

Melissa N. Baker

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Political Science and Public Administration University of Texas at El Paso 500 W University Ave El Paso, TX 79968	mnbaker@utep.edu www.melissanbaker.com
ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science & Public Administration University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX	2022-
	Faculty Affiliate, Policy, Elections, and Representation Lab University of Toronto, Toronto, ON	2022-
	Postdoctoral Associate, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy Supervisor: Peter Loewen University of Toronto, Toronto, ON	2021-2022
	Visiting Instructor, Department of Political Science Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA	Spring 2021
EDUCATION	Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, Merced Committee: Matthew V. Hibbing (Chair), Stephen P. Nicholson, Melissa L. Sands, Alexander G. Theodoridis, & Elaine K. Denny	2021
	B.A. Psychology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2015
ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE	Teaching Matters Workshops: Remote Instruction, Best Practices for Large Classrooms, Best Practices for (Small) Group Discussions, Lesson and Curriculum Design. Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning (CETL), UC Merced	2015-2021
	Political Science Laboratory manager Department of Political Science University of California, Merced	2016-2018
	Stanford Summer Institute in Political Psychology Stanford University	2016
	Psychophysiological Methods in Political Science Workshop University of California, Merced	2016
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Political Psychology, Political Cognition, Cognitive and Mental Health, Information Engagement and Behavior, Emotions, Civic Engagement, Prejudice, Experimental Methods, Computational Methods	
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	Haas, I. J., Baker, M. N., & Gonzalez, F. J. (2021). Understanding the Neural Underpinnings of Uncertainty in Political Evaluation using Functional MRI . <i>Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences</i> .	
	Lopez, L. D., Moorman, K., Schneider, S., Baker, M. N., & Holbrook, C. (2019). Morality is Relative: Anger, Disgust, and Aggression as Contingent Responses to Sibling Versus Stranger Harm . <i>Emotion</i> .	

Hibbing, M. V., Baker, M. N., & Herzog, K. A. (2019) [Psychophysiology in Political Decision Making Research](#). In Oxford Encyclopedia of Political Decision Making. Oxford University Press.

Haas, I. J., Baker, M. N., & Gonzalez, F. J. (2017) [Who Can Deviate from the Party Line? Political Ideology Moderates Evaluation of Incongruent Policy Positions in Insula and Anterior Cingulate Cortex](#). *Social Justice Research*.

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

“People view judicial figures previously accused of sexual misconduct as a threat to womens rights” LSE USAPP. [Link](#). With Kayla S. Canelo

“Mis- and Disinformation During the 2021 Canadian Federal Election” [Link](#). With [Media Ecosystem Observatory](#)

“Ranked-Choice Voting is No Refuge for Extreme Candidates” New America. [Link](#).

SELECTED
ONGOING
PROJECTS
AND
PAPERS

“Dispositional Traits and Susceptibility to Political Anxiety”
Working paper: <https://psyarxiv.com/3se54>

“Mental Health and Political Engagement”

“Cognitive Resilience Under Stress: A Tradeoff Between Mental Wellbeing and Mobilization” With Elaine K. Denny

“Biological Attributions for Political Ideology decrease Political Prejudice and Intolerance.” With Ingrid J. Haas. Working paper: <https://psyarxiv.com/pkjh7/>

“Controversial Judges and Threats to Women’s Rights.” With Kayla S. Canelo (Winner of the 2021 Marian Irish Award for best paper in women & politics at SPSA.)

“Public Perceptions of Political Violence Terms” With M.P. Broache and Peter D. Carey

“Perceptions of Extreme Candidates under Different Electoral Systems.”

