

# MATTHEW BLACKWELL

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## EMPLOYMENT

**Harvard University, Department of Government**  
Associate Professor (untenured), July 2018-Present.  
Assistant Professor, July 2014–June 2018.  
Affiliate, Institute for Quantitative Social Science.

**University of Rochester, Department of Political Science**  
Assistant Professor, July 2012-June, 2014.  
Affiliate, University of Rochester Data Science Institute.

## EDUCATION

**Harvard University, Department of Government**  
Ph.D, Political Science, 2012.

**University of California, Los Angeles**  
B.A., Political Science & Economics, 2005.  
*Magna cum laude* & Departmental Highest Honors.

## BOOK

Avidit Acharya, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen, *Deep Roots: How Slavery Still Shapes Southern Politics*, Princeton University Press, 2018.

- Winner of the 2019 William H. Riker Book Award, which “is awarded by the Political Economy Section of the American Political Science Association and given for the best book on political economy published during the past three calendar years.”
- Review in *Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Regional Studies*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Choice*.

## PUBLICATIONS

Matthew Blackwell and Michael Olson, “Reducing Model Misspecification and Bias in the Estimation of Interactions.” *Political Analysis*, Conditionally Accepted.

Matthew Blackwell and Adam Glynn, “How to Make Causal Inferences with Time-Series Cross-Sectional Data under Selection on Observables,” *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 112, No. 4 (2018): 1067–1082.

Avidit Acharya, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen, “Analyzing Causal Mechanisms in Survey Experiments,” *Political Analysis*, Vol. 26, No. 4 (2018): 357–378.

Matthew Blackwell, “Game Changers: Detecting Shifts in Overdispersed Count Data,” *Political Anal-*

*ysis*, Vol. 26, No. 2 (2018): 230–239.

Avidit Acharya, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen, “[Explaining Attitudes from Behavior: A Cognitive Dissonance Approach](#),” *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 80, No. 2 (2018): 400–411.

Matthew Blackwell, James Honaker, and Gary King, “[A Unified Approach to Measurement Error and Missing Data: Overview and Applications](#),” *Sociological Methods & Research*, Vol. 46, No. 3 (2017): 303–341.

Matthew Blackwell, James Honaker, and Gary King, “[A Unified Approach to Measurement Error and Missing Data: Details and Extensions](#),” *Sociological Methods & Research*, Vol. 46, No. 3 (2017): 342–369.

Matthew Blackwell, “[Instrumental Variable Methods for Conditional Effects and Causal Interaction in Voter Mobilization Experiments](#),” *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, Vol. 113, No. 518 (2017): 590–599.

- Winner of the 2017 Harold F. Gosnell Prize, which “recognizes the best work of Political Methodology presented at a political science conference in the previous year.”

Avidit Acharya, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen, “[Explaining Causal Effects Without Bias: Detecting and Assessing Direct Effects](#),” *American Political Science Review* Vol. 110, No. 3 (2016): 512–529.

Avidit Acharya, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen, “[The Political Legacy of American Slavery](#),” *Journal of Politics* Vol. 78, No. 3 (2016): 621–641.

- Winner of the 2016 Joseph L. Bernd Award for best paper in the JOP.

Matthew Blackwell, “[A Selection Bias Approach to Sensitivity Analysis for Causal Effects](#),” *Political Analysis* Vol. 22, No. 2 (2014): 169–182.

Matthew Blackwell, “[A Framework for Dynamic Causal Inference in Political Science](#),” *American Journal of Political Science* Vol. 57 No. 2 (2013): 504–519.

James Honaker, Gary King, and Matthew Blackwell, “[Amelia II: A Program for Missing Data](#),” *Journal of Statistical Software* Vol. 45 No. 7 (2011): 1–47.

Matthew Blackwell, Stefano Iacus, Gary King, and Guiseppe Porro, “[cem: Coarsened Exact Matching in Stata](#),” *Stata Journal* Vol. 9 No. 4 (2009): 524–546.

WORKING PAPERS Matthew Blackwell and Anton Strezhnev, “[Telescope Matching: Reducing Model Dependence in the Estimation of Controlled Direct Effects](#).”

