

MATTHEW POLACKO

Département de science politique | Université du Québec à Montréal
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Research Interests

Canadian Comparativist | Elections | Inequality | Political Behaviour | Quantitative Methods

Academic Appointments

2021 (Oct)–Present	Postdoctoral Research Fellow Université du Québec à Montréal – Montréal, Canada
2017 (Dec)–Present	Editorial Assistant <i>Electoral Studies</i> – Egham, UK

Education

2017–2021	PhD, Politics and International Relations Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK Dissertation: <i>The Politics of Income Inequality: Policy Polarisation, Representation, and the Decline of Social Democracy</i> Supervisors: Prof Oliver Heath and Dr Kaat Smets Committee: Prof Jonathan Hopkin and Prof Armin Schäfer
2016	Master of Science, Public Policy and Management (Upper Merit) King's College London – London, UK
2005	Master of Arts, History (Distinction) McMaster University – Hamilton, Canada
2004	Bachelor of Arts, History and Political Science (Honours) Wilfrid Laurier University – Waterloo, Canada

Previous Experience

2019–2021	Research Assistant Wilfrid Laurier University – Waterloo, Canada For Dr Simon Kiss and Dr Peter Graefe
2020–2021	Research Assistant Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK For Dr Kaat Smets
2019 (Sept–Dec)	Research Assistant University of Liverpool – Liverpool, UK For Dr Raul Gomez and Dr Luis Ramiro
2019 (Sept–Dec)	Progressive Economics Fellowship Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Ottawa, Canada
2008–2017	Senior Editor PR Newswire – London, UK
2006–2008	News Centre Associate Canada Newswire – Toronto, Canada

Publications

Peer Reviewed

- 2022 **Polacko, M.**, S. Kiss & P. Graefe. “The Changing Nature of Class Voting in Canada, 1965–2019.” *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0008423922000439>.
- 2022 **Polacko, M.** “Inequality, Policy Polarization and the Income Gap in Turnout.” *Party Politics*. 28(4): 739–754.
- 2022 **Polacko, M.** “The Politics of Income Inequality: Redistribution, Turnout and Responsiveness.” *Statistics, Politics & Policy*. 13(2): 201–218.
- 2022 **Polacko, M.** “The Rightward Shift and Electoral Decline of Social Democratic Parties Under Increasing Inequality.” *West European Politics*. 45(4): 665–692.
- 2021 **Polacko, M.**, O. Heath, M. Lewis-Beck & R. Dassonneville. “Policy Polarization, Income Inequality and Turnout.” *Political Studies*. 69(2): 455–477.
- 2021 **Polacko, M.** “Causes and Consequences of Income Inequality – An Overview.” *Statistics, Politics & Policy*. 12(2): 341–357. *(Winner Emil J. Gumbel Prize)
- 2020 **Polacko, M.** “Party Positions, Income Inequality, and Voter Turnout in Canada, 1984–2015.” *American Behavioral Scientist*. 64(9): 1324–1347.

Under Review

- Kiss, S., **M. Polacko** & P. Graefe. “The Education and Income Voting Divides in Canada and Their Consequences for Redistributive Politics.”
- Polacko, M.** “Losing the Left: Consequences of the Social Democratic March to the Middle.”
- Polacko, M.**, & A. Harell. “Racial Discrimination at the Polls? The Canadian Case of Jagmeet Singh.”
- Polacko, M.** “Turning Off the Base: Social Democracy’s Neoliberal Turn, Income Inequality and Turnout.”

Works in Progress

- Kiss, S., **M. Polacko** & P. Graefe. “The Long and Short View of Class Voting in Canada.”
- Polacko, M.** “Economic Inequality and Far Right Populism.”
- Polacko, M.**, & A. Harell. “Electoral Discrimination and the Polarization of Racial Attitudes Under Jagmeet Singh.”
- Polacko, M.**, & A. Harell. “Perceptions of Community Membership and Inclusive Redistribution: A Social Media Experiment.”
- Polacko, M.**, S. Kiss, & P. Graefe. “Subjective Economic Insecurity, Gender, Hostility to Immigration and Support for the Right in Canada.”

Non-Peer Reviewed

- 2019 **Polacko, M.** “Canada’s Failed Corporate Tax Cutting Binge.” *Monitor*. 26(4): 20–21.
- 2016 **Polacko, M.** “Napoleonic Elizabeth: Defender of the Realm.” *Strife*. 6(1): 1–11.
- 2016 **Polacko, M.** “The Case for Keeping and Reforming Inheritance Tax.” *Spectrum*. 6, 12–13.
- 2015 **Polacko, M.** “Cameron’s Corporate Tax Cuts Are Not Working for Britain.” *Spectrum*. 5, 1–6.

