

# TRAVIS N. TAYLOR

---

Department of Political Science  
University of Kentucky  
1606 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0027  
E-mail: travisntaylor@uky.edu

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. University of Kentucky, Political Science, August 2020
- Dissertation: *Judicial Elections, Public Opinion, and their Impact on State Criminal Justice Policy*
  - Committee: Mark Peffley (Chair), Janet Stamatel (Sociology), D. Stephen Voss, Justin Wedeking, and Michael A. Zilis
- M.A. University of Kentucky, Political Science, August 2019
- Fields: American Politics & Public Policy
- M.P.S. The George Washington University, Political Management, May 2014
- Thesis: *The Nationalization of Local Campaigns and its Efficacy as a Campaign Strategy*
- B.A. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Political Science, *Magna Cum Laude*, December 2010

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Kentucky, Department of Political Science

2020 – 2021	<i>Post-Doctoral Scholar</i>
2019 – 2020	<i>Instructor of Political Science</i>
2016 – 2018	<i>Teaching Assistant</i>

New York University, School of Continuing and Professional Services

2015 – 2016	<i>Instructor of Political Management</i>
-------------	---

The George Washington University, Graduate School of Political Management

Fall 2014	<i>Facilitator of Political Management</i>
-----------	--

## PUBLICATIONS

Taylor, Travis N. Forthcoming. "You're Only Fooling Yourself: Self-Deception and Voting Behavior." Accepted for publication at *Critique*.

Peffley, Mark, Alexander Denison, and Travis N. Taylor. 2020. "Print, Electronic, and Social Media and the Transformation of Democratic Representation." In *Handbook of Political Representation in Liberal Democracies*, ed. R. Rohrschneider and J. Thomassen. New York: Oxford University Press.

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

"Judicial Selection and Criminal Punishment: Trial Court Elections, Sentencing, and Incarceration in the States" *invited to revise & resubmit at* Journal of Law and Courts

## WORKING PAPERS

"Elected (In)Justice? The Effects of Judicial Selection Mechanisms on Racial Disparity in State Incarceration Rates"

"The Effect of Campaign Expenditures on Trial Court Election Competition: Evidence from Louisiana"

- Awarded Best Graduate Student Paper of 2019 by Kentucky Political Science Association

"Testing the Functionality of Functional Theory: An Analysis of Gubernatorial Debate Rhetoric" with Austin Trantham, Jacksonville University

"Punitive Attitudes Dataset for the States: An Introduction to a Spatially and Temporally Dynamic Measure of Public Opinion on Criminal Punishment"

“How State Legislative Candidates Choose Their Campaign Consultants and Why It Matters”

“Controversy, the Courts and Institutional Legitimacy: Public Perceptions of Judge Selection Methods” with Justin Wedeking, University of Kentucky; Mark Peffley, University of Kentucky; and Phillip Winger, The George Washington University

“The Press as Politicos: Presidential Debates and Moderators and Anchors as Adversaries” with Ryan Lee Teten, University of Nebraska at Kearney

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

### ***Research Presentations***

- Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association: 2019
- Annual Conference of the Kentucky Political Science Association: 2017, 2019, 2020
- Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association: 2018, 2020
- Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association: 2017, 2020
- George Washington University Research Days: 2014

## **SCHOLARLY INTERESTS**

**Research:** Campaign Effects, Campaign Strategy, Candidate Behavior, Judicial Elections, Judicial Politics, Native American Government & Politics, Non-Federal Campaigns, Political Consultancy, Political Psychology, Public Opinion, State Courts, U.S. Elections, Voter Behavior

**Teaching:** American Institutions, Applied Politics, Campaigns & Elections, Judicial Politics, Political Communication, Political Management, Political Parties, Public Policy & Administration, State Politics, State & Local Government

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

**Graduate:** Fundamentals of Political Management; Managing Political Campaigns

**Undergraduate:** American Government; Politics of Law & Courts; Political Campaigns & Elections; Judicial Politics; Internship in Government

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### ***Research & Methods Workshops***

- Bayesian Multilevel Modeling (QIPSR, UK, 5/15–17/18)
- Graphics in Stata (QIPSR, UK, 1/26/18)
- Intro to LATEX (QIPSR, UK, 1/19/18)
- Intro to SPSS (QIPSR, UK, 9/1/17)
- Political Networks Analysis (APSA Political Networks Section, Ohio State, 6/14–15/17)
- Advanced Multi-Level Modeling (QIPSR, UK, 5/10–12/17)
- Stata III (QIPSR, UK, 1/27/17)
- Stata II (QIPSR, UK, 1/25/17)

