

Simon Heuberger

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Education

PH.D., **Political Science**. American University, Washington, D.C., 2020 (expected)

Fields: American Politics, Quantitative Methods, Comparative Politics

Dissertation: “Advances in Public Opinion Measurement Using Modern Statistical Methods: Sequential Blocking, Mode Effects, and the Power of Moral Arguments”

Dissertation Chair: Jeff Gill

M.A., **Social and Political Thought**, *magna cum laude*. University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, 2014

Dissertation: “Fighting ‘Socialism’: The Koch Brothers, the Tea Party, and Obamacare” (15,000 words), *magna cum laude*

MAGISTER, **English Linguistics, Communication, Business**. University of Munich, Germany, 2011

Dissertation: “From Candidate to President: The Use of Metaphors and Pronouns in Speeches by Barack Obama” (40,000 words), *magna cum laude*

Interests

Political Methodology (Surveys, Experiments, Randomization, Causal Inference, Bayesian), Public Opinion, Political Behavior, Political Communication

Publications

2019. “Insufficiencies in Data Material: A Replication Analysis of Muchlinski, Siroky, He and Kocher (2016)”. *Political Analysis* 27 (1), 114-118 ([Paper](#)).

“Bayesian Modeling and Inference: A Postmodern Perspective” with Jeff Gill. In Luigi Curini and Robert J. Franzese, Jr. (editors), *Handbook of Research Methods in Political Science & International Relations*. SAGE, *forthcoming*.

Data Analysis

Software

Eagledown: R Package to Write a PhD Thesis at American University in R Markdown ([GitHub](#))

BlockExperiments: R Package to Apply Sequential Blocking on Ordinal Variables (*in development*)

GLMpack: R Package to Accompany *Generalized Linear Models: A Unified Approach* (2nd ed.) by Jeff Gill and Michelle Torres (*in development*)

Python, AWS, Docker, GitHub, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, Stata, SPSS

Statistics

Generalized Linear (OLS, MLE, Logit, Probit) and Nonlinear Regression, Causal Inference

Experimental Survey Analysis and Methodological Design

Bayesian, Prediction, Probability, Uncertainty, Instrumental/Proxy Variables

Sampling, Clustering, Matching, Visualization

Content Analysis, Web Analytics (Scraping, Text LDA Models)

Research Experience

Editorial Assistant	2017-Present
Political Analysis Journal (Jeff Gill, R. Michael Alvarez, Jonathan Katz)	
Data Replication of Journal Submissions	
Code Debugging and Quality Control in R, Python, Stata	
Dataverse Organizational Management	
Research Assistant	2015-2017
American University (Matthew Wright, Ryan T. Moore, Jeff Gill)	
Strength and Effectiveness of Framing Measures in Political Behavior	
Immigration as a Focal Aspect of the 2016 Presidential Race	
List Experiments on Social Desirability Bias	
Development of Aptitude Tests for Data Scientist Positions at The Lab @ DC	
Enhancement of R Package <code>blockTools</code>	
Establishment of American University Center for Data Science Dataverse (Dataverse)	
MCMC Dynamics Measuring State Ideology with Spatial Variance Co-Matrices	
Research Fellow	2013
British American Security Information Council, London, Washington	
Nuclear Disarmament in the UK and Middle East	
Contributor to the BASIC UK Trident Commission Report (Paper)	
Coverage of 2013 Egyptian Protests and Military Intervention	
Research Assistant	2012-2014
University of Warwick, University of Cambridge (Eric Jensen)	
Political Economy of Current Face-to-Face Public Dialogue Practices in Sciencewise	
Role of Social Media in Public Dialogue	

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Instructor	
American University	
Introduction to Political Research (R) (Syllabus , Evaluations)	Fall 2018
Teaching Assistant	
American University	
Bayesian Statistics for Social and Biomedical Sciences, Jeff Gill (Syllabus)	Fall 2018
Introduction to Political Research (R), Ryan T. Moore (Syllabus , Guide to R)	Spring 2017
Introduction to Political Research (Stata), Jan E. Leighley (Syllabus)	Summer 2016
Lecturer in German	2012-2015
University of Warwick	
Graduate and Undergraduate Assessments	
Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Courses at Centre for Life-Long Learning	

Conference Presentations

APSA 2016, 2018
 SPSA 2017, 2018
 PolMeth 2017, 2018
 NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference 2018
 Minnesota PolMeth Graduate Student Conference 2018
 MPSA 2018

Working Papers

- “Improving Balance in Survey Experiments with Ordinal Variables Through Sequential Blocking” .
 “Measuring Mode Effects For Ordinal Survey Responses In Online And Face-To-Face Survey Experiments: An Entropy Tool” .
 “Moral Arguments As A Source Of Frame Strength” .
 “Standard and Extended Model Comparison Tools: IC Tools and More” with Jeff Gill and Kumail Wasif.
 “Conjoint Analysis and Candidate Characteristics: Explorations in Causal Inference” with Ryan T. Moore.
 “Emotional Affect and Partisan Polarization in Presidential Elections 1980-2016: An Ever-Twisting Spiral” with Will Jorgeson.

Awards and Grants

- AAPOR Travel Award, 2019
 BITSS Scholarship for Research Transparency and Reproducibility Training (RT2), 2018
 Office of the Provost Doctoral Student Research Scholarship, 2018
 APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant, 2018
 Prestage-Cook Award, SPSA Annual Meeting, 2018
 National Science Foundation Grant, Presentation at Society for Political Methodology, 2017
 Graduate Leadership Council Conference Travel Grant, 2017, 2018, 2019
 Award from the Vice Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies, “The Impact of Information and Emotions on Voter Turnout and Civic Engagement,” with Jan E. Leighley, 2016
 Department of Government Graduate Research Support, “Framing Methodologies,” 2016
 Graduate Assistantship, 2015-2019
 German Academic Exchange Service Scholarship for Study Abroad in Australia, 2009

Other

Community Involvement

- Rehabilitation of Fear-Aggressive Shelter Dogs
 Panel Judge of Undergraduate Project Competitions

Languages

- German (*native*)
 English (*bilingual proficiency*)
 Spanish (*full proficiency*)
 French (*full proficiency*)
 Arabic (*basic proficiency*)