

Michael W. Sances

Academic Positions

University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
August 2015 –

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
August 2014 – August 2015

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
Ph.D., Political Science, September 2014
Fields: American Politics, Quantitative Methods
Dissertation: “The Effect of Voter Control on Public Policy”
Committee: Adam Berinsky, Andrea Campbell (chair), Jens Hainmueller, and Gabriel Lenz

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
B.A., Political Science, May 2006
Honors: Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Publications

“The Distributional Impact of Greater Responsiveness: Evidence from New York Towns.” *Journal of Politics* 78(1): 105-119. January 2016.

“Partisanship and Confidence in the Vote Count: Evidence from U.S. National Elections since 2000.” With Charles Stewart. *Electoral Studies* 40: 176-188. December 2015.

“Closeness Counts: Increasing Precision and Reducing Errors in Mass Election Predictions.” With Kai Quek. *Political Analysis* 23(4): 518-533. September 2015.

“Can We Convert Shirkers Into Workers?” With Adam Berinsky and Michele Margolis. Forthcoming in *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*. September 2015.

“Separating the Shirkers from the Workers? Making Sure that Subjects Pay Attention on Self-Administered Surveys.” With Adam Berinsky and Michele Margolis. *American Journal of Political Science* 58(3): 739-753. July 2014.

“State Fiscal Policy during the Great Recession: Budgetary Impacts and Policy Responses.” With Andrea Campbell. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 650(1): 252-273. November 2013.

“Is Money in Politics Harming Trust in Government? Evidence from Two Survey Experiments.” *Election Law Journal* 12(1): 53-73. March 2013.

“Disenfranchisement through Divorce? Estimating the Effect of Parental Absence on Voter Turnout.” *Political Behavior* 35(1): 199-213. March 2013.

Working Papers

“Attribution Errors in Federalist Systems: When Voters Punish the President for Local Tax Increases.” January 2016.

“Do Biases in Representation Matter for Policy Outcomes? The Case of Local Government Revenue from Fines.” With Hye Young You. September 2015.

“Partisan Differences in Charitable Giving: Evidence from Individual-Level Survey Data.” With Michele Margolis. March 2015.

Research in Progress

“Policy Making Politics? The Mass Political Impact of Medicaid Expansions.” With Joshua Clinton.

“Democratic Reforms, Responsiveness, and the Welfare of the Poor: Evidence from Illinois.”

“Failing the Test: Increasing Democracy in Virginia School Districts.”

“Scaling Attentiveness on Self-Administered Surveys.” With Adam Berinsky, Michele Margolis, and Chris Warshaw.

Other Publications

“Constituencies and Public Opinion.” With Andrea Campbell. In *The Oxford Handbook of U.S. Social Policy*, eds. Daniel Béland, Christopher Howard, and Kimberly J. Morgan. Oxford University Press. 2014.

“Conducting Online Experiments on Mechanical Turk.” With Adam Berinsky and Kai Quek. *The Experimental Political Scientist* 3(1): 2-6. May 2012.

“The Partisan Trust Gap.” *The Monkey Cage* April 14, 2011.

Grants and Awards

Travel Enrichment Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Memphis, 2015.

Lucian Pye Award for best dissertation in the MIT Department of Political Science, 2015.

National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2012.

National Science Foundation, Time-sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), “Campaign Finance and Citizen Attitudes Toward Government”, 2011.

Teaching

Political Science 3220 – U. S. Congress (Undergraduate), University of Memphis. Spring 2016.

Political Science 3211 – State and Local Government (Undergraduate), University of Memphis. Fall 2015, Spring 2016.

Political Science 7100 – Scope and Methods of Political Science (Graduate), University of Memphis. Fall 2015.

Teaching Assistant for 17.315 - Health Policy (Undergraduate). Spring 2014.

Teaching Assistant for 17.804 – Quantitative Research Methods III: Generalized Linear Models and Extensions (Graduate), MIT. Fall 2012.

Teaching Assistant for 17.871 – Political Science Laboratory (Undergraduate), MIT. Spring 2012.

Completed Graduate Teaching Certificate, MIT Teaching and Learning Laboratory, MIT. Summer 2012.

Conference and Seminar Presentations

Vanderbilt Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Seminar (2014); Yale American Politics Conference (2013); University of Michigan/AAAPSS Conference on the Great Recession (2013); Society for Political Methodology (2011, 2012); NYU Experimental Political Science Conference (2012); MIT Political Economy Breakfast (2012); APSA (2011, 2013, 2014); MPSA (2011, 2012, 2013); SPSA (2016).

Professional Service

Reviewer: *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Analysis*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Political Behavior*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Studies*.

Departmental and University Service

School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy PhD Program Committee, 2015.

Master's Thesis Committee Member: Brooke Shannon, 2015.

MIT American Politics Faculty Search, 2010.

Employment History

Employee at Social Capital Inc., Woburn, MA, 2007-2008.

AmeriCorps VISTA at Social Capital Inc., Woburn, MA, 2006-2007.

Contact Information

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