

# Jonathan Bennett, Ph.D.

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## Overview

Social scientist and analytics expert based in Memphis, Tennessee, devoted to the mission of combining high-level statistics, data mining, and the scientific method to construct and implement innovative research designs to answer questions that matter.

## Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Rochester, 2017.

Dissertation: *Three Papers on Diplomacy*.

Committee: Randall Stone (chair), Scott Abramson, and Lawrence Rothenberg.

Fields: International relations, comparative politics, and political methodology.

M.A. Political Science, University of Rochester, 2015.

Thesis: "When Does the United States Care About Human Rights? Evidence from Wikileaks"

B.A. Economics, German, International Studies, and Political Science, University of Memphis, 2012.

Thesis: "Modernization and Sovereign Debt Crises: The Case of Greece"

Graduated *summa cum laude*.

## Employment

University of Memphis, Associate Director, Research and Evaluation, August 2022 - present.

University of Memphis, Assistant Director, Research and Evaluation, September 2020 - July 2022.

University of Memphis, Lead Research and Data Analyst, June 2018 - August 2020.

University of Memphis, Research Associate III, July 2017 - May 2018.

Associate director and senior statistician/data scientist for the Center for Community Research and Evaluation. Coordinates Center operations and oversees Center research activity. Senior evaluator for numerous implementation and demonstration projects in the areas of population health and educational innovation. Design and implement research studies across a battery of statistical methodologies, including randomized control trials, quasi-experimental studies, econometric modeling, power analysis, and return-on-investment analyses. Lead analyst for several federally-funded and state-funded programs including the Mississippi Delta Medicaid Population Health Demonstration Project, Digital Inclusion Project, in addition to several programs relating to the Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities. Implemented a battery of research designs including regression analysis, causal inference models (matching / regression discontinuity), multilevel modeling, power analysis, and economic projections. Implement cutting-edge data science methods including sentiment

analysis, web scraping, data pipelining, and computational GIS. Led the deployment of numerous survey projects including the Mississippi COVID-19 Vaccination Survey, the Shelby County Water Survey, and the Leland Medical Clinic Patient Experience Survey.

University of Memphis, Adjunct Professor, September 2017 - April 2021.

Developed and taught upper-level online course surveying international political economy.

LeMoyne-Owen College, Adjunct Professor, September 2018 - April 2020.

Developed and taught upper-level course surveying social statistics.

University of Rochester, Research Assistant, 2013-2017.

Lead analyst and dataset developer relating to academic project evaluating firm and state determinants of foreign direct investment flows.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Scholar Intern, 2010.

Scholarly research relating to projects in trade policy and Czech studies.

## Research

### *Publications*

#### **Published or Accepted**

1. "COVID-19 Pandemic and the Social Determinants of Health". With J. Elliot Meador, Wesley L. James, Joseph P. Branson, and Karen C. Matthews. *Frontiers of Epidemiology*, Volume 3. Forthcoming (2023).
2. "Evaluation of a Peer-Led Comprehensive Sexual Health Program for College Teens." With Chris N. King, Rachel M. Arthur, Wesley L. James, and Karen C. Matthews. *American Journal of Sexuality Education*. 2021.
3. "The Lasting Effects of Teen Pregnancy Programs: Evidence from a Regional Collaborative" Chapter in *Population and Public Policy*, Series in Applied Demography, Springer. 2020. 3-27.
4. "Lasting Promise: Long-Term Effects of a Transition-to-Kindergarten Program", in *Perspectives on Early Childhood Psychology and Education* 4.2 (2019), p.117-146. With Colby Taylor, Chris King, Wesley James, and Karen Matthews.
5. "The Politics of Euro Adoption in Slovenia and the Czech Republic", in the *Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics* 10.1 (2010), p.66-84.

#### **Under Review**

1. "A Third-Grade Intervention Model for Struggling Readers: Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Analysis." With Claire G. Brindley, Rachel B. Arthur, Wesley L. James, and Karen C. Matthews. Under review at *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*.

