

MATTHEW POLACKO

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Academic Appointments

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| 2023 (Sept)–Present | SSHRC/FRQSC Postdoctoral Research Fellow University of Toronto, Department of Political Science |
| 2021–2023 | Postdoctoral Research Fellow University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM), Department of Political Science |

Education

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| 2021 (Oct) | PhD, Politics and International Relations Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK <i>Politics of Income Inequality: Polarisation, Representation, and the Decline of Social Democracy</i> Committee: Oliver Heath, Jonathan Hopkin, Armin Schäfer, Kaat Smets |
| 2016 | Master of Science, Public Policy and Management (Upper Merit) King’s College London – London, UK |
| 2006 | Master of Arts, History (Distinction) McMaster University – Hamilton, ON, Canada |
| 2005 | Bachelor of Arts, History and Political Science (Honours) Wilfrid Laurier University – Waterloo, ON, Canada |

Publications

Peer Reviewed

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| 2025 | Polacko, M. “Canada’s Increasing Class-Based Voting Disparities Amidst Declining Economic Policy Saliency.” <i>Canadian Journal of Political Science</i> . (Accepted). |
| 2024 | Polacko, M., P. Graefe & S. Kiss. “ <u>Subjective economic insecurity and attitudes toward immigration and feminists among voters on the Right in Canada.</u> ” <i>Social Science Quarterly</i> . 105(2): 281–295. |
| 2024 | Polacko, M., & A. Harell. “ <u>Racial discrimination at the polls? The Canadian case of Jagmeet Singh.</u> ” <i>Politics, Groups & Identities</i> . 12(4): 876–895. |
| 2023 | Kiss, S., M. Polacko & P. Graefe. “ <u>The education and income voting divides in Canada and their consequences for redistributive politics.</u> ” <i>Electoral Studies</i> . 85: 102648. |
| 2023 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Who benefits from the social democratic march to the middle?</u> ” <i>European Political Science Review</i> . 15(4): 502–522. * Nominated EPSR Early Career Prize for biennial best early career article in EPSR. |
| 2023 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Turning off the base: Social democracy’s neoliberal turn, income inequality and turnout.</u> ” <i>Politics & Policy</i> . 51(4): 538–568. |
| 2022 | Polacko, M., S. Kiss & P. Graefe. “ <u>The Changing Nature of Class Voting in Canada, 1965–2019.</u> ” <i>Canadian Journal of Political Science</i> . 55(3): 663–686. |
| 2022 | Polacko, M. “ <u>The Politics of Income Inequality: Redistribution, Turnout and Responsiveness.</u> ” <i>Statistics, Politics & Policy</i> . 13(2): 201–218. |
| 2022 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Inequality, policy polarization and the income gap in turnout.</u> ” <i>Party Politics</i> . 28(4): 739–754. |
| 2022 | Polacko, M. “ <u>The rightward shift and electoral decline of social democratic parties under increasing inequality.</u> ” <i>West European Politics</i> . 45(4): 665–692. |

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| 2021 | Polacko, M. , O. Heath, M. Lewis-Beck & R. Dassonneville. “ <u>Policy Polarization, Income Inequality and Turnout.</u> ” <i>Political Studies</i> . 69(2): 455–477. |
| 2021 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Causes and Consequences of Income Inequality – An Overview.</u> ” <i>Statistics, Politics & Policy</i> . 12(2): 341–357. * Winner of Emil J. Gumbel Prize for best annual article in <i>SPP</i> . |
| 2020 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Party Positions, Income Inequality, and Voter Turnout in Canada, 1984–2015.</u> ” <i>American Behavioral Scientist</i> . 64(9): 1324–1347. |
| Revise & Resubmit | |
| 2025 | Polacko, M. , S. Kiss & P. Graefe. “Revisiting the Sectoral Cleavage in Canada: Evidence from the Canadian Election Studies.” <i>Canadian Review of Sociology</i> . |
| Under Review | |
| 2025 | Polacko, M. “Economic Inequality and Far Right Voting.” |
| 2025 | Harell, A., S. Soroka, M. Polacko & W. Kymlicka. “Communicating Commitment to the Nation? A Simulated Social Media Experiment.” https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/SVUK7 . |
| 2025 | Polacko, M. “Partisan Bias of Non-Voters in Canada and the Consequences for Representative Democracy.” |
| Book Chapter | |
| 2025 | Polacko, M. , S. Kiss & P. Graefe. “The Long and Short View of Class Voting in Canada.” In Royce Koop, Jacob Robbins-Kanter & Daniel Troup (eds.), <i>Working-Class Politics and Representation in Canada</i> . UBC Press. (In Press). |
| Report | |
| 2023 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Youth and Satisfaction with Democracy.</u> ” <i>Elections Canada</i> . |
| Works in Progress | |
| | Donnelly, MJ., B. Wood-MacLean, S. Asadolahi, & M. Polacko . “Party rhetoric, immigration policy, and immigration flows in Canada and the United States.” |
| | Polacko, M. “Anti-Immigration Pro-Redistribution Attitudes and Voter Turnout in North America.” |
| | Polacko, M. , & MJ. Donnelly. “Economic Evaluations in a Highly Federalized System.” |
| | Polacko, M. , & G. Di Pasquale. “Income Inequality, Immigration Attitudes and Party Voting in the United States.” |
| Non-Peer Reviewed | |
| 2019 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Canada’s Failed Corporate Tax Cutting Binge.</u> ” <i>Monitor</i> . 26(4): 20–21. |
| 2016 | Polacko, M. “ <u>The Case for Keeping and Reforming Inheritance Tax.</u> ” <i>Spectrum</i> . 6, 12–13. |
| 2015 | Polacko, M. “ <u>Cameron’s Corporate Tax Cuts Are Not Working for Britain.</u> ” <i>Spectrum</i> . 5, 1–6. |
| Academic Blog | |
| 2023 (Oct) | Kiss, S., M. Polacko & P. Graefe. “ <u>Educated voters in Canada tend to vote for left-leaning parties while richer voters go right.</u> ” <i>The Conversation</i> . |
| 2021 (Oct) | Polacko, M. “ <u>Has economic moderation contributed to the decline of social democratic parties?</u> ” <i>LSE EUROPP – European Politics and Policy</i> . |
| 2021 (May) | Polacko, M. “ <u>Can policy choice reduce the income gap in voting?</u> ” <i>The Loop</i> . |
| 2015 (Nov) | Polacko, M. “ <u>The Spending Review: Short-termism, Ideology and Economic Illiteracy.</u> ” <i>King’s Think Tank</i> . |

