

# THOMAS ROBINSON

School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University  
+44 (0)7908 231 892 | thomas.robinson@durham.ac.uk | ts-robinson.com

## 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. “When do voters respond to campaign finance disclosure? Evidence from multiple election types”, *Political Behavior*, First View: 1-24.
2. “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
3. “How Campaigns Respond to Ballot Position: A New Mechanism for Order Effects.” With Nelson Ruiz and Saad Gulzar. *Journal of Politics*, (Accepted)
4. “The MIDAS Touch: Accurate and Scalable Missing-Data Imputation with Deep Learning.” With Ranjit Lall. *Political Analysis*, First View: 1-18.
5. “Nativist Policy: the comparative effects of Trumpian politics on migration decisions.” 2022. With Raymond Duch, Denise Laroze, and Constantin Reinprecht. *Political Science Research and Methods*, 10(1): 171-187.
6. “Multi-modes for Detecting Experimental Measurement Error.” 2020. With Raymond Duch, Denise Laroze, and Pablo Beramendi. *Political Analysis*, 28(2): 263-283.
7. “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. “Direct democracy in representative systems: Understanding breakdowns in responsiveness through ballot initiative success.”
2. “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

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

Researching Politics and IR <sup>†</sup>	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

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

### Methods Schools

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

Advanced Course on Data Analytics	2021	<i>Asian Productivity Organization</i>
-----------------------------------	------	--

<sup>†</sup> = *Module convenor*

## Professional Activities

### Accepted Presentations and Seminars

2022	MPSA	Panel + Discussant
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

2021-	<b>Research collaborator</b>
	Statistics and Privacy Team @ Facebook
	Employer of record: Pro Unlimited

### Accreditations

2021	<b>Accredited Researcher</b>
	Office for National Statistics

### Service Positions

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

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