

# TRAVIS N. TAYLOR

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Department of Political Science  
University of Kentucky  
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## **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. May 2020 (Expected), University of Kentucky, Political Science
- Committee: Mark Peffley (Chair), Abby Córdova, Janet Stamatel, D. Stephen Voss, Justin Wedeking, and Michael A. Zilis
- M.A. August 2019, University of Kentucky, Political Science
- Fields: American Politics & Public Policy
- M.P.S. May 2014, The George Washington University, Political Management
- Thesis: *The Nationalization of Local Campaigns and its Efficacy as a Campaign Strategy*
- B.A. Dec 2010, *Magna Cum Laude*, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Political Science

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

University of Kentucky, Department of Political Science

*Instructor:* PS360, Politics of Law and Courts, Spring 2019, Summer 2019 (Online)

*Teaching Assistant:* PS101, American Government (with Stephen Voss), Fall 2017  
PS360, Politics of Law and Courts (with Alex Denison), Spring 2017  
PS472, Political Campaigns & Elections (with Stephen Voss), Fall 2016

*Research Assistant:* S.C. Justice Personality Data Collection, with Justin Wedeking (2018)  
Media Police Perception Data Collection, with Michael Zilis (2017)  
Polling Place Line Length Data Collection, with Emily Beaulieu (2016)

New York University, School of Continuing and Professional Services

*Instructor:* CPMG1-CE9001, Managing Political Campaigns (Online),  
Spring, Summer, Fall 2015; Spring 2016

The George Washington University, Graduate School of Political Management

*Facilitator:* PMGT6401, Fundamentals of Political Management (Online), Fall 2014

## **WORKING PAPERS**

“Elected (In)Justice? The Effects of Judicial Selection Mechanisms on Racial Disparity in State Incarceration Rates”

“Judicial Selection and Criminal Punishment: Trial Court Elections, Sentencing, and Incarceration in the States”

“The Effect of Campaign Expenditures on Trial Court Election Competition: Evidence from Louisiana”

“How State Legislative Candidates Choose Their Campaign Consultants and Why It Matters”

- Nominated for Graduate Student Best Paper, Kentucky Political Science Association, 2018

“The Press as Politicos: Presidential Debates and Moderators and Anchors as Adversaries” with Ryan Lee Teten, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

“Self-Deception and Voting Behavior in the 2015 Louisiana Gubernatorial Primary”

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

### *Research Presentations*

- Annual Conference of the Kentucky Political Science Association: 2017, 2019
- Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association: 2018
- Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association: 2017
- George Washington University Research Days: 2014

## **SCHOLARLY INTERESTS**

*Research:* Campaign Effects, Campaign Strategy, Candidate Behavior, Judicial Elections, Judicial Politics, Native American Government & Politics, Non-Federal Campaigns, Political Consultancy, Political Psychology, State Courts, U.S. Elections, Voter Behavior

*Teaching:* American Institutions, Applied Politics, Campaigns & Elections, Judicial Politics, Political Communication, Political Management, Political Parties, Public Policy & Administration, State Politics, State & Local Government

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### *Pedagogical Workshops*

- Writing Multiple Choice Questions (CELT, UK, 9/6/17)
- Student Motivation and Engagement (CELT, UK, 4/25/17)
- Teaching in a Diverse Environment (UK Department of Political Science, 3/2/17)
- Team-Based Learning (UK Department of Sociology, 2/27/17)
- Cheating – Curbing, Catching, and Consequences (CELT, UK, 2/15/17)
- Handling Incivility in the Classroom (CELT, UK, 1/25/17)

### *Research & Methods Workshops*

- Bayesian Multilevel Modeling (QIPSR, UK, 5/15-17/18)
- Graphics in Stata (QIPSR, UK, 1/26/18)
- Intro to LATEX (QIPSR, UK, 1/19/18)
- Intro to SPSS (QIPSR, UK, 9/1/17)
- Political Networks Analysis (APSA Political Networks Section, Ohio State, 6/14-15/17)
- Advanced Multi-Level Modeling (QIPSR, UK, 5/10-12/17)
- Stata III (QIPSR, UK, 1/27/17)
- Stata II (QIPSR, UK, 1/25/17)

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS**

### *Graduate School*

- Crum Emerging Scholar Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky (2019)
- Ken and Mary Sue Coleman Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky, \$1445 (2018)
- Political Science Alumni Endowed Doctoral Research and Travel Award, Dept. of Political Science, Univ. of Kentucky, \$280 (2018)
- Graduate Student Best Paper Nomination, Kentucky Political Science Association (2018)
- Minority Fellowship, American Political Science Association, \$500 (2017-18)
- Lyman T. Johnson Minority Fellowship, The Graduate School, University of Kentucky (2016-19)

- Teaching Assistantship, Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky (2016-19)
- Second Service Fellowship, The George Washington University (2012-14)

### *Professional*

- 40 Under 40 Award Nomination, American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC) (2016)
- Bronze Pollie Award for Best Use of TV-Student, AAPC (2014)
- Silver Pollie Award for Best Use of Social Pressure, AAPC (2013)
- Bronze Pollie Award for Best Use of Social Pressure, AAPC (2013)
- Meritorious Service Award (2nd), Acadian Ambulance Service (2006)
- Meritorious Service Award, Acadian Ambulance Service (2006)
- Air Assault Badge, U.S. Army (2005)
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (2004)
- Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, U.S. Army (2004)
- Army Reserve Component's Achievement Medal, U.S. Army (2003)
- Army Achievement Medal, U.S. Army (2002)

