

Matthew Charles Wilson

Contact information

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Academic Appointments

2015- West Virginia University
Assistant Professor, Political Science

Education

- Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, May 2015.
Dissertation: “Castling the King: Institutional Sequencing and Regime Change.”
Advisor: Gretchen Casper
Committee: Joseph Wright, James Piazza, Melissa Hardy
- M.A., Pennsylvania State University, 2011.
Thesis: “A Discreet Critique of Discrete Regime Type Data.”
- B.S., Clemson University, 2009, *Summa cum Laude, Honors in Global Politics*
Honors thesis: “Determinants of Household Migration from an Ethnic Perspective.”

Publications

Journal Articles

- 2018 “State of the world 2017: autocratization and exclusion?” *Democratization*
(with Anna Lührmann, Valeriya Mechkova, Sirianne Dahlum, Laura Maxwell, Moa Olin, Constanza Sanhueza Petrarca, Rachel Sigman, and Staffan I. Lindberg).
- 2018 “Crowdsourcing and Self-Instruction: Turning the Production of Teaching Materials into a Learning Objective.” *Journal of Political Science Education*, 14(3): 400-408.
- 2018 “Militarism and Dual-Conflict Capacity.”
International Interactions, 44(1): 156-172 (with Carla Martinez-Machain).
- 2017 “Trends in Political Science Research and the Progress of Comparative Politics.”
PS: Political Science & Politics, 50(4): 979-984.
- 2017 “Understanding the experiences, attitudes, and behaviors of sexual orientation and gender identity minority employees.”
Journal of Vocational Behavior, 103: 1-6 (with Larry R. Martinez and Katina B. Sawyer).
- 2017 “Autocratic Legislatures and Expropriation Risk.”
British Journal of Political Science, 47(1): 1-17 (with Joseph Wright).
- 2015 “Using Sequences to Model Crises.”
Political Science Research and Methods, 3(2): 381-397 (with Gretchen Casper).
- 2014 “A Discreet Critique of Discrete Regime Type Data.”
Comparative Political Studies, 47(5): 689-714.
- 2013 “Dictatorships and Terrorism: Conditioning Effects of Regime Type on Terrorism.”
American Journal of Political Science, 57(4): 941–955 (with James Piazza).

Book Chapters

- 2014 “Governance Built Step-by-Step: Analyzing Sequences to Explain Democratization.”
In *Advances in Sequence Analysis: Methods, Theories and Applications*, Philippe Blanchard, Jacques-Antoine Gauthier, and Felix Bühlmann (Eds.). New York: Springer.

Working Papers

- 2018 “Successful and Failed Episodes of Democratization: Conceptualization, Identification, and Description.” University of Gothenburg, Varieties of Democracy Institute: Working Paper No. 79 (with Staffan I. Lindberg, Patrik Lindenfors, Anna Lührmann, Laura Maxwell, Juraj Medzihorsky, and Richard Morgan)
- 2018 “Stairways to Denmark: Does the Sequence of State-building and Democratization Matter for Economic Development?” University of Gothenburg, Varieties of Democracy Institute: Working Paper No.72 (with Haakon Gjerlow, Carl Henrik Knutsen, and Tore Wig).
- 2017 “Autocratic Legislatures and Party Institutionalization.” University of Gothenburg, Varieties of Democracy Institute: Working Paper No. 7.
- 2016 “Beyond First Elections: The Importance of Consistency in the Timing of Recurrent Elections.” University of Gothenburg, Varieties of Democracy Institute: Working Paper No. 32 (with Staffan Lindberg).

Media Contributions

- 2018 *One-third of the world’s population lives in a declining democracy. That includes the United States.* The Monkey Cage, Washington Post, 04 July (with Anna Lührmann).
- 2017 *Is democracy on the decline? Not as much as some pundits want you to believe.* The Monkey Cage, Washington Post, 26 June (with Anna Lührmann and Valeriya Mechkova).

Other Contributions

- 2018 “Crowd-Sourcing and Self-Instruction.” Active Learning in Political Science, (<http://activelearningps.com/>), 13 August.
- 2018 “The Value of Descriptive Sequences in Historical Institutional Research.” *The American Political Science Association (APSA-CD) Comparative Democratization Newsletter*, 16(2): 9-13.
- 2018 “United States: Liberal Democracy Under Stress.” *V-Dem Annual Democracy Report*.

Convention Activities

Panel Activity

- American Political Science Association meetings: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018.
- Midwest Political Science Association meetings:
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018.
- Southern Political Science Association meetings: 2015, 2016, 2017.
- European Consortium for Political Research meetings: 2011.
- International Political Science Association meetings: 2011.
- Latin American Studies Association: 2014, 2015.
- Peace Science Society: 2009, 2010, 2011.
- Society for Political Methodology: 2012.

Conference Papers

- 2018 “Dynamics of Legislative Change across Democracies and Dictatorships: Elections, Party Hegemony, and Legislative Strength.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August, Boston, MA (with Josef Woldense).
- 2018 “Contested or Established? A Comparison of Legislative Powers across Regimes.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL (with Josef Woldense).
- 2017 “Autocratic Legislatures and Party Institutionalization.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August, San Francisco, CA.

- 2017 “Autocratic Legislatures and Historical Powersharing in Latin America: Explaining Chilean Development.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 “Does Consociationalism Really Exacerbate Ethnic Divisions?” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January, New Orleans, LA.
- 2016 “Election Regularity and Democratic Stability.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL.
- 2016 “Understanding Authoritarian Trajectories: A Sequence Analytic Approach.” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2015 “Sequence Analytic Techniques for Visualizing Discrete Patterns.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September, San Francisco, CA.
(with Philippe Blanchard).
- 2015 “Parallel Political Developments: A Historical Appraisal.” Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, May, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2015 “Binding Legislatures and Authoritarian Regime Survival.” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January, New Orleans, LA (with Dan Gamarnik).
- 2015 “The Effect of Time, Duration, and Sequencing on Bargaining during National Crises.” Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January, New Orleans, LA (with Gretchen Casper).
- 2014 “Power-sharing and Institutional Sequencing.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 “Process-tracing the Rise and Fall of the Porfiriato.” Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, May, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 “Porfirian Power Sharing and Modern Autocratic Institutions.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL.
- 2013 “Militarism and Dual-conflict Capacity.” Sixteenth International Conference on New Political Science, November, Havana, Cuba.
- 2013 “Step by Step: How Bargaining and Crises Affect Cooperation and Democracy.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL
(with Gretchen Casper).
- 2012 “Crisis, Order, and Outcome.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September, New Orleans, LA (with Gretchen Casper).
- 2012 “How the Sequencing of Regime Change Affects the Prospects for Democratization and Consolidation.” Conference on Sequence Analysis, June, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- 2012 “Reinforcing versus Undermining Democracy: Bargaining Subsequences during Crises.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL
(with Gretchen Casper).
- 2011 “Conditioning Effects of Regime Type on Terrorism.” Annual Peace Science Society Meeting, October, Los Angeles, CA (with James Piazza).
- 2011 “Bargaining Across Crises: Elite Cooperation in ‘Most Likely’ versus ‘Least Likely’ Cases of Democracy.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September, Seattle, WA
(with Gretchen Casper).
- 2011 “A Discreet Critique of Discrete Regime Type Data.” European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions of Workshops, April, St. Gallen, Switzerland.

Poster Presentations

- 2015 “The Many Faces of Time and Their Effects on Crisis Bargaining.” Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago, IL (with Gretchen Casper).
- 2013 “Castling the King: Institutional Sequencing and Regime Change.” Annual Graduate Exhibition, March, University Park, PA.
- 2012 “An Introduction to Sequence Analysis for Modeling Path Dependent Processes.”

- Annual Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, July, Chapel Hill, NC (with Gretchen Casper).
- 2012 “Reinforcing versus Undermining Democracy: Bargaining Subsequences during Crises.” Annual Graduate Exhibition, March, University Park, PA. (with Gretchen Casper).
- 2011 “Unmasking Authority: Disaggregating Authoritarianism in Civil War.” Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, March, Montreal, QC.
- 2011 “Breaking Down Authoritarian Strategies to Avoid Internal Armed Conflict.” Annual Graduate Exhibition, March, University Park, PA.

Grants and Awards

- 2014 Alumni Association Dissertation Award, PSU, **\$5000**—recognition of outstanding achievement in scholarship and professional accomplishment.
- 2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Department of Political Science, PSU, **\$1500**.
- 2013 Career Development Award, Center for Global Studies, PSU, **\$2000**.
- 2013 Comparative Initiative, Department of Political Science, PSU, **\$2000**.
- 2013 Research Grant on Democratic Innovation, Penn State Democracy Institute, PSU, **\$2000**.
- 2012 RGSO College Dissertation Support Competition, College of Liberal Arts, PSU, **\$2000**.
- 2011 Nordic Research Opportunity (NRO), **\$12,000**—funds to support three months of collaboration with the Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO), provided by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Research Council of Norway (RCN).
- 2011 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP), **\$30,000** per year—three year financial support for graduate research.
- 2011 Conference Travel Award, University of Lausanne, **\$2000**—funds to cover the cost of travel to present at the Lausanne Conference on Sequence Analysis. For “How the Sequencing of Regime Change Affects the Prospects for Democratization and Consolidation.” Supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation.
- 2009 Graduate Fellowship, Phi Kappa Phi, **\$4000**.
- 2009- Conference Travel Awards, Department of Political Science, PSU, **\$8000**.
- 2009 Award for Most Outstanding Undergraduate Research, College of Business and Behavioral Science, Clemson University, **\$500**—college-wide award presented to a senior who has completed the most meritorious research project of the year. Award given for “Determinants of Household Migration from an Ethnic Perspective.”
- 2009 Faculty Scholarship Award, Clemson University—award presented at graduation to the student with the highest academic achievement.
- 2009 James F. Byrnes Award, Department of Political Science, Clemson University—award given to the most outstanding graduating senior in Political Science.