### ***Pedagogical Workshops***

- Writing Multiple Choice Questions (CELT, UK, 9/6/17)
- Student Motivation and Engagement (CELT, UK, 4/25/17)
- Teaching in a Diverse Environment (UK Department of Political Science, 3/2/17)
- Team-Based Learning (UK Department of Sociology, 2/27/17)
- Cheating – Curbing, Catching, and Consequences (CELT, UK, 2/15/17)
- Handling Incivility in the Classroom (CELT, UK, 1/25/17)

### ***Professional Development Workshops***

- Preserving the Sixth Amendment: How to Protect the Right to a Speedy Trial Amid Current Court Closures and Re-Openings (NACDL, 9/3/20)

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS**

### ***Graduate School***

- Crum Emerging Scholar Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky (2020)
- Alumni Development Fund Research Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky, \$500 (2020)
- Best Graduate Student Paper, Kentucky Political Science Association (2020)
- Carsey Scholar Award, State Politics & Policy Section, American Political Science Association, \$300 (2020)
- Crum Emerging Scholar Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky (2019)
- Ken and Mary Sue Coleman Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky, \$1445 (2018)
- Political Science Alumni Endowed Doctoral Research and Travel Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky, \$280 (2018)
- Graduate Student Best Paper Nomination, Kentucky Political Science Association (2018)
- APSA Minority Fellowship, American Political Science Association, \$500 (2017–18)
- Lyman T. Johnson Minority Fellowship, The Graduate School, University of Kentucky (2016–19)
- Teaching Assistantship, Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky (2016–20)
- Second Service Fellowship, The George Washington University (2012–14)

### ***Professional***

- 40 Under 40 Award Nomination, American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC) (2016)
- Bronze Pollie Award for Best Use of TV-Student, AAPC (2014)
- Silver Pollie Award for Best Use of Social Pressure, AAPC (2013)
- Bronze Pollie Award for Best Use of Social Pressure, AAPC (2013)
- Meritorious Service Award (2nd), Acadian Ambulance Service (2006)
- Meritorious Service Award, Acadian Ambulance Service (2006)
- Air Assault Badge, U.S. Army (2005)
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (2004)
- Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, U.S. Army (2004)
- Army Reserve Component's Achievement Medal, U.S. Army (2003)
- Army Achievement Medal, U.S. Army (2002)

### ***Other Academic***

- Featured Alumni, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2016)
- Institute of Politics Fellowship, Loyola University New Orleans (2015–16)
- Political Science Distinguished Graduate Finalist, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2010)
- Founded the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Political Science Club (2010)
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation Scholarship (2010)
- Award of Merit, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2010)
- Inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (2010)
- President's List, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2009–10)
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette Transfer Scholarship (2009–10)
- Cherokee Nation Higher Education Scholarship (2009–10)
- Chancellor's List, South Louisiana Community College (2008)
- Dean's List, South Louisiana Community College (2006)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Political Science Association
  - Law & Courts Section
  - State Politics & Policy Section
  - Public Policy Section
  - Elections, Public Opinion & Voting Behavior Section
- Southern Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- American Academy of Political Science

- The American Association of Political Consultants
- The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

## **UNIVERSITY, PROFESSIONAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### ***University & Professional Service***

- Reviewer, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*
- Reviewer, *Journal of Law and Courts*
- Textbook reviewer, *Understanding Urban Politics: Institutions, Participation, and Policies*
- Presentation on Team-Based Learning, Dept. of Political Science, University of Kentucky
- Graduate Student Panel, External Review Committee, University of Kentucky
- Awards Committee Chair, Graduate Student Congress, University of Kentucky
- Department Representative to the Graduate Student Congress, University of Kentucky
- Faculty Learning Community on Teaching Student Veterans, University of Kentucky
- Guest Editor, Ballotpedia.org: The Encyclopedia of American Politics
- Selected as a Judge for the AAPC Pollie Awards (2012–16)
- Founder, Political Science Club, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Member, University Honors Program, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Associate Justice, Student Government Association, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Orientation Leader, Student Orientation Staff, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

### ***Media Appearances & Commentary***

- “Moscow Mitch Is on It, Guys,” *The Daily Beast*, 02 August, 2019, Online at <https://bit.ly/2Nhqr3W>
- “Campus Voices” WRFL 88.1FM Midterm Election Recap, Lexington, KY, 07 November, 2018.
- “In Donald Trump era, UW prof’s rural Wisconsin insights gain national prominence,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 19 February, 2017, Online at <https://bit.ly/2SwO2kH>
- “In Donald Trump era, UW prof’s rural Wisconsin insights gain national prominence,” *LaCrosse Tribune*, 19 February, 2017, Online at <https://bit.ly/2MQfKUE>
- “Know the Audience,” *Congressional Quarterly Roll Call Guide: How to Get What You Want Out of Congress*, 25 February, 2015.
- “Why Only Email Your Representative? An Insider Perspective,” *Congressional Quarterly Roll Call: Connectivity*, 01 July, 2014, Online at <https://bit.ly/2BnVSn0>
- “Millennials should support return to the gold standard: Unchecked inflation will impoverish youth,” *The Washington Times*, 19 December, 2012, B4.

