

Florian S. Schaffner

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Updated on 10 July 2022

Education

DPhil (Doctor of Philosophy) in Politics, University of Oxford 2022

- Title: Essays on Empathy and Political Behavior
- Supervisor: Professor Geoffrey Evans, Nuffield College

MSc in Comparative Politics, London School of Economics and Political Science 2018

- Distinction
- Dissertation: Moaners, Gloaters and Bystanders in Direct Democracy: The Effects of Identification with the Referendum Camps on Perceived Fairness of Referendums

BA in Social Sciences, University of Zurich 2016

- Major: Political Science; Minor: Media and Communication Studies
- Dissertation: The Impact of Environmental Attitudes on Vote Choice during the Swiss Federal Elections 2011

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. Schaffner, Florian S. (2021) Moaners, Gloaters and Bystanders: Perceived Fairness of the United Kingdom's 2016 Referendum on the European Union. *Political Studies*. 69(2), 278–306. DOI: [10.1177/0032321719891845](https://doi.org/10.1177/0032321719891845).

Working Papers

4. A Machine Learning Approach to Analyzing Populist and Governmental Rhetoric during the Coronavirus Pandemic. 2022. *With Joerg Friedrichs (Oxford), Giuliano Formisano (Oxford), Niklas Stoehr (ETH Zurich)*.
3. Prosocial Behavior and COVID-19: How Empathy Drives Support for Government Restrictions During the Coronavirus Pandemic. 2022.

2. Authoritarian Attitudes during a Pandemic: The Links Between Disposition, Threat, and Authoritarianism. 2021. *With Greg Volynsky (Harvard); Geoffrey Evans (Oxford), Daniel Oppenheimer (Carnegie Mellon).*

1. Empathic Ability and Affective Polarization after the Brexit Referendum. 2021.

Software

Schaffner, Florian S. (2018). *websearchr*: Access Domains and Search Popular Websites. R package version 0.0.3. Available on CRAN: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=websearchr>.

bodleianlibraries: Search the Bodleian Libraries Catalogue (SOLO) directly from the R console. R package, available on Github: github.com/fschaffner/bodleianlibraries.

xaringanbeamer: Beamer theme for the xaringan package. R package, available on Github: github.com/fschaffner/xaringanbeamer.

Xplorer: Convenient Data Exploration. R package, available on Github: github.com/fschaffner/Xplorer.

Academic Reports

[Brexit identity vs party identity](#) (with Geoffrey Evans), in *Brexit and Public Opinion 2019*, published by The UK in a Changing Europe.

Popular Science

[Brexit identities: how Leave versus Remain replaced Conservative versus Labour affiliations of British voters](#) (with Geoffrey Evans), in *The Conversation*, 22 January 2019.

Teaching

Intermediate Statistics (Postgraduate), Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford (Michaelmas Term 2021)

Intermediate Statistics (Postgraduate), Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford (Michaelmas Term 2020)

Quantitative Methods for Law (Postgraduate), Faculty of Law, University of Oxford (Michaelmas Term 2019)

Thesis Supervision (Undergraduate), Wadham College, University of Oxford (Trinity Term 2020)

Successful Grant Applications and Scholarships

Oxford Centre for Experimental Social Science [CESS](#), Nuffield College

2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1000 funding for a survey experiment in the United States, fielded through Lucid 	
DPIR-YouGov Omnibus Survey	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for a survey experiment fielded by YouGov 	
Summer Institute for Computational Social Science, Oxford	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £500.- for a survey, fielded through Prolific 	
Balliol College Graduate Projects Fund	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £250.- 	
Cyrill Foster Fund, DPIR	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £500.- 	
DPIR-YouGov Omnibus Survey	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey funding for 24 questions, in collaboration with three other DPhil students 	
Elections, Public Opinion and Parties Conference, Graduate Support	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £300.- 	
University of Zurich Study Abroad Scholarship	2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship of CHF 4,500.- 	

Conference and Workshop Presentations

European Political Science Association (EPSA) Conference, 2022

Swiss Political Science Association (SPSA) Annual Conference, 2021

[Images-as-Data Dublin \(IMG-DUB\) Workshop](#), 2020

DPhil Work in Progress Workshop, Department of Politics and IR, University of Oxford, 2020

