

ERIC MERKLEY

Phone: (778) 868-0799
eric.merkley@alumni.ubc.ca
www.ericmerkley.com

University of British Columbia
Department of Political Science
C425-1866 Main Mall
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z1

EDUCATION

- PhD** University of British Columbia, Political Science 2019 (expected)
Major: American Politics; Minor: Comparative Politics
Dissertation: “When Experts Talk, Does Anyone Listen?
Essays on the Limits of Expert Influence on Public Opinion”
Committee: Paul Quirk (chair), Richard Johnston, Fred Cutler
GPA: 4.33 (A+)
- MA** McGill University, Political Science and Social Statistics 2013
Major Field: Comparative Politics
Thesis: “Issue Ownership, Institutions, and Political Accountability
in Canada and the United States”
Advisor: Eric Belanger
- BA** Wilfrid Laurier University, Political Science and History 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Publications

Merkley, Eric, Fred Cutler, Paul J. Quirk, and Benjamin Nyblade. “Having their Say: Authority, Voice, and Satisfaction with Democracy.” *Journal of Politics* (Forthcoming, 2019).

Merkley, Eric. 2019. “Learning from Divided Parties? Legislator Dissent as a Cue for Opinion Formation.” *Parliamentary Affairs*. Online Access. DOI: 10.1093/pa/gsy051.

Stecula, Dominik A., and **Eric Merkley**. 2019. “Framing Climate Change: Economics, Ideology, and Uncertainty in American News Media Content from 1988 to 2014.” *Frontiers in Communication*. DOI: 10.3389/fcomm.2019.00006.

Merkley, Eric. 2018. “Partisan Bias in Economic News Content: New Evidence.” *American Politics Research*. Online Access. DOI: 10.1177/1532673X18821954.

Merkley, Eric, and Dominik A. Stecula. 2018. “Party Elites or Manufactured Doubt? The Informational Context of Climate Change Polarization.” *Science Communication* 40(2): 258-74.

Working Papers

“Party Cues in the News: Explaining the Dynamics of Climate Change Skepticism,” with Dominik Stecula.

“Are Experts (News) Worthy? Balance, Conflict and Mass Media Coverage of Expert Agreement.”

“Anti-elitism, Anti-intellectualism, and Motivated Resistance to Expert Consensus.”

“‘Back to the Future’: Democratic Responsiveness and the Anticipation of Future Public Opinion,” with Andrew Owen.

“Whose News? The Media and the Distribution of Economic Gains and Losses,” with Timothy Hicks, Alan Jacobs, Scott Matthews.

“Can Mini-Publics Correct Misinformation? The Effects of Source Cues, Populist Attitudes, and Trust in Experts,” with Spencer McKay.

“A Canadian ‘Perceptual Screen’? Partisan Bias in Information Processing.”

Selected Conference Papers

“If a Tree Falls in the Forest...? Balance, Context, and the Mass Media’s (Lack of) Coverage of Expert Agreement,” at the *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association*, Regina, SK, 2018.

“Can Mini-Publics Correct Misinformation? The Effects of Source Cues, Populist Attitudes, and Trust in Experts,” with Spencer McKay, at the *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association*, Regina, SK, 2018.

“Latent Opinion, Issue Attention, and Policymaking,” with Andrew Owen, at the *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association*, Toronto, ON, 2017.

“Party Elites, Organized Skeptics, and the Media: Understanding How Americans Polarized on Climate Change,” with Dominik Stecula, at the *Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association*, Philadelphia, PA, 2016.

“Whose News? The Media and the Distribution of Gains and Losses,” with Timothy Hicks, Alan Jacobs, and J. Scott Matthews, at the *Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association*, Philadelphia, PA, 2016.

“Party Elites, Organized Skeptics, and the Media: Understanding How Americans Polarized on Climate Change,” with Dominik Stecula, at the *Annual Meeting of the Pacific North West Political Science Association*, Portland, OR, 2016.

“United they Stand, Divided they Fall? An Experimental Examination of the Political Cost of Legislator Dissent,” at the *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Political Science Association*, Calgary, AB, 2016.

