequality workshop | Convenor + Panel |
| 2019 | DPIR Politics Research Colloquium | Presenter |
| 2019 | CESS Social Media Workshop, Nuffield College | Panel |
| 2019 | EPSA | Panel + Panel Chair |
| 2019 | Oxford-LSE Politics Graduate Student Conference | Panel |
| 2019 | American Politics Graduate Seminar, Rothermere American Institute | Presenter |
| 2018 | “US Politics after the Midterms”, St Anne’s College | Talk |
| 2018 | DPhil Politics/IR Seminar, DPIR, University of Oxford | Panel |
| 2018 | King’s College London JMCE Research Workshop | Panel |
| 2018 | American Politics Group (PSA) conference | Panel |
| 2017 | American Politics Group (PSA) conference | Panel |
| 2017 | Departmental Seminar, Blavatnik School of Government | Presenter |
| 2016 | Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) | Poster |
| 2015 | American Politics Graduate Seminar, Rothermere American Institute | Presenter |

External Research Collaborations

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| 2021- | Research collaborator |
| | Statistics and Privacy Team @ Facebook |
| | Employer of record: Pro Unlimited |

Accreditations

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| 2021 | Accredited Researcher |
| | Office for National Statistics |

Service Positions

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| 2021- | PGR Lead | CIPB, Durham University |
| 2020- | Deputy Director of Doctoral Training Centre | SGIA, Durham University |
| 2020- | Ethics Reviewer | CESS, Nuffield College |
| 2019-20 | Head of Online Experiments | CESS, Nuffield College |

Technical Skills

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| Coding languages | R, Python, Julia, Bash Working knowledge of MATLAB and VBA |
| Systems | Git(hub), Amazon AWS |
| Courses | High-Performance Computing in Economics and the Social Sciences <i>Taught by Prof. Jesús Fernández-Villaverde (UPenn)</i> |