Professional Experience

Temporary and other Appointments

- 2018 Research Fellow, Varieties of Democracy Project, University of Gothenburg.
- 2014 Visiting Scholar, Vanderbilt University.
- 2013 Visiting Scholar, *Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica (CIDE)*, Mexico City, Mexico (Fall).
- 2012 Visiting Scholar, Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO), Oslo, Norway (Summer).

Invited Talks and Conferences

- 2018 Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark, December.
- 2018 University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, November.
- 2018 Varieties of Democracy Internal Research Conference, Gothenburg, Sweden, May.
- 2018 Durham University, Durham, United Kingdom, April.
- 2017 University of Mannheim, Mannheim, Germany, November.
- 2017 Varieties of Democracy Internal Research Conference, Gothenburg, Sweden, May.
- 2017 The New Politics of Authoritarianism, Oxford, United Kingdom, March.
- 2016 University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden, January.
- 2014 University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom, December.
- 2013 *Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica (CIDE)*, Mexico City, Mexico, October.
- 2012 Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO), Norway, June.
- 2012 Conference on Sequence Analysis, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, June.
- 2011 University of North Carolina Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina, September.

Fieldwork Experience

- 2013 Field research in Mexico City, Mexico, August-November. Collected archival data on legislative and party members in Mexico prior to the 1917 Constitution.
- 2007 Field research in Otavalo, Ecuador, May-July. Conducted 400 surveys of households concerning international migration experience.

Research Interests

Comparative Politics: Democratization; Autocracy; Comparative institutions, Civil Conflict.
Political Methodology: Quantitative methods; Time dependence; Sequence analysis.

Research Experience

- 2018 Project member of “Failing and Successful Sequences of Democratization” (Project ID 724191), University of Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 2013 Sponsored research in Havana, Cuba. Collaborated in a workshop on Cuban perspectives on the capacity of military dictatorships to use force in conflicts.
- 2013 Researcher, *Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)*, Mexico City, Mexico. Collected archival data on legislative and party members in Mexico prior to the 1917 Constitution.
- 2012 Researcher, the Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO), Oslo, Norway. Investigated the time-dependent nature of democratization reforms and the effect on domestic conflict with Håvard Hegre, in conjunction with dissertation research.
- 2011 Reviewer for Gretchen Casper, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. Prepared manuscripts for publication.
- 2011 Reviewer for Philippe Blanchard, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. Prepared manuscripts for publication.
- 2009 Research Assistant for Glenn Palmer, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. Assisted in the MID4 project.

Teaching Interests

Comparative Politics: Introduction to Comparative Politics; Democracies, Democratization and Authoritarianism; Comparative Political Institutions; Latin American Politics.
International Relations: Introduction to International Relations; advanced topics in conflict studies (e.g., Topics in Civil War).
Political Methodology: Research Design and Methods in Political Science; Sequence Analysis.

Teaching Experience

- 2017 Dictatorship and Democratization (U), Dictatorship and Democracy (G).
2016 Governments of Latin America (U), Introduction to Comparative Politics (U),
Advanced Quantitative Analysis (G).
2015 Democracy and Dictatorship (U), Comparative Politics Core Seminar (G).
2014 Invited lecturer, graduate seminar on Sequence Analysis. University of Warwick, Coventry, United
Kingdom, December.
2014 Instructor, Dictators and their Demise (PL SC 414)—Spring, Pennsylvania State University.
2011 Cosponsor, short course on Sequence Analysis, American Political Science Association—Fall (with
Philippe Blanchard).

Professional Service Activities

Membership in Professional Associations

American Political Science Association (APSA), European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR),
International Studies Association (ISA), Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Midwest Political
Science Association (MPSA), Peace Science Society (International) (PSS), Society for Political
Methodology (PolMeth), Southern Political Science Association (SPSA).

Reviewing

*American Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace
Science, Contemporary Politics, International Migration, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of African
and Asian Studies, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Political Science
Education, Latin American Politics and Society, Research and Politics, Terrorism and Political Violence.*

Other Activities

- 2017- Faculty Chaperone and Translator, Global Brigades trip to Nicaragua.
2015- Faculty Associate, Latin American Studies Program, WVU.
2013 Volunteer, Ralph Bunche workshop on CV writing.
2011 President, the Graduate Association for Political Science, PSU.
2011 Assistant to the Executive Director, Peace Science Society—Glenn Palmer, Department of Political
Science, Pennsylvania State University: managed subscriptions for *Conflict Management and Peace
Science*, the *Journal of Peace Research*, the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *International
Interactions*. Managed memberships to the Peace Science Society, organized annual meetings of the
Peace Science Society; and scheduled departmental presentations as part of a department series.

Professional Skills

Languages English: native. Spanish: fluent. French: beginner.
Programming STATA, R, LaTeX, Perl, Python.