Academic Blogs

- 2021 (Oct) **Polacko, M.** “Has economic moderation contributed to the decline of social democratic parties?” *LSE EUROPP – European Politics and Policy*.
<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2021/10/12/has-economic-moderation-contributed-to-the-decline-of-social-democratic-parties/>.
- 2021 (May) **Polacko, M.** “Can policy choice reduce the income gap in voting?” *The Loop*.
<https://theloop.ecpr.eu/can-policy-choice-reduce-the-income-gap-in-voting/>.
- 2015 (Nov) **Polacko, M.** “The Spending Review.” *King's Think Tank*.
<https://kingsthankeatank.com/2015/11/29/a-view-from-the-think-tank-the-spending-review-short-termism-ideology-and-economic-illiteracy/>

Conference Participation

- 2022 (Sept) American Political Science Association (APSA). Montréal, Canada.
- 2022 (June) Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Online
- 2022 (May) Consortium on Electoral Democracy (C-Dem) Forum. Toronto, Canada.
- 2021 (Sept) Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) specialist group. Online.
- 2021 (Aug) European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Political Parties Summer School. Aarhus, Denmark.
- 2021 (June) Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Online.
- 2021 (March) Political Studies Association (PSA). Online.
- 2020 (Sept) 4th Annual University of Manchester Conference. Online.
- 2020 (June) Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). London, Canada. *(Cancelled–covid)
- 2020 (Jan) PhD Winter School in Political Economy. Dublin, Ireland.
- 2019 (Dec) (*invited*) Canada Research Chair in Electoral Democracy Seminar. Montréal, Canada.
- 2019 (May) German Association for Political Science (DVPW). Konstanz, Germany.
- 2019 (April) Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA). Chicago, USA.
- 2019 (March) 5th Leuven-Montréal Winter School on Elections. Leuven, Belgium.
- 2018 (Dec) (*invited*) Politics and Inequality across Nations and Time. Warsaw, Poland.
- 2018 (Sept) Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) specialist group. Egham, UK.
- 2017 (June) Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Toronto, Canada.

Scholarships and Awards

2021	*Emil J. Gumbel Prize (€500) Best article in <i>Statistics, Politics & Policy</i>
2020–2021	SSHRC Doctoral Award (CAD\$20,000)
2017–2021	Electoral Studies Doctoral Scholarship (£62,464) Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK
2017	Progressive Economics Forum Graduate Essay Award (\$1,000)
2014–2016	King’s Masters Scholarship (£2,000) King’s College London – London, UK

Travel Grants

2022 (June)	CSDC Methods Training Grant (\$1,750)
2018–2021	Royal Holloway Politics and IR Travel Grants (£2,200)
2020 (June)	Canadian Political Science Association Travel Grant (CAD\$500)
2020 (Jan)	PhD Winter School Travel Grant – Dublin, Ireland (€500)
2019 (May)	DVPW Political Economy Travel Grant – Konstanz, Germany (€400)
2018 (May)	ECPR Summer School Grant – Budapest, Hungary (€415)
2018 (Dec)	Politics and Inequality Workshop Grant – Warsaw, Poland (£425)

Additional Training

2022 (June 20–July 1)	MethodsNet Summer School in Research Methods “Introduction to R” and “Collecting Web Data with R” Radboud University – Nijmegen, The Netherlands
2021 (Aug 2–7)	ECPR Summer School: Theories and Methods in Party Politics University of Aarhus – Aarhus, Denmark
2020 (Jan 15–16)	New Political Economy of Europe PhD Winter School University College Dublin – Dublin, Ireland
2019 (March 1–9)	5th Leuven-Montréal Winter School on Elections University of Leuven – Leuven, Belgium
2018 (July 25–Aug 9)	ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques “Multivariate Statistical Techniques for Comparing Countries” Central European University – Budapest, Hungary

Teaching

	Teaching Assistant Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK
2020	Introduction to Politics (undergrad 1 st year)
2018–2019	International Political Economy (undergrad 2 nd year)
	Teaching Assistant McMaster University – Hamilton, Canada
2004–2005	Canadian History (undergrad 2 nd year)

Professional Service

Co-organizer

2018 (April–Sept)

Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) conference Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK

Reviewer

2018–Present

American Journal of Political Science; Canadian Journal of Political Science; Electoral Studies; Italian Political Science Review; Journal of Politics; Party Politics; Political Behavior; Political Studies Review; Socio-Economic Review

Other Skills

Languages

English (native speaker); French (intermediate – A2 diploma)

Methods Training

Linear and Logistic Regression; Multilevel Models; Panel; TSCS

Software

Office; R; SPSS; STATA

Professional Memberships

2022–Present

American Political Science Association (APSA)

2021–Present

Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship (CSDC)

2021–Present

Consortium on Electoral Democracy (C-Dem)

2017–Present

Political Studies Association (PSA)

2017–Present

Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP)

2017–Present

Progressive Economics Forum (PEF)

2016–Present

Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA)

References

Oliver Heath

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