

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

“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.

“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

“Closeness Counts: Increasing Precision and Reducing Errors in Voter Election Predictions.” With Kai Quek. March 2015.

“Can We Convert Shirkers into Workers?” With Adam Berinsky and Michele Margolis. Invited for submission to the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology: Special Issue on Rigorous and Replicable Methods*. November 2014.

“Partisanship and Voter Confidence, 2000-2012.” With Charles Stewart. Revise and resubmit at *Electoral Studies*. June 2014.

“Who Benefits from Direct Elections? A Quasi-Experiment Involving New York Towns.” August 2014.

“Who Really Gives? Partisanship and Charitable Giving in the U.S.” With Michele Margolis. August 2013.

Research in Progress

“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.

“Electoral Systems and Voting Behavior: An Experiment in the 2012 U.S. Presidential Election.” With Kai Quek.

“Holes in the Screen: Experimental Evidence That Party ID Does Not Bias Perceptions of New Information.” With Adam Berinsky, Gabriel Lenz, Krista Loose, and Michele Margolis.

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.

“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.

“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

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

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). Fall 2012.

Teaching Assistant for 17.871 - Political Science Laboratory (Undergraduate). Spring 2012.

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

Conference and Seminar Presentations

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).

Professional Service

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

Committee: MIT American Politics Faculty Search, Fall 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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