EXTERNAL
GRANTS

APSA Centennial Center Research Grant \$2600
American Political Science Association Fall 2021
Project: Perceptions and Understanding of Political Violence Concepts
With M.P. Broache and Peter D. Carey

Interdisciplinary Grant \$2940
Interdisciplinary Grants Program, University of California, Merced AY 2020-2021
Project: Working Group on Emotions in a Political Society

Electoral Reform Research Group Project Funding \$2440
[New America](#) Spring 2020
Project: Candidate Extremity and Ranked Choice Voting

Psychology and Economics of Poverty (PEP) Seed Funding Competition \$2000
[Center for Effective Global Action, UC Berkeley](#) Spring 2020
Project: Contextualizing Emotions: An Intervention to Increase
Political Participation in Impoverished Populations

EXTERNAL AWARDS	Marian Irish Award Southern Political Science Association	2021	
	Travel Grant American Political Science Association	Fall 2021	
	Early Career Committee Travel Award International Society of Political Psychology	Summer 2021	
	Prestage-Cook Award Southern Political Science Association	\$300 Fall 2019	
	Annual Meeting Grant (through the National Science Foundation) Society for Political Methodology	\$1325 Summer 2019	
	Annual Meeting Grant (through the National Science Foundation) Society for Political Methodology	\$1071 Summer 2018	
	Travel Award Graduate Student Association, University of California, Merced	\$400 Spring 2017	
	Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experience Award University of Nebraska-Lincoln	\$2400/year AYs 2012 - 2015	
	INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS	Controversial Judges and Threats to Women's Rights. Presented at Morality, Misconduct, and Public Judgments of Political Figures workshop, University of Toronto , Summer 2022.	
		Biology and Politics Workshop. Hosted at University of California, Merced , Spring 2022.	
Biological Attributions for Political Ideology decrease Political Prejudice and Intolerance. Presented at the Science and Politics Workshop, Western University , Fall 2021			
Susceptibility to Political Anxiety: The Role of Individual Differences in Anxiety and Civic Engagement. Presented at the Hot Politics Lab , Summer 2020.			
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Instructor: Public Opinion, Media, and Technology (POLS 3313) University of Texas at El Paso	Fall 2022	
	Political Psychology (POLI 329) Wellesley College	Spring 2021	
	Public Opinion (POLI 125) University of California, Merced	Spring 2021	
	Voting Behavior, Campaigns, and Elections (POLI 120) University of California, Merced	Summer 2020	
	Political Psychology (POLI 123) University of California, Merced	Summer 2019	
	The Presidency (POLI 101) University of California, Merced	Spring 2019	

	Teaching Assistant (University of California, Merced):	
	The Presidency (POLI 101)	Spring 2020
	Instructor of Record: Matt Hibbing	
	Political Psychology (POLI 123)	Fall 2019
	Instructor of Record: Elaine Denny	
	Intro to American Politics (POLI 001)	2015-2020
	Instructors of Record: Stephen Nicholson (AY 15-16, 17-18, Fall 18 & 20) and Jessica Trounstine (AY 16-17)	
SERVICE (UTEP)	Committee Member Graduate Committee, Department of Political Science and Public Administration University of Texas at El Paso	2022-
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	Section Co-chair International Society for Political Psychology New Theoretical and Methodological Advancements section	2022-2023
	Co-chair Inclusive Pedagogy Working Group Western Political Science Association	2022-2023
	Mentor American Political Science Association Mentoring Program	2022-
	Mentor Midwestern Political Science Association Mentorship Program	2022-
	Reviewer: American Political Science Review, Political Behavior, Research and Politics Journal of Experimental Political Science, American Politics Research, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties, Electoral Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Politics & Life Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences, Palgrave, Southeast European and Black Sea Studies	
SERVICE (UCM)	Committee Member Institutional Review Board University of California, Merced	2019-2021
	Department Delegate Graduate Student Association University of California, Merced	2020-2021
	Graduate Group Peer Mentor Department of Political Science University of California, Merced	2019-2021
	Organizer Graduate Student Research Feedback Sessions Department of Political Science	2018-2021

University of California, Merced

Advisor

2017-2021

Bobcat Model United Nations
Undergraduate Student Organization
University of California, Merced

INTERNAL
AWARDS
(UCM)

2019 Departmental Top Paper Award
“Media Framing and Audience Costs.” With Peter D. Carey

Summer 2019

2019 Departmental Teaching Award
The Presidency (POLI 101)

Summer 2019

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association
Harvard Experimental Political Science
International Society for Political Psychology
Midwestern Political Science Association
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Political Methodology
Southern Political Science Association
University of California Riverside Political Behavior
Visions in Methodology
Western Political Science Association