*Selected Evaluations and Applied Research Projects*

1. Delta Health Alliance Head Start & Early Head Start, Wage comparability study, April 2023.
2. Leland Medical Clinic, Performance measures annual evaluation, April 2023.
3. Development of live, interactive dashboard in R Shiny for Delta Health Alliance. March 2023.
4. Delta Health Alliance, Estimate of economic impact, March 2023.
5. Delta Stroke Initiative, Annual evaluation, March 2023.
6. Medicaid Demonstration Project, Annual evaluation, December 2022.
7. Delta Health Alliance Head Start & Early Head Start, Annual evaluation (2021-22), December 2022.
8. Delta Health Alliance, Development of interactive automated survey analyzer tool, November 2022.
9. Youth Council, 2021-22 evaluation, in the Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, November 2022.
10. Digital Inclusion Project, Comprehensive evaluation, October 2022. For Women's Foundation of Greater Memphis.
11. Delta Health Alliance, research for testimony to the Mississippi Senate, September 2022.
12. College Promise Initiative, 2021-22 evaluation, in the Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, August 2022. With Kamran Ahmed.
13. Annual evaluation of the RIVER2 Inverness Project, July 2022. With Rachel Arthur, Madeline Plaster, and Elizabeth Manoah.
14. Leland Medical Clinic, Performance measures annual evaluation, June 2022.
15. Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, Development of interactive streamplot tool in R Shiny to track cohort experience, June 2022.
16. Literacy Fellows, evaluation for 2020-21 in the Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, May 2022.
17. Digital Inclusion Project, Periodic evaluation, May 2022. For Women's Foundation of Greater Memphis.
18. Indianola Promise Community, Limited evaluation of Fellows and Promise School, March 2022.
19. Women's Foundation of Greater Memphis, Development of Google Sheets data collection tool for Digital Inclusion Project, March 2022.
20. UCAN of Memphis, Development of research design and IRB proposal, February 2022.
21. GROWWTH, Results from a survey of TANF-receiving and TANF-adjacent individuals in West Tennessee, February 2022.
22. Medicaid Demonstration Project, Annual evaluation, December 2021.
23. MS River COVID Vaccination Grant, results of electronic survey of random sample of Mississippians using mail-based approach, November 2021.
24. Deer Creek Promise Community, Leland Writing Project, brief valuation, October 2021.

25. Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, review of ACT and MAAP scores, October 2021, with Madeline Plaster.
26. A Step Ahead Foundation, return-on-investment analysis, September 2021.
27. MS RIVER COVID Vaccination Grant, segmentation analysis, July 2021, with Rachel Arthur and Joseph Branson.
28. MS RIVER COVID Vaccination Grant, weekly vaccination updates, July-August 2021, with Joseph Branson.
29. OMH COVID-19 Health Literacy Grant, Diversity Impact Statement, July 2021, with Rachel Arthur, Joseph Branson, and Claire Brindley.
30. MS RIVER COVID Vaccination Grant, focus group report, July 2021.
31. MS RIVER COVID Vaccination Grant, evaluation of employee vaccination trends, July 2021.
32. Shelby County Water Survey, technical report, May 2021, with Chris King and Wesley James.
33. Leflore County Promise Community grant proposal, Needs Assessment, March 2021, with Chris King, Rachel Arthur, Joseph Branson, Madeline Plaster, and Wesley James.
34. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, final evaluation, March 2021.
35. Whoops Proof contraception outreach campaign, evaluation of marketing campaign impact, March 2021.
36. Delta Healthy Start, vital statistics outcome measures, February 2021.
37. Delta Health Alliance, performance measures development, February 2021.
38. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, periodic evaluation, January 2021.
39. Delta Dreams, summative evaluation, December 2020, with Shuai Yuan.
40. Medicaid Healthy Pregnancy Program, evaluation of cost-effectiveness, November 2020.
41. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, periodic evaluation, October 2020.
42. Medicaid Healthy Pregnancy Program, periodic evaluation, October 2020.
43. Medicaid Prediabetes Program, periodic evaluation, July 2020.
44. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, periodic evaluation, July 2020.
45. Delta Heart Health Network, periodic evaluation, June 2020.
46. Ruleville educational pipeline, periodic evaluation, June 2020.
47. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, May 2020.
48. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, periodic evaluation, April 2020.
49. Deer Creek Promise Community, evaluation of afterschool programs, April 2020.
50. Delta Futures, Tier 2, periodic evaluation, March 2020.
51. Delta Heart Health Network, periodic evaluation, February 2020.

