

Christopher N. Tausanovitch

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Representation, Polarization, American Politics, Congress, Public Opinion, Methodology

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of California - Los Angeles

Professor, Political Science, 2024-
Associate Professor, Political Science, 2019-2024
Assistant Professor, Political Science, 2012 to 2019

EDUCATION

Stanford University, PhD, Political Science 2013

New York University, Bachelors of Arts, 2007

BOOK

1. Sides, John, Chris Tausanovitch and Lynn Vavreck. 2022. "The Bitter End: The 2020 Presidential Campaign and the Challenge to American Democracy." *Princeton University Press*.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Fowler, Anthony, Seth Hill, Jeffrey B Lewis, Chris Tausanovitch, Lynn Vavreck, and Christopher Warshaw. 2023. "Moderates." *The American Political Science Review* 117(2), p. 643-660.
2. Sides, John, Chris Tausanovitch and Lynn Vavreck. 2020. "The Politics of COVID-19: Partisan Polarization about the Pandemic Has Increased, but Support for Health Care Reform Hasn't Moved at All." *Harvard Data Science Review* Special Issue 1, COVID-19: Unprecedented Challenges and Chances.
3. Sides, John, Lynn Vavreck, Chris Tausanovitch and Christopher Warshaw. 2020. "On the Representativeness of Primary Electorates" *British Journal of Political Science*, 50(2), p.677-685.
4. Tausanovitch, Chris. 2019. "Why are Subnational Governments Responsive?" *The Journal of Politics*, 81(1), p. 334-342, Subnational Policy Making Symposium.
5. McCarty, Nolan, Jonathan Rodden, Boris Shor, Chris Tausanovitch and Christopher Warshaw. 2019. "Geography, Uncertainty, and Polarization" *Political Science Research and Methods*, 7(4), p.775-794.
6. Hill, Seth and Chris Tausanovitch. 2018. "Southern Realignment, Party Sorting, and the Polarization of American Primary Electorates, 1958-2012" *Public Choice*, 176(1), p. 107-132.
7. Tausanovitch, Chris, and Christopher Warshaw. 2018. "Does the Ideological Proximity Between Congressional Candidates and Voters Affect Voting Decisions in Recent U.S. House Elections?" *Political Behavior*, 40:223-245.

8. Caughey, Devin, Christopher Warshaw and Chris Tausanovitch. 2017. "Partisan Gerrymandering and the Political Process: Effects on Roll-Call Voting and State Policies." *Election Law Journal*, 16(4):453-469.
9. Tausanovitch, Chris and Christopher Warshaw. 2017. "Estimating Candidates' Political Orientation in a Polarized Congress." *Political Analysis*, 25(2).
10. Tausanovitch, Chris. 2016. "Income, Ideology, and Representation." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*, 2(7).
11. Oh, Jason S. and Chris Tausanovitch. 2016. "Quantifying Legislative Uncertainty: A Case Study in Tax Policy." *Tax Law Review*, 69(4).
12. Hill, Seth, and Chris Tausanovitch. 2015. "A Disconnect in Representation? Comparison of Trends in Congressional and Public Polarization" *The Journal of Politics*, 77(4).
13. Tausanovitch, Chris, and Christopher Warshaw. 2014. "Representation in Municipal Government." *The American Political Science Review*, 108(3).
14. Tausanovitch, Chris and Christopher Warshaw. 2013. "Measuring Constituent Policy Preferences in Congress, State Legislatures, and Cities." *The Journal of Politics*, 75(2).

UNPUBLISHED WORK

Tausanovitch, Chris. "Are There Minorities Intense Enough to Overcome Majority Preferences?"

Tausanovitch, Chris and Derek Holliday. "Income, Education and Policy Priorities."

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Andrew Carnegie Fellowship, 2024.

Democracy Fund & The Klarman Family Foundation, 2019-2021, Nationscape Project.

UCLA Faculty Research Grant, 2017-2018.

UCLA Hellman Fellowship, 2015-2016.

UCLA Faculty Career Development Award, 2015-2016.

UCLA Center for American Politics and Public Policy Kenneth L. Sokoloff Fellowship, 2013-2014.

American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow, 2011-2012.

