

Derek Wakefield

236 Academic West
Department of Political Science
Bucknell University

derek.wakefield@bucknell.edu
www.derekwakefield.com

EMPLOYMENT

2025- **Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Science, Bucknell University
2023-2025 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Department of Political Science, Emory University

EDUCATION

2023 Ph.D. in Politics and Social Policy, **Princeton University**
Dissertation: *Misengaged, Not Disengaged: How Campaigns Persuade Latino Voters with Economic Messaging* (defended in August 2023)
Committee: Tali Mendelberg (chair), LaFleur Stephens-Dougan, Ismail White, Michael Jones-Correa (University of Pennsylvania)

2016 B.A. in Political Science (major) and Feminist Studies (minor), **University of California Santa Barbara**
Graduated with High Honors and Distinction
Honors Thesis: *Understanding Latino Politics in Austin, Texas*.
Advisors: Pei-te Lien, Lorraine McDonnell, Volker Welter

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Wakefield, Derek, Bernard Fraga, and Colin Fisk. (2025) "Partisan Change with Generational Turnover: Latino Party Identification from 1989 to 2023." *Journal of Race and Ethnic Politics*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/rep.2025.31>

Wakefield, Derek. (2025) "It's the Economy: The Effect of Economic Policy Appeals on Latino Independents." *Political Behavior*. DOI: [10.1007/s11109-025-10004-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11109-025-10004-y)

RESEARCH

Topics of Interest

Latino politics, American politics, political behavior, race and ethnic politics, political

psychology, political communication, experiments, surveys, mixed methods

Working Papers

Wakefield, Derek, Bernard Fraga, and Colin Fisk. “Partisan Change with Generational Turnover: Latino Party Identification from 1989-2022.” Under Review at Journal of Race and Ethnic Politics.

Valenzuela, Ali, **Derek Wakefield**, and Chris Flores. “Who’s Targeting Latinos? How Democrats and Republicans Use Latino Identity Cues in Televised Campaign Ads from 2000-2016”

Wakefield, Derek. “How the Young Lords Represent a Radical Latino Panethnic Identity”

Brown-Weinstock, Rachel, and **Derek Wakefield**. “The Racist Card: Denial of Racism as a Conservative Counterstrategy”

Works in Progress

Alex Flores, Guadalupe Madrigal, and **Derek Wakefield**. “The Informational and Symbolic Effects of Spanish-Language Campaign Appeals”

Alex Frydman, Alejandro Flores, and **Derek Wakefield**. “Interviews with Latine Students About Partisan Politics and Ideology”

Wakefield, Derek, Tyler Reny, Joshua Dyck, and Gregg Johnson. “Bringing Retrospection Back In: How the Economy Shapes Latino Voting in the US”

HONORS AND AWARDS

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| 2023 | Honorable Mention, MPSA Latino Politics Caucus Best Graduate Student Paper Award for presented paper “Not Just Ethnic Voters: The Effect of Economic and Immigration Appeals on Latinos.” |
| 2022 | Best of Access, Diversity and Inclusion (BADI) Awards by Princeton Graduate School Office of Access, Diversity, and Inclusion. Awarded for co-founding student group “Students of Color and Allies” in 2019 with Sonya Kim, Sonny Chen, and Rikio Inouye. |
| 2020 | Princeton University Teaching Award for Introduction to American Politics (Spring 2020). Awarded to Politics Ph.D. students who made a “significant and exceptional contribution to undergraduate teaching.” |

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2022 | Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science (PRESS) Student Grant, \$1500 |
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2021	PRESS Student Grant, \$1500
	Mamdouha S. Bobst Multi-Center Dissertation Grant, \$3400
	Center for the Study of Democratic Politics (CSDP) Dissertation Grant, \$5000
2019	PRESS Student Grant, \$1000

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS**Conferences and Invited Talks**

- 2025 “The Latino Vote” Podcast
Southern Political Science Association
- 2024 University of Colorado, Boulder Race and Ethnic Politics Lab
American Political Science Association
Mobilizing Low Propensity Voters at University of Houston
Western Political Science Association
Midwestern Political Science Association
- 2023 American Political Science Association
Political Psychology Lab at University of California, Los Angeles (October 8, 2023)
Symposium on Immigration, Race and Ethnicity (SPIRE) at Yale University (September 28, 2023)
Western Political Science Association
Midwestern Political Science Association
The Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC) at Arizona State University (January 20, 2023)
- 2022 University of Missouri, S. Truman Research Group for Immigration and Political Economy (November 15, 2022)
Indiana University at Bloomington, American Politics Workshop (November 1, 2022)
Western Political Science Association
Midwestern Political Science Association
- 2018 American Political Science Association, Latino Caucus

Other Presentations

- 2024 “Introduction to R” for the APSA Committee on the Status of Graduate Students
- 2018-2023 American Politics Graduate Research Seminar, Princeton University
- 2020-2022 “Experiments 101: How to Run a Survey Experiment” for PRESS
- 2019-2021 “Conjoint Experiments in Qualtrics” for PRESS
- 2019-2021 Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science (PRESS) Workshop

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2021-2023 Graduate Consultant of Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science
- 2017-2021 Graduate Coordinator of Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science

2017-2019 Research Assistant for Ali Valenzuela

TEACHING

Emory University

2024/2025 POL 394/585: Introduction to Data Analysis using R (undergraduate and graduate), instructor of record

2023 POL 533: Latinx Politics (undergraduate), co-instructor with Professor Bernard Fraga

Princeton University

2022 POL 535: The Presidency and the Executive (undergraduate), TA for Dr. Lauren Wright

2021 POL 506: Qualitative Methods (graduate), TA for Professor Layna Mosley

2020 POL 220: Introduction to American Politics (undergraduate), head TA for Dr. Sarah Staszak

POL 220: Introduction to American Politics (undergraduate), head TA for Professor Paul Frymer. *Received the University Teaching Award this semester.*

2019 POL 981: Junior Paper Workshops (undergraduate), TA for Professor LaFleur Stephens-Dougan (race and ethnic politics) and Dr. Joanna Wuest (law and civil rights)

SKILLS

Technical: R, RMarkdown, LaTeX, Git, Qualtrics

Languages: English – Native speaker

Spanish – Proficient

Quantitative: Large-N datasets, surveys, experiments

Qualitative: Interviews, participant observation, historical analysis

SERVICE

2024- Currently serving as Secretary of the Midwestern Political Science Association Latina/o Caucus

2019 Co-founded Students of Color and Allies to cultivate a social space and support network for students of color and white allies at Princeton

2018 Graduate Student Representative for the Politics Department

2017-2019 Politics Graduate Representative for the Princeton Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion