Brice D. L. Acree

Last updated on September 25, 2015

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science
The University of North Carolina
300 Hamilton Hall
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599

Mobile: +1 859.221.1782
www.unc.edu/∼bdlacree
brice.acree@unc.edu

EDUCATION

The University *of* North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina USA

Ph.D., Political Science, Expected 2016

FIELDS: Quantitative Methodology
American Politics
THESIS: *Ideological Rhetoric*

CHAIR:	James Stimson	Political Science	UNC
COMMITTEE:	David Dunson	Statistical Science	Duke U.
	Thomas Carsey	Political Science	UNC
	Justin Gross	Political Science	U.Mass.
	Michael MacKuen	Political Science	UNC

M.S., Statistics, Expected 2016

M.A., Political Science, 2014

M.A. THESIS: *Testing the Post-Primary Moderation Hypothesis*
COMMITTEE: James Stimson, Justin Gross, Michael MacKuen

Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire USA

A.B., *Government* and *French Language and Literature*, June 2009

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Quantitative research methods, computational social science, analysis of text and unstructured data; political rhetoric and ideology

TEACHING INTERESTS

Statistics: OLS/GLM, Bayesian, text-as-data, time series, machine learning; *American*: ideology, mass behavior, public opinion, political communication

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Scientific computing in `R`, Python, `C++`, Julia, Stan and Stata. Bayesian inference, hierarchical modeling, text processing, computational methods.

PUBLICATIONS

"Emotional Responses to Disturbing Political News: The Role of Personality" with Timothy J. Ryan and Matthew S. Wells. Forthcoming at *Journal of Experimental Political Science.*

"Measuring Ideological Proportions in Political Speeches". with Yanchuan Sim, Justin H. Gross & Noah A. Smith. In *Empirical Methods in Natural Language*

Processing, 2013. **PDF**[1]

Under Review

"Etch-a-Sketching: Testing the Post-Primary Moderation Hypothesis". with Justin H. Gross, Amber Boydstun, Yanchuan Sim, & Noah A. Smith. At *American Journal of Political Science*

Invited Talks

"Ideological Rhetoric." Iowa State University PoliInformatics Workshop. May 15, 2015.

"The Ideology-Etch-a-Sketch (IdEaS) Model: Inferring Ideology from Key Phrases in Text." with Justin H. Gross. Princeton University Dept. of Politics. Methodology Series. February 22, 2012

Recent Conference Presentations

"Supervised Methods for Tracing Ideological Rhetoric Over Time." American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 3-6, 2015.

"Estimating the Dimensionality of Ideological Classes" American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 3-6, 2015.

"Dirichlet Process Priors for Modeling Latent Ideological Classes" Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 18-20, 2015.

"Citizen Perception of Ideological Language." with Michael MacKuen. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 18-20, 2015.

Conference Presentations

PolMeth Annual Meeting:	2013, 2015
APSA Annual Conference:	2013, 2014, 2015
MPSA Annual Conference:	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
SPSA Annual Conference:	2012

Papers in Preparation

"The Cue-Lag Model for Ideological Proportions." with Justin H. Gross, Noah Smith, and Yanchuan Sim.

"Citizen Perception of Ideological Language." with Michael MacKuen.

"Tracing the Diffusion of Technical Language with Weighted Cosine Distance Metrics." with Kelsey Shoub, Eric Hansen and Joshua Jansa.

"Using Generalized Exponential Random Graph Models to Map Lexical Structure in Argumentation."

"Issue Agendas in Television Media." with Andrew Tyner and Kelsey Shoub.

[1]This paper, published as proceedings in computer science, was subjected to full double-blind peer review. Conference proceedings constitute the primary publication method in computer and information sciences, and are analagous to journal articles in political science.

Teaching Experience

The Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Political Methodology

Instructor, POLI 281 (**Fall 2015**): Introduction to Quantitative Political Methods: A first course in quantitative research methodology for undergraduates. We cover basic probability theory, summarizing variables, evaluating covariation, principles of measurement and basic modeling techniques. Throughout, we discuss how statistics fits into the broader context of research design, causal inference and the philosophy of science.

Lab instructor, POLI 891 (**Fall 2013, 2014**): Introduction to Statistical Computing and Math for Political Science (1 Credit Hour): A lab course to introduce first-year graduate students to basics of real analysis, calculus, probability, and statistical computing in `R`.

Teaching Assistant, POLI 783 (**Fall 2013, 2014**): Statistics I (3 Credit Hours): Teaching, grading and holding office hours for the introductory statistics course for incoming graduate students.

Lab Instructor, POLI 891 (**Spring 2014, 2015**): Intermediate Statistical Computing: A lab course focused on intermediate statistics, primarily linear models, Monte Carlo methods and data management in `R`. The lab covers special topics in linear models, e.g., Bayesian regression, and typesetting in LaTeX 2_ε.

Teaching Assistant, POLI 784 (**Spring 2014, 2015**): Intermediate Statistics (3 Credit Hours): Teaching, grading and holding office hours for the linear models course for first-year graduate students.

American Politics

- **Grader**: Introduction to American Government under Jason Roberts (Fall 2012) and James Stimson (Spring 2013).

ICPSR, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Political Methodology

Teaching Assistant, Multi-Level Models (**Summer 2015**): A graduate-level introduction to multi-level and hierarchical models, including frequentist and Bayesian approaches, and estimation in `R`. I taught a one-day intensive on Bayesian hierarchical modeling, with applications in `R`

and Stan. Course taught by Prof. Thomas Carsey (UNC).

Teaching Assistant, Advanced Bayesian Methods (**Summer 2015**): Theoretical and applied foundations of advanced Bayesian statistical analysis. As TA, I wrote and graded homework assignments, held office hours, and taught a one-day session on Bayesian analysis of finite mixture models. Course taught by Jeffrey Harden (Colorado) and Daniel Stegmueller (Mannheim).

Professional Experience

Lake Research Partners, Washington, D.C. USA, **2010**
Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, Washington, D.C. USA **2008**

References

James Stimson: Raymond Dawson Distinguished Bicentennial Professor of Political Science, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, N.C. **jstimson@email.unc.edu**

Justin Gross: Assistant Professor of Political Science, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst. Amherst, Mass. **jhgross@umass.edu**

Tom Carsey: Pearsall Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Director of the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, N.C. **carsey@unc.edu**

Michael MacKuen: Burton Craige Professor of Political Science, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, N.C. **mackuen@email.unc.edu**

Jeff Harden: Assistant Professor of Political Science, Univ. of Colorado at Boulder. Boulder, Colo. **Jeff.Harden@colorado.edu**