

ISAAC D. MEHLHAFF

Department of Political Science
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Updated: April 20, 2023
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Texas A&M University College Station, TX
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science Beginning 2024

The University of Chicago Chicago, IL
Postdoctoral Scholar, Data Science Institute 2023 - 2024

EDUCATION

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science Expected 2023
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Rahsaan Maxwell,
Timothy J. Ryan, Jaime Settle (William and Mary)

Master of Arts in Political Science 2020
Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Ted Enamorado, Cecilia Martinez-Gallardo

University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI
Bachelor of Arts with Honors in the Liberal Arts 2018
Thesis Advisor: Erica S. Simmons

BOOK

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. *Mass Polarization across Time and Space.* New York: Cambridge University Press, Elements in Comparative Political Behavior. Under contract.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Isaac D. Mehlhaff, Marc J. Hetherington, Michael B. MacKuen, and Timothy J. Ryan. "Where Motivated Reasoning Withers and Looms Large: Fear and Partisan Reactions to the Covid-19 Pandemic." *American Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.

Samuel Schmitt, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Emily Cottle Ommundsen. "Integrating Classroom and Community with Undergraduate Civically Engaged Research." *PS: Political Science and Politics*, forthcoming.

UNDER REVIEW

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. "A Group-Based Approach to Measuring Polarization." *Revise and Resubmit, American Political Science Review.*

Marc J. Hetherington, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Caroline Marie Lancaster. "Worldview Politics in the United States and Great Britain."

Robert C. Luskin, Daron R. Shaw, Marc J. Hetherington, and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** "Signed Forecast Errors in Pre-Election Media Polls, 1990-2020."

WORKING PAPERS

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. "Mass Polarization and Democratic Decline: Global Evidence from a Half-Century of Public Opinion."

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “Political Discussion at Scale: Argument Mining with Deep Learning.”

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “Political Argumentation and Attitude Change in Online Interactions.”

SOFTWARE

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. CPC: Implementation of Cluster-Polarization Coefficient (version 2.3.0). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=CPC>.

EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Marc J. Hetherington and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** “American attitudes toward covid-19 are divided by party. The pandemic itself might undo that.” *The Washington Post* (August 18, 2020).

Isaac D. Mehlhaff. “Subverting Solidarity: The Role of American Organized Labor in Pursuing United States Foreign Policy Objectives in Chile, 1961-1973.” *The Burkhardt Review* 1, no. 2 (2018): 24-40.

FUNDING

National Science Foundation

Graduate Research Fellowship, \$138,000 2020-2023

Midwest Political Science Association

Pi Sigma Alpha Travel Award, \$500 2023

American Political Science Association

Centennial Center Research Grant, \$2,400 2022

Travel Award, \$150 2022

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Program for Public Discourse

Graduate Fellowship, \$1,000 2021-2022

Institute for the Study of the Americas

Americas Graduate Fellowship, \$5,000 2018-2020

Department of Political Science

Uhlman Research Grant, \$2,000 2019

European Consortium for Political Research

Travel Award, €150 2019

HONORS AND AWARDS

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Department of Political Science

James W. Prothro Award for Best Master’s Thesis in Political Science 2021

Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning,

Associate Level of Accomplishment 2021

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Department of Political Science

William Jennings Bryan Award for Best Thesis in Political Science 2018

Department of History

William F. Allen Research Award 2017

College of Letters and Science

Phi Beta Kappa 2017

Ball State University

Student History Conference

Best Paper in Global History 2018

INVITED TALKS

Texas A&M University, Department of Political Science	2022
Duke University, Department of Political Science	
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, American Politics Research Group	

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, CA	2023
Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	2023
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Montreal, QC	2022
Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, Washington University in St. Louis	
Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science, Rice University	
Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA	2021
Conference on Theories of the Contemporary Divide in Western Societies, European University Institute	
Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA	
Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, Toronto, ON	2020
Standing Group on Latin American Politics, European Consortium for Political Research, Segovia, Spain	2019

SERVICE

Graduate Student President

Department of Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2022 - 2023
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Graduate Coordinator

Formal and Quantitative Seminar	2022 - 2023
UNC-Duke University Working Group on Latin American Politics	2019 - 2020

Member

Removing Inequities in Political Science Working Group	2020 - 2023
Award Committee, Charles Robson Award for Excellence in Graduate Instruction	2022, 2023
Graduate Stipends Committee	2020 - 2021

Discussant

Workshop on Latin American Politics and Party Competition, Duke University	2021
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Reviewer

Political Science Research and Methods
Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences
PS: Political Science and Politics
NSF GRFP Peer Review Workshop

TEACHING

POLI 276: Everyday Political Theory: Seeing Like a Citizen (Graduate Consultant)	Spring 2022
Agora Fellows, Program for Public Discourse (Co-Facilitator)	Fall 2021
POLI 203: Race, Innocence, and the End of the Death Penalty (Teaching Assistant)	Spring 2020
POLI 100: American Democracy in Changing Times (Teaching Assistant)	Fall 2019
POLI 208: Political Parties and Elections (Instructional Assistant)	Fall 2018

SKILLS

Languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese

Technical: R, Python, L^AT_EX, Stan, SQL, Git, Tensorflow/Keras, Qualtrics