52. Literacy Fellows, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, February 2020, with Chelsea Joyner.
53. Delta Futures, Tier 1, population-level impact analysis, January 2020.
54. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, periodic evaluation, January 2020.
55. Delta STAR, periodic evaluation, December 2019.
56. CATCH, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, baseline assessment, December 2019. With Chelsea Joyner.
57. Medicaid Prediabetes Program, periodic evaluation, December 2019.
58. Progress Monitoring Scores, Deer Creek Promise Community, November 2019.
59. Summer Camps, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, November 2019.
60. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network, periodic evaluation, October 2019.
61. Delta Futures, Tier 2, periodic evaluation, October 2019.
62. Delta EATS, Vegetable Preference Survey evaluation, October 2019. With Chelsea Joyner.
63. Delta Dreams, periodic evaluation, October 2019.
64. Financial Literacy programming, periodic evaluation, September 2019.
65. Early Childhood summer camps, annual evaluation, September 2019.
66. CATCH physical assessment, periodic evaluation, August 2019.
67. Delta Heart Health Network, periodic evaluation, August 2019.
68. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, July 2019.
69. Return on Investment Analysis, selected Delta Health Alliance Programs, July 2019.
70. Progress Monitoring Scores, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, periodic evaluation, June 2019.
71. Literacy Fellows, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, periodic evaluation, June 2019.
72. Neighborhood Survey, Deer Creek Promise Community, periodic evaluation, May 2019.
73. College Promise Initiative, Deer Creek Promise Community, periodic evaluation, May 2019.
74. LINKS parenting assessment, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, periodic evaluation, April 2019.
75. SPARK, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, periodic evaluation, March 2019.
76. Progress Monitoring Scores, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, periodic evaluation, March 2019.
77. College Promise Initiative, Deer Creek Promise Community, periodic evaluation, February 2019.
78. Medicaid Prediabetes Program, periodic evaluation, February 2019.
79. Medicaid Healthy Pregnancy Program, periodic evaluation, January 2019.

80. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, January 2019.
81. Medicaid Demonstration Project, periodic evaluation, December 2018.
82. Progress Monitoring Scores, Indianola Promise Community, periodic evaluation, October 2018.
83. Summer Camps, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, annual evaluation, September 2018.
84. Progress Monitoring Scores, Deer Creek Promise Community, periodic evaluation, September 2018.
85. Delta Heart Health Network, periodic evaluation, August 2018.
86. Literacy Fellows, Deer Creek Promise Community, scientific analysis of program design, August 2018.
87. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, August 2018.
88. Early Childhood summer camps, annual evaluation, August 2018.
89. Literacy Fellows, Indianola Promise Community, scientific analysis of program design, July 2018.
90. Financial Literacy programming, periodic evaluation, July 2018, with Alexis Smith.
91. CATCH physical assessment, periodic evaluation, June 2018.
92. Accountable Health Community, evaluation plan, June 2018.
93. Delta Health Alliance health programs evaluation planning, June 2018.
94. College Promise Initiative, annual evaluation, Deer Creek Promise Community, June 2018.
95. Medicaid Demonstration Project, periodic evaluation, June 2018.
96. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, June 2018.
97. Kindergarten readiness longitudinal evaluation, Indianola Promise Community, May 2018.
98. SPARK, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, periodic evaluation, April 2018.
99. Delta Futures, Tier 1, evaluation of big-picture questions, April 2018.
100. Opioids grant proposal needs assessment, April 2018.
101. CARES academic and behavioral outcomes, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, March 2018.
102. Progress Monitoring Scores, Deer Creek Promise Community, periodic evaluation, February 2018.
103. Medicaid Demonstration Project, power analysis, February 2018.
104. Financial Literacy programming, periodic evaluation, February 2018.
105. Evaluation of end-of-year assessments, Indianola Promise Community, January 2018.
106. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, January 2018.
107. Evaluation of end-of-year assessments, Deer Creek Promise Community, January 2018.
108. College Promise Initiative, baseline evaluation Deer Creek Promise Community, January 2018.

