

Nathan Barron

Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center
University of Oklahoma
630 Parrington Oval, Rm 101
Norman, OK 73019

Email: nathanbarron@ou.edu

Academic Appointments

Graduate Research Fellow, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center 2020 -

Areas of Specialization

U.S. Congress, agenda-setting, legislative-executive relations, social scientific measurement theory, computational text analysis

Education

PhD in Political Science, University of Oklahoma exp. 2026
MA in Political Science, University of Southern Mississippi 2020
BS in Political Science, University of Southern Mississippi 2018

OTHER TRAINING

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Workshop 2022, 2023

Publications

PEER-REVIEWED

5. McLaughlin, Peter T., and Nathan T. Barron. 2026. "Beyond Credit Claiming: Protection and Commiseration Messages in Distributive Politics." *Political Research Quarterly*. 79(1): 189–203.
4. Barron, Nathan. T., Peter T. McLaughlin, H. Benjamin Ashton III, Rachel Blum, Charles J. Finocchiaro, and Michael H. Crespin. "Presidential Endorsements as Voter Cues: Evidence from the 2022 Midterm Elections." Forthcoming. *Political Behavior*.

3. McLaughlin, Peter T., and Nathan T. Barron. 2025. “Credible Claims: The Effect of Committee Positioning on Congressional Credit Claiming.” *American Politics Research*. 53(3): 275-286.
2. McLaughlin, Peter T., Peter Olson, Nathan T. Barron, H. Benjamin Ashton III, Rachel Blum, Charles J. Finocchiaro, and Michael H. Crespin. 2025. “Ends versus Means: Public Opinion on Congressional Redistricting.” *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy*. 24(3): 287-301.
1. Barron, Nathan T., and Peter T. McLaughlin. 2024. “Experimental Evidence of the Benefits and Risks of Credit Claiming and Pork Busting.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 49(1): 103-129.

BLOGS

- “Americans are more satisfied when their own party, rather than commissions, controls re-districting.” 2025. Cooperative Election Study Blog. with the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center.

Working Papers

- “Backlash? Schooling Reassignments and the Politics of School Desegregation.” with Deven Carlson, Thurston Domina, James Carter III, Rachel Perera, and Matthew Lenard.
- “Christian Nationalism and Foreign Policy Attitudes.” with Katie Peach and Laken DeBoard.
- “Does the Medium Change the Message? Topics and Context In Five Venues of Congressional Communication.” with Rachel Blum, Jon Green, Diana Jordan, and Kelsey Shoub.
- “Public Support for Congressional Candidates Who Use Campaign Funds for Childcare.” with Peter McLaughlin, Joy Rhodes, Rachel Blum, H. Benjamin Ashton III, Charles Finocchiaro, and Michael Crespin.
- “Public Tolerance for Congressional Candidates Involved in Scandals.” with Peter McLaughlin.

Open Data Projects

Political Institutions and Public Choice (PIPC) Roll Call Votes Datasets

Description: This project entails a substantial modernization to the PIPC U.S. House and U.S. Senate roll call voting datasets started by David Rohde. The newest iteration includes a verified, publication-ready, and version-controlled record of the data hosted on the Harvard Dataverse, and a real-time record of roll call votes updated nightly and hosted on GitHub. In addition to the roll call votes themselves, a classification code is assigned to each vote labeling its procedural intent.

Conference Presentations

2025

- “Agenda-setting, Ideal Point Estimation, and (Mis)Measuring Congressional Polarization.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Vancouver, BC, Canada).
- “All Hat and No Cattle? Rethinking Measures of Urban-Rural.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Vancouver, BC, Canada).
- “All Hat and No Cattle? Rethinking Measures of Urban-Rural.” Presented at the Cooperative Election Study Conference (Brighton, UT).
- “Agenda-setting, Ideal Point Estimation, and (Mis)Measuring Congressional Polarization.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).

2024

- “Dynamic Agenda Effects on Measuring Congressional Bipartisanship.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA).
- “Elections, Partisan Advantage, and Public Opinion on the Filibuster.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA).

2023

- “Experimental Evidence on Public Perceptions of Trump Endorsements.” Presented at the Cooperative Election Study Conference (Sundance, UT).
- “Recovering Text from Handwritten Letters using AWS Textract.” Presented at the OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges Digital Humanities Seed Grant Panel (Norman, OK).
- “American Christian Nationalism and International Conflict Intervention.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).
- “The Trump Effect: Experimental Evidence on Public Perceptions of Trump Endorsees.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).

2022

- “Moral Foundations of Christian Nationalism.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Montreal, QC, Canada).
- “Partisan Cues and the Effectiveness of Credit Claiming.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Montreal, QC, Canada).
- “How Legislative Committee Membership Impacts Credit Claiming.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).
- “Topic Diversity in Congressional Legislation: A Machine Learning Approach.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).
- “Partisan Cues and the Effectiveness of Credit Claiming.” Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).

Grants and Awards

RESEARCH GRANTS

Bullard Dissertation Completion Fellowship, OU Office of the Provost (\$12,000)	2025
Dissertation Research Fellowship, OU Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences (\$5,000)	2023
Research Grant, OU Graduate Student Senate (\$750)	2023
H.V. Thornton Award, OU Department of Political Science (\$1,250)	2022

OTHER GRANTS

Robberson and Wethington Scholarship, OU Graduate College (\$5,000)	2023
Conference Travel Grant, OU Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences (\$750)	2023
Conference Travel Grant, American Political Science Association (\$300)	2022

AWARDS

V. Stanley Vardys Award Co-recipient, OU Department of Political Science	2023
John W. Wood Award Co-recipient, OU Department of Political Science	2022
V. Stanley Vardys Award, OU Department of Political Science	2022
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, OU Office of the Provost	2021
Political Science Graduate Student of the Year, USM School of Social Science	2020
Best Paper in Public Policy, USM Undergraduate Research Symposium	2017
Joseph B. Parker Award in American Politics, USM Department of Political Science	2016

Teaching

University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

U.S. Congress (in-person)	Fall 2024
Intro to Political Analysis (in-person)	Spring 2023
Intro to Political Analysis (online)	Summer 2022, Summer 2023
American Federal Government (online)	Summer 2021, Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant for:

U.S. Congress (for Charles Finocchiaro)	Fall 2021
Politics, Policy, Constitution (for Charles Finocchiaro)	Fall 2021
American Federal Government (for Michael Crespin, Charles Finocchiaro)	Fall 2020, Spring 2021

University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS

Introduction to American Government (in-person)	Fall 2019
---	-----------

Service

TO THE PROFESSION

Moderator, SocArXiv	2025-current
---------------------	--------------

TO THE UNIVERSITY

Member, OU Data Institute for Societal Challenges	2022-current
Graduate Student Representative, OU Political Science Hiring Committee	2025
Board Member, USM Center for Human Rights and Civil Liberties	2018-2020
Political Science Representative, USM Graduate Student Senate	2019-2020
Academic Coach, USM New Student and Retention Programs	2018-2019
Member, USM Honors College Curriculum Development Committee	2016

TO THE COMMUNITY

Appointed Member, Bicycle Advisory Committee for the City of Norman, OK	2022-2023
---	-----------

Referee Service

The Journal of Politics
Legislative Studies Quarterly
Political Behavior
Political Research Quarterly
Cambridge University Press