

# Kathryn Wainfan, Ph.D.

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## Summary

- 10 years of experience designing and conducting research on European political decision-making.
- 10 years of experience in descriptive and predictive analysis.
- Extensive college-level course design and teaching experience.
- Expertise in the fields of political institutions, political parties, and British and European politics.

## Skills

- **Statistical Methods:** Management and analysis of large datasets, regression analysis, maximum likelihood estimators, time-series and cross-sectional analysis, experimental design, text-as-data techniques, frequentist and Bayesian methods.
- **Software:** Expert knowledge of R, LaTeX, and Microsoft Office, basic knowledge of Python.

## Experience

### **University of California, Merced**

*Lecturer*

**Merced, CA**

**2019-present**

- Designed and taught undergraduate courses in comparative politics in both in-person and online formats. Supervised graduate student teaching assistants and graders.
- Conducted academic research on party decision-making and the impact of government institutions.
- Led a research team collecting data on activity in the British Parliament.

### **University of California, Los Angeles**

*Lecturer / Doctoral Candidate / Teaching Fellow / Research Assistant*

**Los Angeles, CA**

**2011-2019**

- Conducted extensive academic research, focusing on political decision-making and government institutions. Performed statistical analysis of large datasets, conducted interviews with legislators in the United Kingdom and Belgium, wrote formal mathematical models of political behavior, and analyzed primary sources.
- Led and participated in research teams to source, code, and analyze data. Subject areas included British legislative activity, political party organization in Europe, global gasoline prices, and decision-making in the Australian Senate.
- Designed and taught undergraduate courses in game theory and comparative politics in in-person and online formats. Supervised graduate student teaching assistants and graders.
- Presented at numerous academic conferences and workshops in the United States and Europe.

### **IMS Expert Services**

*Data Analyst*

**Pensacola, FL**

**2017**

- Collected and performed analysis of data on aircraft performance as a consultant for expert witness testimony.

### **The House of Commons**

*Intern for the Hon. Shona McIsaac, MP*

**London, UK**

**2008**

- Monitored parliamentary proceedings and publications for issues relating to constituent concerns and other areas of interest. Produced research memos used to prepare for speeches in the House of Commons and respond to constituent concerns.

## Education

### **University of California, Los Angeles**

*Ph.D. in Political Science*

**Los Angeles, CA**

**2018**

- **Dissertation:** *The Party Politics of Political Decentralization*
- **Course Emphasis:** Comparative politics, political institutions, political parties, statistical methods, game theory.
- **Awards and Grants:** Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate Research Mentorship, Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant, Graduate Summer Research Mentorship.

### **London School of Economics and Political Science**

*MSc. in International Relations*

**London, UK**

**2011**

- **Dissertation:** *Ignoring the People or Just Knowing Better? Reconciling Foreign Policy Analysis' Poliheuristic Theory with Britain's Participation in the 2003 Iraq War*
- **Couse Emphasis:** Domestic foreign policy decision-making, European foreign policy.

### **University of Michigan**

*BA in Political Science with Distinction and Highest Honors*

**Ann Arbor, MI**

**2010**

- **Honors Thesis:** *Examining the Marginals: Electoral Security and Voting in the United Kingdom's House of Commons*
- **Course Emphasis:** Comparative Politics
- **Awards:** Frank Grace award for best undergraduate honors thesis, James B. Angell Scholar, University Honors.

## Working Papers

- "Why Nationalised Parties Support Regional Devolution: Theories and Evidence from the United Kingdom"
- "Principle or Pressure? Distinguishing Party Discipline and Party Cohesion in the United Kingdom"
- "Decentralization and Minority Government Support in Spain"
- "Coalition Partners and Policy Preferences: Party Type and Government Policies"

## Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

- American Political Science Association: 2016 and 2019
- Workshop on Theoretical and Methodological Innovations in Comparative Politics, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics: 2018
- European Political Science Association: 2016
- Workshop on Multilevel Governance, Decentralization, and Regionalism, VU Amsterdam: 2016
- Southern California Comparative Political Institutions: 2013, 2014, and 2016
- UCLA Center for European and Russian Studies: 2016
- Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute: 2015
- Midwestern Political Science Association: 2013 and 2015
- UCLA Comparative Politics Association (COMPASS): 2014

## Grants and Awards

- Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division: 2017/2018
- Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA Graduate Division: 2014/2015
- Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship, UCLA Center for European and Eurasian Studies: 2014
- Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA Graduate Division: 2012 and 2013
- Pauley Fellowship, UCLA: 2011/2012
- Grace Award for Best University of Michigan Undergraduate Thesis: 2010

## Teaching

### **As Lecturer (UC Merced, Undergraduate)**

- Introduction to Comparative Politics (POLI 003)
- Comparative Political Behavior (POLI 135)
- Transitions to Democracy (POLI 140)
- Institutions of Democracy (POLI 130)
- Comparative Political Parties (POLI 190-3)
- British Politics (POLI 190-2)

### **As Lecturer or Instructor (UCLA, Undergraduate)**

- Politics and Strategy (Game Theory) (PS 30, online)
- Introduction to Comparative Politics (PS 50)
- Comparative Constitutional Design (PS 166)
- Political Parties in Comparative Perspective (PS 169)
- Nationalism, Separatism, and Anti-Globalization (PS 169)

### **As Teaching Assistant (UCLA, Undergraduate)**

- Politics and Strategy (Game Theory) (PS 30)
- Introduction to World Politics (PS 30)
- Introduction to Comparative Politics (PS 50)
- Political Economy of Development (PS M167C/ IDS 100B)
- Governance and Conflict (GS 100A)

## References

### **Dr. Michael Thies (Dissertation Chair)**

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Chair, International & Area Studies Interdepartmental Program  
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Department of Political Science,  
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