Matthew Blackwell and Nicole Pashley, “[Noncompliance and instrumental variables for  \$2^K\$  factorial experiments](#).”

- WORK IN PROGRESS Matthew Blackwell, Jacob Brown, Sophie Hill, Kosuke Imai and Teppei Yamamoto. “Priming Bias versus Post-treatment Bias in Experimental Designs.”
- Matthew Blackwell and Soichiro Yamauchi. “Fixed Effects and Inverse Probability of Treatment Weighting.”
- Matthew Blackwell, Adam Glynn, Hanno Hilbig, and Connor Phillips. “Identification and Estimation of Controlled Direct Effects under Difference-in-Differences Designs.”
- OTHER WRITING Matthew Blackwell and Maya Sen, “[Large Datasets and You: A Field Guide](#)”, *The Political Methodologist*, Vol. 10 No. 1 (2012): Pp. 2–5.
- HONORS & AWARDS
2019. William H. Riker Book Award, Political Economy Section of the American Political Science Association. For *Deep Roots: How Slavery Still Shapes Southern Politics*.
2017. Gosnell Prize, Society for Political Methodology. For “Instrumental Variable Methods for Conditional Effects and Causal Interaction in Voter Mobilization Experiments.”
2016. Joseph L. Bernd Best JOP Paper Award, Southern Political Science Association.
2014. Statistical Software Award for Amelia II, Society for Political Methodology (with James Honaker and Gary King).
2012. Richard J. Hernstein Prize, Harvard University Graduate School for Arts and Sciences.  
Awarded to the “best dissertation that exhibits excellent scholarship, originality, breadth of thought, and a commitment to intellectual independence.”
2011. John T. Williams Dissertation Prize, Society for Political Methodology.  
Best dissertation proposal in the area of political methodology.
2010. Jeanne Humphrey Block Dissertation Award, Institute for Quantitative Social Science.
2010. Institute for Quantitative Social Science Research Grant Award.
2010. Dirksen Center Congressional Research Award.
2009. Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching.
2008. Fellowship in Political Economy, Department of Government, Harvard University.
- 2006-2009. Graduate Prize Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University.
2005. Sylvia Sorkin Greenfield Memorial Award University of California, Los Angeles.  
Best senior thesis in Political Science, Adviser: James Honaker.
- INVITED TALKS
- Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison. February, 2019.
- Department of Political Science, Yale University. January, 2019.
- Modeling Politics & Policy in Time and Space, Texas A& M. April, 2017.
- Department of Political Science, Yale University. February, 2017.
- Department of Political Science, Rice University. November, 2016.
- St. Louis Area Methods Meeting, American University. April, 2016.
- Political Methodology Workshop, UCSD. April, 2016.
- 9th Annual NYU-CESS Conference on Experimental Political Science, NYU. February, 2016.
- Historical Political Economy Conference, London School of Economics. January, 2016.
- American Politics Conference, MIT. September, 2015.

Rockefeller Center Public Lecture, Dartmouth College. June, 2015.  
Workshop in Quantitative Social Science, Dartmouth College. June, 2015.  
Economic History Workshop, Department of Economics, Harvard University. February, 2015.  
Research in American & Comparative Politics Workshop, Boston University. October, 2014.  
Political Methodology Seminar, Princeton University. February 2014.  
Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Seminar, Princeton University. February 2014.  
Department of Clinical and Social Sciences in Psychology, University of Rochester. November 2013.  
Departmental Workshop, Department of Political Science, Stanford University. October 2013.  
Rochester Big Data Forum, University of Rochester. September 2012.  
Research Workshop in American Politics, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley. December 2011.  
New Faces in Political Methodology, Penn State University. April 2011.  
Murno Lecture Series, Department of Political Science, Stanford University. January 2011.  
Stata Conference, Boston, MA. July 2010.

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

**Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference** Paper: 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018; Discussant: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.  
**American Political Science Association Annual Meeting** Paper: 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017. Discussant: 2017.  
**Society for Political Methodology Summer Meeting** Poster: 2008–2012; Paper: 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2020; Discussant: 2012, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2020.  
**European Political Science Associate Annual Conference** Paper: 2015.  
**Atlantic Causal Inference Conference** Paper: 2016.

