

Benjamin Schneer

Harvard Kennedy School
79 JFK Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Email: benjamin_schneer@hks.harvard.edu
Website: <http://www.benjaminschneer.com>
Phone: (617) 496-0666

Academic Employment

Harvard Kennedy School

Assistant Professor of Public Policy, 2018–Present.

Florida State University

Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2016–2018.

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Harvard University, 2016.

Committee: Gary King, Daniel Carpenter, Stephen Ansolabehere

M.A. Political Science, Harvard University, 2012.

M.A. Economics, Stanford University, 2010.

B.A. Economics & History, *Summa Cum Laude*, Columbia University, 2005.

Research Interests

Political Communication, Congress, Elections, Redistricting

Publications

“Reevaluating Competition and Turnout in U.S. House Elections” (with Daniel J. Moskowitz). Forthcoming. *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*.

“Post-Political Careers: How Politicians Capitalize on Public Office” (with Maxwell Palmer). 2019. *Journal of Politics* 81 (2).

“Suffrage Petitioning as Formative Practice: American Women Presage and Prepare for the Vote, 1840-1940” (with Daniel Carpenter, Zachary Popp, Tobias Resch, and Nicole Topich). 2018. *Studies in American Political Development* 32 (1): 24–48.

“Paths of Recruitment: Rational Social Prospecting in Petition Canvassing” (with Clayton Nall and Daniel Carpenter). 2018. *American Journal of Political Science* 62 (2): 192–209.

“Divided Government and Significant Legislation: A History of Congress from 1789–2010” (with Stephen Ansolabehere and Maxwell Palmer). 2018. *Social Science History* 42 (1): 81–108.

“How the News Media Activate Public Expression and Influence National Agendas” (with Gary King and Ariel White). 2017. *Science* 358 (6364): 776–780.

“Capitol Gains: The Returns to Elected Office from Corporate Board Directorships” (with Maxwell Palmer). 2016. *Journal of Politics* 78 (1): 181–196.

“What Has Congress Done?” (with Stephen Ansolabehere and Maxwell Palmer). 2016. *Governing in a Polarized Age: Elections, Parties, and Political Representation in America*, eds. Alan S. Gerber and Eric Schickler. New York: Cambridge University Press.

“Party Formation Through Petitions: The Whigs and the Bank War of 1832–1834” (with Daniel Carpenter). 2015. *Studies in American Political Development* 29 (2): 1–22.

Working Papers

“Rainmakers: Former Politicians as Lobbyists” (with Pamela Ban and Maxwell Palmer). *Revise and Resubmit at Legislative Studies Quarterly*.

“Partisan Alignment Increases Voter Turnout: Evidence from Redistricting” (with Bernard Fraga and Daniel J. Moskowitz)

“The Popular Origins of Legislative Jurisdictions: Petitions and Standing Committee Formation in Revolutionary Virginia and the Early U.S. House” (with Tobias Resch, Maggie McKinley, and Daniel Carpenter).

“Representation Replaced: How Congressional Petitions Substitute for Direct Elections.”

“Descended from Immigrants and Revolutionists: How Immigrant Experience Shapes Congressional Decision-making on Immigration Votes” (with James Feigenbaum and Maxwell Palmer).

“Bayesian Instrumental Variables Estimation with Relaxations of the Exclusion Restriction” (with Michael Gill and Arman Sabbaghi).

Current Projects

Book Project: *From the Capitol to the Boardroom: The Returns to Office from Corporate Board Directorships* (with Maxwell Palmer)

“The Contours of American Legislative Petitioning” (with Tobias Resch, Maggie McKinley, and Daniel Carpenter).

“Corporate Political Activity as a Bundle of Goods” (with Daniel J. Moskowitz and Maxwell Palmer).

“Frequent Flyers: Has Increased Travel Exacerbated Polarization and Reduced Civility and Bipartisanship in Congress?” (with Daniel J. Moskowitz)

Reports and Other Publications

“Canvassers Tend to Seek Out Supporters Who Are Like Themselves, and That’s Not Good for Political Participation” (with Daniel Carpenter and Clayton Nall). *LSE USAPP Blog*, November 1, 2017.

