

# John Ternovski

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**US Air Force Academy**, Colorado Springs, CO **June, 2022 - present**  
*Assistant Professor*, Department of Economics and Geosciences  
*Analyst*, Office of Labor and Economic Analysis  
*Adjunct (by courtesy)*, Department of Political Science

**Georgetown University**, Washington, DC **June, 2022 - present**  
*Affiliate*, Georgetown U. Initiative on Innovation Development & Evaluation

**Georgetown University**, Washington, DC **July, 2021 - June, 2022**  
*Postdoctoral Fellow*, McCourt School of Public Policy

## PUBLICATIONS

**Policy Makers Believe Money Motivates More than It Does.** (with Sebastian Jilke, Florian Keppeler, Dominik Vogel, and Erez Yoeli). 2024, *Scientific Reports*

**Making Sense of Voting “Habits”: Applying the Process Model of Behavior Change to a Series of Large-Scale Get-Out-the-Vote Experiments.** 2023, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*.

**Deepfake Warnings for Political Videos Increase Disbelief but Do Not Improve Discernment: Evidence from Two Experiments** (with P. M. Aronow and Joshua Kalla). 2022, *Journal of Online Trust and Safety*.

**A Note on Increases in Inattentive Online Survey-Takers Since 2020** (with Lilla Orr). 2022, *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*.

**Social Influence in Music Listenership: A Natural Experiment on 1.3 Million Last.fm Users** (with Taha Yasseri). 2020, *Social Networks*.

**Social Pressure and Voting: Field Experiment Conducted in a High-Salience Election** (with Todd Rogers, Don Green, and Carolina Ferrerrosa-Young). 2017, *Electoral Studies*.

**Potential follow-up increases private contributions to public goods.** (with Todd Rogers and Erez Yoeli). 2016, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

**When Treatments Are Tweets: A Network Mobilization Experiment Over Twitter** (with Alexander Coppock and Andrew Guess). 2015, *Political Behavior*.

## PAPERS IN PREPARATION

**Scaling behavioral interventions in the presence of spillover.** (with Sebastian Jilke, Florian Keppeler, and Dominik Vogel).

**Common Data Quality Metrics May Mask Deeper Data Problems in Online Survey Experiments.** (with Jessica Lasky-Fink).

**The Impact of Trump Tweets and 2016 Victories on Hate Music Listenership** (with

David Rand).

## EDUCATION

### Yale University

**PhD**, Political Science, December 2021 / **MPhil**, January 2020

Dissertation: *Leveraging New Technologies and Interdisciplinarity to Study Political Behavior, Attitudes, and Beliefs*

Committee: P. M. Aronow (chair), Joshua Kalla, Gregory A. Huber, David G. Rand

Fields: Quant. Methods (exam), American Politics (exam), Comparative Politics (courses)

**MA**, Statistics, January 2020

Focus on Machine Learning, High-Dimensional Statistics, and Data Science

### Oxford University

**MSc**, Social Science of the Internet, November, 2014

Master's Thesis: When Treatments Are Tweets: A Network Mobilization Experiment Over Twitter (published in *Political Behavior*)

### Dartmouth College

**BA cum laude**, Economics, June, 2009

## PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Department of Homeland Security

**September, 2022 - present**

*Program Analyst (Detailee)*, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

### Freelance Consulting,

**April, 2014 – present**

*Data and Analytics Consultant*

### US General Services Administration, Washington, DC

**July, 2021 - June, 2022**

*Postdoctoral Fellow (Detailee)*, Office of Evaluation Sciences

### Mimir Analytics LLC, New Haven, CT

**April, 2016 - June, 2022**

*Principal and Founder*

### Yale University, New Haven, CT

**December, 2020 – June, 2021**

*Quantitative Graduate Researcher*, Dept. of Political Science

### Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA

**July, 2014 – December, 2017**

*Senior Research Fellow*, Student Social Support R&D Lab

### Analyst Institute, Washington, DC

*Senior Technical Advisor*

**October, 2013 – July, 2014**

*Director of Analytics*

**October, 2011 – October, 2013**

*Lead Analyst*

**February, 2010 – October 2011**

*Analyst*

**July, 2009 – February 2010**

### Air Force Research Lab, Hanscomb, MA

**March, 2008 – June, 2008**

*Associate Scientist*, General Dynamics

## SOFTWARE PACKAGES

**MANSKI\_CI** - A Stata package that uses Manski type bounds (Manski 2003) to calculate confidence intervals around a treatment variable's regression coefficient in a (covariate-adjusted) regression.

**NONPARMDE** - A Stata package to calculate the minimum detectable effect (MDE) using non-parametric estimators. (Developed with Joel Middleton.)

**RANDOMIZR** - A Stata package with a suite of random assignment commands including complete, block, cluster, and cluster+block random assignment. (Developed with Alexander Coppock.)

**RANDINF** - A Stata package for conducting Fischer Randomization Tests on block-randomized experiments.

**STRATARAND** - A Stata package that conducts blocked random assignment for equally and unequally sized treatment groups.

**XVALOLS** - A Stata package that performs crossvalidation of OLS regressions. (Developed with Joel Middleton.)

INVITED TALKS

**McCourt/OES Agency Evaluation Partnerships** Presented at the *Evaluation Officer Council Meeting*. Hosted by the Office of Management and Budget within the Executive Office of the President of the United States. Virtual. May, 2022.

**Detecting DeepFakes and Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior** Presented at the *Yale Cyber Leadership Forum*. Hosted by Yale University, New Haven, CT. March, 2022.

**Why is Data Important to Winning Campaigns?**  
Hosted by the Australian Conservation Foundation. Virtual. October, 2020.

**Persuasion on Twitter: Two Online Petition Experiments.**  
Presented at *May Analyst Group Meeting: Social Networks*. Hosted by Analyst Institute, Washington, DC. May, 2015.

**Canvasser Experiment Workshop.**  
Hosted by Swedish Social Democratic Party Headquarters, Stockholm, Sweden. May, 2014.

**Intro to Experiments.**  
Presented at *Intermediate Data Boot Camp*, with Josh Rosmarin. Hosted by New Organizing Institute, Washington, DC. August, 2013.

**Thinking like an Analyst.**  
Presented at *Advanced Data Boot Camp*, with Emily Norman. Hosted by New Organizing Institute, Washington, DC. July, 2013,

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

**The Importance of Measuring Network Effects when Scaling Behavioral Interventions.**  
Presented at *The 12th International Conference on Complex Networks and their Applications (Complex Networks 2023)*. Hosted by Universite Cote D'Azur. Menton, France, November 2023.

**Common Data Quality Metrics May Mask Deeper Data Problems in Online Survey Experiments.**  
Presented at *The 13th International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo2022)*. Hosted by University of Glasgow's Adam Smith Business School and Computer Science School. Glasgow, UK, October, 2022.

**The Impact of Trump Tweets and 2016 Victories on Hate Music Listenership**  
Presented at *A Joint Sunbelt and NetSci Conference (Networks 2021)*. Hosted by The Pennsylvania State University. Virtual. July, 2021.  
Presented at *14th Annual Political Networks Conference (PolNet 2021)*. Hosted by Indiana University Network Science Institute. Virtual. July, 2021.

**Deepfake Warnings for Political Videos Increase Disbelief but Do Not Improve Discernment** Presented at *2021 Harvard Experimental Political Science Conference*. Hosted by Harvard University. Virtual. April, 2021.

**Social Influence in Music Listenership: A Natural Experiment on 1.3 Million Last.fm Users.** Presented at *Ninth International Conference on Complex Systems 2018 (ICCS 2018)*, with Taha Yasserli. Hosted by New England Complex Systems Institute, Cambridge, MA. July, 2018.

