**Derek Wakefield**

217c Tarbutton Hall (404) 727-6572

Department of Political Science djwakef(at)emory.edu

Emory University [www.derekwakefield.com](http://www.derekwakefield.com)

**EMPLOYMENT**

2025- **Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Science, Bucknell University

2023-2025 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Department of Political Science, Emory University

**EDUCATION**

2023 Ph.D. in Politics and Social Policy, **Princeton University**

Dissertation: *Misengaged, Not Disengaged: How Campaigns Persuade Latino Voters with Economic Messaging* (defended in August 2023)

Committee: Tali Mendelberg (chair), LaFleur Stephens-Dougan, Ismail White, Michael Jones-Correa (University of Pennsylvania)

2016 B.A. in Political Science (major) and Feminist Studies (minor), **University of California Santa Barbara**

Graduated with High Honors and Distinction

Honors Thesis: *Understanding Latino Politics in Austin, Texas*.

Advisors: Pei-te Lien, Lorraine McDonnell, Volker Welter

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

**Wakefield, Derek.** (2025) “It’s the Economy: The Effect of Economic Policy Appeals on Latino Independents.”

**RESEARCH**

Topics of Interest

Latino politics, American politics, political behavior, race and ethnic politics, political psychology, political communication, experiments, surveys, mixed methods

Working Papers

**Wakefield, Derek,** Bernard Fraga, and Colin Fisk. “Partisan Change with Generational Turnover: Latino Party Identification from 1989-2022.” Under Review at Journal of Race and Ethnic Politics.

Valenzuela, Ali, **Derek Wakefield**, and Chris Flores. “Who’s Targeting Latinos? How Democrats and Republicans Use Latino Identity Cues in Televised Campaign Ads from 2000-2016”

**Wakefield, Derek.** “How the Young Lords Represent a Radical Latino Panethnic Identity”

Brown-Weinstock, Rachel, and **Derek Wakefield**. “The Racist Card: Denial of Racism as a Conservative Counterstrategy”

Works in Progress

Alex Flores, Guadalupe Madrigal, and **Derek Wakefield**. “The Informational and Symbolic Effects of Spanish-Language Campaign Appeals”

Alex Frydman, Alejandro Flores, and **Derek Wakefield**. “Interviews with Latine Students About Partisan Politics and Ideology”

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

2023 Honorable Mention, MPSA Latino Politics Caucus Best Graduate Student Paper Award for presented paper “Not Just Ethnic Voters: The Effect of Economic and Immigration Appeals on Latinos.”

2022 Best of Access, Diversity and Inclusion (BADI) Awards by Princeton Graduate School Office of Access, Diversity, and Inclusion. Awarded for co-founding student group “Students of Color and Allies” in 2019 with Sonya Kim, Sonny Chen, and Rikio Inouye.

2020 Princeton University Teaching Award for Introduction to American Politics (Spring 2020). Awarded to Politics Ph.D. students who made a “significant and exceptional contribution to undergraduate teaching.”

**GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2022 Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science (PRESS) Student Grant, $1500

2021 PRESS Student Grant, $1500

Mamdouha S. Bobst Multi-Center Dissertation Grant, $3400

Center for the Study of Democratic Politics (CSDP) Dissertation Grant, $5000

2019 PRESS Student Grant, $1000

**PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS**

Conferences and Invited Talks

2025 “The Latino Vote” Podcast

Southern Political Science Association

2024 University of Colorado, Boulder Race and Ethnic Politics Lab

American Political Science Association

Mobilizing Low Propensity Voters at University of Houston

Western Political Science Association

Midwestern Political Science Association

2023 American Political Science Association

Political Psychology Lab at University of California, Los Angeles (October 8, 2023)

Symposium on Immigration, Race and Ethnicity (SPIRE) at Yale University (September 28, 2023)

Western Political Science Association

Midwestern Political Science Association

The Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC) at Arizona State University (January 20, 2023

2022 University of Missouri, S. Truman Research Group for Immigration and Political Economy (November 15, 2022)

Indiana University at Bloomington, American Politics Workshop (November 1, 2022)

Western Political Science Association

Midwestern Political Science Association

2018 American Political Science Association, Latino Caucus

Other Presentations

2024 “Introduction to R” for the APSA Committee on the Status of Graduate Students

2018-2023 American Politics Graduate Research Seminar, Princeton University

2020-2022 “Experiments 101: How to Run a Survey Experiment” for PRESS

2019-2021 “Conjoint Experiments in Qualtrics” for PRESS

2019-2021 Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science (PRESS) Workshop

**OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

2021-2023 Graduate Consultant of Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science

2017-2021 Graduate Coordinator of Princeton Research in Experimental Social Science

2017-2019 Research Assistant for Ali Valenzuela

**TEACHING**

Emory University

2024/2025 POL 394/585: Introduction to Data Analysis using R (undergraduate and graduate), instructor of record

2023 POL 533: Latinx Politics (undergraduate), co-instructor with Professor Bernard Fraga

Princeton University

2022 POL 535: The Presidency and the Executive (undergraduate), TA for Dr. Lauren Wright

2021 POL 506: Qualitative Methods (graduate), TA for Professor Layna Mosley

2020 POL 220: Introduction to American Politics (undergraduate), head TA for Dr. Sarah Stazsak

POL 220: Introduction to American Politics (undergraduate), head TA for Professor Paul Frymer. ***Received the University Teaching Award this semester.***

2019 POL 981: Junior Paper Workshops (undergraduate), TA for Professor LaFleur Stephens-Dougan (race and ethnic politics) and Dr. Joanna Wuest (law and civil rights)

**SKILLS**

Technical: R, RMarkdown, LaTeX, Git, Qualtrics

Languages: English – Native speaker

Spanish – Proficient

Quantitative: Large-N datasets, surveys, experiments

Qualitative: Interviews, participant observation, historical analysis

**SERVICE**

2024- Currently serving as Secretary of the Midwestern Political Science Association Latina/o Caucus

2019 Co-founded Students of Color and Allies to cultivate a social space and support network for students of color and white allies at Princeton

2018 Graduate Student Representative for the Politics Department

2017-2019 Politics Graduate Representative for the Princeton Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion