

JAKE S. TRUSCOTT

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Department of Political Science
The University of Georgia

EDUCATION

University of Georgia (Athens, GA)

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Political Science
Major Focus: American Politics
Minor Focus: Formal Theory

August 2018-Spring 2023 (Expected)

University of Nevada, Reno (Reno, NV)

Dual Bachelor of Arts (B.A)
Major: Political Science
Major: International Affairs (*Specialization: Law, Diplomacy, and Organization*)

August 2015-May 2018

George Mason University (Arlington, VA)

Semester Exchange Program (The Fund for American Studies)
Internship: The United States Supreme Court, Office of the Clerk of Court

Fall 2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American Institutions, Judicial Politics and Processes, Political Discourse on Social Media, Models of Spatial Voting, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, American Political Development, Formal Theory, Electoral Sciences, and Survey Analytics.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Judicial Politics and Behavior, American Institutions, Constitutional Law, Criminal Justice Administration, Research Design, Research Methods (Text as Data, Natural Language Processing, Supervised and Unsupervised Machine Learning).

DISSERTATION

Title: @SCOTUS: Public Sentiment, Twitter, and Media Coverage of the US Supreme Court

Expected Completion: Spring 2023

Advisor: Dr. Richard L. Vining (University of Georgia)

This work explores how media outlets and average Americans employ social media platforms like Twitter to instigate public discourse in response to decision-making by the United States Supreme Court. Levering data mining, machine learning, and ideal point estimation techniques, my research provides novel contributions toward discerning the theoretical motivations underpinning strategic media framing behaviors and the capacity for the public to engage in public discourse online. I find that users often convey complex political knowledge as a response to strategic media framing behaviors, unique case-specific factors, and their predisposed ideological beliefs.

PUBLICATIONS

- Explaining Congressional Support for the Federal Judiciary (Co-Author: Dr. Teena Wilhelm)
The Handbook on Law and Political Systems, 2nd Edition (Forthcoming: 2022)
- The Supreme Spectacle: An Analysis of Public Attendance at the Supreme Court
Justice System Journal (Forthcoming: 2022)

WORKS UNDER REVIEW

- Analyzing the Rhetoric of Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings (1971-2020)
(Invited to Revise and Resubmit to *The Journal of Law and Courts*)
- Ideological Congruence and Judicial Departures from the U.S. Courts of Appeals
(Co-Author: Dr. Richard Vining, Under Review at *The Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- How to Train Your Stochastic Parrot: *Deep Language Models for Political Texts*
(Co-Authors: Joseph Ornstein and Elise Blasingame)
- Canary in the Coal Mines: *Sentiment of Tweets In Response to Nontransparent Government Outcomes*
(Co-Author: EmiLee Smart)
- Ideological Congruence and Strategic Departure in the Federal District Courts
(Co-Author: Mackenzie T. Vaughn)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Truscott, J. & Feldman, A. (2022, July 28). Lengthier opinions and shrinking cohesion: Indications for the future of the Supreme Court. *SCOTUSblog*. Retrieved from www.scotusblog.com
- Truscott, J. (2019, July 24). GUEST COLUMN: 7 things to expect from the next Democratic primary debate. *The Red & Black*. Retrieved from www.redandblack.com
- Truscott, J. (2019, January 8). GUEST COLUMN: Hosting a 2020 presidential debate could offer an incredible opportunity for UGA. *The Red & Black*. Retrieved from www.redandblack.com

MEDIA ACTIVITY

- Zoller, M. (2022, July 5). Listen: Jake Truscott talks Supreme Court decisions. AccessWDUN. Retrieved from <https://accesswdun.com/article/2022/7/1114689/listen-jake-truscott-talks-supreme-court-decisions>
- Drukman, J. (2020, October 23). UGA students more than twice as likely to favor Biden over Trump for president, according to survey data. *The Red & Black*. Retrieved from www.redandblack.com (Mentioned)
- Singleton, R. (2018, November 1). Too close to call: Polling conducted by UGA predicts a tight gubernatorial race. *The Red & Black*. Retrieved from www.redandblack.com (Mentioned)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

POLS 1101: Introduction to American Government Spring 2021
POLS 3600: Criminal Justice Administration Fall 2021, 2022

Teaching Assistant

POLS 1101: Introduction to American Government 2019-2022

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

“I Will Keep This Brief: *Media Framing and Responses to Supreme Court News on Social Media Platforms*”. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, September 2022.

“Ideological Congruence and Judicial Departure in the U.S. Circuit Courts” (Coauthor: Richard L. Vining). Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2022.

“Applying Sentiment Analysis to Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Antonio, Texas, January 2022.

Chair, “Transitioning from Graduate School to Academia.” At the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Antonio, Texas, January 2022.

“Ideological Congruence and Strategic Departure in the Federal District Courts.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2021.

“The Supreme Spectacle: *Media, Law, and Public Participation at the Supreme Court*.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Virtual, January 2021.

“Ideological Congruence and Strategic Departure in the Federal District Courts.” Presented at the Atlanta Symposium on Political Science, Atlanta, Georgia, March 2022.

AWARDS & GRANTS

Sidney M. Robinson Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500) 2017
Peter Mekis Memorial Scholarship (\$6,500) 2018-2023
2022 Summer Research Grant, University of Georgia Graduate School (\$1,500) 2022

RESEARCH SKILLS

Programming Languages	R and Python (Intermediate)
Statistical Software	Stata, SPSS, Excel, and R
APIs and Machine Learning	Twitter API (v1 & v2) , Unsupervised Learning Models (GPT-3), Supervised Learning (Bag of Words, Naive Bayes, etc.)

REFERENCES

Dr. Richard Vining (*Dissertation Advisor*)rvining@uga.edu
Associate Professor of Political Science
University of Georgia

Dr. Teena Wilhlemtwilhelm@uga.edu
Associate Professor of Political Science
Director of Graduate Studies
University of Georgia

Dr. Joseph Ornsteinjornstein@uga.edu
Assistant Professor of Political Science
University of Georgia

Dr. Lefteris Jason Anastasopolousljanastas@uga.edu
Assistant Professor of Political Science
Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy
Adjunct Professor of Statistics
Faculty Affiliate, Institute of Artificial Intelligence
University of Georgia

Dr. Susan B. Hairecmshaire@uga.edu
Professor of Political Science
Chair, Department of Political Science (2022-Present)
University of Georgia

Dr. M.V. (Trey) Hood IIIth@uga.edu
Professor of Political Science
Director, Survey Research Center
University of Georgia

Dr. Audrey A. Haynespoolah@uga.edu
Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor
Associate Professor of Political Science
Director, Applied Politics Certificate
University of Georgia

Additional References Available on Request