### *Other Academic*

- Featured Alumni, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2016)
- Institute of Politics Fellowship, Loyola University New Orleans (2015-16)
- Political Science Distinguished Graduate Finalist, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2010)
- Founded the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Political Science Club (2010)
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation Scholarship (2010)
- Award of Merit, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2010)
- Inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (2010)
- President's List, University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2009-10)
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette Transfer Scholarship (2009-10)
- Cherokee Nation Higher Education Scholarship (2009-2010)
- Chancellor's List, South Louisiana Community College (2008)
- Dean's List, South Louisiana Community College (2006)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Political Science Association
  - Law & Courts Section
  - State Politics & Policy Section
  - Elections, Public Opinion & Voting Behavior Section
- Southern Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- American Academy of Political Science
- The American Association of Political Consultants
- The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

### **UNIVERSITY, PROFESSIONAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

#### *University & Professional Service*

- Presentation on Team-Based Learning, Dept. of Political Science, University of Kentucky
- Graduate Student Panel, External Review Committee, University of Kentucky
- Awards Committee Chair, Graduate Student Congress, University of Kentucky
- Department Representative to the Graduate Student Congress, University of Kentucky
- Faculty Learning Community on Teaching Student Veterans, University of Kentucky
- Guest Editor, Ballotpedia.org: The Encyclopedia of American Politics

- Selected as a Judge for the AAPC Pollie Awards (2012-16)
- Founder, Political Science Club, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Member, University Honors Program, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Associate Justice, Student Government Association, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Orientation Leader, Student Orientation Staff, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

#### ***Media Appearances & Commentary***

- “Campus Voices” WRFL 88.1FM Midterm Election Recap, Lexington, KY, November 7, 2018.
- “In Donald Trump era, UW prof’s rural Wisconsin insights gain national prominence,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, February 19, 2017, Online at <https://bit.ly/2SwO2kH>
- “In Donald Trump era, UW prof’s rural Wisconsin insights gain national prominence,” *LaCrosse Tribune*, February 19, 2017, Online at <https://bit.ly/2MQfKUE>
- “Know the Audience,” *Congressional Quarterly Roll Call Guide: How to Get What You Want Out of Congress*, February 25, 2015.
- “Why Only Email Your Representative? An Insider Perspective,” *Congressional Quarterly Roll Call: Connectivity*, July 1, 2014, Online at <https://bit.ly/2BnVSno>
- “Millennials should support return to the gold standard: Unchecked inflation will impoverish youth,” *The Washington Times*, December 19, 2012, B4.

#### ***University & Community Talks***

- “Introduction to Team Based Learning,” Presentation at the Political Science Department Teaching Assistant training, University of Kentucky, April 26, 2019
- “The Effect of Campaign Expenditures on Trial Court Election Competition: Evidence from Louisiana,” Research presentation at the Political Science Department Colloquia Series, University of Kentucky, April 10, 2019
- “What Can I Do with a Political Science Degree?” Invited panelist for PS Undergraduate Panel, University of Kentucky, April 13, 2018
- “‘The Wind...in our Face’: Congress and the 2018 Midterm Elections,” Invited talk for PS476G, Legislative Process, University of Kentucky, April 6, 2018
- “Another ‘Shellacking’? The President and the 2018 Midterm Elections,” Invited talk for PS484G, The American Presidency, University of Kentucky, April 6, 2018
- “Careers in Politics,” Invited talk for PS492, Kentucky Legislative Internship Program, University of Kentucky, February 26, 2018
- “Elected (In)Justice? The Effects of Judicial Selection Mechanisms on Racial Disparity in State Incarceration Rates,” Research presentation at the Political Science Department Colloquia Series, University of Kentucky, February 7, 2018
- “Careers in Political Campaigns,” Invited presentation scheduled to be given to Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society, University of Kentucky, October 24, 2017 (meeting cancelled by organizers)
- “Congressional Campaigns: The Nuts and Bolts,” Invited presentation for PS476, Legislative Processes, University of Kentucky, September 26, 2017
- “The Role of Religion in Public Service,” Invited speech given to Baptist Village-Owasso, Owasso, OK, November 10, 2014
- “Careers in Political Campaigns,” Invited presentation for Politics & Public Policy and Media & Communications Programs, The Washington Center, Washington, DC, March 2014
- Judged campaign plans for Politics & Public Policy Program, The Washington Center, Washington, DC, November 2013
- “Careers in Political Campaigns,” Invited presentation for Journey to Careers class, Houma Junior High, Houma, LA, November 2011

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Political Account Coordinator, 2014-16. Innovative Advertising
- Consultant, 2013. Brad Tidwell for Virginia State Delegate
- Special Assistant to the President, 2012-13. American Principles in Action
- Consultant, 2012. Cherokees Demand Truth from Elizabeth Warren
- Legislative Correspondent, 2011-12. United States House of Representatives
- Consultant, 2011. Sam Little for Louisiana State Representative
- Consultant, 2011. Darrin Guidry for Louisiana State Senate
- Legislative Assistant, 2011. Louisiana State Senate
- Consultant, 2010. Hunt B. Downer for Congress
- Consultant, 2010. Kristian Magar for Congress
- Police Officer, 2007-08. Lake Charles and Lafayette (Louisiana) Police Departments
- Health Care Specialist, 2000-05. U.S. Army

## **REFERENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mark Peffley, Ph.D. Advisor  
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Department of Political Science  
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