# DAVID COTTRELL

Email: David.Cottrell@uga.edu
Phone: 706-542-2057
Office: 380D Baldwin Hall
Website: https://spia.uga.edu/faculty-member/david-cottrell/

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**Associate Professor** (2025 - present)
Department of Political Science, University of Georgia

**Assistant Professor** (2019 - 2025)
Department of Political Science, University of Georgia

**Lecturer** (2017 - 2019)
Department of Government, Dartmouth College

**Postdoctoral Fellow** (2015 - 2017)
Program in Quantitative Social Science, Dartmouth College

## EDUCATION

**University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Ph.D Political Science (2015)
M.A. Political Science (2012)

**University of California**, Davis, CA
B.A. Political Science (2006)

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Jamie L. Carson, David Cottrell, and Ryan D. Williamson. A Retrospective on Redistricting Practices and Electoral Competition in U.S. Elections. *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, Forthcoming, 2026

2. David Cottrell, Felix E. Herron, Michael C. Herron, and Daniel A. Smith. Auditing the 2020 general election in Georgia: residual vote rates and a confusing ballot format. *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy*, 21(1):1–18, 2022

3. David Cottrell, Michael C. Herron, and Daniel A. Smith. Vote-by-mail ballot rejection and experience with mail-in voting. *American Politics Research*, 49(6):577–590, 2021

4. David Cottrell, Michael C. Herron, and Daniel A. Smith. Voting lines, equal treatment, and early voting check-in times in Florida. *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, 21(2):109–138, 2021

5. David Cottrell. Using computer simulations to measure the effect of gerrymandering on electoral competition in the US congress. *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 44(3):487–514, 2019

6. David Cottrell, Charles R. Shipan, and Richard J. Anderson. The power to appoint: Presidential nominations and change on the Supreme Court. *The Journal of Politics*, 81(3):1057–1068, 2019

7. David Cottrell, Michael C. Herron, Javier M. Rodriguez, and Daniel A. Smith. Mortality, incarceration, and African-American disenfranchisement in the contemporary United States. *American politics research*, 47(2):195–237, 2019

8. David Cottrell and Michael C. Herron. All in the Family: German twins' finishing times in the 2016 women's Olympic marathon. *CHANCE*, 31(3):20–28, 2018

9. David Cottrell, Michael C. Herron, and Sean J. Westwood. An exploration of Donald Trump's allegations of massive voter fraud in the 2016 General Election. *Electoral Studies*, 51:123–142, 2018

10. Jowei Chen and David Cottrell. Evaluating partisan gains from Congressional gerrymandering: Using computer simulations to estimate the effect of gerrymandering in the US House. *Electoral Studies*, 44:329–340, 2016

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Identifying turnout effects of Saturday early voting" (with Michael C. Herron and Daniel A. Smith)

"Incumbent Pairings in the 2021 Redistricting Cycle"

"Ticket-Splitting in the Georgia" (with M.V. Hood, Seth C. McKee, and Daniel A. Smith)

"The 2002 Georgia gerrymander reevaluated: What would have happened in the absence of partisan redistricting?"

"Judges as participants in Democracy" (with Christina L. Boyd and Geoffrey D. Sheagley)

## PUBLIC REPORTS

"Evaluating the partisan fairness of the concept maps proposed by New Mexico's Citizen Redistricting Committee." Published online at https://www.nmredistricting.org on October 31, 2021.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

David Cottrell, Michael C Herron, and Sean J Westwood. "We can't find any evidence of voter fraud in New Hampshire." Washington Post, Feb 28, 2017, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/02/28/we-cant-find-any-evidence-of-voting-fraud-in-new-hampshire/

David Cottrell, Michael C Herron, and Sean J Westwood. "We checked Trump's allegations of voter fraud. We found no evidence at all." Washington Post, Dec 6, 2016, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/12/02/we-checked-trumps-allegations-of-voter-fraud-we-found-no-evidence-at-all/

David Cottrell and Charles Shipan. "If Obama appoints Scalia's successor, the Supreme Court will really jump leftward." Washington Post, Feb 15, 2015, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/02/15/if-obama-appoints-scalias-successor-the-supreme-court-will-really-jump-leftward/

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"Designing the Home District: How States Use Incumbent Residences to Gerrymander" Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Nov 2025

"The 2002 Georgia Gerrymander Reevaluated: What Would Have Happened in the Absence of Partisan Redistricting?" American Politics Research Group, Department of Political Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Apr 2023.

