

# Jason S. Byers

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## Contact Information

Department of Political Science  
University of Connecticut  
Storrs, Connecticut 06269

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*Website:* www.jasonsbyers.com

## Academic Positions

**University of Connecticut**  
Assistant Professor, 2023-Present  
· Department of Political Science

**Duke University**  
Postdoctoral Fellow, 2022-2023  
· Social Science Research Institute

**Davidson College**  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Data Science, 2021-2022  
· Department of Mathematics and Computer Science  
· Department of Political Science  
· Director of the Data Science Lab

**University of Michigan**  
Postdoctoral Fellow, 2020-2021  
· Center for Political Studies  
· Collaborating on the development of the Subnational Geospatial Data Archive (SUNGEO)

**University of North Georgia**  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2019-2020  
· Department of Political Science and International Affairs

## Education

**University of Georgia**  
Ph.D. Political Science, 2019

**College of Charleston**  
B.A., History & Political Science, 2013

## Additional Education

**University of Michigan**  
Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, 2016  
· Scaling and Dimensional Analysis, Simultaneous Equation Models

## Research and Teaching Interests

- American Political Institutions
- Legislative Politics
- Executive Politics
- American Political Development
- Congressional Elections
- Representation
- Separation of Powers
- Quantitative Methods

Byers, Jason S., Jamie L. Carson, and Aaron A. Hitefield. "Strategic Politicians in an Era of Nationalized Politics." *Accepted for Publication at the Journal of Election Administration, Research & Practice*.

Baker, Matthew E., Ethan D. Boldt, Jason S. Byers, and Hayley Munir. 2026. "Political Change and Federal Prosecutor Communications: Does Rhetoric Match Reality?" *Journal of Law and Courts. Forthcoming*.

Boldt, Ethan D., Hayley Munir, Jason S. Byers, and Michael C. Gizzi. 2026. "'Stop the Steal' Sentenced: An Analysis of Judicial Ideology in the Sentencing of January 6 Defendants." *Political Research Quarterly*. 79(3): 827-841.

Byers, Jason S., and Laine P. Shay. 2025. "The Electoral Connection, State Attorneys General, and the Dynamics of Incarceration Rates." *Journal of Public Policy*. 45(4): 611-635.

Krause, George A., and Jason S. Byers. 2025. "Executive Deference or Legislative Constraint? Senate Committees and the Exercise of Decentralized Authority over U.S. Executive Nominations." *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*. 6(2): 181-209.

Byers, Jason S., and Laine P. Shay. 2025. "'Still Doin' Time': An Analysis of the Conditional Effects of Legislative Term Limits on State Incarceration Rates." *Journal of Policy History*. 37(1): 71-89.

Shay, Laine P., and Jason S. Byers. 2024. "Can't Buy Me Love? An Experiment on the Relationship Between Federal Grant Spending and Public Approval of Federal Agencies." *Public Management Review*. 26(6): 1547-1565.

Zhukov, Yuri M., Jason S. Byers, Marty A. Davidson II, and Ken Kollman. 2024. "Integrating Data Across Misaligned Spatial Units." *Political Analysis*. 32(1): 17-33.

Byers, Jason S., and Laine P. Shay. 2023. "What Explains a Representative's Staffing 'Style'? Exploring the Relationship between Congressional Staffing Decisions and Electoral Considerations." *American Politics Research*. 51(6): 749-762.

Krause, George A., and Jason S. Byers. 2023. "Proponents, Caretakers, and the Dynamics of Administrative Leadership Turnover in U.S. Executive Agencies." *Political Research Quarterly*. 76(4): 1707-1722.

Byers, Jason S., and Jeff Gill. 2022. "Applied Geospatial Bayesian Modeling in the Big Data Era: Challenges and Solutions." *Mathematics*. 10(21): 4116-4138.

Krause, George A., and Jason S. Byers. 2022. "Confirmation Dynamics: Differential Vetting in the Appointment of U.S. Federal Agency Leaders." *Journal of Politics*. 84(2): 1189-1201.

