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Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, Davis, 2009.

Dissertation Title: “Responsible Agents? Public Opinion, Uncertainty and Party Policy Change in Established Democracies.”

- Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute VI, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, Summer, 2007.

M.A. Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University, 2005.

B.A. Department of Political Science and International Relations, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey, 2003 (with Honors).

Academic Employment:

Assistant Professor Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, 2009-present (with joint appointment at the Max Kade Center for European and German Studies)

Publications

“Polarization and Political Stability in Multiparty Systems (1945-1998).” Forthcoming in *British Journal of Political Science* (with Zeev Maoz).

“Do Parties Adjust Their Policies in Response to Rival Parties’ Policy Shifts? Spatial Theory and the Dynamics of Party Competition in Twenty-Five Postwar Democracies.” Forthcoming in *British Journal of Political Science* (with James Adams).

“Moderate Now, Win Votes Later: The Electoral Consequences of Parties’ Policy Shifts in Twenty-Five Postwar Democracies.” (with James Adams) *Journal of Politics* 71(2): 678-692 (2009).

“Timely Decisions: The Effects of Past National Elections on Party Policy.” *Journal of Politics* 71(1): 238-248 (2009).

“Survival of the Fittest? Cabinet Duration in Post-Communist Europe.” *Comparative Politics* 40 (3): 313-329 (2008) (with Laron Williams).

Working Papers:

Revise and Resubmit

“Is Anybody Listening? Evidence that Voters do not Respond to European Parties’ Policy Programmes” under review at *American Journal of Political Science* (with James Adams and Lawrence Ezrow).

Under Review

“Party Policy Strategies and Valence Issues: The Effect of Government Membership and Economic Performance on Parties’ Policy Strategies in Post-Communist Europe” under review at *Public Choice*.

“Policy-Seeking Parties in Proportional Systems with Valence-Related Uncertainty: Does Collective Responsibility for Performance Alter Party Strategies?” under review at *Public Choice* (with James Adams, Lawrence Ezrow, and Samuel Merrill III).

Working Projects

“Heads Up for Peripheral Neighbors! The Effects of Rival Parties on Party Policy Change in Post-War Democracies and the Leftist Exceptionalism”

“Huddling up for Survival: Pre-Electoral Coalitions and Cabinet Duration.”

“Economic Voting in Post-Communist Europe: Is It Special or Ordinary?”

“Political Parties and Electoral Strategies: The Movement of Parties in Ideological Space” (with Jeannette Money and Josephine Andrews).

“The Informational Content of Electoral Competition and its Impact on the Political Survival of Party Leaders” (with Josephine Andrews and Robert Jackman).

“The Effect of Europeanization on Party Families: An Analysis of the Political Party Manifestos for Convergence” (with Robert Harmel and Jason Smith).

Honors, Fellowships and Awards

2008 Weaver Award for “Moderate Now, Win Votes Later” (with James Adams), given by the Representation and Electoral Systems Section of the American Political Science Association to the best paper presented in the section at the 2007 meeting.

The UC Davis Office of Graduate Studies Dissertation Year Fellowship, UC-Davis, 2008-2009.

Rothchild Memorial Graduate Research Award, UC-Davis, 2008 (for fieldtrip to Germany, the Netherlands, and Austria; Summer, 2008).

Institute of Governmental Affairs Dissertation Improvement Grant, UC-Davis, 2007.

NSF Fellowship to attend EITM VI (Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models), organized by the Department of Political Science at the University of California-Los Angeles, Summer, 2007.

Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, ISA-West Conference, Las Vegas, NV, October 2004.

Graduated with Honors- Department of Political Science and International Relations, Bogazici University, Turkey, 2003.

Conference Papers

Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, Toronto, CA, September, 2009:

- “How to Choose an Election Strategy: Does the Choice of a Party Decision Rule Depend on The Voting System and on Voters’ Decision Rules?” (with J. Adams and A. Mayer)

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April, 2008:

- “Timely Decisions on the Most Salient Dimension.”
- “Party Policy Shifts and the Dynamics of Subconstituency Support: Evidence from Twelve Postwar Democracies” (with J. Adams and L. Ezrow).

Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September, 2007:

- “The Informational Content of Electoral Competition and its Impact on the Political Survival of Party Leaders” (with J. Andrews and R. Jackman).
- “Moderate Now, Win Votes Later: The Electoral Consequences of Parties’ Policy Shifts in Twenty-Five Postwar Democracies” (with J. Adams) (2008 Weaver Award)

Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April, 2007:

- “Economic Voting in Post-Communist Europe: Is It Special or Ordinary?.”
- “Polarization and Political Stability in Multiparty Systems (1945-1998)” (with Z. Maoz).

The Conference on the Dynamics of Party Position Taking, Binghamton, NY, March, 2007:

- “Party Policy Strategies and Valence Issues: An Empirical Study of Eastern European Party Systems.”

Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September, 2006:

- “Do Parties Adjust Their Policies in Response to Rival Parties’ Policy Shifts?” (J. Adams).

Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April, 2006:

- “Survival of the Fittest? Cabinet Duration in Post-Communist Europe” (with L. Williams).
- “Change of the Social Democrats: The Effect of the Greens on Social Democratic Party Manifestos.”

Annual Meeting of International Studies Association-West, Las Vegas, NV, October, 2004:

- “Intervention and Victory In Intrastate Conflicts: Does Intervention Make Any Difference?” (Best Graduate Student Paper Award).

Teaching Experience

Teaching at Vanderbilt University:

Undergraduate:

PSCI 211: The European Union, Spring 2010.

Graduate:

PSCI 356: Statistical Political Research I, Fall 2009.

PSCI 314: Comparative Political Parties, Spring 2010.

Teaching Assistant at the University of California-Davis:

Graduate Method Sequence I, II, III – 2007-2008.

Math Camp: Crash course on mathematical basics for incoming graduate students–9/2007.

International Law - Spring 2007.

Scientific Study of Politics – Winter 2006, Fall 2006, and Winter 2007.

Politics of Eastern Europe – Spring 2006.

Membership

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

European Union Studies Association

Reviewer

British Journal of Political Science

Comparative Political Studies

Journal of Politics

Languages:

Turkish (native), English (fluent), and German (intermediate).

References

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