SOFTWARE

Lewis, Jeffrey B., and Chris Tausanovitch. **gpuideal**: Fast Fully Bayesian Estimation of Ideal Points with Massive Data. <https://github.com/JeffreyBLewis/gpuideal>

DATASETS

[Nationscape](#), with Lynn Vavreck

Surveys of over 500,000 Americans from July 2019 through January of 2021.

The American Ideology Project, [Harvard Dataverse](#), with Christopher Warshaw

State-level Public Preference Estimates

State-level Public Preference Estimates by political party

Congressional District-level Public Preference Estimates
City-level Public Preference Estimates
State Assembly District-level Public Preference Estimates
State Senate District-level Public Preference Estimates
State Public Preference Heterogeneity Estimates
Congressional District Public Preference Heterogeneity Estimates

INVITED TALKS

Yale University American Politics & Public Policy Workshop, 2024.
University of Chicago's Center for Effective Government and the Chicago Center on Democracy, 2023, with Lynn Vavreck.
University of Rochester Riker Seminar Series, 2023.
Yale University American Politics & Public Policy Workshop, 2022.
University of Michigan, 2022.
Harvard University American Politics Speaker Series, 2021.
University of Wisconsin-Madison Elections Research Center Symposium, 2020.
University of California-San Diego, 2020, with Lynn Vavreck.
University of California-San Diego, 2019.
Stanford University, 2019.
Political Institutions and Political Economy Symposium on Studying Subnational Policy Making, University of Southern California, 2018.
Political Institutions and Political Economy Collaborative Workshop, University of Southern California, 2017.
Conference on Electoral Reform, Harris School of Public Policy, 2017.
Redistricting Reform: Mapping Our Future Conference, Duke University, 2017.
Research Workshop in American Politics, University of California-Berkeley, 2017.
Pacific Coast American Politics Conference, University of Arizona, 2017.
Goldwater Conference: Campaigns, Elections and Representation, Arizona State University, 2016.
Harvard Meeting on Political Geography, Harvard, 2015.
Society for Political Methodology Conference on Ideal Point Models, MIT, 2015.
Russell Sage Foundation Conference on Big Data in Political Economy, New York, NY, 2014.
University of California-San Diego, 2014.
University of California-Los Angeles Law School, 2014.
Political Representation: Fifty Years After Miller and Stokes, Vanderbilt University, 2013.
University of California-Berkeley, 2013.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology American Politics Conference, 2013.

OTHER WRITINGS

Sides, John, Chris Tausanovitch, and Lynn Vavreck. 2022. “A hard 2020 lesson for the midterms: Our politics are calcified.” *The Washington Post*, September 16, 2022.

Tausanovitch, Chris, and Lynn Vavreck. 2020. “Americans Mostly Agree on Policing. The Difference Is Priorities.” *The New York Times*, September 21, 2020.

Tausanovitch, Chris, and Lynn Vavreck. 2020. “Are Democratic Voters Truly Divided by Ideology?” *The New York Times*, January 29, 2020.

Tausanovitch, Chris, and Lynn Vavreck. 2019. “What Are Independent Voters’ Burning Issues?” *The New York Times*, December 19, 2019.

Tausanovitch, Chris, and Lynn Vavreck. 2019. “What is Voters’ Highest Priority? There’s a Way to Find Out.” *The New York Times*, December 5, 2019.

Tausanovitch, Chris, and Lynn Vavreck. 2019. “It May Not Seem That Way, but Politicians Often Do What Voters Want.” *The New York Times*, July 17, 2019.

Lewis, Jeffrey B and Chris Tausanovitch. 2018. Gpuideal: Fast Fully Bayesian Estimation of Ideal Points with Massive Data. White paper. In preparation.

Oh, Jason S. and Tausanovitch, Chris. 2017. “How Will the Taxation of Individuals Change Under Trump?” *Tax Notes*, February 27, p. 1123-1129.

Hill, Seth J. and Chris Tausanovitch. 2015. “No, Americans have not become more ideologically polarized.” *Washington Post* Monkey Cage, October 13.

Chris Tausanovitch. 2013. “By Bridging political surveys, we can measure levels of representation in American politics.” *London School of Economics USApp Blog*, September 18.