Scholarships and Awards

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| 2023–2025 | SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship (CAD\$115,000) |
| 2023–2025 | FRQSC Postdoctoral Fellowship (CAD\$10,000 & \$90,000 declined) |
| 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) |
| 2017 | Progressive Economics Forum Graduate Essay Award (CAD\$1,000) |
| 2014–2016 | King's Masters Scholarship (£2,000) |

Conference Participation

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| 2025 (Jan) (<i>invited</i>) | Apathy is Boring. Lunch and Learn Seminar. Montreal, Canada. |
| 2024 (Sept) | American Political Science Association (APSA). Philadelphia, USA. |
| 2024 (June) | Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Montreal, Canada. |
| 2024 (Jan) | C-Dem Junior Scholar Workshop. Toronto, Canada. |
| 2023 (Nov) (<i>invited</i>) | Elections Canada C-Dem Forum Reports. Ottawa, Canada. |
| 2023 (July) | International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP). Montreal, Canada. |
| 2023 (June) | Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Toronto, Canada. |
| 2023 (May) | Forum on Democratic Citizenship. Montreal, Canada. |
| 2023 (April) (<i>invited</i>) | Political Behaviour Research Group (PBRG). London, Canada. |
| 2023 (Jan) | Southern Political Science Association (SPSA). St. Petersburg, USA. |
| 2022 (Nov) (<i>invited</i>) | Social Solidarity and Intergroup Relations. Siena, Italy. |
| 2022 (Sept) | American Political Science Association (APSA). Montreal, Canada. |
| 2022 (June) | Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Online |
| 2022 (May) (<i>invited</i>) | C-Dem Forum on Election Democracy. Toronto, Canada. |
| 2021 (Sept) | Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) specialist group. Online. |
| 2021 (Aug) | European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR). Aarhus, Denmark. |
| 2021 (June) | Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Online. |
| 2021 (March) | Political Studies Association (PSA). Online. |
| 2020 (Sept) | 4 th Annual University of Manchester Conference. Online. |
| 2020 (Jan) | PhD Winter School in Political Economy. Dublin, Ireland. |
| 2019 (Dec) (<i>invited</i>) | Canada Research Chair in Electoral Democracy Seminar. Montreal, 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) (<i>invited</i>) | 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. |

Grants

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| 2020–2024 | Canadian Political Science Association Travel Grants x3 (CAD\$1,500) |
| 2023 (Dec) | University of Toronto Jackson Scholars-in-Residence Grant (CAD\$2,000) |
| 2023 (Nov) | Elections Canada/C-Dem Research Grant (CAD\$5,000) |
| 2023 (Feb) | UQAM Faculty Mobility Grant (CAD\$1,175) |
| 2023 (Jan) | CSDC Conference Travel Grant (CAD\$1,000) |
| 2022 (June) | CSDC Methods Training Grant (CAD\$1,750) |
| 2018–2021 | Royal Holloway Politics and IR Travel Grants x5 (£2,200) |
| 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) |

Teaching

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| 2023–Present | Sessional Lecturer University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs – Toronto, ON, Canada Comparative Public Policy (Masters 2 nd year) |
| 2020 | Teaching Assistant Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK Introduction to Politics (undergrad 1 st year) |
| 2018–2019 | International Political Economy (undergrad 2 nd year) |
| 2005–2006 | McMaster University – Hamilton, ON, Canada Canadian History (undergrad 2 nd year) |

Service to the Discipline

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| 2018–2021 | Editorial Assistant Electoral Studies – Egham, UK |
| 2018 (April–Sept) | Conference Co-Organizer Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) – Royal Holloway, Egham, UK |
| 2018–Present | Reviewer <i>American Journal of Political Science; American Political Science Review; British Journal of Political Science; Canadian Journal of Political Science; Comparative Political Studies; Democratization; Electoral Studies; Italian Political Science Review; Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties; Journal of European Public Policy; Journal of Politics; Labour/Le Travail; Party Politics; PLOS One; Political Behavior; Political Studies; Political Studies Review; Socio-Economic Review; Social Science Research; South European Society and Politics</i> |

Additional Training

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| 2023 (August 21–25) | R Summer Bootcamp McGill University – Montreal, Canada |
| 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 |

Other Skills

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| Languages | English (native speaker); French (intermediate – A2 diploma) |
| Methods Training Software | Linear and Logistic Regression; Multilevel Models; Panel; TSCS; Web Scraping Office; R; SPSS; STATA |

Professional Experience

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

Professional Memberships

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| 2022–Present | American Political Science Association (APSA) |
| 2021–Present | Consortium on Electoral Democracy (C-Dem) |
| 2017–Present | Progressive Economics Forum (PEF) |
| 2016–Present | Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) |

References

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