

CHRISTIAN FONG

cjfong@umich.edu ◊ April, 2026

POSITIONS

Associate Professor, **Johns Hopkins University**, School of Government and Policy, 2026 - Present

Assistant Professor, **University of Michigan**, Department of Political Science, 2020-2026

Congressional Fellow, **American Political Science Association**, Senator Mike Lee, 2019-2020

AFFILIATIONS

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Effective Lawmaking, 2023-Present

Research Associate, Center for Political Studies, 2022-2026

EDUCATION

Stanford Graduate School of Business, PhD, Political Economics, 2019

Princeton University, BSE, Operations Research & Financial Engineering, 2014

Certificates in Applications of Computing, Applied and Computational Mathematics, Statistics and Machine Learning

RESEARCH

Publications

- Fong, Christian. “Voter Fraud, Voter ID, and Legitimacy.” Forthcoming at *American Politics Research*.
- Fong, Christian and Nicolas Florez. “Cover Bills.” Forthcoming at *Legislative Studies Quarterly*.
- Fong, Christian (2025). “The Congressional Leadership Dilemma.” *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*. 41(1): 1-35.
- Fong, Christian, Kenneth Lowande, and Adam Rauh (2025). “Expertise Acquisition in Congress.” *American Journal of Political Science*. 69(1): 5-18.
- Fong, Christian and Joshua McCrain (2025). “A Tournament Theory of Congressional Committee Leadership.” *Public Choice*. 202: 193-215.
- Eldes, Ayse, Christian Fong, and Kenneth Lowande (2024). “Information and Confrontation in Congressional Oversight.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 49(2): 227-256.
- Fong, Christian (2024). “Entrenched Leviathans.” *Journal of Political Institution and Political Economy*. 4(4): 617-693.
- Fong, Christian (2023). “Anticipating the Consequences of Filibuster Reforms.” *The Forum*. 21(4): 505-527.
- Fong, Christian (2023). “The Preference for Reciprocity in Congress.” *American Journal of Political Science*. 67(4): 1026-1039.
- Fong, Christian and Justin Grimmer (2023). “Causal Inference with Latent Treatments.” *American Journal of Political Science*. 67(2): 374-389.
- Fong, Christian (2022). “Rules and the Containment of Conflict in Congress.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 47(4): 959-989.

- Egami, Naoki, Christian Fong, Justin Grimmer, Margaret Roberts, and Brandon Stewart (2022). “How to Make Causal Inferences Using Texts.” *Science Advances*. 8(42): 1-13.
- Fong, Christian and Matthew Tyler (2021). “Machine Learning Predictions as Regression Covariates.” *Political Analysis*. 29(4): 467-484.
- Fong, Christian (2020). “Expertise, Networks, and Interpersonal Influence in Congress.” *Journal of Politics*. 81(1): 269-284.
- Fong, Christian, Neil Malhotra, and Yotam Margalit (2019). “Political Legacies: Understanding Their Significance to Contemporary Political Debates.” *PS: Political Science and Politics*. 52(3): 451-456.
- Fong, Christian, Chad Hazlett, and Kosuke Imai (2018). “Covariate Balancing Propensity Score for a Continuous Treatment: Application to the Efficacy of Political Advertisements.” *Annals of Applied Statistics* 12(1): 156-177.
- Fong, Christian and Keith Krehbiel (2018). “Limited Obstruction.” *American Political Science Review* 112(1): 1-14.
- Fong, Christian and Justin Grimmer (2016). “Discovery of Treatments from Text Corpora.” *Proceedings of the 54th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics* 1: 1600-1609.

Working Papers

- Campaign Contributions, Reciprocity, and Gender Solidarity, with Joshua McCrain and Catherine Wineinger. Accepted at *Journal of Politics*.
- Ambition and Conflict in State Legislatures, with Michael Kistner. Accepted at *Journal of Politics*.
- Does Ambition Counteract Ambition?, with Ayse Eldes and Kenneth Lowande. Conditionally accepted at *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*.
- Heat Shields.

