

# Stephen S. Pettigrew

University of Pennsylvania

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## Work Experience

### University of Pennsylvania

Deputy Executive Director: Robert A. Fox Leadership Program  
Director of Data Sciences: Program on Opinion Research  
and Electoral Studies

Philadelphia, PA

Dec. 2017–pres.

Dec. 2017–pres.

### NBC News

Senior Analyst: Decision Desk and Data Analytics Lab

New York, NY

Dec. 2017–pres.

### MIT Election Data and Science Lab

Project Manager  
Data Scientist

Cambridge, MA

Apr. 2017–Nov. 2017

Sept. 2011–Apr. 2017

## Education

### Harvard University

PhD: Political Science

Dissertation: *Long Lines and Voter Purges: The Logistics of Running Elections  
in America*

Master of Arts: Statistics

Cambridge, MA

May 2017

Mar. 2014

### University of Georgia

Master of Arts: Political Science and International Affairs

Bachelor of Arts: Political Science & History (Double Major)

Athens, GA

May 2011

May 2011

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

“The Downstream Consequences of Long Waits: How Lines at the Precinct Depress Future Turnout.”  
*Electoral Studies*. Forthcoming.

“Protecting the Perilous Path of Election Returns: From the Precinct to the News.” with Charles  
Stewart. *Ohio State Technology Law Journal*. 15: (2). Summer 2020.

“Abstention, Protest, and Residual Votes in the 2016 Election.” with Michael Alvarez, Charles Stewart,  
and Cameron Wimpy. *Social Science Quarterly*. 101: (3). March 2020.

“The Race Gap in Wait Times: Why Minority Precincts are Underserved by Local Election Officials.”  
*Political Science Quarterly* 132: (3). Fall 2017. pp 527-547.

“Comment on ‘Estimating the Reproducibility of Psychological Science’” with Daniel Gilbert, Gary  
King, and Tim Wilson. *Science* 351: (6277). March 4, 2016.

“Hosting the Olympic Games: An Overstated Advantage in Sports History.” with Danyel Reiche.  
*International Journal of the History of Sport* 33: (6-7). March-April 2016. pp 635-647.

“How the West will be Won: Using Monte Carlo Simulations to Estimate the Effects of NHL Realignment.” *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports* 10 (3). September 2014. pp 345-356.

“Strategic Politicians, Partisan Roll Calls, and the Tea Party: Evaluating the 2010 Midterm Elections.” with Jamie Carson. *Electoral Studies* 32: (1). March 2013. pp 26-36.

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### Other Political Science Publications

- “Uncertainty over a blue wave: NBC News finds Democratic and GOP voter registrations at same level as past election cycles” *NBC News*. Oct. 16, 2018. With John Lapinski, Stephanie Perry, and Rezwana Uddin.
- “Improving the Voter Experience: Reducing Polling Place Wait Times by Measuring Lines and Managing Polling Place Resources” *Bipartisan Policy Center*. April 2018. With John Fortier, Tim Harper, Charles Stewart, and Matthew Weil.
- “The United States is Getting Better at Running Elections.” *The Monkey Cage*. August 9, 2016. With Charles Stewart
- “Elections Performance Index: Methodology 2014” *The Pew Charitable Trusts*. August 2016.
- “These are the Two Pivotal Senators if There’s a Vote to Replace Scalia.” *The Monkey Cage*. February 14, 2016.
- “The 2014 Elections that Ended in a Tie.” *FiveThirtyEight*. December 5, 2014.
- “Elections Performance Index: Methodology 2012” *The Pew Charitable Trusts*. April 2014.
- “Republican Advantages in Candidate Recruitment in 2014 have Led to an Increasingly Polarized House of Representatives.” with Jamie Carson. *London School of Economics American Politics and Policy Blog*. September 17, 2013.
- “Elections Performance Index: Methodology 2008-2010” *The Pew Center for the States*. February 2013.

