

MATTHEW POLACKO

Département de science politique | Université du Québec à Montréal
polacko.matthew@courrier.uqam.ca | Montréal, Québec H2L 2C5 | mattpolacko.com

Research Interests

Comparative | Elections | Income Inequality | Party Politics | 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

- 2021 **Polacko, M.** “Inequality, Policy Polarization and the Income Gap in Turnout.” *Party Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13540688211011924>.
- 2021 **Polacko, M.** “The Rightward Shift and Electoral Decline of Social Democratic Parties Under Increasing Inequality.” *West European Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01402382.2021.1916294>.
- 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*. (In Press)
- 2020 **Polacko, M.** “Party Positions, Income Inequality, and Voter Turnout in Canada, 1984–2015.” *American Behavioral Scientist*. 64(9): 1324–1347.

Under Review

- Polacko, M.** “Losing the Left: Consequences of the Social Democratic March to the Middle.”
- Polacko, M.,** S. Kiss & P. Graefe. “The Changing Nature of Class Voting in Canada, 1965–2019.”
- Polacko, M.** “The Politics of Income Inequality: Redistribution, Turnout and Responsiveness.”

Works in Progress

- Petrovica, I, **M. Polacko** & O. Heath. “Why are people more negative about immigration in places where there are few immigrants?”
- Polacko, M.** “Economic Inequality and Far Right Populism.”
- Polacko, M.** “Social Democratic Parties, Income Inequality and Turnout.”

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: Short-termism, Ideology and Economic Illiteracy.” *King’s Think Tank*. <https://kingsthanke.com/2015/11/29/a-view-from-the-think-tank-the-spending-review-short-termism-ideology-and-economic-illiteracy/>

Scholarships and Awards

2020–2021	SSHRC Doctoral Award (CAD\$40,000)
2017–2021	Electoral Studies Doctoral Scholarship (£62,464) Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK
2017 (June)	Progressive Economics Forum Graduate Essay Award (CAD\$1,000)
2014–2016	King’s Masters Scholarship (£2,000) King’s College London – London, UK

Travel Grants

2018–2021	Royal Holloway Politics and IR Travel Grants (£2200)
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)

Conference Participation

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)	4 th 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) (<i>invited</i>)	Canada Research Chair in Electoral Democracy Seminar. Université de Montréal – Montréal, Canada.
2019 (May)	German Association for Political Science (DVPW): Section Political Economy. Konstanz, Germany.
2019 (April)	Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA). Chicago, USA.
2019 (March)	5 th Leuven-Montréal Winter School on Elections. Leuven, Belgium.
2018 (Dec) (<i>invited</i>)	Politics and Inequality across Nations and Time: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches. Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland.
2018 (Sept)	Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) specialist group. Egham, UK.
2017 (June)	Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA). Toronto, Canada.

Additional Training

2021 (Aug 2–7)	ECPR Summer School: Theories and Methods in Party Politics University of Aarhus – Aarhus, Denmark
2020 (June 8–12)	Inequality by the Numbers Workshop 2020 (Online) Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality – City University of New York
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

Organizer	
2018 (April–Sept)	Co-organized Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) conference Royal Holloway, University of London – Egham, UK
Reviewer	
2018–Present	<i>American Journal of Political Science; Canadian Journal of Political Science; Electoral Studies; Italian Political Science Review; Journal of Politics; Political Behavior; Socio-Economic Review</i>

Other Skills

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

Professional Memberships

2021–Present	Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship (CSDC)
2018–Present	Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
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
Professor
Department of Politics and International Relations
Royal Holloway, University of London
Egham, United Kingdom
+44 (0)1784 276407
oliver.heath@rhul.ac.uk

Kaat Smets
Senior Lecturer
Department of Politics and International Relations
Royal Holloway, University of London
Egham, United Kingdom
+44 (0)1784 414255
kaat.smets@rhul.ac.uk

Michael Lewis-Beck
Professor Emeritus
Department of Politics Science
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa, Unites States of America
+1 (319) 335 2350
michael-lewis-beck@uiowa.edu

Simon Kiss
Associate Professor
Digital Media and Journalism
Wilfrid Laurier University
Brantford, Ontario, Canada
+1 (519) 756 8228 ext. 5936
skiss@wlu.ca