

# Eric R. Schmidt, Ph.D

---

CONTACT INFORMATION Department of Political Science  
Concordia College  
908 8th St. S.  
Moorhead, MN 56562  
*E-mail:* [eschmid4@cord.edu](mailto:eschmid4@cord.edu)  
*Web:* <https://ericrschmidt.com>

RESEARCH INTERESTS American Politics; Party Systems and Long-Term Partisan Change; Mass Partisanship and Ideology; Public Opinion; U.S. Congress and Political Representation; Race & Ethnic Politics; Politics of Gender and Sexuality; Political Psychology; Political Sophistication; Religion and Politics; Political Decision-Making and Heuristics

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS **Concordia College**, Moorhead, MN  
Teaching Fellow, Department of Political Science (August 2021 – )

EDUCATION **Indiana University**, Bloomington, IN  
Ph.D., Political Science, 2021  
– Fields: American Politics, Theory & Methods  
– Outside Minor: Psychology  
**Duke University**, Durham, NC  
A.M., Political Science, 2012  
**University of Wisconsin**, Madison, WI  
B.A., Political Science; Certificate (minor), Integrated Liberal Studies, 2010  
– Senior Honors Thesis: *The Institutionalization of Pre-Nomination Presidential Primary Debates in the United States, 1948-1984*  
– Member, Pi Sigma Alpha (political science honors society)

DISSERTATION *Voting in Groups, Thinking Like Ideologues: The Paradox of Partisan Conflict in the United States*  
– Chair: Edward G. Carmines  
– Committee Members: William T. Bianco, Marjorie R. Hershey, Christopher D. DeSante, Bernard L. Fraga

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS Bianco, William T. and **Eric R. Schmidt**. 2020. “Congressional Credit-Claiming for COVID-19 Assistance: How Home Styles Adapt to Local Context.” *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy* 1(4): 631-644. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1561/113.00000025>

Carmines, Edward G. and **Eric R. Schmidt**. 2020. “Prejudice and Tolerance in U.S. Presidential Politics: Evidence from Eight List Experiments in 2008 and 2012.” *P.S.: Political Science & Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1049096520000876>

**Schmidt, Eric R.** 2018. "The Influence of Religious Political Sophistication on U.S. Public Opinion." *Political Behavior* 40(1): 21-53.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11109-017-9390-z>

Bianco, William T. and **Eric R. Schmidt.** 2017. "Knowing What We Are Getting: Evaluating Scientific Output on the International Space Station." *Social Science Quarterly* 98(4): 1151-1159. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ssqu.12468>

OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS

Carmines, Edward G., **Eric R. Schmidt,** and Matthew R. Fowler. Forthcoming. "Clarifying our Populist Moment(s): Left-Wing and Right-Wing Populism in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election." In *The Palgrave Handbook of Populism*, ed. Michael Oswald. London: Palgrave MacMillan.

Carmines, Edward G. and **Eric R. Schmidt.** 2018. "Critical Elections, Partisan Realignment, and Long-Term Electoral Change in American Politics." Published at *Oxford Bibliographies Online*. Available <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199756223/obo-9780199756223-0246.xml>

Carmines, Edward G., Michael W. Wagner, and **Eric R. Schmidt.** 2018. "Issue Evolution." In *Polling America: An Encyclopedia of Public Opinion*, ed. Samuel J. Best and Richard L. Clark. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group.

Carmines, Edward G. and **Eric R. Schmidt.** 2020. "Analyzing the Evidence: Is the Public as Polarized as Congress?" Chapter insert for *American Government: Power and Purpose*, 16th edition, ed. Theodore J. Lowi, Benjamin Ginsberg, Kenneth Shepsle, and Stephen Ansolabehere. New York: W.W. Norton and Company.

Carmines, Edward G. and **Eric R. Schmidt.** 2017. "A Discussion of Katherine J. Cramer's *The Politics of Resentment: Rural Consciousness in Wisconsin and the Rise of Scott Walker*." Contribution to book review symposium. *Perspectives on Politics* 15(2): 527-528. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592717000299>

WORKING PAPERS

"Informed Ideologues and Long-Term Partisan Change, 1972-2016"

"Ideology is Easier These Days: Party Policy, Not Group Composition, is Easier for Americans to Understand."

"Voting in Groups, Thinking Like Ideologues? A Context Dependent Theory of Mass Partisanship."