### Teaching Experience

- PSCI207: Applied Data Science (UPenn)** Spring 2018, 2019; Fall 2019  
with Dr. John Lapinski and Samantha Sangenito  
*Topics:* R programming • Survey research • Experiments
- 17.20: Introduction to the American Political Process (MIT)** Spring 2016  
with Dr. Devin Caughey  
*Topics:* American political institutions • Mass opinion and behavior
- Gov2002: Causal Inference** Fall 2015  
with Dr. Matt Blackwell  
*Topics:* Experimental design • Instrumental variables • Regression discontinuity • Matching  
Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (2015)
- Gov2001: Advanced Quantitative Research Methodology** Spring 2014, 2015  
with Dr. Gary King  
*Topics:* Maximum likelihood estimation • Predictive modeling • Missing data  
Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (2014, 2015)
- Gov1540: The American Presidency** Fall 2013, 2014, 2015  
with Dr. Roger Porter  
*Topics:* Presidential power • Interbranch relations • Elections • Presidential decision making  
Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (2015)
- Harvard Government Math Pre-fresher** Aug. 2013, 2014  
*Topics:* Probability • Matrix algebra • Calculus • Optimization • R programming

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### Conference Presentations

- “Protecting the Perilous Path of Election Returns: From the Precinct to the News.” Symposium on Elections in the Era of Technological Threats and Opportunities. Moritz College of Law. Ohio State University. January 2020. Columbus, OH. With Charles Stewart.
- “Education Weighting in the National Exit Poll” *American Association of Public Opinion Researchers Annual Conference*. May 2019. Toronto, ON.
- “Moved Out, Moved On: Assessing the Effectiveness of Registration List Maintenance” *Election Sciences, Reform, & Administration Conference*. July 2016. Portland, OR.
- “The Downstream Consequences of Long Waits: How Lines at the Precinct Depress Future Turnout” *American Political Science Annual Meeting*. September 2016. Philadelphia, PA.
- “How Long Lines Affect Turnout.” *Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting*. July 2016. Houston, TX.
- “Home Advantage at the Olympics: Will Brazil Win More Medals than Usual?” *Who Will Win in Rio? Conference*. July 2016. Cambridge, MA.
- “The Downstream Consequences of Long Waits: How Lines at the Precinct Depress Future Turnout” *Yale Center for the Study of American Politics Conference*. June 2016. New Haven, CT.
- “The Downstream Effects of Long Lines: How Long Waits at the Precinct Depress Future Turnout” *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. April 2016. Chicago, IL.
- “A Population Model of Voter Registration and Deadwood” *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. April 2016. Chicago, IL. With Charles Stewart.
- “Why the Home Advantage at the Olympic Games is Overrated: Relating Host Medals to Increased Participation” *World Congress on Elite Sport Policy*. November 2015. Melbourne, Australia. With Danyel Reiche.
- “A Population Model of Voter Registration and Deadwood” *New Research on Election Administration and Reform*. June 2015. Cambridge, MA. With Charles Stewart.
- “Time Tax: Which Groups Wait in the Longest Lines on Election Day?” *Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. April 2015. Las Vegas, NV.
- “Assessing the Offensive Productivity of NHL Players using In-game Win Probabilities.” *MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference*. February 2015. Boston, MA.  
Best research paper award finalist
- “How the West will be Won: Using Monte Carlo Simulations to Estimate the Effects of NHL Realignment.” *New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports*. September 2013. Cambridge, MA.
- “Evaluating New Representatives: How Redistricting Disrupts Congressional Representation” *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. August 2013. Chicago, IL. With Brian Schaffner and Stephen Ansolabehere.
- “Redistricting and the Personal Vote in 2012” *2013 CCES Sundance Conference*. May 2013. Sundance, UT. With Stephen Ansolabehere.

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“The Electoral Value of Seniority: Does Incumbent Tenure Affect the Attitudes of Voters?” *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. April 2013. Chicago, IL. With Stephen Ansolabehere.

“Competition and Candidate Emergence Decisions in U.S. House Primaries, 2000-2010” *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. April 2012. Chicago, IL.

“Strategic Politicians, the Great Recession, and the Tea Party Movement: Evaluating the 2010 Midterm Elections.” *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. March 2011. Chicago, IL. With Jamie Carson.