TEACHING

**Harvard University**

Government 50: Introduction to Political Science Research Methods (Fall 2017, 2018).  
Government 51: Data Analysis and Politics (Fall 2020).  
Government 2000: Introduction to Quantitative Methods I (Fall 2014–2016).  
Government 2002: Causal Inference (Fall 2015–2017).  
Government 2002: Topics in Political Methodology (with Arthur Spirling, Fall 2014).  
Government 2003: Topics in Political Methodology (with Kosuke Imai, Spring 2019).

**University of Rochester**

Political Science 200: Applied Data Analysis. [Syllabus](#), [Lecture Notes](#)  
[Political Science 504: Causal Inference](#)  
Political Science 208W: Undergraduate Research Seminar.  
Political Science 502: Political and Economic Networks (with Avi Acharya).

**Other**

Empirical Political Economy Network (EPEN) Summer School, May 2014, Mexico City.

SOFTWARE

**Amelia II: A Program for Missing Data** (with James Honaker and Gary King).

Amelia is an R library for the handling of incomplete multivariate data with an easy-to-use graphical user interface. <http://gking.harvard.edu/amelia/>

**CEM: Coarsened Exact Matching** (with Stefano Iacus, Gary King, Guiseppe Porro.)

CEM is a Stata library for matching to reduce bias in the estimation of causal effects.

<http://gking.harvard.edu/cem/>

**causalsens**

causalsens is an R package to implement the selection bias approach to sensitivity analysis for causal effects.

<http://www.mattblackwell.org/software/causalsens/>

**DirectEffects**

An R package to estimate the controlled direct effect with a suite of different approaches, including those described in our 2016 APSR article.

<http://www.mattblackwell.org/software/direct-effects/>

SERVICE

**National Service:** Society for Political Methodology Gosnell Prize Committee, 2018–2019. Editorial Board, *Journal of Politics*, 2017–2018. Society for Political Methodology John T. William Prize for Best Dissertation Proposal Committee, 2016–2017; Society for Political Methodology Statistical Software Award Committee, 2015–2016.

**University/Department Service:** Committee on Higher Degrees in Political Economy and Government, 2016–present; Political Methodology Field Coordinator, 2016–present. Strategic Vision Committee, 2016–2017 Selection Committee for Harvard College-UK Fellowships for Graduate Study, 2017; Graduate Student Poster Session Co-coordinator, 2015; Quantitative Methods Search Committee, 2015; Hoopes Prize Social Science Committee, 2015; Cutler Seminar for Political Methodology, 2013-2014, co-coordinator with Curt Signorino; Graduate Admissions Committee, 2013-2014; Institute for Data Science Search Committee, 2013-2014; Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, 2012-2013.

**Dissertation Committees:**

Hye-Sung Kim (University of Rochester, Assistant Professor at Winthrop University).

Rabia Malik (University of Rochester, Assistant Professor at Lahore University of Management Sciences).

Benjamin Laughlin (University of Rochester, Postdoctoral Fellow at NYU-Abu Dhabi, to be Assistant Professor at NYU-Abu Dhabi).

Mayya Komisarichik (Harvard University, Assistant Professor at University of Rochester).

Michael Olson (Harvard University, Assistant Professor at Washington University in St. Louis).

Gabriel Koehler-Derrick (Harvard University, Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown University).

Shom Mazumder (Harvard University).

Riley Carney (Harvard University, In Progress).

Soichiro Yamauchi (Harvard University, In Progress).

Seth Soderborg (Harvard University, In Progress).

Jacob Brown (Harvard University, In Progress).  
Sophie Hill (Harvard University, In Progress).

**Reviewer for:** *American Economic Review: Insights, American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, American Sociological Review, Biostatistics, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Economics and Politics, Historical Methods, Journal of the American Statistical Association, Journal of Applied Statistics, Journal of Causal Inference, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Statistical Software, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (Series A & B), Journal of Theoretical Politics, Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Multivariate Behavioral Research, National Science Foundation, Observational Studies, PLOS ONE, Political Analysis, Political Behavior, Political Science Research & Methods, Public Opinion Quarterly, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Research & Politics, Social Science Research, Sociological Methods & Research, Statistical Analysis and Data Mining, Statistics in Medicine, World Development, World Politics*