109. Summer Camps, Indianola Promise Community, longitudinal evaluation, December 2017.
110. Medicaid Demonstration Project, periodic evaluation, December 2017.
111. CATCH physical assessments, Indianola and Deer Creek Promise Communities, November 2017.
112. Summer Camps, Indianola Promise Community, periodic evaluation, October 2017.
113. Progress Monitoring Scores, Indianola Promise Community, periodic evaluation, October 2017.
114. Summer Camps, Deer Creek Promise Community, periodic evaluation, September 2017.
115. Medicaid Demonstration Project, interim assessment of health outcomes, September 2017.
116. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, September 2017.
117. Evaluation of health outcomes related to CATCH intervention, Indianola Promise Community, July 2017.
118. Evaluation of health outcomes, Indianola Promise Community, July 2017.
119. Neighborhood Survey results, Deer Creek Promise Community, May 2017.
120. Delta Futures, Tier 1, periodic evaluation, March 2017.
121. Evaluation of selected summer camps, Indianola Promise Community, August 2016.
122. LINKS, evaluation of academic outcomes, July 2016.
123. Multilevel model to evaluate program effects, Indianola Promise Community, August 2015.

## Teaching

### *As Course Instructor*

Political Science 362 (undergraduate), Social Statistics, LeMoyne-Owen College, Fall 2018 - Spring 2020.

Political Science 4510 (undergraduate), Politics and the Global Economy, University of Memphis, Spring 2018, Spring 2019 - Spring 2021. Course developed and taught.

### *As Teaching Assistant*

Political Science 244K (undergraduate), Politics and Markets, University of Rochester, Fall 2016.

Political Science 106 (undergraduate), Introduction to International Relations, University of Rochester, Fall 2015.

Political Science 480 (graduate), Scope of Political Science, University of Rochester, Spring 2015.

Political Science 101 (undergraduate), Introduction to Comparative Politics, University of Rochester, Fall 2014.

### *Miscellaneous*

Princeton Review of Tennessee, Senior tutor, course instructor, marketer, and recruiter for Memphis-based operation, 2009-2012.

University of Memphis Center for Athletic Academic Services, mathematics and economics tutor, 2011.

## Selected Honors and Awards

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies, 2016-17.

Ph.D. Scholarship, Institute for Humane Studies, 2015-16.

Visiting Dissertation Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University, 2015-16.

Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University, 2013-15.

Marcus L. Urann Fellowship, Phi Kappa Phi, 2012-13.

Dean's Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Student, University of Memphis, 2012.

## Selected Conference Presentations

Mid-South Data 2023 Conference, Memphis, Tennessee, 2023.

Southern Demographic Association Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee, 2022.

Mid-South Data 2022 Conference, Memphis, Tennessee, 2022.

nSPARC Data Summit (attendee), Starkville, Mississippi, 2019.

Second Biennial Population and Public Policy Conference, Albuquerque, 2019.

XULA 2018 conference, contributed to research for poster presentation by Twanda Wadlington, New Orleans, 2018.

Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, 2017.

Graduate Student Paper Workshop, Department of Economics, George Mason University, 2016.

Text as Data Conference (attendee), New York University, 2015.

Midwest Political Science Association Conference, 2015.

Watson Seminar Series, Department of Political Science, University of Rochester, 2015.

Tennessee Political Science Association Conference, Tennessee State University, 2012.

National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Weber State University, 2012.

## Skills

Statistical software: R, SQL, STATA, Excel, some Python.

Analytical tools: Econometrics/biostatistics, machine learning, text as data, data pipelining, data mining, computational GIS, visualization (ggplot2), dashboarding (Shiny).

Substantive areas: Population health, education, workforce development, applied evaluation, interstate diplomacy and bureaucracy, criminal justice.