### ***University & Community Talks and Service***

- Board Member, Welcome House of Northern Kentucky, 2020–Present
- Precinct Election Official, Hamilton County (Ohio) Board of Elections, November 2020 General Election
- “Introduction to Team Based Learning,” Presentation at the Political Science Department Teaching Assistant Training, University of Kentucky, April 26, 2019
- “The Effect of Campaign Expenditures on Trial Court Election Competition: Evidence from Louisiana,” Research presentation at the Political Science Department Colloquia Series, University of Kentucky, April 10, 2019
- “What Can I Do with a Political Science Degree?” Invited panelist for PS Undergraduate Panel, University of Kentucky, April 13, 2018
- “‘The Wind...in our Face’: Congress and the 2018 Midterm Elections,” Invited talk for PS476G, Legislative Process, University of Kentucky, April 6, 2018
- “Another ‘Shellacking’? The President and the 2018 Midterm Elections,” Invited talk for PS484G, The American Presidency, University of Kentucky, April 6, 2018
- “Careers in Politics,” Invited talk for PS492, Kentucky Legislative Internship Program, University of Kentucky, February 26, 2018

- “Elected (In)Justice? The Effects of Judicial Selection Mechanisms on Racial Disparity in State Incarceration Rates,” Research presentation at the Political Science Department Colloquia Series, University of Kentucky, February 7, 2018
- “Careers in Political Campaigns,” Invited presentation scheduled to be given to Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society, University of Kentucky, October 24, 2017 (meeting cancelled by organizers)
- “Congressional Campaigns: The Nuts and Bolts,” Invited presentation for PS476, Legislative Processes, University of Kentucky, September 26, 2017
- “The Role of Religion in Public Service,” Invited speech given to Baptist Village-Owasso, Owasso, OK, November 10, 2014
- “Careers in Political Campaigns,” Invited presentation for Politics & Public Policy and Media & Communications Programs, The Washington Center, Washington, DC, March 2014
- Judged campaign plans for Politics & Public Policy Program, The Washington Center, Washington, DC, November 2013
- “Careers in Political Campaigns,” Invited presentation for Journey to Careers class, Houma Junior High, Houma, LA, November 2011

### **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Political Account Coordinator, 2014–16. Innovative Advertising
- Consultant, 2013. Brad Tidwell for Virginia State Delegate
- Special Assistant to the President, 2012–13. American Principles in Action
- Consultant, 2012. Cherokees Demand Truth from Elizabeth Warren
- Legislative Correspondent, 2011–12. United States House of Representatives
- Consultant, 2011. Sam Little for Louisiana State Representative
- Consultant, 2011. Darrin Guidry for Louisiana State Senate
- Legislative Assistant, 2011. Louisiana State Senate
- Consultant, 2010. Hunt B. Downer for Congress
- Consultant, 2010. Kristian Magar for Congress
- Police Officer, 2007–08. Lake Charles and Lafayette (Louisiana) Police Departments
- Health Care Specialist, 2000–05. U.S. Army

### **REFERENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mark Peffley, Ph.D. Advisor  
 Professor of Political Science  
 University of Kentucky  
 Phone: 859/257-7033  
 E-mail: m.peffley@uky.edu

Justin Wedeking  
 Professor of Political Science  
 University of Kentucky  
 Phone: 859/257-7040  
 E-mail: justin.wedeking@uky.edu

Abby Córdova  
 Associate Professor of Political Science  
 University of Kentucky  
 Phone: 859/257-3136  
 E-mail: abby.cordova@uky.edu

Michael A. Zilis  
 Assistant Professor of Political Science  
 University of Kentucky  
 Phone: 859/257-7030  
 E-mail: michael.zilis@uky.edu

David K. Rehr  
 Professor of Public Policy  
 George Mason University  
 Phone: 703/933-8151  
 E-mail: drehr@gmu.edu

Ryan L. Teten  
 Dean of College Arts & Science  
 University of Nebraska at Kearney  
 Phone: 308/865-8995  
 E-mail: tetenrl@unk.edu