

# Ben Fifield

Demography and Survey Sciences, Facebook  
770 Broadway, New York NY 10003  
[benfifield@gmail.com](mailto:benfifield@gmail.com) | (203) 858-9407  
<https://www.benfifield.com> |  

## EDUCATION

### PRINCETON UNIVERSITY | PRINCETON, NJ

PHD IN POLITICS, JANUARY 2019

Dissertation: Empirical and Computational Methods for Electoral Politics  
Committee: Kosuke Imai (chair), David Nickerson, Nolan McCarty

MA IN POLITICS, OCTOBER 2013

### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS | ST. LOUIS, MO

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE, MAY 2010

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### FACEBOOK | RESEARCH SCIENTIST, DEMOGRAPHY AND SURVEY SCIENCES

Dec. 2018 - present | New York, NY

Sept. 2017 - Nov. 2017 (Research Intern) | Menlo Park, CA

- Evaluated and implemented new statistical methods for generalizing experimental findings to new target populations
- Evaluated discrepancies in response rates over time in long-term experimental holdouts, and provided recommendations for weighting experimental data
- Designed and ran large-scale online experiments to benchmark new survey designs for modeling individual-level treatment effects

### COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA | CONSULTING EXPERT

Jan. 2018 - Feb. 2018 | Harrisburg, PA

- Applied new Markov chain Monte Carlo algorithms to assess whether proposed Pennsylvania redistricting plans were gerrymandered
- Cleaned and harmonized shapefiles and electoral data gathered across multiple levels of government to estimate the electoral bias of proposed and simulated redistricting plans

### HILLARY FOR AMERICA | SENIOR DATA SCIENTIST

Sept. 2015 - Nov. 2016 | New York, NY

- Team leader responsible for managing three data scientists
- Built and directed methodological development of all persuasion models
- Developed new forecasting models to predict the election outcome, and provided daily reports to campaign leadership
- Developed statistical models of voter turnout and candidate support to optimize primary and general election resource allocation

### DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE | RESEARCH ANALYST

Jul. 2010 - Apr. 2011 | Washington, DC

- Conducted vetting on individuals appearing as surrogates on behalf of the Democratic Party and private donors
- Team leader responsible for coordinating vetting efforts in Florida

## PUBLICATIONS

Using a Probabilistic Model to Assist Merging of Large-scale Administrative Records (with Ted Enamorado and Kosuke Imai). 2019. Forthcoming, American Political Science Review.

## WORKING PAPERS

A New Automated Redistricting Simulator using Markov chain Monte Carlo (with Kosuke Imai, Michael Higgins, and Alexander Tarr)

Model Selection and Model Comparison for Predicting Heterogeneous Treatment Effects

Validating Ensembles of Simulated Redistricting Plans

**fastLink**: R Package for Fast Probabilistic Record Linkage (with Ted Enamorado and Kosuke Imai)

## OTHER WRITINGS

User's Guide and Codebook for the ANES 2016 Time Series Voter Validation Supplemental Data (with Ted Enamorado and Kosuke Imai)

## SOFTWARE

R package **fastLink**: Fast Probabilistic Record Linkage

R package **redist**: Markov chain Monte Carlo Methods for Redistricting Simulation

R package **hettx**: Detecting Heterogeneous Treatment Effects

Shiny app **randomizeAuthor**: Replicable Author Randomization

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

Q-APS Graduate Fellowship, Princeton University	AY2014, 2015
NSF Funding for the Annual Society for Political Methodology Conference	2014
Alpheus Thomas Mason '23 Fellow, Princeton University	AY2012
University Fellowship, Princeton University	AY2011 - AY2018
CSDP Fellowship, Princeton University	AY2011 - AY2018
Grossman-Alexander Prize, Washington University	2010
Office of Undergraduate Research Grant, Washington University	2010

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor

Statistical Programming Camp (with Katherine McCabe) Jan. 2014

Statistical Programming Camp (with Alex Ruder) Jan. 2013

### Teaching Assistant

POL 329 Policymaking in America (U), Professor Charles Cameron Fall 2014

POL 572 Quantitative Analysis II (G), Professor Kosuke Imai Spring 2013

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Co-Captain, Leviathan, Princeton Politics Department Softball Team 2015

Organizer, Political Methodology Seminar, Princeton University AY2014

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association 2011 - present

Midwest Political Science Association 2013 - present

## PROGRAMMING

### Languages:

R • C++ • bash

### Data Management:

SQL (Vertica, MySQL)

### Document Preparation:

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X • knitr • RMarkdown

### Version Control:

git • svn

### Data Visualization:

ggplot2 • GIS

### Bayesian Computing:

JAGS • stan

### High Performance Computing API's:

OpenMP • MPI