"Detecting Gerrymandering Using a Computer-automated Redistricting Algorithm." Math Colloquium, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Michigan, Dearborn, Dec, 2021.

"The Science of Redistricting." Science for Georgia Lecture Series. Jul 2021.

"Using Computer Simulations to Measure the Effect of Gerrymandering on Partisan Competition." Lecture Series, Department of Political Science, State University of New York, Binghamton. Nov 2018.

"Using Computer Simulations to Measure the Effect of Redistricting on Safer Legislative Seats in the United States Congress." Center for the Study of American Politics Summer Conference, Yale University. (Poster) Jun 2016.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Redistricting, Roll-off, and Vote Choice." Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration Annual Conference, 2025.

"The effect of incumbent residences on the 2021 Redistricting Cycle." Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2025.

"The effect of incumbent residences on the 2021 Redistricting Cycle." American Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2024.

"The effect of incumbent residences on the 2021 Redistricting Cycle." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2024.

"The effect of incumbent residences on the 2021 Redistricting Cycle." Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2024.

"Assessing incumbent protection in the 2021 redistricting cycle." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2023.

"Identifying the effect of early voting availability on turnout using the 2022 midterm and runoff elections in Georgia." Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration Annual Conference, 2023.

"Evaluating the effect of gerrymandering on partisan bias in state legislatures." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2018.

"Waiting to Vote: Using Evid Data to Assess the electoral consequences of long voting lines." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2017

"Was the election rigged against Donald Trump?" Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2017.

"Using computer simulations to measure the Eeffect of redistricting on safer and more ideologically extreme legislative seats in the United States." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2016

"Donor bias: Evaluating the extent to which districts are drawn according to the geographic location of political donors." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2015

"How the geographic distribution of partisans determines the electoral responsiveness of legislative elections." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2014, Washington D.C.

"Political influences on the implementation of federal regulatory policy: The case of OSHA." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2014.

"Implementing federal policies in the states." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2014

"Gerrymandering For money: Drawing districts with respect to donors rather than voters." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2014

"When do states gerrymander? Using computer simulations of legislative redistricting to test theories of gerrymandering." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2013

"Explaining Change on the Supreme Court." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2012

## HOSTED/ORGANIZED CONFERENCES

Summer Conference on Election Science, Reform, and Administration, University of Georgia. (May 31,2023 to June 2, 2023)

## NOMINATIONS/AWARDS

Department of Political Science Award For Excellence in Teaching, University of Georgia

Department of Political Science Nominee, 2023 Early Career Scholar Award, University of Georgia

Student Career Success Influencer Award, University of Georgia Career Center

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of Georgia:

"Research Design" (Graduate-level)
"Computational Data Analysis" (Graduate-level)
"Introduction to Research Methods in Political Science" (Undergraduate-level)
"Introduction to American Politics" (Undergraduate-level)
"Election Law and Administration" (Undergraduate-level)
"Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research" (Undergraduate-level)

### Dartmouth College:

"Quantitative Political Analysis" (Undergraduate-level)
"Race, Incarceration, and Politics: By the Numbers" (Undergraduate-level)

### University of Michigan

"The Use of Social Science Computer Programs" (Graduate-level)

## REVIEWER SERVICE

- American Journal of Political Science
- American Political Science Review
- American Politics Research
- Economics Letters
- Election Law Journal
- Electoral Studies
- Government and Opposition
- Journal of Computational Social Science
- Journal of Empirical Legal Studies
- Legislative Studies Quarterly
- PNAS Nexus
- Political Geography
- Political Research Quarterly

- Public Opinion Quarterly

- Sage Open

- The Journal of Politics

- The Review of Economics and Statistics