“The Arizona Redistricting Commission: A Model For A Fair Process” (with Colleen Mathis and Daniel J. Moskowitz). *Policy Brief (draft version)*, 2017.

“How and Why Retired Politicians Get Lucrative Appointments on Corporate Boards” (with Maxwell Palmer). *The Washington Post (Monkey Cage)*, February 1, 2015.

“An Analysis of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Congressional District Map” (with Gary King). *Submitted to Department of Justice*, 2012.

“An Analysis of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Legislative District Map” (with Gary King). *Submitted to Department of Justice*, 2012.

Presentations & Conferences

2019: MPSA (Upcoming)

2018: FSU (Colloquium), Congress & History Conf., APSA

2017: Congress & History Conf.

2016: PolNet, APSA

2015: The Media Consortium, Boston University (Emerging Media Studies), MPSA, Iowa State, APSA, Harvard (Grad PE, APRW)

2014: SPSA, Texas A&M, The Media Consortium, Radcliffe (The Petition in North America), MPSA, Harvard (APRW x2, Grad PE, PE), NYU (Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy), PolMeth (Poster Session), APSA, Tobin Project

2013: Harvard (Grad PE), MPSA, The Media Consortium

2012: Harvard (APRW)

2011: Harvard (APRW)

Teaching

DPI 308: How Representative is Representative Democracy? Harvard Kennedy School, Spring 2019.

POS 3263: Political Elites and Representation, Florida State University, Spring 2018.

POS 4424: Legislative Systems, Florida State University, Spring 2017, Fall 2017 & Spring 2018.

POS 5427: Legislative Politics, Florida State University, Spring 2017.

POS 5045: National Government (American Politics Core), Florida State University, Fall 2017.

Gov 30: American Government, Professor Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University, Fall 2013.

Gov 1300: The Politics of Congress, Professor Stephen Ansolabehere, Harvard University, Spring 2013.

Gov 1359: The Road to the White House, Carlos Diaz Rosillo, Harvard University, Fall 2012.

Econ 101: Economic Policy Analysis, Anamaria Pieschacon, Stanford University, Fall 2009 & Winter 2010.

Past Employment

Research Assistant, Professor Gary King, Harvard University, 2011–2016.

Research Assistant, Professor Daniel Carpenter, Harvard University, 2011–2014.

Research Assistant, Professor Gavin Wright, Stanford University, 2008–2009.

Research Analyst, LECG LLC, 2006–2007.

Research Fellow, Professor Alison Morantz, Stanford Law School 2005–2006, 2010.

Fellowships & Awards

American Journal of Political Science Best Paper Award (co-winner) for “Paths of Recruitment: Rational Social Prospecting in Petition Canvassing,” 2018.

Summer Institute, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, 2017.

First Year Assistant Professor Grant, Florida State University, 2017.

Richard J. Herrnstein Prize, awarded by the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences for “a dissertation that exhibits excellent scholarship, originality and breadth of thought, and a commitment to intellectual independence,” 2016.

GSAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University, 2015–2016.

Term Time Merit Fellowship, Graduate Society, Harvard University, 2014–2015.

Dissertation Research Fellowship for Study of the American Republic, Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University, 2014–2015.

Jeanne Humphrey Block Dissertation Award, Institute for Quantitative Social Sciences, Harvard University, 2014–2015.

Graduate Research Grant, Institute for Quantitative Social Sciences, Harvard University, 2014–2015.

Fellow, Democracy & Markets, Tobin Project, 2014–2015.

Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University, 2010–2016.

NSF Travel Grant, Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, 2014

Travel Grant, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, 2013, 2014, 2015.

Outstanding Teaching Assistant, Stanford University, 2009–2010.

Phi Beta Kappa, 2005.

Dean’s List, Columbia University, 2001–2005.

Other

Selected Consulting

Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission

New York Civil Liberties Union (*Hurrell-Harring et al. v. the State of New York*)

Affiliations

Taubman Center for State and Local Government, Harvard Kennedy School

Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School

Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University

Service

MPP Admissions Committee, Harvard Kennedy School, 2018–Present.

Software Packages

R, Stata, SAS, Python, ArcGIS, \LaTeX .

Last updated: February 13, 2019