IN PROGRESS

*Voting in Groups, Thinking Like Ideologues: The Paradox of Partisan Conflict in the United States*. Book manuscript.

PROFESSIONAL  
PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2021. "Voting in Groups, Thinking Like Ideologues: The Paradox of Partisan Conflict in the United States."

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2021. "Ideology is Easier These Days: Party Policy, Not Group Composition, is Easier for Americans to Understand."

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2021. "Voting in Groups, Thinking Like Ideologues: The Paradoxes of Partisan Conflict in the United States."

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2020. "The Parties We Know For

Sure: Partisans Confidently Ascribe Issue (But Not Group) Stereotypes to the Opposition.”

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2019. “Are a Group-Centric and an Ideological Public One and the Same? Evidence from Observational and Experimental Data.”

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2019. “Clarifying our Populist Moment(s): Operational and Symbolic Populism in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election” (*with Edward G. Carmines and Matthew R. Fowler*).

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2018. “Democracy for Cautious Optimists: Questioning the (Alleged) Pathologies of Sophisticated and Unsophisticated Voters.”

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2018. “The Two Faces of Populism” (*with Edward G. Carmines and Matthew R. Fowler*).

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2018. “The Two Faces of Populism” (*with Edward G. Carmines*).

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2018. “Neither Ideological nor Non-Ideological? Some Thoughts from the Margins of Ideology Research in U.S. Public Opinion.”

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2017. “Presidential Litmus Tests: Voter Discomfort with African American, Gay, Mormon, and Muslim Presidential Candidates” (*with Edward G. Carmines*).

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2017. “Presidential Litmus Tests: Voter Discomfort with African American, Gay, Mormon, and Muslim Presidential Candidates” (*with Edward G. Carmines*).

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2016. “(Religious) Knowledge Matters: Survey Evidence for Clergy Influence on Parishioners’ Political Attitudes.”

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2016. “(Religious) Knowledge Matters: Survey Evidence for Clergy Influence on Parishioners’ Political Attitudes.”

Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2015. “(Religious) Knowledge Matters: Survey Evidence for Clergy Influence on Parishioners’ Political Attitudes.”

Indiana University Political Science Graduate Student Colloquium, 2015. “Racialized Ego Threat: Experimental Evidence for a New Variant of Intergroup Threat Theory.”

Southern Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Meeting, 2011. “Party Over Pulpit: Voter Defiance of Denominational Positions on the Iraq War.”

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2010. “Electoral Margin and Party Pressure: Marginality Theory Reconsidered” (*with Ruoxi Li*).

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**Instructor-of-Record, Concordia College**

- *PSC 211: The U.S. Political System* (Fall 2021)
- *PSC 381: Political Parties and Interest Groups* (Fall 2021)

**Instructor-of-Record, Indiana University**

- *POLS Y353: The Politics of Gender and Sexuality* (Fall 2020; *online course*)
- *POLS Y103: Introduction to American Politics* (Summer 2019)

**Associate Instructor, Indiana University**

- *POLS Y490: Parties, Polarization, & Gridlock* (Spring 2021, *online course*; Instructor, Dr. Edward Carmines)
- *POLS Y315: Political Psychology and Socialization* (Fall 2020, *online course*; Instructor, Dr. Edward Carmines)
- *POLS Y315: Political Psychology and Socialization* (Fall 2018; Instructor, Dr. Edward Carmines)
- *POLS Y103: Introduction to American Politics* (Summer 2018, *online course*; Instructor, Dr. William Bianco)
- *POLS Y315: Political Psychology and Socialization* (Fall 2017; Instructor, Dr. Edward Carmines)
- *POLS Y103: Introduction to American Politics* (Summer 2017, *online course*; Instructor, Dr. William Bianco)
- *POLS Y576: Political Data Analysis II (Graduate Level)* (Spring 2017; Instructor, Dr. William Bianco)
- *POLS Y103: Introduction to American Politics* (Fall 2016; Instructor, Matthew Kuchem)
- *POLS Y103: Introduction to American Politics* (Summer 2016, *online course*; Instructor, Dr. William Bianco)
- *POLS Y221: Introduction to Law* (Spring 2016; Instructor, Dr. Jacek Dalecki)
- *POLS Y100: Introduction to American Political Controversies* (Fall 2015; Instructor, Dr. Jacek Dalecki)
- *POLS Y103: Introduction to American Politics* (Summer 2015, *online course*; Instructor, Dr. William Bianco)