**Successful Researcher-Practitioner RCT Partnership: Increasing Attendance by 15,000 Days.** Presented at *Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, Lost in Translation: Building Pathways from Knowledge to Action*, with Todd Rogers, Tonya Wolford, Avi Feller, and Shruthi Subramanyam. Hosted by Education Northwest, Washington, DC. March, 2016.

**Introduction to Stata Training Series.**

Hosted by Student Social Support R&D Lab Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA. 2015-2016.

**Challenges to inferring causality from viral information dispersion in dynamic social networks.** Presented at *SPIE 9097, Cyber Sensing 2014*. Hosted by SPIE, Baltimore, MD. June, 2014.

**Challenges and Limitations of Contemporary Experimental Designs in Dynamic Social Networks.** Presented at *6th Annual Political Networks Conference (PolNet 2013)*. Hosted by Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. June, 2013.

**Fundamentals of Experiments Annual Training Series.**

Founder and Organizer. Hosted by Analyst Institute, Washington, DC. 2013-2014.

PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE

Editorial Board, *Journal of Online Trust and Safety*, 2023-present, Stanford, CA.

Co-Founder, *Social Science Research Methods Seminar*, 2022-present, US Air Force Academy, CO.

Invited speakers include:

Burgess Professor of Political Science, Dr. Donald Green (Columbia University, NY, NY)

Research Director of The People Lab, Dr. Jessica Lasky-Fink (Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA)

Hyde Early Career Professor of Political Science and Assistant Professor of Social Data Analytics, Dr. Kevin Munger (Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA)

Researcher and Instructor in Psychiatry, Dr. Chris Kennedy (Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA)

Assistant Professor, Dr. Rebecca Johnson (McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University, Washington, DC)

GSA Evaluation Division Lead and GSA Scientific Integrity Official, Dr. Michael DiDomenico (U.S. General Services Administration, Washington, DC)

Senior Program Committee (as meta-reviewer)

Social Informatics Conference (*SocInf 2022*, Glasgow, UK)

Program Committee (as reviewer)

Digital Transformation and Global Society (*DTGS 2021*, St. Petersburg, Russia)

Social Informatics Conference (*SocInf 2020*, Pisa, Italy)

Social Informatics Conference (*SocInf 2018*, St. Petersburg, Russia)

Network Science Conference (*NetSci2017*, Indianapolis, Indiana)

Social Informatics Conference (*SocInf 2017*, Oxford, UK)

Conference Session Chair

Social Informatics Conference (Disinformation Session) (*SocInf 2022*, Glasgow, UK)

Reviewer for *Nature Human Behavior*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Scientific Reports*, *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor**, US Air Force Academy, Political Science

*Cyber Policy* – co-course director, Spring 2024

*American Government, Politics, and National Security* – guest instructor, 2 lessons, Summer 2023

*American Government, Politics, and National Security* – instructor of record of 1 section, Fall 2022

**Teaching Fellow**, Yale University, Political Science

*Introduction to US Government* – led two discussion sections and gave an optional guest lecture  
*Power, Security, and Surveillance: Political Challenges of the Computer Age* – led two discussion sections

*Measuring Impact and Opinion Change* – gave optional guest lecture

*Politics of The Wire* – led two discussion sections and gave optional guest lecture

AWARDS, GRANTS,  
AND FELLOWSHIPS

**Charles R. Coble, Jr., Award for Excellence in Research in Political Science and National Security Affairs** - 2023-2024; Department of Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy

**Edward L. Claiborn Award for Writing Excellence** - 2022-2023; Department of Economics and Geosciences, U.S. Air Force Academy

**2020 NSF/APSA Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (DDRIG)** as PI - \$15,000 (*a total of twenty awarded*)

**Samuel Thorpe Jones and Charles Jones Fellowship** - 2020-2021; Yale