PRESS

Selected coverage of “The Bitter End: The 2020 Presidential Election and the Challenge to American Democracy”

“Will American politics stay stuck? Biden has a plan for that.” *The Washington Post*, January 22, 2023.

“Three theories that explain this strange moment.” *The New York Times*, November 12, 2022.

“Why politics has become so stressful.” *The Atlantic*, October 14, 2022.

“American politics is stuck in a rut. Why does nothing change?” *Los Angeles Times*, October 7, 2022.

“Get used to close elections with huge consequences.” *New York Magazine*, September 28, 2022.

“The Bitter End to democracy? Hindsight is 20/20.” *Playbook Deep Dive*, September 16, 2022.

“Analysis: Trump once again hands Biden a theme to run on,” *The Los Angeles Times*, September 2, 2022.

Coverage of “Moderates”

“Political moderates are having their moment,” *The Los Angeles Times*, September 9, 2022.

Coverage of “Southern Realignment, Party Sorting, and the Polarization of American Primary Electorates, 1958-2012”

“The Democratic Party Is Actually Three Parties,” *The New York Times*, July 24, 2019.

“Should Democrats Embrace the Center or Abandon It?,” *The New York Times*, March 22, 2018.

Selected coverage of “Representation in Municipal Government”

“Urbane Development,” *The Economist*, August 1st, 2014.

“CHART: Liberals Live in Cities and That’s Bad for Liberalism,” *The New Republic*, August 11, 2014.

“Mesa, Ariz., is to conservatism what San Francisco is to liberalism,” *The Washington Post* GovBeat, August 5, 2014.

“These are America’s most conservative cities,” *USA Today*, August 6, 2014.

“Study: Boston One Of The Most Liberal US Cities In A Country Of Liberal Cities,” *Boston Globe*, August 11, 2014.

“The Most Conservative And Most Liberal Cities In America,” *Forbes*, August 11, 2014.

“The most liberal and conservative big cities in America, in one chart,” *Vox.com*, February 12, 2015.

“Report: Research shows America’s most conservative, liberal cities,” *Houston Chronicle*, August 5, 2014.

Interviews

“California’s open primaries are a cautionary tale about political reform,” *Washington Post*, June 2, 2018.

“Social issues to return to the forefront on GOP campaign trail,” *Boston Globe*, April 27, 2016.

“How Will District Elections Change Seattle?” KUOW Seattle, February 25, 2015.

“Chart gone viral puts Buffalo among 10 least conservative U.S. cities,” *Buffalo News*, August 16, 2014.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association Meeting, Los Angeles, CA 2023.

American Political Science Association Meeting, Washington, DC 2019.

Latin American Political Methodology Meeting, Bogota, Columbia, 2018.

Annual Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Provo UT, 2018.

American Political Science Association Meeting, San Francisco, 2017.

Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, 2017.

American Political Science Association Meeting, San Francisco, 2015.

Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, 2015.

Cooperative Congressional Election Survey Conference, Sundance, UT, 2013.

Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, 2013.

Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, 2011.

Cooperative Congressional Election Survey Conference, Sundance, UT, 2011.

American Political Science Association Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2011.

Harvard-Manchester Social Change Initiative, Crewe, UK, 2010.

TEACHING

Introduction to American Politics: Political Behavior, Graduate

Introduction to American Politics: Institutions, Graduate

Legislative Behavior, Graduate

Representation in Congress and State Legislatures, Graduate

Data Analysis, Graduate

Introductions to American Politics, Undergraduate

American Political Institutions: Congress, Undergraduate

SERVICE

Editorial Board, *The American Political Science Review*, 2024-

Vice Chair of Undergraduate Studies, UCLA Political Science, 2019-2022

Editorial Board, *Journal of Politics*, 2019-2020

PEER REVIEW

The American Political Science Review, *The American Journal of Political Science*, *The Journal of Politics*, *Political Analysis*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Political Behavior*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Statistics Politics and Policy*, *Social Forces*, *The Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *American Politics Research*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Party Politics*, *PLOS One*, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, *The National Science Foundation*, *Electoral Studies*, *Election Law Journal*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Public Choice*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences: Nexus*