[International Society of Political Psychology \(ISPP\) Annual Meeting](#), 2020

Nuffield Centre for Experimental Social Science (CESS) Colloquium, 2019

[Elections, Public Opinion and Parties \(EPOP\) Conference](#), 2019

[European Consortium for Political Research \(ECPR\) General Conference](#), 2019

European Political Science Association (EPSA) Conference, 2019

[Elections, Public Opinion and Parties \(EPOP\) Conference](#), 2018

[Making Electoral Democracy Work Annual Conference](#), 2015

Methods Training

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science	University of Oxford, Trinity Term 2019
Computational Tools in the Social Sciences	University of Oxford, Trinity Term 2019
Experimental Social Science	University of Oxford, Trinity Term 2019
Longitudinal Data Analysis	University of Oxford, Trinity Term 2019
Survey Data Analysis	University of Oxford, Trinity Term 2019
Introduction to Natural Language Processing	University of Oxford, Hilary Term 2019
Causal Inference	University of Oxford, Hilary Term 2019
Intermediate Statistics for Political Scientists	University of Oxford, Michaelmas Term 2018
Computer Programming (in Python)	LSE, Michaelmas Term 2017
Managing and Visualising Data	LSE, Michaelmas Term 2017
Multilevel Modelling	LSE, Lent Term 2017
Longitudinal Data Analysis	LSE, Lent Term 2017
Qualitative Methods: Surveys, Observation, Content Analysis	University of Zurich, Fall Term 2014
Applied Methods of Political Science	University of Zurich, Fall Term 2012-Spring Term 2013
Methods Fundamentals	University of Zurich, Fall Term 2012
Introduction to Political Science Methods	University of Zurich, Spring Term 2012

Research Assistance

Research Assistant, Nuffield Politics Research Centre	01/2020-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted Professor Geoffrey Evans in various data analysis projects using survey data from the British Election Study	
Research Assistant, Department of Politics and IR, University of Oxford	05/2021-07/2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted Dr Spyros Kosmidis with fitting a machine learning classifier on manually annotated Twitter data	
Research Assistant, Department of Politics and IR, University of Oxford	12/2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted Dr Nelson A. Ruiz with Python programming for an analysis of candidate images on Colombian election ballots	
Research Assistant, Nuffield Politics Research Centre	01/2019-04/2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted Professor Jane Green in a project linking contextual data to survey data from the	

British Election Study

Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich 03/2015-07/2015

- Assisted Dr Marian Bohl in conducting research on party strategies as part of “[Making Electoral Democracy Work](#)”, a large multi-national research project on party strategies and voter behaviour, led by Professor André Blais

Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich 06/2014-09/2014

- Assisted Dr Ruth Beckmann in creating a qualitative dataset on the structure of interest groups in the German iron and steel sector, including definition of key concepts, operationalization and data collection

Relevant Employment and Volunteer Experience

Assistant in Political and Economic Affairs / Science, Technology & Education, [Embassy of Switzerland in Australia](#) 02/2018-06/2018

Co-Founder, [Agora - the UK's open forum for foreign policy](#) 2017

Intern, [Parliament of South Australia](#), as part of semester abroad in Adelaide 07/2015-11/2015

Technical Skills

Programming languages: Python, R

Statistical packages: STATA

Cloud computing: Amazon AWS, Amazon SageMaker

Publishing: Git/GitHub, Rmarkdown, Jupyter Notebooks, \LaTeX

Languages

Swiss German (native language)

German (fluent)

English (fluent)

French (intermediate)

References

[Geoffrey Evans](#)

Professor of the Sociology of Politics and Co-Director of the British Election Study

Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Email: geoffrey.evans@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

[Spyros Kosmidis](#)

Lecturer in Quantitative Methods and Director of the Oxford Q-Step Centre

Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

Email: spyros.kosmidis@politics.ox.ac.uk

[Joerg Friedrichs](#)

Associate Professor of Politics

Department of International Development, University of Oxford

Email: joerg.friedrichs@qeh.ox.ac.uk