

Thomas J. Leeper

May 9, 2012

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[Education]

PhD Candidate, ABD (Expected 2013), Department of Political Science, Northwestern University

- Dissertation: *Essays on Political Information and the Dynamics of Public Opinion*
- Committee: James N. Druckman (Chair), Benjamin I. Page, Dennis Chong, and Fay Lomax Cook
- Fields: American Politics (major) and Methodology (minor)
- Northwestern Law School Workshops on Causal Inference (2010) and Bayesian Inference (2011)
- Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Stanford University (2009)

M.A., Northwestern University (2010)

- Masters Thesis: "Revisiting Political Awareness: Has Public Opinion Research Forsaken Federalism?" Committee: Drs. James N. Druckman (Chair) and Dennis Chong.

B.A. *magna cum laude* with Distinction, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities (2007)

- Political Science (Concentration: Political Psychology, Beliefs, and Behavior) and Global Studies
- Minors: Spanish Studies and Learning Abroad
- Semester Abroad: Fundación Jose Ortega y Gasset, Toledo, Castilla-La Mancha, Spain (2006)
- Honors Thesis, *magna cum laude*: "Sympathy, Dissonance, and Affect Transfer: The Electoral Implications of Political Death." Adviser: Dr. Joanne Miller.

[Publications]

Forthcoming

Druckman, James N., and Thomas J. Leeper. 2012. "Learning More from Political Communication Experiments; Pretreatment and Its Effects." *American Journal of Political Science*.

Bolsen, Toby, and Thomas J. Leeper. "Self-Interest and Attention to News among Issue Publics." *Political Communication*.

Druckman, James N., and Thomas J. Leeper. "Is Public Opinion Stable? Resolving the Micro-Macro Disconnect in Studies of Public Opinion." *Daedalus*.

Druckman, James N., Jordan Fein, and Thomas J. Leeper. "A Source of Bias in Public Opinion Stability?" *American Political Science Review*.

Under Review

Leeper, Thomas J. “Strong Attitudes and Biased Political Engagement.”

Working Papers and Ongoing Projects

Leeper, Thomas J. “Mass Polarization: The Effects of Issue Importance and the Information Environment.”

Leeper, Thomas J. “Can Surveys Demonstrate Selective Exposure?”

Leeper, Thomas J. “Causal Effects Under Self-Selection.”

Leeper, Thomas J. “What Have We Done?! Reporting Political Communication Experiments.”

Seawright, Jason, and Thomas J. Leeper. “Multi-Causal Matching for Causal Effects in Observational Studies.”

Bolsen, Toby, Thomas J. Leeper, and Matthew Shapiro. “Motivating Cooperation in Social Dilemmas: Action on Global Warming.”

Edited Volume

» Kielsmeier, James C., Marybeth Neal, Nathan Schultz, and Thomas J. Leeper, eds. 2008. *Growing to Greatness 2008*. St. Paul: National Youth Leadership Council.

Non-Refereed Publications

» Leeper, Thomas. 2011. “The Role of Protocol in the Design and Reporting of Experiments.” *The Experimental Political Scientist* 2(1): 6-10. <http://scholar.harvard.edu/dtingley/files/may2011.pdf>

» Neal, Marybeth, Thomas J. Leeper, and Susan Root. 2009. “Attributes of Quality Service-Learning: Findings from the Transitioning to Adulthood Survey.” In Kielsmeier, James C., Susan Root, Bjorn Lyngstad, and Caryn Pernu, eds., *Growing to Greatness 2009*. St. Paul: NYLC.

» Leeper, Thomas J. 2008. “Service-Learning in the States: Recent Policy Developments.” In James C. Kielsmeier, Marybeth Neal, Nathan Schultz, and Thomas J. Leeper, eds. *Growing to Greatness 2008*. St. Paul: NYLC.

» Leeper, Thomas J. 2008. “A Vision of Service-Learning Policy: Why It Matters.” In James C. Kielsmeier, Marybeth Neal, Nathan Schultz, and Thomas J. Leeper, eds., *Growing to Greatness 2008*. St. Paul: NYLC.

» Leeper, Thomas J. 2008. “Beyond 'Valuing Diversity' in Service-Learning.” *The Generator* 26:3.

» Leeper, Thomas J. 2008. “Measuring Service-Learning Success.” *The Generator* 26:2.

» Leeper, Thomas J. 2008. “Youth Voice Research: Findings, Gaps and Trends.” *The Generator* 26:1.

[Software]

» “MTurkR: Access to Amazon Mechanical Turk Requester API.” Package download and details available at <http://www.thomasleeper.com/MTurkR>.

