

Zachary Dickson

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

London School of Economics and Political Science

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

COVIDEU Project (PI: Prof. Sara B. Hobolt)

London, UK

Nov. 2022–Current

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Data Science Institute (LSE)

Research Affiliate

London, UK

Nov. 2022–Current

EDUCATION

University of Glasgow

PhD, Politics

Glasgow, UK

March 2023

- Thesis: Social Identity, Group Representation, and Unequal Responsiveness in the US and UK
- Supervised by: Sergiu Gherghina and Sergi Pardos-Prado

University of Edinburgh

MSc, International Relations

Edinburgh, UK

September 2019

- Dissertation: The Ideology of Meritocracy in Western Immigration Discourse

Northeastern Illinois University

BA, Political Science

Chicago, US

May 2018

- GPA: 3.79/4.0

RESEARCH

Elite Cues and Non-Compliance

with Sara B. Hobolt (Under Review – American Political Science Review)

Going against the Grain: Climate Change as a Wedge Issue for the Radical Right

with Sara B. Hobolt (Under Review – Comparative Political Studies)

Youth Suffrage and Legislative Responsiveness to Climate Change: Evidence from Scotland

with Tevfik Murat Yildirim (Under Review – Electoral Studies)

COVID-19 Infection Reduces US Congressmembers' Opposition to COVID-19 Policies on Social Media

with Tevfik Murat Yildirim (Under review)

The Gender Gap in Elite-Voter Responsiveness Online

(Under Review – Perspectives on Politics)

Elite Legislators and Unequal Representation in the UK

(Under Review – British Journal of Political Science)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Glasgow

Teaching Assistant

Glasgow, UK

September 2020 – May 2022

- Comparative Politics
- Introduction to Politics (x2)

University of Strathclyde

Teaching Assistant

Glasgow, UK

September 2021 – May 2022

- Machine Learning for Data Analytics
- Quantitative Methods 2: Statistics & Analysis
- Politics: Decision Making & Outcomes
- Quantitative Methods 1: Statistics & Analysis

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

London School of Economics

Research Assistant for Sara B. Hobolt & James Tilley

London, UK

June 2023 – December 2023

- NLP & Data Visualization

Comparative Candidates Study

Research Assistant for Wolfgang Rudig

Glasgow, UK

August 2021 – October 2021

- Created a dynamic measure of ideology using legislators' tweets and probabilistic classification with BERT word embeddings

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (NON-ACADEMIC)

AT&T, Inc.

Workforce Analyst

Chicago, Illinois, US

2015–2018

- Implemented Six Sigma, Lean, and Agile methodologies for process improvement, project optimization, and workforce forecasting
- Developed workflow changes, operational guidelines, problem assessments and root cause analysis

AT&T, Inc.

Customer Service Intern

Chicago, Illinois, US

2013–2015

- Performed tech support, troubleshooting and problem resolution at inbound customer care center
- Managed onboarding and training processes for new hires – including both technical and soft-skills training workflows and manuals

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, Julia, R, SQL, Git, Latex, Markdown

Statistics: Bayesian & Frequentist Estimation; Causal Inference (DiD, RDD, Synthetic Control)

Data Science: NLP (Word2Vec, LDA, Transformers), Machine learning (Tensorflow, scikit-learn, XGBoost)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Midwest Political Science Association – Annual Conference: 2022, 2023

European Consortium for Political Research – Joint Sessions Workshop: 2022

American Political Science Association – Annual Conference: 2022

European Consortium for Political Research – General Conference: 2022

European Political Science Association – General Conference: 2023

European Consortium for Political Research – Standing Group on Parliaments: 2023