Byers, Jason S., and Laine P. Shay. 2022. "We Have it Totally Under Control? Exploring the Effects of Ideology and Knowing Someone Diagnosed with COVID-19 on Evaluations of President Trump's Leadership on the Pandemic." *American Politics Research*. 50(1): 83-96.

Byers, Jason S., and Laine P. Shay. 2021. "Position Taking on the President's Agenda." *Political Behavior*. 43(2):495-516.

Byers, Jason S., Jamie L. Carson, and Ryan D. Williamson. 2020. "Policymaking by the Executive: Examining the Fate of Presidential Agenda Items." *Congress & the Presidency*. 47(1): 1-31.

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|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                      | Byers, Jason S., and Jamie L. Carson. 2017. “Trump and the Republican Congress: The Challenges of Governing.” <i>The Forum</i> . 15(3): 499-512.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Book Chapters        | <p>Byers, Jason S. 2020. “Elephants Grumble: The Republican Establishment’s Resistance to Donald Trump.” In <i>The Republican Resistance: #NeverTrump Conservatives and the Future of the GOP</i>. Andrew Pieper and Jeff DeWitt, Editors. Lexington Books.</p> <p>Byers, Jason S., and Jamie L. Carson. 2017. “What’s Rules Got to Do with It?: Parties, Reform, and Selection in the Presidential Nomination Process.” In <i>Changing How America Votes</i>. Todd Donovan, Editor. Rowman and Littlefield.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Software             | <p>Yuri M. Zhukov, Jason S. Byers, and Marty Davidson. 2022. “SUNGEO: Sub-National Geospatial Data Archive: Geoprocessing Toolkit.”</p> <p>Jason S. Byers, Le Bao, Jamie L. Carson, and Jeff Gill. 2022. “krige: Geospatial Kriging with Metropolis Sampling.”</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Research In Progress | <p><i>Beyond the Ballot: Nationalization, Primaries, and the New Landscape of Congressional Elections</i> with Jamie L. Carson and Ryan D. Williamson (Book Manuscript in Progress)</p> <p>“Geographical Overlap and the Emergence of Strategic Candidates in Primary Elections.”</p> <p>“Just Intersect and Count: How Contextualizing Point Pattern Data Generates Non-Random Measurement Error.” with Marty A. Davidson</p> <p>“Strategic Announcements: A Game Theoretic Approach to Presidential Primary Candidate Announcements.” with Aaron Hitefield</p> <p>“Optimal Radius Estimator and Dynamic Spatial Sampling.” with Marty A. Davidson</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Teaching Experience  | <p>University of Connecticut, Instructor of Record</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Statistical Data Science and Analysis 1995: Data Science and Society using R</li> <li>· Political Science 5605: Seminar in Quantitative Methods in Political Science</li> <li>· Political Science 2972Q (2072Q): Quantitative Analysis in Political Science</li> <li>· Political Science 2998W: Congress: The Legislative Process</li> <li>· Political Science 3604: Congress in Theory and Practice</li> <li>· Political Science 3602: The Presidency and Congress</li> </ul> <p>Davidson College, Instructor of Record</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Computer Science 171: Applied Machine Learning</li> <li>· Computer Science 110: Data Science and Society</li> <li>· Math 105: Introduction to Statistics</li> </ul> <p>University of North Georgia, Instructor of Record</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Political Science 1101: American Government (8 Sections)</li> </ul> |

University of Georgia, Instructor of Record

- Political Science 7770: Graduate Teaching Seminar (2 Sections)
- Political Science 1101: Introduction to American Government (3 Section)

University of Georgia, Teaching Assistant

- Fall 2014 - Summer 2018
- Political Science 1101: Introduction to American Government

University of Georgia, Guest Lectures

- Spring 2018
- Political Science 8500: Special Topics in Research Methods (Time Series Analysis)
- Lecture Title: Event History Modeling: Basics, Parametric Models, and the Cox Model
- Fall 2017
- Political Science 4610: U.S. Presidency
- Lecture Title: The Presidency and Public Opinion

## Research Experience

**Political Economy And Representation Lab (PEAR)**

- Co-Founder and Co-Director
- Spring 2025 - Present
- The Political Economy and Representation Lab aims to examine questions related to representation and responsiveness, political accountability, and the ways that partisan control of government can influence social and economic policy.