SOFTWARE

texteffect: R package for Discovering Latent Treatment Effects in Text Corpora and Estimating Their Causal Effects (author, maintainer)

CBPS: R Package for Covariate Balancing Propensity Scores (co-author, maintainer)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

POLISCI 322: U.S. Legislative Process (Undergraduate)

POLISCI 490: Game Theory and Formal Models (Undergraduate)

POLISCI 611: American National Government (PhD)

POLISCI 617: Proseminar in Legislative Institutions (PhD)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Board Member: *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 2023 - Present

Committee for Legislative Studies Section’s Emerging Scholars Award, 2026

Committee for Patrick J. Fett Award, 2025

Section Organizer for the Political Networks Section at MPSA, 2023

Referee for: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Science Research Methods*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*, *Journal of Causal Inference*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *The American Statistician*, *Journal of Legislative Studies*, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, *Congress and the Presidency*, *Research and Politics*, *Sociological Methods and Research*

Discussant for: IWAP 2024, FAIR 2024, IWCP 2024, MPSA 2023, EPMI 2022, Wallis 2022, APSA 2022, IWCP 2022, IWAP 2022, APSA 2021, SPSA 2021, JAWS 2020, APSA 2016

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Faculty Co-Advisor for American Institutions Group Workshop, 2022 - 2026

PhD Admissions Committee, 2025-2026

Selection Committee for Eldersveld Emerging Scholar Conference, 2022 - 2023

Methods Faculty Search, 2023

American Politics Preliminary Exam Committee, 2023

University of Michigan Department of Political Science Undergraduate Affairs Committee, 2021-2022

Political Economy Happy Hour Student Coordinator, 2018

Cowbell Coordinator, 2015-2016

ADVISING

- Jade Burt (Dissertation Committee Member, Y2 Analytics)
- Nicolas Florez (Dissertation Committee Member)
- Carlos Galina (Dissertation Committee Member)
- Benjamin Goehring (Dissertation Committee Member, University of Virginia)
- Anna Halstenbach (Dissertation Committee Member)
- Adam Rauh (Dissertation Committee Co-Chair)

EXTERNAL GRANTS

Portman Center for Policy Solutions, 2024: \$18,000

Ulysses S. Grant Institute for the Study of Democracy, 2024: \$46,000

OUTSIDE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Emerging Scholar Award from the American Political Science Association's Legislative Studies Section, 2025

Jewell-Loewenberg Award for Best Article Published in *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 2025

Tronstein Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2024

American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship, 2019-2020

William A Steiger Fund, 2019

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2014-2017

Jaedicke Family Scholar, 2014

Phi Beta Kappa, 2014

Tau Beta Pi, 2012

Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence, 2011

National Merit Scholar, 2010

AP State Scholar, 2010

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026: BYU Peacemaking, Purdue FAIR

2024: MPSA, Congress & History

2023: Legislative Leviathan 30th Anniversary Conference at USC, Center for Effective Lawmaking at Vanderbilt, Center for Effective Government's American Politics Conference at the Harris School of Public Policy

2022: MPSA, Legislative Studies Conference at University of Oklahoma

2021: SPSA, MPSA, APSA

2018: Frontiers in Formal Political Theory at Vanderbilt, Polmeth

2016: Polmeth, APSA, B3 at University of Chicago

2015: MPSA

2014: Polmeth

INVITED TALKS

2025: Princeton, Yale, Berkeley, Johns Hopkins

2022: UNC

2021: Rice

2020: USC

2018: WashU, UCSD, MIT, Berkeley, Michigan, Rochester, Princeton, Yale, UCLA, Harvard, Kellogg

2016: Princeton, Richmond, George Mason

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Statistical Simulations, 2015 - 2019

Vox Media, Election Forecasting, 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Palantir Technologies, Embedded Analyst Intern, Summer 2013

Facebook Inc., Monetization Analytics Intern, Summer 2012 - Spring 2013

SolveMedia Inc., Business Development Coordinator, Summer 2011 - Winter 2012

MineralTree Inc., Product Marketing Intern, Summer 2011

California State Personnel Board, Appeals Analyst, Summer 2008