“Jenny McCarthy or Jim Inhofe? Understanding the Media's Role in Supporting Pseudo-Scientific Public Attitudes,” with Dominik Stecula, at the *Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association*, San Francisco, CA (2015).

“Issue Ownership and Media Accountability: Testing the Salient Goal and Clientele Hypotheses,” at the *Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, 2013.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor May 2018-present

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Courses: Government and Politics of the United States of America (POLI 320A, Scheduled: Summer 2019); Introduction to Scientific Political Analysis (POLI 110, Summer 2018);

Teaching Assistant 2015-present

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Courses: Quantitative Methods (POLI 380, 3x), Introduction to Canadian Politics (POLI 101), Political Institutions of the United States (POLI 333), Canadian Federalism (POLI 303)

Teaching Assistant 2011-2013

McGill University, Montreal, Canada
Courses: Introduction to Comparative Politics (POLI 211, 2x), Canadian Public Policy (POLI 321, 2x).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Lab Coordinator 2015-present

UBC Political Opinion Laboratory, Vancouver, Canada
Supervisor: Paul J. Quirk

Research Assistant 2013-2015

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Supervisors: Alan Jacobs, Fred Cutler, Richard Johnston

Research Assistant 2011-2013

McGill University, Montreal, Canada
Supervisor: Eric Belanger

Research Associate 2011-2013

Frontier Centre for Public Policy, Winnipeg, Canada

Research Assistant
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada
Supervisors: Christopher Alcantara, Andrea Perrella

2010-2011

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis University of Essex, Colchester, United Kingdom Course: Quantitative Text Analysis Instructor: Nicole Baerg	2018
Simon Fraser University , Vancouver, Canada Course: Introduction to Time Series Analysis Instructor: Mark Pickup	2015
European Consortium for Political Science Research Summer School University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Course: Game Theory Instructor: David Hugh-Jones	2013

HONORS AND AWARDS

Dissertation Research Award	2018
Faculty of Arts Graduate Award	2017
Joseph Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship	2015
UBC Four Year Fellowship	2013
Sandra Rotman Prize for Excellence in Public Policy Innovation	2013

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

“Turning of the Tide: The 2018 American Midterm Elections and Beyond,” Presentation delivered to UBC Continuing Studies, November and December 2018.

“Overcoming Political Bias.” Presentation delivered at *TEDxECUAD*, Emily Carr University, March 2017.

“Coming to Grips with Political Bias.” Presentation delivered to the BC Humanist Association, September 2017.

“What about Canada? Canadian Media and Politics: Theory and Applications.” Presentation delivered to POLI 333B, University of British Columbia, June 2017.

“Anatomy of a Dumpster Fire: The 2016 American Election and Beyond,” Presentation delivered to UBC Continuing Studies, November 2016.

“The Dynamics of Polarization. How the Media and Party Elites Facilitated the Growth of Climate Skepticism,” with Dominik Stecula. Presentation delivered at the Launch of the UBC Journal of Politics, April 2016.

SELECTED NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“The American Mainstream News Media May Be More Biased Than We Think.” *London School of Economics’ USAPP – American Politics and Policy Blog*, February 2019.

“Are There Any Benefits to Divided Parliamentary Parties?” *Democratic Audit*, February 2019.

“An Inconvenient Truth about ‘An Inconvenient Truth’,” with Dominik Stecula, *The Conversation*. Reprinted in *Newsweek*, *RealClearScience*, *Salon.com*, *Newsweek*, and the *National Post*, August 2017.

“Here’s How Canadian News Media Created a ‘Trump of the North’,” *The Washington Post: Monkey Cage*, December 2016.

“You can Blame CNN (and the News Media) If Childhood Vaccinations Go Down,” with Dominik Stecula, *The Washington Post: Monkey Cage*, September 2015.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Breakfast Television (Vancouver), CBC News Network, Global News BC, Roundhouse Radio (Vancouver), CBC Radio, News 1130 (Vancouver), CKNW Radio (Victoria). Fairchild TV (Vancouver).

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Canadian Political Science Association; American Political Science Association; Western Political Science Association

SKILLS

Stata; R; Lexicoder; Quanteda

REFERENCES

Available upon request.