Community Research Fellows Mentor

- Summer 2022
- A team of Community Research Fellows work with faculty and staff from the Center for Civic Engagement and the Hurt Hub's Data CATS program and community leaders to engage in place-based community research focusing on the key focus areas identified by community leaders

Research Assistant, NSF-Sponsored Project, "Smooth National Measurement of Public Opinion across Boundaries and Levels: A View from the Bayesian Spatial Approach."

- Dr. Jeff Gill, Fall 2017 - Spring 2019

Research Assistant, University of Georgia Department of Political Science

- Dr. Jamie L. Carson, Fall 2015 - Spring 2016
- Dr. Richard L. Vining, Fall 2015 - Spring 2016
- Dr. Scott H. Ainsworth, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014
- Dr. Richard L. Vining, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014

The University of Georgia Amending Process Project

- Dr. Anthony J. Madonna and Dr. Michael S. Lynch, Spring 2014 - Fall 2014

## Conference Presentations

**American Political Science Association**

- 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2024

**Midwest Political Science Association**

- 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026

**Society for Political Methodology**

- 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2026

**Southern Political Science Association**

· 2015, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2026

Grants,  
Fellowships,  
and Awards

University of Connecticut's Course Development Grant Competition, Spring 2025

· \$6,000.00

Davidson College Faculty Study and Research Grants, Spring 2022

· \$500.00

Awarded the 2020 Founders Award Honoring Martha Joynt Kumar for Best Paper from the American Political Science Association's Presidency and Executive Politics (PEP) organized section

Society for Political Methodology Conference Attendance Grant, Summer 2019

· \$1,375.00

University of Georgia Graduate School Travel Grant, Spring 2019

· \$600.00

University of Georgia Department of Political Science Travel Grant, Spring 2018

· \$250.00

Society for Political Methodology Conference Attendance Grant, Summer 2017

· \$1,375.00

University of Georgia Graduate School Outstanding Teaching Award, Spring 2017

University of Georgia Graduate School Travel Grant, Spring 2017

· \$200.00

University of Georgia Department of Political Science Travel Grant, Spring 2017

· \$650.00

Southern Political Science Association Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Spring 2017

· \$300.00

J. Thomas Askew Fellowship, University of Georgia, Fall 2016

· \$2500.00

Clifford C. Clogg Scholarship, Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Summer 2016

· \$2700.00

Professional  
Memberships

· American Political Science Association

· Midwest Political Science Association

· Southern Political Science Association

· Society for Political Methodology

Manuscript  
Reviewer

*American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, American Politics Research, Journal of Human Rights, Journal of International Migration and Integration, Journal of Legislative Studies, Journal of Politics, Journal of Public Policy, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Analysis, Political Behavior, Political Research Quarterly, Presidential Studies Quarterly*

Media  
Contributions

### Blog Posts

Krause, George A. and Jason S. Byers 2021. [“Due Diligence: How Irreversibility Risks Shape Senate Delay in the Confirmation of U.S. Federal Executive Nominees.”](#) General audience summary of Krause and Byers’ “Confirmation Dynamics: Differential Vetting in the Appointment of U.S. Federal Agency Leaders.” *Journal of Politics* (April 2022 [Vol. 84, Issue 2]).

Byers, Jason S. and Laine P. Shay. 2021. [“Here’s Why Knowing Someone with COVID-19 can Moderate Your Political Views: COVID-19 and the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election.”](#) *Medium: 3Streams*.

Skills

R, Python, SQL (basic), Stata, WinBUGS/JAGS, SPSS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

References

Available upon request.