

Joseph T. Ornstein

CONTACT INFORMATION

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University of Georgia

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science **2020 - present**

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Brown School **2018 - 2020**

The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC

Senior Research Assistant, Economic Studies **2010 - 2013**

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan USA

Ph.D., Political Science, 2018

Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire

B.A., Mathematics & Social Sciences, 2009

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Ornstein, Joseph T. (2025). "Probabilistic Record Linkage Using Pretrained Text Embeddings". *Political Analysis* First View, 1-12.

Ornstein Joseph T., Elise N. Blasingame, and Jake S. Truscott (2025). "How to Train Your Stochastic Parrot: Large Language Models for Political Texts". *Political Science Research & Methods* 13(2): 264-281.

Ornstein, Joseph T., Amanda J. Heideman, Bryant J. Moy, and Kaylyn Jackson Schiff (2024). "Hometown Advantage: Voter Preferences for Community Embeddedness in Local Contests". *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 1-15.

Blasingame, Elise N., Christina L. Boyd, Robert F. Carlos, Joseph T. Ornstein (2024). "How the Trump Administration's Quota Policy Transformed Immigration Judging". *American Political Science Review* 118(4):1688-1703.

Ornstein, Joseph T. (2023). "Zone Defense: Why Liberal Cities Build Too Few Homes". *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 35(4):310-323.

Ornstein, Joseph T., Katherine Einstein & Maxwell Palmer (2023). "Who Represents the Renters? How Homeownership Shapes American Politics". *Housing Policy Debate* 33(6):1554-1568.

Combs, Todd B. et al. (2022). "Draining the Tobacco Swamps: Shaping the Built Environment to Reduce Tobacco Retailer Proximity to Residents in 30 Big US Cities" *Health & Place* 75.

Ornstein, Joseph T., Jude C. Hays and Robert J. Franzese (2022). "The Interest Premium for Left Government: Regression-Discontinuity Estimates". *Economics & Politics* 34(3):429-443.

Ornstein, Joseph T., Ross C. Brownson, Ross A. Hammond, Margaret Padek, and Stephanie Maz-

zucca (2020). “Rugged Landscapes: Complexity and Implementation Science”. *Implementation Science* 15(1):1-9.

Ornstein, Joseph T. (2020). “Stacked Regression and Poststratification”. *Political Analysis* 28(2):293-301.

Combs, Todd B., et al. (2020). “Modeling the Impact of Menthol Sales Restrictions & Retailer Density Reduction Policies: Insights from Tobacco Town Minnesota”. *Tobacco Control*.

Ornstein, Joseph T. and Ross A. Hammond (2017). “The Burglary Boost: A Note on Detecting Contagion Using the Knox Test”. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 33(1): 65-75.

Ornstein, Joseph T. and Robert Z. Norman (2014). “Frequency of Monotonicity Failure under Instant Runoff Voting: Estimates Based on a Spatial Model of Elections”. *Public Choice* 161(1-2): 1-9.

Hammond, Ross A. and Joseph T. Ornstein (2014). “A Model of Social Influence on Body Mass Index”. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 1331(1): 34-42.

Hammond, Ross A. et al. (2012). “A Model of Food Reward Learning with Dynamic Reward Exposure”. *Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience* 6:82.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Getting the Most Out of Surveys: Multilevel Regression And Poststratification” (2023). Chapter in *Causality in Policy Studies: A Pluralist Toolbox* (ed. Fedra Negri and Alessia Damonte), Springer Nature, 99-122.

Agent-Based Models in the Social Sciences (Chapter 4) and Agent-Based Models in Public Health (Chapter 5), In *New Horizons in Modeling and Simulation for Social Epidemiology and Public Health* (ed. Daniel Kim). Wiley Press, 2021.

Moving From Metrics to Mechanisms to Evaluate Tobacco Retailer Policies: Importance of Retail Policy in Tobacco Control (with Douglas A. Luke, Todd B. Combs, Lisa Henriksen, and Maggie Mahoney). 2020. *American Journal of Public Health* 110(4):431-433 (invited editorial).

WORKING PAPERS

A Note on Acquiescence Bias and Education (Revise & Resubmit at *Political Analysis*.)

Election Timing Revisited: Evidence from California’s Voter Participation Rights Act

Gaussian Process Regression Discontinuity (with JBrandon Duck-Mayr).

CONFERENCE AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2025: Southern Political Science Association (SPSA).

2024: Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), University of Chicago American Politics Conference, Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth), American Political Science Association (APSA)

2023: Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), American University, American Political Science Association (APSA)

2022: ReSPoS Summer School (University of Milan), Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth), American Political Science Association (APSA)

2021: Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth)

2020: International Methods Colloquium, MRP Reading Group

2019: WashU Network for Dissemination and Implementation Research (WUNDIR), Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth), WashU Data Lab, APSA Local Political Economy Pre-Conference, American Political Science Association

2017: Midwest Political Science Association, APSA Local Political Economy Pre-Conference, American Political Science Association

2016: Midwest Political Science Association

2014: Public Choice Society

2010: Public Choice Society

TEACHING

University of Georgia

POLS 8500: Causal Inference (graduate)

POLS 8500: Text As Data (graduate)

POLS 8500: Bayesian Statistics (graduate)

POLS 7012: Introduction to Political Methodology (graduate)

POLS 4641: The Science of Cities

POLS 3230: Political Analysis in R

POLS 3220: How To Predict The Future

Washington University in St. Louis

Benefit-Cost Analysis

Agent-Based Modeling (w/ Ross Hammond)

University of Michigan

The Political Economy of Cities

Political Science Graduate Student Math Camp

International Economic Relations (w/ Andrew Kerner)

Introduction to Models (w/ Scott Page)

Advanced Empirical Modeling for Theory Evaluation (w/ Robert Franzese)

Spatial Econometrics Workshop (w/ Robert Franzese)

Introduction to Comparative Politics (w/ Robert Franzese)

Introduction to World Politics (w/ James Morrow)

Complex Systems Modeling for Public Health Research (w/ Ross Hammond)

ADVISING

Current Students

Elise Blasingame (Dissertation Committee Co-Chair)

Gabriel Soyer (Dissertation Committee Member)

Jeff Milliman (Dissertation Committee Member)

Former Students

Jake Truscott (PhD 2023; Dissertation Committee Member), Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Florida

HONORS AND AWARDS

Law and Courts Best Conference Paper Award (2023)

Evan Ringquist Award, Midwest Political Science Association (2023)

Gosnell Prize, Society for Political Methodology (2022)

ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention (2019)

Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship (2018)

University of Michigan Library Data Grant (2017)

Rackham Conference Travel Grant (2013, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Dartmouth College Neukom Scholarship (2009)

REVIEWER FOR

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Canadian Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Journal of Theoretical Politics, Party Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Political Analysis, Public Choice, Political Science Research and Methods, Political Behavior, Pediatric Obesity, PS: Political Science & Politics, Representation, Research & Politics

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Political Science Association, Society for Political Methodology

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Software Proficiencies:** Stata, R, Python, Java, NetLogo, L^AT_EX
- **Erdős Number:** 3

LAST UPDATED

September 8, 2025