

Elissa Berwick

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Department of Political Science, McGill University

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Academic Appointments

McGill University

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

Montréal, QC

2020-Present

Brown University

Postdoctoral Fellow, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

Providence, RI

2019-2020

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ph.D. in Political Science

Cambridge, MA

2012-2019

- Fields: Comparative Politics and Quantitative Methods
- Thesis: Substate Nationalism in the Age of the Nation-state

Oxford University

MPhil in Politics

Oxford, UK

2010-2012

- Thesis: Strategic Choice in Anti-Imperial Nationalist Movements: Ireland, India and Egypt 1904-1914

Yale University

Bachelor of Science

New Haven, CT

2005-2009

- Double Major in Political Science and Physics
- Honors in Political Science

Publications

Berwick, Elissa, and Devin Caughey. Forthcoming. “Dynamic Multidimensional Scaling with Aggregate Data: An Ordinal Group-level IRT Approach.” *Political Analysis*

Berwick, Elissa. 2024. “Beyond Secession: Substate Nationalism and Support for Redistribution in Spain.” *Comparative Politics* 56 (3): 395-417.

Berwick, Elissa, and Fotini Christia. 2018. “State Capacity Redux: Integrating Classical and Experimental Contributions to an Enduring Debate.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 21 (1): 71–91

Research

Partition and Political Violence in Ireland 1920-1921

Working Paper

- Analysis of the effect of partition on political violence in Ireland based on a quasi-natural experiment
- Introduces two original datasets of political violence incidents during the Irish War of Independence

Independence referendums and national identity

Research Project

- Examines how referendum participation shaped the intensity and expression of territorial identity
- Compares independence referendums conducted in Quebec (1980 and 1995) and Scotland (2014)

The Crisis of Empire and Anti-Colonial Nationalism in Ireland, India and Egypt 1905-1922

Working Paper

- Comparison of anti-colonial nationalist movements in Ireland, India, and Egypt in the early 20th century
- Examines radicalization of anticolonial nationalist repertoires

Software

cjoint: AMCE Estimator for Conjoint Experiments

R package version 2.1.1

Soubhik Barari, Elissa Berwick, Jens Hainmueller, Daniel Hopkins, Sean Liu, Anton Strezhnev, Teppei Yamamoto

2015-2023

- Allows researchers to estimate the causal effects of attributes in conjoint survey experiments by implementing the Average Marginal Component-specific Effects (AMCE) estimator
- <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=cjoint>

modgirt: Multidimensional ordinal dynamic IRT

R package

Elissa Berwick, Devin Caughey

2022-2024

- Tools for estimating multidimensional, ordinal dynamic group-level IRT model using cmdstan
- In development on GitHub

Grants and Awards

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

CAD 88,862

Insight Grant

2024-2027

- Co-PI with Éric Bélanger

Fonds de recherche du Québec - Société et culture (FRQSC)

CAD 57,061

Soutien à la recherche pour la relève professorale

2022-2026

McGill University

CAD 7,000

Internal Social Sciences and Humanities Development Grant

2022-2023

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

USD 1,000

Political Methodology Research Grant

2019

Harvard Center for European Studies

USD 36,472

Dissertation Completion Fellowship

2018-2019

Harvard Center for European Studies

USD 30,500

Krupp Research Fellowship

2016-2017

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

USD 3,500

Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant

2015, 2016

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ithiel de Sola Pool Award

2013

Presentations

American Political Science Association

- Philadelphia, 2024
- Montréal, 2022
- Zoom, 2020
- Boston, 2018
- San Francisco, 2017
- Philadelphia, 2016

Canadian Political Science Association

- Montréal, 2024

Midwest Political Science Association

- 2024
- 2018
- 2015

Society for Political Methodology

- St. Louis, 2022

- Provo, 2018

Visions in Methodology

- St. Louis, 2024
- Claremont Graduate University, 2021

Invited talks

- Diamond-Brown Chair Inauguration, McGill, 2024
- Université de Montréal, 2022
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2022
- IPERG, University of Barcelona, 2021
- WZB Berlin Social Science Center, 2021
- University of British Columbia, 2018

Teaching

Primary instructor

POLI312: Intermediate Quantitative Political Science

McGill University

Undergraduate methods course

2021-Present

- Continues regression based introduction to data driven quantitative political analysis

POLI431: Nations and Nationalism

McGill University

Undergraduate lecture course

2021-Present

- Students develop familiarity with the most important theorists of nationalism and their critics

POLI618: Introduction to Quantitative Analysis

McGill University

Graduate methods course

2020-Present

- Introduces tools of quantitative empirical research in political science using R

POLI666: Causal Inference for Political Science

McGill University

Graduate methods course

2021-Present

- Empirical strategies for applied research questions focusing on statistical methods used for causal inference

INTL1040: Nationalism and the Nation State

Brown University

Undergraduate seminar

2020

- Reading-intensive seminar for advanced undergraduates aimed at honing students' analytical and writing skills.

Graduate student training

Advisor

- Natalie Delmonte
- Luisa Hinke Martinez

Thesis Committee

- Lucas Jerusalimiec
- Brooke Steinhauer

Thesis Examiner

- Andréa Febres-Gagné
- Louis-Olivier Roy
- Katherine McCoy
- Shaden Hetu-Frankel

Oral Exam Committee

- Anastasia Leshchyshyn
- Marjolaine Lamontagne
- Scott Patterson

Placement Workshops

Workshop leader

2024

- Workshop on how to make an academic website using GitHub Pages and Quarto

Service

Toronto-Montréal Political Behavior Workshop

Conference organizing committee

2024

Internships, transfers, and exchanges advisor

Department of Political Science

2023-2024

Curriculum committee

Faculty of Arts

2023-Present

Methods field coordinator

Department of Political Science

2022-2023

Events committee

Department of Political Science

2022-2023

Summer math and R camp coordinator

Center for the Study of Democratic Citizenship

2022

Diamond-Brown Chair search committee

Department of Political Science

2021-2022

Journal reviewer

American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Comparative Political Studies, European Journal of Political Research, Social Forces

2019-Present

Grant reviewer

Swiss National Science Foundation, Dutch Research Council

2021-Present

Affiliations

Center for the Study of Democratic Citizenship

Québec Universities

Montréal, QC

2020-Present

Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

Brown University

Providence, RI

2019-2020

Center for European Studies

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

2018-2019

Political Methodology Lab

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

2016-2019

Skills

Languages **R, Quarto, RMarkdown, LaTeX**, Python, C++, HTML, Typst

Spoken Languages **English**, Spanish, French

Programs **RStudio, Excel**, Mathematica, Stata, SPSS