### Invited Talks

“What Happens Behind the Scenes on Election Night.”

New York University. October 2019.

Columbia University. October 2019.

University of Georgia. October 2019.

Dartmouth College. May 2019.

“Leveraging your PhD.” Harvard University. March 2018.

“What Happens on Election Night.” Second Measure. August 2018.

“Everything is Data: How to Use Numbers to Answer the Questions You’ve Always Had.” University of Georgia Honors Program. October 2015.

Guest lecturer in “Election Law and Participation” seminar. Bates College. May 2015.

### Sports Analytics Research and Publications

**Winners View:** Data analytics consultant April 2016–June 2016

**Philadelphia 76ers:** Basketball analytics consultant July 2014–November 2014

**Rink Stats:** My hockey analytics blog June 2013–Present

#### Wall Street Journal

The Madness Machine March 16, 2015

As NBA Playoffs Begin, Odds of Beating the Heat April 19, 2014

The Stanley Cup: What are the Odds? April 16, 2014

NCAA Tournament: Our Sorry, Broken Brackets April 7, 2014

2014 Sochi Olympics: Why Canada will Rule (Again) in Hockey February 7, 2014

#### FiveThirtyEight

Is There Home-Field Advantage At The Olympics? With Danyel Reiche. August 9, 2016

Playoff Hockey is 36 Percent More Bone-Crushing April 15, 2015

How To Tell If A March Madness Underdog is Going to Win March 19, 2015

After Signing Day, Wisconsin Makes The Best Of Its Recruits February 4, 2015

#### Deadspin

How Those 3-on-3 Overtime Rules Would Cut Down NHL Shootouts March 18, 2015

Are Outdoor Hockey Games Really Sloppier? February 19, 2015

Are Teams Better or Worse in Must-Score Shootout Situations? December 22, 2014

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The *College Gameday* Curse is Real...For Some Teams With Lucas Puente.  
11 Million Brackets vs. ESPN, CBS, and FOX Experts: Who was Better?  
How the Long-Change OT Could Cut NHL Shootouts by a Third

September 5, 2014

April 10, 2014

March 12, 2014

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### Awards and Distinctions

APSA Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Graduate Student Travel Award - Sept. 2016  
Best Research Paper Finalist - 2015 Sloan Sports Analytics Conference  
Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (four times)  
Phi Beta Kappa  
University of Georgia Honors International Studies Scholar  
University of Georgia Charter Scholar  
Eagle Scout

### Professional Service

#### Conferences Organized

*Election Sciences, Reform, and Administration Conference.* University of Pennsylvania. July 2019.  
*Political Analytics Conference.* Harvard University. April 2016, March 2017, November 2018.  
*Who Will Win in Rio? Understanding Political, Economic, and Athletic Success at the 2016 Olympic Games.* Harvard University. July 2016.

#### Publicly Available Datasets

November 2018 General Election Results (county level)  
November 2016 General Election Results (county level)  
U.S. House Primary Election Results (1956-2010)  
Cumulative CCES Common Content (2006-2012)  
Essential Files to Generate Pew Elections Performance Index  
Cleaned 2014 Election Administration and Voting Survey Data  
Cleaned 2012 Election Administration and Voting Survey Data  
Cleaned 2010 Election Administration and Voting Survey Data  
Cleaned 2008 Election Administration and Voting Survey Data

### Other Conferences Attended

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Sept. 2019  
Annual Conference of the American Association of Public Opinion Researchers. Toronto, ON. May 2019  
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. Sept. 2018  
Election Sciences, Reform, & Administration Conference. Madison, WI. July 2018  
Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Student Conference. Cambridge, MA. March 2016  
MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference. Boston, MA. March 2016  
New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports. Cambridge, MA. September 2015  
History and Congress Conference. Athens, GA. May 2012  
Society for Political Methodology Annual Meeting. Athens, GA. July 2014  
MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference. Boston, MA. February 2014  
MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference. Boston, MA. March 2013  
The Measure of Elections Conference. Cambridge, MA. June 2012  
Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. January 2011