

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

PHD, POLITICAL SCIENCE

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

Cambridge, MA

2012-2019

Oxford University

MPHIL, POLITICS

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

Oxford, UK

2010-2012

Yale University

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

- Double Major in Political Science and Physics

New Haven, CT

2005-2009

Publications

Berwick, Elissa. 2023. "Beyond Secession: Substate Nationalism and Support for Redistribution in Spain." *Comparative Politics*, Forthcoming.

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. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-072215-012907>.

Research

Dynamic Multidimensional Scaling with Aggregate Data: An Ordinal Group-Level IRT Approach

WORKING PAPER

- Presents a framework for estimating multidimensional ordinal dynamic group-level latent preferences

2022-Present

Which Side Are You On? 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
- Uses an original dataset of political violence incidents during the Irish War of Independence.

2022-Present

A Terrible Beauty Is Born: The Crisis of Empire and Anti-Colonial Nationalism in Ireland, India and Egypt 1905-1922

WORKING PAPER

- Compares anti-colonial nationalist movements in Ireland, India, and Egypt in the early 20th century

2014

Professor Fotini Christia

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

- Provided research assistance for analysis of experimental data from a local development project in Afghanistan

2015

Professor Kathleen Thelen

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

2013–2014

- Provided research assistance as Professor Thelen completed a book project on “The Varieties of Liberalization” and compiled materials for new research on legislative federalism

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

2022–2023

- Implements multidimensional, ordinal dynamic group-level IRT model
- In development on GitHub

Grants and awards

Fonds de recherche du Québec– Société et culture

CAD 57,061

SOUTIEN À LA RECHERCHE POUR LA RELÈVE PROFESSORALE

2022–2025

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

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

MIDWEST POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

- Chicago, 2018
- Chicago, 2015

SOCIETY FOR POLITICAL METHODOLOGY

- St. Louis, 2022
- Provo, 2018

VISIONS IN METHODOLOGY

- Claremont Graduate University, 2021

INVITED TALKS

- 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

UNDERGRADUATE METHODS COURSE

- Continues regression based introduction to data driven quantitative political analysis

McGill University

2021–Present

POLI431: Nations and States

UNDERGRADUATE LECTURE COURSE

- Students develop familiarity with the most important theorists of nationalism and their critics, both classic and contemporary

McGill University

2021–Present

POLI618: Introduction to Quantitative Analysis

GRADUATE METHODS COURSE

- Students learn the basic tools of quantitative empirical research in political science, working with software including R, RMarkdown, and GitHub

McGill University

2020–Present

POLI666: Causal Inference for Political Science

GRADUATE METHODS COURSE

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

McGill University

2021–Present

INTL1040: Nationalism and the Nation State

UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR

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

Brown University

2020

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAINING

Advisor

MA

- Natalie Delmonte

McGill University

2022–Present

Thesis Committee

PHD

- Lucas Jerusalemiec

McGill University

2021–Present

Thesis Examiner

MA

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

McGill University

2021–2023

Comparative politics comprehensive exam

ORAL EXAM COMMITTEE

- Marjolaine Lamontagne
- Scott Patterson

McGill University

2021–2022

Political Methodology Lab

METHODS WORKSHOP

- Workshops cover Latex tools such as Beamer and Knitr, useful R packages including dplyr and ggplot, and an overview of the unix file system and how to access remote computational resources

MIT

2015–2019

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Quantitative Methods III

GRADUATE METHODS COURSE

- Class on model-based inference covering generalized linear models for various data types and their extensions, such as discrete choice models and multilevel models, from both frequentist and Bayesian perspectives

MIT

2014

Political Science Scope and Methods

UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR

- Introduces undergraduates to the principles of empirical and theoretical analysis in political science

MIT

2015

American Public Policy for Washington Interns

UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR

- Provided undergraduates with the background to select and complete an internship of their choosing in Washington DC
- Assisted undergraduates with formulating and completing research projects on the US policymaking process, with special attention to policy in science and technology.

MIT

2017–2018

Service

Internships, transfers, and exchanges advisor

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

2023–Present

Curriculum committee

FACULTY OF ARTS

2023–Present

Methods field coordinator

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

Peer review

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, JOURNAL OF POLITICS, COMPARATIVE POLITICAL STUDIES

2019–Present

Affiliations

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP

2020–Present

HARVARD CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

2018–2019

MIT POLITICAL METHODOLOGY LAB

2016–2019

Skills

COMPUTER

- R, Advanced
- Quarto, Advanced
- RMarkdown, Advanced
- LaTeX, Advanced
- Python, Intermediate
- Mathematica, Intermediate
- C++, Basic
- Stata, Basic
- SPSS, Basic

LANGUAGES

- English, Native
- Spanish, Advanced
- French, Intermediate

References

Kathleen Thelen

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

kthelen@mit.edu

Devin Caughey

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

caughey@mit.edu

Fotini Christia

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Roger Petersen

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

rpeters@mit.edu

Teppei Yamamoto

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

teppey@mit.edu