

David C. Simpson

Education

Columbia University, New York, NY

Doctoral Candidate in Political Science, Specialization: American Politics, Political Economy

M.Phil. Political Science, 2021

M.A. Political Science, 2019

M.A. Economics, 2017

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

M. Public Policy (MPP), Specialization: Municipal Finance, 2016

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

B.A. Economics and Political Science, 2012, *summa cum laude*

Research and Policy Experience

Columbia University, New York, NY

Political Science Research Assistant, Fall 2020 - Spring 2022

- Presidential, Congressional, and State Politics research – Dr. Robert Erikson
- Analyzed public opinion using data from the ANES, GSS, CCES, Gallup, and iRoper
- Replicated a variety of macro-politics models on economics and presidential elections
- Estimated shifts in congressional district leans after redistricting
- Cleaned FEC data for analysis of candidate fundraising
- Prepared and analyzed county level panel data for election analysis
- Web-scraped public data for election analysis
- Produced a wide variety of data visualization plots for research communication

Columbia University, New York, NY

Political Science Research Assistant, Summer 2020

- City Council elections research – Dr. Yamil Velez
- Scraped and cleaned data from pdfs for analysis of city council elections.

Columbia University, New York, NY

Political Science Research Assistant, Spring 2019 – Fall 2019

- State and local elections research – Dr. Shigeo Hirano
- Cleaned precinct data for 50 states & developed 2016 general election roll-off measures.
- Developed roll-off measures for California local elections.
- Using primary sources to construct mayoral election dataset 1880-present.

Baltimore City Council, Baltimore, MD, Feb. 2018 – Aug. 2018

- Interviewed industry experts and conducted internal research regarding council legislation and future policy items and published reports for external consumption.
- Analyzed the \$3.4 billion (\$2.8 Operating, \$0.6 Capital) city budget across all 50 city departments, boards, and agencies.
- Composed 100 pages of accountability and performance notes and research questions for annual city council budget hearings.

Columbia University, New York, NY

MA Graduate Research

- Used quasi-experimental methods to analyze impact of slavery on modern economic mobility. (Course project ECON6308 – Political Economy).
- Used nationwide manufacturing data to analyze local impact of 2008 financial crisis. (Course project ECON6216 – Macroeconomics II)

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

MPP Graduate Research

- Interviewed public officials, sourced and analyzed public data for a 50 – page report on Illinois special purpose district consolidation.
- Distilled financial documents for a 10-page fiscal analysis of the city budget of Birmingham, AL.

Graduate Researcher, Real Estate and Tax Services Office, Cook County Clerk

- Cleaned and analyzed 20-years of property tax data for 552 Cook County taxing districts.
- Wrote 50-page internal report on the economics of property tax limitation law.

Teaching Experience

Columbia University, New York, NY

Political Science Teaching Assistant, Fall 2019

- The American Congress, Political Science UN3222 – Dr. Gregory J. Wawro
- Developed and led paper writing sessions and exam review sessions
- Graded research papers and met individually with students for additional instruction.

Economics Teaching Assistant, Fall 2017

- Principles of Economics, Economics UN1105 – Dr. Ronald Miller
- Developed and taught biweekly lab sections. Met with students for additional instruction.

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Mathematics Teaching Assistant, Fall 2015

- Harris School of Public Policy Math Camp – Dr. John Boller
- Developed and taught lab sections. Met with students for additional instruction.

Montgomery Public Schools. Montgomery, AL. 2012-2014

Geometry Teacher

- Taught 150 students in grade 9-12 each year.
- Led school-wide curriculum revision team.

The University of Alabama, New York, NY

Economics Teaching Assistant, Fall 2010 – Spring 2012

Principles of Economics – Dr. Ronald Miller

- Taught weekly lab sections and met individually with students for additional instruction.

Projects and Publications

Simpson, David C. (Work in Progress), “Sorting and Segregating: How Segregation Impacts Municipal Competition and Public Goods Expenditures”

- Project applies two dimensional segregation measures to the analysis of municipal competition and public goods expenditures.

Simpson, David C. (Work in Progress), “Segregation in Two Dimensions”

- Developing a method for jointly measuring segregation within and across cities in the same economic region.

Simpson, David C. (Work in Progress), “Public Goods and Political Gerrymandering”

- Developing a game theoretic model that shows how political gerrymandering can alter the equilibrium level of public good allocations.

Simpson, David C. (Work in Progress), “Symmetric Representation”

- Consolidating two course projects to highlight a methodological problem with a finding that suggests Republican (Democratic) representatives are more (less) responsive to same party constituents.

Simpson, David C. (Work in Progress), “The Problem of Attrition in Before-After Event Surveys.”

- Used field experiment data to highlight methodological problems with before-after survey experiments.

Simpson, David C. (2018), “Fiscal Report: City Council Bill 17-0102 Complete Streets.”

Baltimore, MD: Baltimore City Council. [Available here](#). Other related documents may be downloaded from [Baltimore Legistar](#).

Conferences and Workshops

Harvard BIG Ideas Doctoral Workshop, 2019

- Presented a field experiment proposal to study the relationship between partisanship and renewable energy consumption behavior.

Skills

Programs: R, Python, Stata, Mathematica, MATLAB, QGIS, SQL, LaTeX, MS Office, Google Suite (Including Surveys)

Methods: Game theory, causal analysis, machine learning, and program evaluation

Awards and Honors

Columbia University Dean's Fellow, 2018

University of Chicago Dean's Scholarship, 2014

University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship, 2008

Academic Service

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Development member for Chicago Harris School Diversity and Inclusion Board, 2015

Montgomery Public Schools – Lee High School, Montgomery, AL

SACS Accreditation Team Member, 2012-2013

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

University President's Race and Diversity Committee Member, 2011-2012