

# D. Alex Hughes

## Curriculum Vitae

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## Current Appointment

2016–present **Post Doctoral Researcher**, *University of California, Berkeley*, Institute of Data Science, School of Information.

## Education

2011–2016 **Ph.D.**, *The University of California*, San Diego.

2009–2011 **M.A.**, *The University of California*, San Diego.

2004–2008 **B.A., B.A.**, *The University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor.  
B.A. in Political Science; B.A in Economics; with Honors.

## Research Agenda

In my current project, *Political Agents use Social Networks to Coordinate Behavior*, I collect original data from a broad set of sources (rural Honduras and US college campuses). I argue political agents *actively* use information about their social networks to make political decisions. In particular, I show that winning candidates are socially well-connected.

Generally my research examines how connections between political actors shape political coordination. I develop the tools, research design, novel experiments and data that allow political scientists to better understand political behavior.

## Publications

- 2016 (IF: 2.3) [“Intimate partner violence norms cluster within households: an observational social network study in rural Honduras.”](#) With Holly Shakya, Derek K. Stafford, Nicholas A. Christakis, James H. Fowler, Jay G. Silverman. *BMC Public Health* 16:233, 2016.
- 2015 (39.2) [“A Randomised Controlled Trial of Social Network Targeting to Maximise Population Behaviour Change.”](#) With David A. Kim, Allison R. Hwong, Derek K. Stafford, James O’Malley, James H. Fowler, and Nicholas A. Christakis. *The Lancet*, 2015.
- 2014 (9.8) [“The Role of Self Interest in Elite Bargaining.”](#) With Brad L. Leveck, James H. Fowler, Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, David G. Victor. *Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences*, 111(52): 18536-18541.
- 2014 [“One Step in and One Step Out: The Lived Experience of Immigrant Participants in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\) Program.”](#) With Hillary S. Kosnack, Wayne Cornelius, Tom K. Wong, Micah Gell-Redman. Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, La Jolla, CA.
- 2013 (3.0) [“The Cognitive Revolution and the Political Psychology of Elite Decision Making.”](#) With Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, & David G. Victor. *Perspectives on Politics* 11(2):368-386, June 2013.  
(*American Journal of Political Science* Impact Factor: 2.5)

## Published Software

- 2015 *Trellis* Tablet based social network measurement software. With Nicholas A. Christakis, James H. Fowler, Derek K. Stafford, & Mark McKnight.

- 2010 *Netriks* Software to measure real-world social networks in developing contexts. Utilized in studies in Honduras, Uganda, Mexico & Ghana. With Bret Abel and Derek K. Stafford.

## In Process

- Under Review “Phenotypic Prejudice in Mexican Migrants: Evidence from a Random Household Survey.” With Micah Gell-Redman and Rosario Aguilar Pariente.  
 “Climate Change and Electoral Instability.” With Nick Obradovich.

## Select Grants

- 2013 “Social Influence in Networks to Magnify Population-Level MNCH Behavior Change.” With Nicholas A. Christakis, James H. Fowler, Holly Shakya, & Derek K. Stafford. The *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*. \$4,233,430.  
 2012 “Utilizing Networks for Dramatic Health Change.” With Nicholas A. Christakis, James H. Fowler, Holly Shakya, & Derek K. Stafford. The *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*. \$250,000.  
 2011 “Rural Ghanaian Political Behavior.” With Nick Obradovich. *AFRN, Scripps Institution of Oceanography* and the *Waitt Institute*. \$12,000.  
 2008 “Social Networks and Undergraduate Health Outcomes.” *The Altarum Institue*. \$5,000.

## Graduate Instruction

### Instructor of Record

- 2015–present *Design and Analysis of Field Experiments*. Masters course on causal inference and design based inference.  
 Fall 2014 *Research and Methodology*. PhD course OLS regression, probability, and linear algebra.  
 2014, 2013, 2012 *Math Bootcamp* PhD course on calculus, linear algebra, sets, and probability.

### Lab Instructor

- 2013, 2012 *Research and Methodology*. Graduate level introduction to OLS regression, probability, and linear algebra.  
 2014, 2013 *Intermediate Political Methodology*. Graduate level maximum likelihood estimation. Dichotomous DVs, MLE, hierarchical models, bootstrapping methods, non-parametric regression.