ASSISTANTSHIPS  
& RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, IU Center on American Politics, August 2020 - July 2021

Project Manager, Indiana Political Analysis Workshop (IPAW) (*in collaboration with the IU Environmental Resilience Institute and Hoosier Resilience Index Readiness Assessment*), Summer 2020

Research Assistant, IU Center on American Politics, July 2017-July 2019

Research Assistant, Dr. Matthew Hayes, Summer 2015

Research Assistant, Dr. William Bianco, July 2014-July 2015

Graduate Research Assistant, Drs. John Aldrich and David Rohde (*Duke University Political Institutions and Public Choice (PIPC) Program*), 2010-2012

Editorial Assistant, *Legislative Studies Quarterly* (for Dr. David Canon, University of Wisconsin), July 2009-July 2010

HONORS,  
GRANTS  
& AWARDS

*Outstanding Associate Instructor, Indiana University Department of Political Science* (\$500); AY 2019

*Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Research Fellowship* (\$20,000); AY 2019-2020

*John V. Gillespie Memorial Scholarship, Indiana University* (\$2000); May 2018

- Presented annually to “outstanding graduate students who have demonstrated superior analytical abilities and research skills in positive political theory, mathematical modeling, or the use of quantitative methods to the study of political phenomena.”

*IU Center on American Politics Research Grant* (\$500); May 2018

- For “Democracy for Cautious Optimists: Political Sophistication, Policy Attitudes, and Group-Centrism in U.S. Public Opinion”

*IU Katherine C. Greenough Fellowship* (\$500); August 2017

*Department of Political Science (IU) Best Graduate Student Paper* (\$500); May 2017

- For “The Influence of Religious-Political Sophistication on U.S. Public Opinion.”

*IU Center on American Politics Research Grant* (\$500); May 2017 (shared with Matthew R. Fowler)

- For “Assessing the Reliability and Validity of a New Index of Populist Attitudes in the United States”

*Warner O. Chapman Summer Fellowship, IU Department of Political Science* (\$4,000); May 2015, May 2016, May 2017

*Graduate and Professional Student Government Conference Travel Grant, Indiana University* (\$500); January 2016

*Indiana University Graduate Fellowship* (\$18,000); September 2014 - May 2015

*Summer Fellowship, Political Institutions and Public Choice (PIPC) Program* (Duke University, \$2,000); June 2011, June 2012

SERVICE

Moderator, online panel (November 2020) on *Mathematics and Politics: Conundrums of Representative Democracies*; panel organized by the Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences to promote public outreach to IU alumni during the 2020 presidential election.

Reviewer: *Political Behavior, Journal of Politics, Politics and Religion*

Project Manager, Cooperative Congressional Election Study (*IU Center on American Politics’ team module*), 2017-2020

Coordinator, Indiana University American Politics Workshop, 2017-2018; 2020.

Panel Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2018, 2021).

Panelist, Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2016. Panel commemorating the fifteenth anniversary of *Christian Clergy in American Politics*, ed. Sue S.M. Crawford and Laura R. Olson.

Panel Chair, Southern Association for Public Opinion Research (2011)

MEMBERSHIPS American Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association

SOFTWARE **R**, Stata, Zoom, Kaltura, Canvas

REFERENCES **Dr. Edward G. Carmines**  
IU Distinguished Professor  
Warner O. Chapman Professor &  
Rudy Professor of Political Science  
Indiana University  
[carmines@indiana.edu](mailto:carmines@indiana.edu)

**Dr. William T. Bianco**  
Professor of Political Science  
Indiana University  
[wbianco@indiana.edu](mailto:wbianco@indiana.edu)

**Dr. Christopher D. DeSante**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Indiana University  
[cdesante@iu.edu](mailto:cdesante@iu.edu)

**Dr. Marjorie R. Hershey**  
Professor Emeritus of Political Science  
Indiana University  
[hershey@indiana.edu](mailto:hershey@indiana.edu)

**Dr. Bernard L. Fraga**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Emory University  
[bernardfraga@emory.edu](mailto:bernardfraga@emory.edu)

**Dr. Robert Booth Fowler**  
Professor Emeritus of Political Science  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
[rbfowler@wisc.edu](mailto:rbfowler@wisc.edu)

Last updated: July 27, 2021