**WILLIAM D. TAYLOR**

Doctoral Student, Political Science and Public Policy, University of Michigan

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Research interests: repression; human rights; vulnerability; policy evaluation and implementation; policy preference formation; computational methods.

**Education**

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

B.S. Computer Science and Political Science 2023

**University of Michigan—Ann Arbor**

Ph.D. Political Science and Public Policy Expected 2028

**Research Experience**

**Analyst**

Criminal Justice Innovation Lab, UNC School of Government 2023-Feb 2025

* Provide quantitative and computational deliverables for projects on bail reform, court appearance, and reentry and second chance hiring.
  + Lead meetings associated with these projects.
* QC work completed by graduate assistants and other researchers affiliated with the Lab.
* Write substantive prose and methodological appendices for reports delivered to stakeholders.
* Implement software engineering best-practices to enable efficiency and reproducibility in the Lab’s core data infrastructure.
* Led development on the [North Carolina Record Clearance Dashboard](https://cjil.shinyapps.io/RecordClearanceDashboard/), an interactive dashboard to be used by policymakers and stakeholders in assessing prospects for criminal record clearance in North Carolina.

**Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Fellow** 2022

American Political Science Association Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, Duke University

* Completed two graduate-level courses—Probability and Basic Regression, and Race and American Politics.
* Wrote a quantitative research paper employing rare event analysis to study radicalization into political extremism in the United Kingdom.
* Invited to present at the 2022 American Political Science Association general conference.

**Undergraduate Research Assistant** 2021-2023

Dr. Frank Baumgartner, UNC Department of Political Science

* (December 2021—Summer 2022) Assisted with reshaping and feature engineering tasks for a country-wide death penalty dataset.
* (Fall/Winter 2022) Received mentorship while completing an independent research paper on disparate criminal justice contact in NC.
  + Presented on research design and theory for this project at the University of Michigan’s Emerging Scholars political science conference.
  + Presented findings at the National Conference of Black Political Scientists Annual Meeting.

**NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Fellow** 2021

Security and Political Economy Lab/LEWIS Registry, The University of Southern California

* Cleaned, updated, and merged data for several international relations projects, and the Princeton World Economics and Politics Dataverse.
* Analyzed survey data from police chiefs on the Law Enforcement Work Inquiry System (“LEWIS Registry”).
* Collaborated with other research assistants (RAs) to generate reports that informed project direction.
* Held weekly office hours to assist other RAs with R and statistical computing concepts.
* Created visualizations and tables for academic papers, and updated prose with these changes.
* Gave presentations to professors and stakeholders outlining new quantitative findings.
* Created R video tutorials on data visualization, currently hosted on the SPEC Lab YouTube channel.

**Policy Evaluations**

PRETRIAL REFORM IN ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT, with Jessica Smith, Lab Director; Jamie Vaske, Senior Research Associate; and Hannah Turner, Project Manager, November 2023.

* Responsible for the prose and analyses in the Pretrial Detention section.

PRETRIAL REFORM IN ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT — TECHNICAL APPENDIX**,** with Jessica Smith, Lab Director; and Jamie Vaske, Senior Research Associate, November 2023.

* Responsible for the prose and analyses in the Pretrial Detention section.

**Conference Presentations**

Bossous, Joel and **William Taylor.** 2024. “Anger and the Political Pendulum: Emotions as Call and Response.” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA.

**Taylor, William.** 2023. “Social Vulnerability and Criminal Justice Contact in North Carolina.” National Conference of Black Political Scientists. Atlanta, GA.

**Taylor, William.** 2023. “Social Vulnerability and Criminal Justice Contact in North Carolina.”

Eldersveld Emerging Scholars Conference. Ann Arbor, MI.

**Professional Memberships**

American Political Science Association

National Conference of Black Political Scientists

National Society of Black Engineers

Society of Political Methodology

Southern Political Science Association

**Technical Skills**

**Languages**

R, Python, Stata, Java, SQL, Bash

**Operating Systems**

Mac OS, Linux, Windows 10, Windows Server

**Applications:**

Rstudio/Quarto, Stata BE, Jupyter Notebook, Git/GitHub, IntelliJ, Microsoft Office Suite