

# ISAAC D. MEHLHAFF

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Updated: February 24, 2024  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b> Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science	College Station, TX Beginning 2024
<b>The University of Chicago</b> Postdoctoral Scholar, Data Science Institute	Chicago, IL 2023 - 2024

## EDUCATION

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<b>The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</b> <i>Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science</i> Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Mary A. Kroeger, Timothy J. Ryan, Rahsaan Maxwell (NYU), Jaime E. Settle (William and Mary)	Chapel Hill, NC 2023
<i>Master of Arts in Political Science</i> Committee: Marc J. Hetherington (chair), Ted Enamorado, Cecilia Martinez-Gallardo	2020
<b>University of Wisconsin-Madison</b> <i>Bachelor of Arts with Honors in the Liberal Arts</i> Thesis Advisor: Erica S. Simmons	Madison, WI 2018

## BOOK

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**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

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**Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** Matías C. Tarillo, Ayelén Vanegas, and Marc J. Hetherington. “Partisanship and the Pandemic: How and Why Americans Followed Party Cues on COVID-19.” *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*, forthcoming.

**Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** “A Group-Based Approach to Measuring Polarization.” *American Political Science Review*, forthcoming.

**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* 68, no. 1 (January 2024): 5-23.

Sam Schmitt, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Emily Cottle Ommundsen. “Integrating Classroom and Community with Undergraduate Civically Engaged Research.” *PS: Political Science and Politics* 56, no. 4 (October 2023): 469-474.

## UNDER REVIEW

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Marc J. Hetherington, Andrew M. Engelhardt, and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff.** “More Than a Partisan Pandemic: Worldview and COVID-19 Response in the United States.”

Amirhossein Farzam, Shashank Shekhar, **Isaac D. Mehlhaff,** and Marco Morucci. “Multi-Task Learning Improves Performance in Deep Argument Mining Models.”

Robert C. Luskin, Daron R. Shaw, Marc J. Hetherington, and **Isaac D. Mehlhaff**. “Signed Forecast Errors in Pre-Election Media Polls: A Mainly Political Story.”

## WORKING PAPERS

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

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

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

## SOFTWARE

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**Isaac D. Mehlhaff**. PolarCAP: Access the Polarization in Comparative Attitudes Project (version 1.0.1). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=PolarCAP>.

**Isaac D. Mehlhaff**. CPC: Implementation of Cluster-Polarization Coefficient (version 2.5.6). *Comprehensive R Archive Network*. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=CPC>.

## EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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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

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### **National Science Foundation**

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

### **Society for Political Methodology**

Travel Award, \$1,650 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

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### **The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

*The Graduate School*

Dean’s Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences 2024

<i>Department of Political Science</i> James W. Prothro Award for Best Master's Thesis in Political Science	2021
<i>Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning,</i> Associate Level of Accomplishment	2021
<b>University of Wisconsin-Madison</b> <i>Department of Political Science</i> William Jennings Bryan Award for Best Thesis in Political Science	2018
<i>Department of History</i> William F. Allen Research Award	2017
<i>College of Letters and Science</i> Phi Beta Kappa	2017
<b>Ball State University</b> <i>Student History Conference</i> Best Paper in Global History	2018
<b>INVITED TALKS</b>	
The University of Chicago, Quantitative Methods Workshop The University of Chicago, American Politics Workshop	2023
Texas A&M University, Department of Political Science Duke University, Department of Political Science The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, American Politics Research Group	2022
<b>CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS</b>	
Generative Artificial Intelligence and Sociology Workshop, Yale University Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	2024
Politics and Computational Social Science Conference, University of California, Los Angeles Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, Stanford University Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL	2023
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Montreal, QC 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	2022
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA Conference on Theories of the Contemporary Divide in Western Societies, European University Institute Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA	2021
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
<b>SERVICE</b>	
<b>Graduate Student President</b> Department of Political Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2022 - 2023
<b>Graduate Coordinator</b> Formal and Quantitative Seminar UNC-Duke University Working Group on Latin American Politics	2022 - 2023 2019 - 2020
<b>Member</b> Removing Inequities in Political Science Working Group Award Committee, Charles Robson Award for Excellence in Graduate Instruction Graduate Stipends Committee	2020 - 2023 2022, 2023 2020 - 2021

## Discussant

American Politics Research Group, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 2023  
Workshop on Latin American Politics and Party Competition, Duke University 2021  
Standing Group on Latin American Politics, European Consortium for Political Research 2019

## Reviewer

*American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Political Communication*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, NSF GRFP Peer Review Workshop

## TEACHING

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Data Science Clinic, Data Science Institute (Project Mentor) 2023 - 2024  
POLI 276: Everyday Political Theory: Seeing Like a Citizen (Graduate Consultant) 2022  
Agora Fellows, Program for Public Discourse (Facilitator) 2021  
POLI 203: Race, Innocence, and the End of the Death Penalty (Teaching Assistant) 2020  
POLI 100: American Democracy in Changing Times (Teaching Assistant) 2019  
POLI 208: Political Parties and Elections (Instructional Assistant) 2018

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** English, Spanish, Portuguese

**Technical:** R, Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Stan, SQL, Git, Tensorflow/Keras, Pytorch, Qualtrics

## REFERENCES

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### Marc J. Hetherington

Raymond Dawson Distinguished Bicentennial Professor of Political Science Department of Political Science  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 320 Hamilton Hall  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
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### Timothy J. Ryan

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