

# Simon Heuberger

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## Education

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

Fields: American Politics, Quantitative Methods

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*

## Research Interests

Political Methodology (Surveys, Experiments, Randomization, Causal Inference, Bayesian), Political Behavior, Public Opinion, Political Communication, Political Psychology, Media and Politics

## 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)

Strength and Effectiveness of Framing Measures in Political Behavior

Public Opinion of President Obama’s Executive Order on Immigration

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 `blockTools`

### Research Fellow

2013-2014

British American Security Information Council, London, Washington, Cairo

Nuclear Disarmament in the UK and Middle East

Analyst for the BASIC UK Trident Commission Report ([Paper](#))

On-site Coverage of the 2014 Egyptian Elections and Muslim Brotherhood Prosecution

### Research Assistant

2012-2014

University of Warwick, University of Cambridge (Eric Jensen)

Review of Quantitative Data Management in the Department of Sociology

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](#))

Fall 2018

### Teaching Assistant

American University

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

University of Warwick

2012-2015

Graduate and Undergraduate Assessments

Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Courses at Centre for Life-Long Learning

## Data Analysis

### Software

R: `Script`, `Markdown` (development of `.Rmd` version of AU dissertation template as GitHub package, [Link](#)), Web Applications (`shiny`), Package Development (`devtools`)  
 Python, Stata, SPSS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, GitHub, AWS, Docker  
 Qualtrics, NVivo, Trados, CAT

### 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, Game Theory  
 Content Analysis, Web Analytics (Scraping, Text LDA Models)

## Publications

“Insufficiencies in Data Material: A Replication Analysis of Muchlinski, Siroky, He and Kocher (2016)”. *Political Analysis*, forthcoming.

“Informative Priors, Dirichlet Priors, & Advances in Bayesian Social Science” with Jeff Gill. In Luigi Curini and Robert J. Franzese, Jr. (editors), *Handbook of Research Methods in Political Science & International Relations*. SAGE, forthcoming.

## 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.
- “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 and Jan E. Leighley.

## Awards and Grants

- 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
- 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 2015-2018
- Best Master’s Dissertation in the Fields of Sociology and Politics 2014
- German Academic Exchange Service Scholarship for Study Abroad in Australia 2009

## Other

### Community Involvement

- Rehabilitation of fear-aggressive shelter dogs in D.C.
- Panel judge of undergraduate project competitions
- Shark conservation lobbyism

### Languages

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