## Undergraduate Instruction

### Instructor of Record

- 2013–2014 *Mexican Migration Field Research Program*. Intensive seminar on research design, survey and questionnaire item design, introductory statistics. Capstone project is 1-month field data collection in Oaxaca, MX. Lecturer, mentor, and co-organizer.  
 2012 *Honors Research Seminar*. Research seminar for advanced undergraduates. Lecturer, mentor, and co-organizer.

### Teaching Fellow

- 2011, 2010 *Stats for Political Science Undergraduates*. Introduce concepts of theory building, hypotheses and inference.  
 2012, 2011 *Introduction to American Political Institutions*, for Gary Jacobson.  
 2010 *Program Design and Evaluation*.

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## Service to the Department & Discipline

- 2012–Present *Reviewer*. Journal of Politics; Political Research Quarterly; Perspectives on Politics; Climatic Change; Political Psychology; Nature Climate Change; Journal of Social and Political Psychology; Research and Politics
- 2010–Present *Member* American Political Science Association, Society for Political Networks, Society for Political Methodology
- 2014 *APSA Political Networks Section, Leadership Committee: Conference Fellowship Awards Committee*.
- 2014 *Admissions Committee*. University of California, San Diego.

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## Professional Experience

- 2015 *Research Assistance* for Seth J. Hill and Thad Kousser. Responsible for design, and analysis (coding) in a project using 20M record California Voter File database and a layered randomized-placebo-controlled trial.
- 2014 *Research Assistance* for Wayne Cornelius and the *Mexican Migration Field Research Program*. Analysis, coding and authoring of funding reports, journal articles, and book.
- 2013 *Research Assistance* for Zoltan Hajnal and Barbara F. Walter. Analysis verification.
- 2010–Present *Research Assistance* for James H. Fowler.
- 2010–Present *Research Scholar* responsible for primary data collection through mTurk & Qualtrics, analysis, and writing. Laboratory on International Law and Regulation, UC San Diego.
- 2010–Present *Board of Directors*. Union Microfinanza. Lempira, Honduras.

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## Invited Talks

- 2015 New Faces in Political Methodology. *Penn State Quantitative Social Science Initiative*. Quantitative Approaches to Public Health. UC San Diego.
- 2013 Procedures for Network Identification in Rural Settings, with Derek K. Stafford. *The Christakis Lab, Harvard University, Cambridge MA*.

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## Proceedings

- 2015 An Experiment on Social Distance & Clientelism: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Honduras (Dissertation Chapter). *Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association & Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association*.
- 2014 The role of Self Interest in Elite Bargaining. *Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association; Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association*.  
An Experiment on Social Distance & Clientelism: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Honduras (Dissertation Chapter). *Political Networks Conference*.  
Phenotypic Prejudice in Mexican Migrants: Evidence from a Random Household Survey. *Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association; PRIEC, Eugene, OR*  
Humans Persistently Underestimate the Benefits of Coordinating in Smaller Groups. *International Studies Association, Toronto*.
- 2013 Uncovering Social Structure. *Networks in Political Science (Indiana University); Human Nature Group*.
- 2012 Public Goods, Collective Action, and Hierarchy, with Derek K. Stafford. *Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, (Stormed out!); Midwest Political Science Conference, Chicago*.  
Walk this Way, Mobilization and Turnout in a Rural Laboratory, with Derek K. Stafford. *Midwest Political Science Conference, Chicago*.
- 2011 The Behavioral Psychology of Elite Decision Making: Implications for Political Science, with Emile Hafner-Burton and David Victor. *UCLA Burke Center for International Relations, Los Angeles*.

2010 A Picture is Worth 1,000 Words: Photographic Identification in Rural Networks and an Introduction to Netricks, with Derek K. Stafford & Bret Abel. *Networks in Political Science* (Duke University).

Network Measurement Error and Boundary Specification. *The Human Nature Group, University of California, San Diego, March.*

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## Advisors

Chair [James H. Fowler](#), UC San Diego, Political Science

Committee [Thad Kousser](#), UC San Diego, Political Science

[Scott Desposato](#), UC San Diego, Political Science

[Seth Hill](#), UC San Diego, Political Science

[Jim Andreoni](#), UC San Diego, Economics

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Updated June 27, 2016.