[Conference Papers and Invited Presentations]

- » “Strong Attitudes and Biased Political Engagement.” Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, 2012.
- » “Mass Polarization: The Effects of Issue Importance and the Information Environment.” Annual scientific meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology, Chicago, IL, 2012.
- » “Strong Attitudes and Biased Political Engagement.” Annual scientific meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology, Chicago, IL, 2012.
- » “Political Groups and Public Opinion.” Political Parties Working Group, Northwestern University, 2012.
- » “Strong Attitudes and Biased Political Engagement.” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2012.
- » “Getting Informed or Just Getting By: How Attentive Do Citizens Need to Be to ‘Get’ the News?” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2012.
- » “Strong Attitudes and Biased Political Engagement.” American Politics Workshop, Northwestern University, 2012.
- » “Learning More from Political Communication Experiments: The Importance of Pretreatment Effects.” Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, IL, 2011.
- » “The Problem with Captive Audiences: Framing and Information Search.” Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, IL, 2011.
- » “The Problem with Captive Audiences: Framing and Information Search.” Northwestern University Applied Quantitative Methods Workshop, Evanston, IL, 2011.
- » “Matching Moderators: Causal Interactions in Observational Studies.” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2011.
- » “Bias in Political Communication Experiments.” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2011.
- » “Bias in Political Communication Experiments.” University of Chicago Political Psychology Workshop, Chicago, IL, 2011.
- » “Revisiting Political Awareness: Has Public Opinion Research Forsaken Federalism?” Annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, 2010.
- » “Revisiting Political Awareness: Has Public Opinion Research Forsaken Federalism?” Department of Political Science American Politics Workshop, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, January 25, 2010.
- » “Attributes of Quality Service-Learning in Respondent's Past Service Experience: New Findings from NYLC's Transitioning To Adulthood Survey.” Presented at the International Research Conference on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement, New Orleans, 2008.

[Academic Honors, Awards, and Funding]

- » National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, \$12,000 (2012)
- » APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant, \$200 (2011)
- » Northwestern University TGS Conference Travel Grant, \$700 (2011)
- » Weinberg Humanities and Social Sciences Technology-Enhanced Doctoral Research Award, \$600 (2011)
- » Northwestern University Graduate Research Grant, \$3,000 (2011)
- » Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (2009)

- » Northwestern University MacArthur Fund grant, \$2,000 (2009)
- » University Fellowship, Northwestern University, \$20,000 (2008-2009, 2012-2013)
- » Early election, Phi Beta Kappa Honorary, University of Minnesota (2007)
- » College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Honors Program, University of Minnesota (2006-2007)
- » Bush Foundation Study Abroad Scholarship, University of Minnesota, \$750 (2006)
- » College of Liberal Arts Dean's List, University of Minnesota (2005-2007)
- » Hearst Foundation United States Senate Youth Program Scholarship, \$5,000 (2005)
- » Delegate, United States Senate Youth Program (2005)

[Teaching Experience and Training]

- » Teaching Assistant for Jason Seawright, Statistical Research Methods (Undergraduate level, Northwestern University, 2011)
- » Teaching Assistant for Jim Mahoney, Methods of Political Inference (Undergraduate level, Northwestern University, 2011)
- » Attendee, New TA Conference, Searle Center for Teaching Excellence (Northwestern University, 2009)
- » Teaching Assistant for Chris Galdieri, Political Psychology of Mass Behavior (Undergraduate level, University of Minnesota, 2007)

[Service]

Reviewer

- » *American Journal of Political Science*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Communication*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, AAPOR Annual Conference, TESS: Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences

Conference

- » Discussant: APSA Annual Meeting (2012)

Departmental

- » Co-Chair, Northwestern Political Science Commune (Graduate student organization) (2011-2012)
- » Coordinator, Undergraduate Political Science Experimental Research Participation Pool (2010-2012)

Public Engagement

- » "Polarized," a *Psychology Today* blog about psychology and public opinion (<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/polarized>)

Memberships

- » American Political Science Association (2007-)
 - Sections: Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior; Experimental Research; Political Communication; Political Methodology; Political Psychology

- » Midwest Political Science Association (2009-)
- » American Association for Public Opinion Research (2009-)
- » International Society for Political Psychology (2009-)
- » Society for Political Methodology (2010-)

[Previous Employment and Relevant Experience]

- » Research Assistant for Dr. James N. Druckman, Political Science, Northwestern University (2008-2012)
- » Graduate Fellow, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University (2009-2012)
- » Research Assistant, National Youth Leadership Council, St. Paul, MN (2008)
- » Grassroots Advocacy, Organizing, and Field Consulting Intern, Grassroots Solutions Inc., Minneapolis, MN (2008)
- » Campaign Coordination Intern, FairVote Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN (2008)
- » Research Assistant for Dr. Kathryn Pearson, Political Science, University of Minnesota (2007)
- » Documentation Intern, Las Cortes de Castilla-La Mancha, Toledo, Spain (2006)
- » Page, Office of the Sargent-at-Arms, Minnesota House of Representatives, Saint Paul, MN (2004)